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Daily Whig.

MR. AMES' GREAT FIND.

The bluster in the commons is over. The opposition would not allow any business to be done because Mr. Ames could not verify suspicions which he entertained respecting the contents of certain papers.

He was full of anxiety, but he could not tell why, and the government could not see why the records of any department should be displaced or disarranged in order to suit the caprice of anyone. So the row went on for several days.

Then Sir Wilfrid Laurier laid a file on the table of parliament, saying that Mr. Ames could not demand it under the rules of the house, but that there was nothing to conceal, and he invited the closest scrutiny of the papers.

Something had to follow as a matter of course, and it is announced most solemnly that Mr. Ames found in the budget, and in the form of tenders, two or more for different offers, and in the same handwriting. A mere suspicion! But enough to justify the demand for the papers, and to give ground for the rumour which the opposition provoked.

When the case has been developed, and Mr. Ames has been allowed, in his most icy way, to state his grievance the man who wrote the tenders may be produced to give the lie direct to a statement that blanks were sent in and filled by some one in the interior department.

Hon. Mr. Oliver may not suit some members of the opposition, but he is an honest man, and can be depended upon to defend every transaction with which his name is connected.

A GRANT CUT OFF.

A. H. Leake, who is the inspector of technical education for Ontario, at a function in Toronto said he had been compelled to make the government withdraw its grant of over \$1,000 from the Toronto school board, because of the inadequate equipment of the technical school.

This leads to some mediation here. Mr. Leake has been inspecting our domestic science and technical classes, and has made certain recommendations towards their improvement. The class rooms in the institute are in the basement and they are, in Mr. Leake's opinion, insufficiently lighted and provided with modern appliances. It has been intimated that the teacher, a most capable man, must have more opportunity for the expression of his usefulness and the usefulness of the school. Something must be done to meet his views. They cannot be ignored. He holds a position, where his criticism counts for much, and if he asks for what is reasonable he must be respected. Either that or the grant goes, and it is too large to be forfeited lightly.

The domestic science class is doing well, and is very warmly endorsed by the inspector. The teacher he commends and her work will be appreciated the more under conditions which he recommends. The domestic science department is but a complement; however, in Mr. Leake's mind of the manual training which is being more and more urged upon the attention of the school teachers and school trustees.

The point of special interest is this: That the government is acting upon the representations of its inspectors, and the local authorities will be the wiser to have an increasing regard for them.

EDUCATED MECHANICS WANTED.

Some time ago it was intimated that the dominion should interest itself in technical education, and now we have a select few coming together at a luncheon, in Toronto, and giving further stimulation to the proposal. The chief address, locating the responsibility upon the dominion in this matter, was that of Dr. Pakenham, who is the dean of the School of Education in connection with the provincial university.

The state, said he, should engage in technical education, because its "treasury is full, its revenues are buoyant." Is that the chief or only reason? Education is the special charge of the province, and in these days, when provincial governments are very zealous of their rights and prerogatives, it is well to consider whether there should be any interference with the relations between the federal and provincial authorities upon this subject. It is not enough to say that the federal government is rich. The dominion has large responsibilities, and is not working as to what it should do with its money.

There is more force in the recommendation of the Manufacturers' Association, which has asked the federal government to enquire, through a commission, fully into technical training in Canada. What is lacking or

demanded in this respect? How is the want of the demand to be met? The disappearance of the apprentice system may be lamented, but can the technical school fill its place? The educated mechanic is the man who is most sought and rewarded, but the expert must have practical as well as theoretical knowledge. The want of the times, therefore, is light, more light, and it should be forthcoming without delay.

THE ISSUE IN TORONTO.

There is a serious contention in Toronto on the license question. The reduction of thirty-four in the number of places where liquor is sold means a depreciation of the property—a loss of business and its ruin to the men engaged therein, a loss to the inland revenue department of between \$6,000 and \$7,000, and a loss to the provincial government and city council of over \$40,000.

The action of the council has vexed some people and they promise retaliation in the next election. Some one has pointed out that in Toledo there was a similar experience, and that while there was restriction one year there was the next year a wide open city and all that it implied.

Against this is the record, in Toronto, when Mr. Fleming, now manager of the street railway, was in municipal politics. In 1886 he was pledged to fewer licenses. He moved for it and failed. In 1887 he made it an issue in the election, and as a result seventy-four saloon and nineteen shop licenses were cut off. In 1888 he moved for a further reduction of 100. The matter was appealed to the courts and the motion declared legal.

Apparently the temperance men have made the license question the prominent one for the present, and for the time being it overshadows the power question which, for a while, was the only thing talked about in the Queen City.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

It's a good thing the Thaw trial is near a close. The sailing of the sob squad has been simply distressing.

Lillian Russell has been very much annoyed because some rash reporter in Toronto surmised or said that she was forty-eight years of age. The very idea!

Hamilton must not let this talk of technical education under federal auspices deprive it of the technical college which the Whitney government promised.

If the loyal opposition knew in 1906 that the Anglo-Japanese treaty was defective why did it not say so? The opposition has a duty to perform as well as the government.

The Toronto News is advising Mr. McKay what he should do as the leader of the opposition. Has it no further use for Mr. Whitney? He was its special delight, the apple of its eye.

The Canadian Pacific Railway company will amend its pension fund so as to make the retiring allowance in any case not less than \$20 per month. It can well afford the generosity which this suggests.

The experience of Miss Gould, Miss Thaw, and others, has not deterred the American brides from seeking a title. Miss Vanderbilt's choice cost her about twelve millions, and the money had to pass into the count's hands before he wedded.

The Manitoba ministers (members of the Roblin government) are good to themselves. The premier will hereafter receive \$6,000 a year, and his colleagues \$5,000 a year. The members' indemnity will be increased from \$400 to \$1,000 a year. Nothing like being good to oneself.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Demand For Babies.

It is gratifying to learn that the supply of babies is not equal to the demand, and that there are hundreds of good homes waiting for children to adopt. In view of this fact it seems strange that institutions like the Infants Home should be in need of government aid.

Not Consistent.

London's tory county council rebelled against the wanton extravagance of providing lunches for starving children in the schools, and promptly voted the money for stagfests for the same schools. And still they are indignant, those good Tories, when socialism takes a hold on the people.

Hard To Get.

Ottawa Journal.

Right Hon. James Bryce says that government will not be perfect until men of special knowledge are called to the councils of the nation. All right, but it's up to the men of special knowledge to begin to qualify for the game of government. Now they simply stand off and criticize.

Mrs. Eddy's Flight.

Hamilton Herald.

Perhaps Mrs. Eddy thinks that every great religion must have a flight of some sort. History seems to prove that. There was the flight of the Israelites out of Egypt, and the Mohammedan flight to Medina. And so now we have the Christian Science flight of Mrs. Eddy out of New Hampshire into Massachusetts.

THAT LAND SCANDAL

IT TURNED OUT TO BE A ROORBACK.

The Plot Developed By H. P. Ames Was Speedily Exploded By A Lawyer Who Handled the Documents.

Toronto Globe.

Ottawa, Jan. 28.—The Sherlock Holmes of the opposition, to wit, H. P. Ames, says he has found a clue that will unearth a deep-dyed conspiracy hatched in the interior department. In reality the said clue is not of the Sherlock Holmes type; it is more characteristic of the Foxey Quiller as a denouement of this latest opposition detective story will show. The introduction, was dramatic enough. The whole legislation of parliament stood in pause for three days when Mr. Ames and his confederates heroically demanded that they must see at once the original papers connected with the leasing of certain timber berths by the interior department. "If I once get a chance to examine the handwriting on these papers," said Mr. Ames, "in six weeks, I can tell you, fold, etc." Well, the papers have been brought down, he has examined the handwriting, and the horrible tale is duly unfolded under a score of headlines in the opposition morning papers. "Colossal Land Scandal Revealed by Documents," runs the heading in big letters in The Mail and Empire. Unfortunately for the dramatic effect of the story, the facts will not carry the heading.

The plot, developed by Mr. Ames is, in brief, as follows: In the fall of 1903 the department of the interior advertised for tenders for a western timber berth of about seventy square miles area. Three tenders were received. One was put in by C. W. Fraser, K.O., of Ottawa, for \$1,000; a second was for \$8,420, put in by James Curry, of the Saskatchewan Lumber company, and a third tender, in the name of W. H. Nolan, of Montreal, was submitted, offering \$7,000, or \$680 more than Mr. Curry's offer. The timber berth was awarded to the highest tenderer who afterwards transferred the lease to the Imperial Pulp company, of which Sir Daniel McMillan, lieutenant-governor of Manitoba, is president. Mr. Ames, as soon as he saw the original papers, at once pointed out the fact that the handwriting on the first and third tenders was the same, and that Mr. Nolan's signature on the transfer of the lease to Sir Daniel McMillan was different from the signature attached to the tender for \$7,000. "Discovered," cried Mr. Ames, and the echo ran speedily around the opposition benches last night. Here was another example of "brazen craft." It requires a microscope and the shutting of both eyes to clearly discern the scandal, but a careful had to be found, and so this comic-opera was produced.

Now for the punchline of the bubble. "Certainly the two tenders were in the same handwriting," says Mr. Fraser, "for both were made out in the legal office of my firm. Instructions were received from clients to put in a tender at the lowest amount for the berths. Subsequently instructions were received to put in a tender for another client at a higher amount. These instructions were, of course, bound to carry out, and did so in the regular way. There was nothing irregular about the transaction. I had a power of attorney from Mr. Nolan, and signed his name to his tender. And that is all there is to the 'Colossal Land Scandal.'"

WARDENS ELECTED.

County Councils Choose Presiding Officers.

The county councils of Ontario met Tuesday, and elected their wardens: Bruce—M. Hilker, Port Elgin. Dundas—Stormont and Glangarry—E. V. Callahan, Stormont. Essex—O'Neill, Sandwich South. Frontenac—John Foley, Howe Island. Grey—R. J. Ball, Hanover. Halton—William Bain, South Cayuga. Hamilton—J. McKibbin, Milton. Hastings—W. C. Farley, Thurlow. Huron—Robert McLeod, Goderich. Kent—George Johns, Bothwell. Lanark—Mr. Ebbs, Drummond. Leeds and Grenville—J. B. McMurray, Gananoque. Lincoln—Francis Lowry, Niagara township. Middlesex—D. D. Graham. Norfolk—G. Walker, Houghton. Ontario—W. L. Parrish, Port Perry. Oxford—J. A. Fielding, North Norwich. Perth—C. Hazanpflug, Milverton. Peterboro—James Thompson, Havelock. Prescott and Russell—J. N. Lapointe, Fournier. Prince Edward—D. Spafford. Simcoe—D. C. Barr, Collingwood. Victoria—R. M. Mason, Fenelon Falls. Waterloo—R. J. Lockhart, Hespeler. Welland—D. Sharp, Thorold township. Wellington—J. M. Young. Westworth—W. A. Emery, East Flamboro. York—W. Keith, Newmarket.

A tickling cough, from any cause, is quickly stopped by Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. And it is so thoroughly harmless and safe that Dr. Shoop tells mothers everywhere to give it without hesitation even to very young babies. The wholesome green leaves and tender stems of a lung healing mountain shrub, furnish the curative properties to Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. It calms the cough and heals the sore and sensitive bronchial membranes. No opium, no chloroform, nothing harsh used to injure or suppress. Simply a resinous plant extract, that helps to heal aching lungs. The Spaniards call this shrub which the doctor uses, "The Sacred Herb." Demand Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. Sold by all druggists.

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No Gerymander.

Montreal Star.

It is also intimated that the Ottawa precedent is to be followed and a certain number of the members of the opposition invited to sit on the committee which is to re-arrange the electoral boundaries. It is a pity that it cannot be done by a commission of judges. A bi-partisan committee is surely certain to get into a nasty snarl over the matter and leave the impression on the public mind that there has been a "gerymander" after all. We shall have some day to devise a method of taking the redistribution of constituencies, the prosecution of actions for corrupt practices and the fixing of the dates of all elections out of the hands of the party politicians.

Use gasoline for grumpy woodwork.

BITTERNESS AND FALSEHOOD

Uttered By An Englishman In Hour Press.

"George Hampton, ex-post-office servant, late of Manchester," signs the subjoined remarkable claim of bitterness and falsehood, appearing in the Evening News of Manchester, Eng.: "Canada is rotten to the core. Individualism is rank. Self-interest is written in every face and strangles everything that would allow democracy to meet itself. Were it not for the few British there nothing would be accomplished at all. Canadians seldom think, and they never read. They act on precedent and do everything like-wise. It is a question of birth rather than brains. The method of government is very similar to ours, only the capitalists boss the show. They do just as they please, and they are allowed to do so, and to speak to the contrary is criminal. I have just been reading a synopsis of an article by Keir Hardie on his visit to Canada, and he just voices what I have stated, and says that the next generation of Canadian workers will find themselves similarly placed to what they are at home. As he states, there are miles on miles of uncultivated land and miles from all means of shipment, and even where railroads are there are continual outbreaks of insufficient means of transportation.

"I never did in all my life meet with such gross ignorance, combined with stupid bigotry and cast iron prejudice to all that is English. Were I to enumerate a few of the Canadian ideas of what England is you would be amused and perhaps amazed. But when I come to the religious aspect of the Canadian it is more in sympathy than in censure; I deplore the state of the church. In a few years the church will find itself effete. And why? Because there is not an atom of spirituality in the worship. What is the cause of all this? To my mind the first reason is rivalry. Union in this instance is a failure. It has been stultifying as it has been sweeping. And another reason the laity have no power. The pulpit is supreme, and this territory is forbidden to the layman. The local preacher is not required unless he is a junior graduate of some of her petty-foggish seminaries. Well, I may be a little strong and averse in my judgment, but I assure you that my sojourn here will not be long."

The concluding sentences seem to let the cat out of the bag. George is evidently a local preacher, and must be to some one and of little weight, to be unappreciated and denied an easy living by a western frontier community where lay workers are in favor and demand. George is a very angry man thereat, no doubt, but anger is not an excuse for his bitter tirade of deft-fitted for regeneration.

Can the Manchester News imagine that there could be an absence of "prejudice" against old country folk when almost daily grossly abusive and false letters appear in English papers? If a new-comer from that land fails to succeed, probably from the weaknesses that make him a failure at home, he sets in to abuse the country. Indeed detraction of Canada at first sight is the impulse of far too many immigrants, with everlasting laudation of England as their chief occupation for months after their arrival, till they settle down to common sense. But the Englishman this winter is redeeming himself well, and becoming a willing worker and fellow-citizen, therefore, welcome as the flowers of May.

There may not be an excess of piety in the churches, but there is vastly more to the acre than in England. The whole community are church-goers. Conspicuous among the weak minority, non-attendants, are families arrived from East London of late years. Indeed their need of religious knowledge has given rise to many doubts as to the churches in the great metropolis reaching the masses. The religion here, too, is of the right sort. This winter one church in Kingston is helping seventy-five families with direct aid to subsist. Besides this, one of its clergymen is running a stone quarry with fifty English workers in it, through the kindness of the city corporation. The rush of new-comers to the cities is the cause of lack of employment for all in the dull winter season, while the farmers are crying out for help and not getting it. At the thousands of English fishermen who are doing well and being very kindly treated generally, as well as to Canadian helpers, the detraction of Canada, by disappointed men, is not a palatable dose.

George's closing words are very cheering, however. He will not sojourn here long. We are rejoiced. Men afflicted with the bad heart are not cherished anywhere. He will go farther, Allah be praised, and probably fare worse. T-a-t-a, George Hampton, ex-post office servant and champion grumbler.

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If you will accept these statements as being the true facts, you will profit by the savings we can make for you.

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