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Our Ottawa Letter.

The opposition press are hard pressed to make adverse political capital out of the showing which the estimates for the ensuing year reveal. Those handed down to parliament last week were the first of the new administration. Last year the estimates of the outgoing government, as prepared by them for that year, were accepted by the Liberal government as a matter of necessity since, at the late date of their accession to office, they were for that reason precluded from investigating and revising them. But as time went on the money voted under these estimates was not expended by them where the government saw it was not actually required; and as a result, a considerable saving in expenditure was effected.

The estimates just submitted to the House are acknowledged by the more fair-minded of Tories, as appearing very favorable when scrutinized. They admit that it is everywhere apparent that the most rigid economy has been raised by the Tory press that superannuations and dismissals were a subterfuge made simply to afford vacancies in the civil service of both in side and outside branches, for government supporters. If that accusation bore on its face the essential element then it would be difficult indeed for Liberals to deny the oft repeated statement that the system was being introduced into Canadian affairs by the present government. But it so transpires, and all the facts which are brought out and those which remain to be produced plainly testify that the offices vacated have been rendered vacant in the interests of economy—the fundamental principles of Liberal politics. There have been 42 superannuations and 14 retiring gratuities made already and more to follow. The Finance Minister informed the House that this course effected a large saving to the country. And why? Because in a few isolated cases vacancies made by officials who were superannuated on account of age or infirmity, had been filled, nevertheless the great majority of the offices so vacated were abolished. In the determination to economize, without prejudicing the efficiency of the service, the government have had to turn a deaf ear to the clamors of their friends for offices, and resolutely shun the seductive and well-beaten path traveled by their Tory predecessors when satisfying the demands of their followers. The country ought then to be seized with a feeling of comfortable assurance of the honest intentions of the new government as indicated by the estimates just brought down to parliament. As the matter now stands the estimated cost of running the government of the country, for the next year, is one and a half millions less than what the late government required to do the work for the fiscal year now drawing to a close.

It seems somewhat singular that a covert threat is given out by the opposition that, by the aid of their friends in the Senate, they may make an attempt to defeat the endeavor of the government to repeal the Franchise Act. All the more strange when it is considered what a great advantage this same act gave them over the Liberals in days gone by; and now that it has passed into the possession of the Liberal majority why they should wish their opponents to have and use this potent machinery which would afford Liberals the same partisan advantages is a matter to be wondered at. There is an overwhelming Conservative element in the members constituting the Senate. The figures are 65 Conservatives to 16 Liberals. It is the aim of the government to establish a franchise that will be fair and just to all, and one would naturally suppose that the party to be the most interested in the passage of such a law, ought surely to be the party that has lost control of the election machinery which so long furthered their schemes for retention of power. It seems evident that it would be a wild course to pursue in obstructing repeal, or in blocking the passage of a proper franchise bill in the Senate, yet if followed to that end the Tory party are deserving of a good dose of their own medicine at the hand of liberal officials. It may be injudicious to adopt the various provincial franchises as a basis of federal representation; but in the absence of any better method being submitted, the most feasible plan that recommends itself as a fair and economic one should be accepted.

WANTED, Industrious persons of either sex with good character and common school education, can obtain employment for two months in this community. S. M. FRY, Toronto, Ont.

East York Licenses
 East York License Commissioners met at the Clyde Hotel, Toronto, on Saturday, April 17th. Present: Mr. Morgan (Chairman), Messrs. Lynett, Harrison, and also Mr. James Eckardt (Inspector). The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.
 The Inspector presented his annual

report, which was read and discussed.

The Inspector presented the following petitions: From P. J. Murray and 215 others praying to grant Frank Boston hotel license in East Toronto; from W. Elliott and 80 others praying not to grant Frank Boston license; from R. H. Crew and 114 others praying to grant G. W. Decker hotel license at Small Park.
 A deputation headed by the Rev. Mr. Fitzpatrick appeared to oppose Boston's license.
 The following licenses were granted: Markham Village—James Torrance, Charity Pitts, Mary Higgins.
 East Toronto—John Warren and Henry Eimboden, shop.
 Markham Township—N. Button, Hughes Bros, John Webber, W. Meek, Redmond Joyce, J. T. B. Scott.
 Scarboro' Township—Wm. B. O'Leary, Edward Sanderson, M. J. Somers, John Maxwell, Robert A. Andrew.
 York Township—David B. Birrell, Jno. Gamble, Peter Dean, F. H. Schmidt, E. J. Crone, Sarah Hackett, Teresa Wall, G. Empringham, M. O'Sullivan, R. H. Crew.

The following were held over for further consideration:
 East Toronto—Alex. B. Cook, Frank Boston.
 Richmond Hill—John Ellston, sr., Walter Hulse.
 York Township—Geo. W. Decker.
 The Board adjourned to meet at the same place on Thursday, April 29th, at 10.30 a. m.
 The Inspector will be at the Clyde Hotel on Monday, May 3rd, from 10 a. m. until 3 p. m., for the purpose of issuing the licenses. License holders are requested to come personally for their licenses.

Cultured Ladies with force of character, needing to earn money, can learn how to do so in a good cause. Address, JABEZ GALLOWAY, Toronto, Ont.

Vaughan Pathmasters.
 By Law No. 667 was passed at the last meeting of Vaughan Council appointing Pathmasters for the current year as follows:—

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 James Bowes | 47 N. McCarthy |
| 2 Albert Seager | 48 John Kerr |
| 3 Wesley Pierson | 49 D. Weatherspoon |
| 5 W. H. Pugsley | 50 Jas. McLean |
| 6 Alex. McCague | 51 Wm. Jeffrey |
| 7 Geo. Dobb | 52 Jas. Ross |
| 8 Thos. Bowes | 53 Loch Maynard |
| 9 Isaac Reaman | 54 Wm. Smith |
| 10 Thos. Cook | 54a John Thompson |
| 11 Alf. Rumble | 55 R. W. Taylor |
| 12 Wm. Rumble | 56 Peter Wardlaw |
| 13 Wm. Glass | 57 Sam McDonald |
| 14 Wm. Hart | 58 Geo. Cooper |
| 15 Henry Fisher | 58a Johnston Egan |
| 16 Henry Bowes | 59 Wm. Egan |
| 17 Frank Keffler | 60 W. Mathe-wson |
| 18 Jno. Lahner | 61 J. Ellarby |
| 19 Henry Rumble | 62 Dan Loughead |
| 20 Wm. Jones | 63 Wm. Farr |
| 21 M. Morton | 64 John Mainprize |
| 22 Eli Snider | 65 Robt. Somerville |
| 23 Jas. Oster | 66 Geo. Wood |
| 24 Arch. Patterson | 67 Wm. Howland |
| 25 Henry Lyon | 67a Jas Watkins |
| 26 R. Rumble | 68 Jas. Cherry |
| 26a John Prest | 69 Ed. Button |
| 27 Oliver Nixon | 70 Chas. Woods |
| 28 Noah Hoyles | 71 Geo. Millings |
| 29 Frank Whitmore | 72 Wm. Woods |
| 30 Simon Shunk | 73 Amos Agar |
| 31 J. Loughead | 74 Edwin Kurtz |
| 32 B. Manning | 75 John Parr |
| 33 J. Richards | 76 Geo. Kellam |
| 34 Jas. Malloy | 77 John Colham |
| 35 Neil Malloy | 78 Wm. Thomas |
| 36 Ralph Sutton | 79 Thos. Smith Jr. |
| 37 Jas. Watson | 80 John Snell |
| 38 Thos. Witty | 81 Jas. McLean |
| 39 Andrew McNeil | 82 M. Chapman |
| 40 Levi Watson | 83 J. McCutcheon |
| 41 Wash. Diceman | 84 Adam Dalziel |
| 42 Jas. Harris | 85 Thos. Croft |
| 43 Jacob McKay | 86 Isaac Fletcher |
| 44 Henry Sutton | 86a Lachlan Cameron |
| 45 Jas. Marshall | 87 Robt. Goodall |
| 46 David Wright | 88 Philip Phillips |

WANTED—SEVERAL FAITHFUL Men or Women to travel for responsible established house in Ontario. Salary \$780, payable \$15 weekly and expenses. Position permanent. Reference. Enclose self addressed stamped envelope. The National, Star Building, Chicago.

Langstaff

Inspired by the chilly though bright weather of late both animate and inanimate creation declare that Spring, the season of life and beauty has arrived. The school boy full of energy and life spends his holiday in active outdoor sport or exercise. The robin now greets us with his cheery note. The grass springs up fresh and green and shortly the fly and violet will make for our woods a veritable carpet woven by the hand of Nature.
 The agriculturalist is busy sowing his

seed in hope that the warm sunshine and April showers will bring for him a bountiful harvest.

Many of our homes were made pleasant this Easter-tide by visiting friends and relatives.
 Miss G. Darling who is in training for a kindergarten teacher is spending her Easter holidays at home.
 Miss H. Drury of Toronto, was at home for a few days.
 Mrs. Watson and family visited her mother, Mrs. W. Clubine last week.
 Miss H. S. Arbuthnot of Toronto, was the guest of Miss Darling for Easter.
 Miss Aggie Boyle spent part of her holidays in Scarboro' and returned home with her cousin, Miss Bell.
 Miss Norma Bates of Toronto, is visiting her grandmother, Mrs. R. Drury.
 Mr. S. Heme and Mr. R. W. F. Brettingham, of Toronto spent Good Friday with Mr. Harry Horne of our vicinity.

WANTED.
 Men and Women who can work hand talking and writing six hours daily for six days a week, and will be content with ten dollars weekly. Address, NEW IDEAS CO., Brantford, Ont.

Board of Education

The following members were present at a meeting of the Board on Saturday: Messrs. Naughton, McNair, Hutchison, McDonald, Harrison, Newton, Clubine, Boyle, McConaghy, Storey, and Switzer.
 The minutes of April 1st were read, and adopted after the resolution, by which architect Brown was engaged, was changed from "make all contracts," to "draw all contracts."

A letter was read from Dr. R. L. Langstaff in which he condemned the old site for the High School, principally from a sanitary standpoint, and recommended the purchase of the Hopkins property.
 Trustee McNair handed a petition to the secretary approving of the Hopkins lot, which he said was signed by over sixty property holders. After a discussion it was decided that the petition be not read as the selection of a site was made, as far as the Board was concerned.
 The treasurer was instructed to pay Mr. W. Hall for four days' teaching at the rate of \$500 a year.

A communication was read from Mr. Brown stating that considerable change would have to be made in the plan for the High School if a bellry were to be erected for a heavy bell for village purposes.
 Moved by Mr. Newton, seconded by Mr. McConaghy, that the secretary and the architect wait on the Minister of Education and lay before him the proposed plans and site for the High School.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. McConaghy, seconded by Mr. McDonald, that Mr. A. Coombs' offer to supply blasted or sledged stone at \$5 50 a ton be accepted.—Carried.
 Moved by Dr. Hutchison, seconded by Mr. Harrison, that trustees Newton and Naughton purchase the brick for the High School.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. McDonald, seconded by Mr. Newton, that in case the Minister of Education approves of the old site, Messrs. Storey and McConaghy be appointed a committee to remove the old Grammar School building to the west of the Public School buildings.—Carried.
 The Board adjourned.

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