

# News Summary.

Recent Happenings Briefly Told.

## CANADA.

Nova Scotia's estimates are \$374,000.

Kingston fire department will have an aerial truck.

London's city accounts show a deficit of \$2,100 for 1898.

The Plains of Abraham have been surveyed into building lots.

The wrecked steamer Castilian is reported to have broken in two.

The City Engineer of Hamilton says that all the main thoroughfares in that city need repairs.

The stove manufacturers of Hamilton will increase the pay of their moulders 10 per cent. on May 1.

The Sawyer-Massey Company of Hamilton have increased their employees' wages ten per cent.

A big Montreal company has advanced the price of cottons, and it is expected the advance will become general.

Complaints are being made of the urgent need of an inspector of weights and measures at Atlin and Dawson.

The McClary Manufacturing Company of London have advanced the wages of their stove hands 10 per cent.

Representatives of the Bank of British North America and the Bank of Commerce are en route to Atlin to open branches there.

It is rumored that the controlling interest of the Hamilton Street Railway Co. had been secured by a New York trust company.

Steps are being taken at London, Ont., to quash the city by-law recently passed authorizing an increase in the number of liquor licenses.

The Quebec By-law Committee has decided to impose a tax of \$300 on pedlars residing in the city and \$100 on pedlars residing outside.

Price, the Manitoba young farmer, who shot Richard Boulton three weeks ago with murderous intent, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

J. R. Booth, the Ottawa lumberman, says that with the exception of a slight advance in boxwood, lumber prices will be unchanged this year.

Mr. P. W. St. George, City Surveyor of Montreal, has resigned in consequence of too much interference by Aldermen in the work of his department.

Major-General Hutton is investigating a charge preferred by Lieut.-Col. Roy, D.O.C., Montreal, against Lieut.-Col. Cooke of threatening to thrash his superior officer.

Guszek and Czuby, two Galicians found guilty of the murder of a comrade and four children at Sturthurn last fall, were sentenced at Winnipeg to hang on May 26.

It is said that the population of Manitoba has reached the 200,000 mark. The last census taken in 1891 gave the population as 152,900. This is an increase of 108,000 in nine years.

J. A. Metcalf of Chicago, who has had much experience in the building of elevators, has been in Quebec in connection with the erection of a million-bushel elevator there.

M. M. Reeves has been sentenced to one month's imprisonment and a fine of \$100 at Dawson for attempting to bribe H. H. Martin, the inquiry clerk at the Gold Commissioner's office.

The fees at Queen's University for pass examinations in science, varying from \$3 to \$6, and in honor examinations from \$4 to \$8. This is done with a view of raising more funds.

The Woodstock, N. B., Town Council has voted the tax of \$9 on \$3 to \$4 on coal and \$1 on gas. The place, it being the only town in Canada where the tax was made. The tax affected Toronto and Montreal houses.

Dates to Dawson have been cut in two by the formation of a transportation company, including the various steamers running between Seattle and Skagway, the White Pass & Yukon Railroad, and the steamers on Lake Bennett and the Upper Yukon.

The Court of Appeal of Quebec has affirmed the judgment of the Superior Court awarding \$1,000 damages to the parents of the late Miss Alphonse Thibadeau against Sir W. C. McDonald of Montreal, in whose factory the girl was killed at the time of the fire in April, 1895.

Cheese-makers of Russell county are forming an association with the object that all cheese purchased from manufacturers by produce merchants shall be guaranteed before being taken into the hands of makers. They are also intent on advocating the appointment of an official weigher, to weigh the cheese before it is delivered.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

W. H. Millais, the artist, and brother of the late Sir John Everett Millais president of the Royal Academy, is dead.

Rev. James A. Spurgeon, brother of the late Rev. Charles Hadden Spurgeon, was found dead in a railway carriage at London.

Enquiry is to be made into the sufficiency of exits in the large hotels and mansions in London, suggested by the Windsor horror.

English temperance societies are denouncing Sir Thomas Lipton for having applied for licenses to sell liquor at his tea stores.

At the banquet of the British Economic Association, Prof. Ashley said the trusts were mainly the outcome of an attempt to get rid of the disastrous effects of cut-throat competition.

Lloyds has decided to bestow the silver medal upon the captain and chief engineer of the Cunard line steamship Pavia, for bringing the ship safely into port after she had been disabled at sea.

Exceptionally cold weather continues throughout England, varying from 10 to 20 degrees of frost. There have been heavy falls of snow in the north, and several deaths from exposure are reported. Similar weather prevails on the continent.

Lord Salisbury and M. Paul Cambon have signed a convention defining the Anglo-French boundaries in Central Africa. Britain retains the Bahrel-Ghazel and Darfur, while France gets

the territories north and west of Lake Tchad.

It is proposed to start a movement for a national testimonial to Blackburne, the English chess player, in honor of his victory over Pillsbury in the recent international chess tournament, and in recognition of his services to the British Chess Club.

Considerable discussion is reported between the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the former opposing and the latter favoring the African schemes of Mr. Cecil Rhodes.

In reply to a suggestion by Sir Charles Howard Vincent that an inquiry be held into the conditions of British trade, Mr. C. T. Ritchie, President of the British Board of Trade, said that there was no reason to regard the condition of trade as other than satisfactory.

A millionaire, named Alfred Stern, son of the late Baron Stern, has been declared insane. He is said to be worth \$15,000,000 and recently created a disturbance at Marlborough house, the town residence of the Prince of Wales, by attempting to force an entrance there under the hallucination that he is the Prince.

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## ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Notes of Proceedings in the Local Parliament.

### RAILWAYS WANT AID.

The representatives of three railway companies ask aid for their several enterprises. The first request was for a grant of \$100,000 towards a bridge across the Ottawa river at Hawkesbury, to connect the Parry Sound and Canada and Atlantic railways with the Great Northern, and thus give a trunk line from Parry Sound to the Province of Quebec, to facilitate the direct export of grain, and to aid the development of that part of Ontario affected by the lines mentioned. The bridge will cost half a million dollars, and the Dominion had granted \$52,500 towards it, besides subsidizing the roads. County Crown Attorney Curry acted as spokesman, and was accompanied by J. M. Savage, of the Great Northern railway, and Mr. Barrie, of the Canada Atlantic, besides the Speaker and a number of the members of the House.

### WORTHINGTON AND ONAPING.

The Worthington and Onaping railway, a continuation of the North Shore and Manitoulin railway across the Nickel range and into the Vermilion district, was represented by H. W. Evenden, an English capitalist from the South African gold fields, and now residing at Campement d'Ours Island, Lake Huron, and Mr. John McKay, of the Soo. They preferred the usual request of \$300,000 per mile.

### TO DEVELOP MINERAL LANDS.

The third enterprise to solicit aid was also in the line of New Ontario development. It was the Bruce Mines and Algoma railway, to run 50 miles north from Bruce Mines, and open up copper and nickel workings, eventually tapping the C.N.R. main line. Those present were Mayor Wile, Buffalo; Judge Holden, Soo, Mich.; B. W. Goodson, Chicago; B. G. Carey, Chesaning, Mich.

### RAPID GROWTH OF PINE.

Mr. Frank H. Liday, Government Timber Agent at Parry Sound, was before the Public Accounts Committee and he told the committee some things about forestry that were interesting. His chief contention was that the great growth of the unsettled lands of the province in iron ore, timber and other minerals would reforest themselves in the course of 50 years. The fact that the ground had been burnt over would not deter the second growth coming to a merchantable size.

### NO SMALL BLACK BASS.

The Game Department have taken action against a number of Toronto fishermen who have been offering for sale very small black bass this winter. The Department want the small fish left alone. They are too small to sell, the department says. All the dealers have been warned to cease buying these small fish and offering them for sale. Maskeing will hereafter be classed as a sporting fish, and not as a commercial fish. This will mean that none of these fish may be taken by nets.

### NOT SO MANY PERMITS.

Objection has been taken to the large number of permits which were issued last year to those wishing to kill insectivorous birds for scientific purposes. Too many birds have been taken, the department believe, for purposes than scientific. As a consequence the number of permits for sale and increase in the number of licenses this season. Last year the total permits issued to allow the taking insectivorous birds and eggs was 65, while this year only 32 has been issued.

### CROWN LANDS REPORT.

The Crown Lands report shows that 50,231 acres of Crown lands were sold during the year for a value aggregating \$20,358. The collection for this and former year's sales amounted to \$42,602. Mining lands to the extent of 48,911 acres were leased, \$63,944 rent being collected. The total receipts of the department were \$1,122,382 and the disbursements \$319,348. From woods and forests \$281,188 was received. The decrease in revenue amounted to \$345,953. The change in the law relating to timber will be responsible for a big decrease in the cut.

### PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

Mr. S. Russell, East Hastings, moved the second reading of his bill to allow municipalities to adopt proportional representation. The bill provides that any city, town, village or township may pass a by-law providing for the adoption of proportional representation by any method which will result in the election of any qualified candidate who obtains at the election a quota of valid votes, the said quota being found by dividing into the number of valid votes the number of councillors, or aldermen to be elected, ignoring fractions; if any. Any municipal council may, whether adopting proportional representation or not, provide by-law for the use at the election of any municipal officer, wherein only one office is to be filled, and only one candidate can be elected, of a preferential ballot that will enable, in the event of more than two candidates running for such office, electors to designate their preference by marking their ballot for the elector's first choice, but in such a way as to designate second and subsequent choices, in the alternative event of the first choice having been unsuccessful; and for such purpose may provide for the utilization of such votes cast for an unsuccessful candidate by a redistribution of them after dropping such candidate in process of counting, after the manner of the Hare-Spencer system, or other system as may be deemed by said council most effective for the purpose.

### HON. MR. HARDY'S OBJECTIONS.