

WITNESSES SWEAR BUCHANAN GOT MONEY FOR SALE OF ROAD ROLLERS

Stirring Testimony Given at Oxford Graft Hearing—Agent Tells of Purchases—Says He Drew Up Fake Bill About An Automobile Deal.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Woodstock, Dec. 29.—That M. T. Buchanan got \$340 out of the J. L. Case Company in 1907 for his commission on some road rollers purchased from the firm by the county was sworn to at the resumption of the Oxford county graft inquiry this morning. J. L. Thayer, general agent for the county, said that B. Buchanan, one of the county councilors, had taken him and the local agent, Walter, to Buchanan's house in Ingersoll. It had been represented to him that the county wanted to buy two rollers and wagons, running up to \$5,000 in value.

Tells of Deals.
Thayer stayed in an hotel all night, and the next morning had discussed a commission on the sale of Buchanan, he said, "made it plain to me, that he must have a commission, or the deal would not go through."

"How much did he want?" asked Mr. Johnston.

"He wanted all he could get," said witness. Shortly after the Toronto Exhibition, witness said, he had received a phone message from the Oxford road superintendent saying that the rollers were broken. Witness went to Ingersoll and found bolts and nuts loose, and in a condition of dilapidation that strongly suggested that someone had been tampering with them.

NEW COMMISSION TO REGULATE RATES

The Representatives Mabee and Knapp Favor International Railway Board.

THE QUESTION DISCUSSED

In Conference at Washington, and Full Details of the Report Will Be Made Public Shortly.

[Associated Press.]

Washington, Dec. 28.—As a result of a long series of conferences between Judge Martin A. Knapp, chairman of the Interstate Commerce commission, and J. P. Mabee, chief of the railway commission of Canada, an agreement has been reached to recommend to the governments of the United States and Canada the creation of an international railroad commission, which shall have supervision over the railway rates in operation between the two countries.

Mr. Mabee arrived in Washington from Ottawa Tuesday night, in accordance with a previous arrangement with Mr. Knapp. He came to Washington to discuss the details of an agreement he had reached with Judge Knapp last August, and Wednesday the two officials, who were designated by their governments to consider the subject, were in conference. Their report will be filed by Mr. Knapp with the state department, and by Mr. Mabee with the foreign office of Canada.

Details of Report Not Learned.
No details of the report are available, beyond the fact that it recommends the establishment of the commission, on which shall be conferred certain defined regulatory powers.

For a considerable period it has been realized that the increasing traffic, both passenger and freight, between the States and Canada was likely to render control over rates in the future difficult, unless some international action were taken. The acquisition by American railroads of Canadian terminals and lines present increasing difficulties.

In the existing circumstances it is not possible to compel either railways or express companies to establish joint through routes and rates to and from points in the two countries. In other words, neither an American nor a Canadian carrier can be required to take a shipper a through bill of lading from any point in one country to any point in the other.

The reasonableness of the international rates, which ordinarily are a combination of the rates local to each country, can be determined only by a circuitous proceeding instituted before the commissions of both countries.

No Power Exists.
No power at present exists that can require carriers engaged in international transportation to establish what may be regarded officially as reasonable through joint rates, and to apportion these rates among the participating carriers in the event they cannot reach an agreement among themselves.

Out of this situation grew the idea of the creation of an international commission which should have supervisory control over the railroads and other common carriers doing an international transportation business.

It was the desire of Judge Knapp that the report of Mr. Mabee and himself should be completed and submitted before his retirement from the interstate commerce commission. The report is likely to be filed with the department of state Friday.

CROWN IS AFTER HARROW DESPERADO

Windsor, Ont., Dec. 29.—Instructions were yesterday issued by Crown Attorney Rodd, of this city, for the arrest of William Wright, the young Harrow man who successfully defied the village and its police for 48 hours last week.

The compromising of the case against Wright by his relatives without the official cognizance of the authorities has led investigation of the whole affair.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Mr. Buchanan then threatened witness that if the commission was not paid to the satisfaction of the boys, the machines would be hauled to the station and shipped back. Then it was that witness had agreed upon \$340, and there was no further trouble with the machines.

Threatened Suit.
On the strength of this document, the company threatened Buchanan with legal proceedings to recover the \$340, and the latter returned the money. This was Thayer's evidence. The same case was gone into by Judge Finkle two years ago. Other cases were touched on, and at the finish, E. F. Johnston told the court that in cases of trafficking in office records against N. E. Birch, the county clerk, R. McIntosh, treasurer, and Will Toule, caretaker, evidence at his disposal did not warrant him in proceeding with charges. Mr. Birch wanted all gone into in his charge, and offered to pay all costs if anyone would say he ever gave or promised one dollar.

For yesterday's evidence see Page Eight.

\$18,000 RECEIPTS FROM THE L. & P. S. R.

This Is the Sum That Will Be Handed Over to the City Treasurer.

BOARD WILL MEET FRIDAY

So Far as Known There Is No Business of Importance to Come Up at the Session.

[Associated Press.]

The final meeting of the London and Port Stanley Railway board will be held Friday at noon, when the business of the year will be closed. The financial statement will be submitted and the remaining accounts paid.

No important business is to be taken up. When the board organized in the spring, a committee was named to inquire into the cost of electrifying the road. Nothing was done, as the committee did not pursue the work to a satisfactory conclusion.

The present lease has three more years to run. What will be done with the road at the expiration of that time is not known definitely, but it is quite probable that the incoming board will arrive at some conclusion relative to the cost of electrifying the line.

There will be nothing done this year regarding that matter, declared Mayor Beattie. "We will simply finish the business of the year."

The receipts will be about the same as last year, when \$18,000, all told, was received from the city. The traffic this year has been about the same as last.

WM. HESLOP WILL COME UP FOR HEARING FRIDAY

Home in West London Has Been Broken Up.

Considerable interest centres in the trial of Wm. Heslop, the West London cigarmaker, who will be charged in tomorrow's police court with assaulting and wounding James B. Fowler, who is now in St. Joseph's Hospital, suffering from the injuries sustained in Saturday night's brawl.

Heslop's home has been entirely broken up, and his two little boys are now being cared for by his mother, who also lives in West London.

CRUELTY TO LAD

Montreal, Dec. 29.—Locking her stepson in a woodshed, whipping him when he cried from the cold, and only bringing him into the house to be fed, then sending him back into the woodshed again—these are details of the charge of "cruelty to a child" today against Mrs. Phileas St. Jean, of Chabot street.

"Horrible, horrible," exclaimed Judge Lancet. "This is simply barbaric."

His honor promptly ordered both father and stepmother to be locked up, without the option of bail, pending preliminary investigation into the case.

Reception to Minister.
A reception will be held at the Congregational Church this evening in honor of Rev. D. S. Hamilton, who is visiting in this city. Everybody is welcome and it is hoped all of his London friends will be present.

STEAMERS ARRIVED.
New York, Dec. 28.—Arrived Lincoln, La. Yokohama—Monteagle. St. John, Nfld.—Mongolian.

A BIG REDUCTION IN PULLMAN RATES

It Is Likely That Lower Berths Will Be Cheaper as Well as Upper.

A CONFERENCE SHORTLY

Matter Will Be Gone Into as Soon as Chairman Mabee Comes Back From Washington, Where He Is Consulting Officials.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—Within a comparatively short time Canadians will be able to occupy the upper berths of sleeping cars at substantially lower rates than are charged for lower berths, and it is probable that there will be some reductions in the rates charged for lower berths. The Canadian railway commission has not yet taken action in the matter, and will not do so until the interstate commerce commission of the United States has finally dealt with the matter.

In the United States the sleeping car companies have filed a scale of reduced rates, but the interstate commerce commission has not yet accepted them. However, it is known that there will be considerable reductions there. As the American organization took the matter up first, and as the business is largely of an international nature, the Canadian commission will await final action on the other side of the line before dealing with the Canadian side of it.

It is expected that the American commission will be largely followed. Chairman Mabee, of the Canadian commission, is now in Washington, consulting with Chairman Knapp, of the interstate commerce commission, on international railway questions, and the sleeping car matter is one of these. It is expected that the Canadian board will be able to deal with the matter soon after the return of Judge Mabee from Washington.

BANK SUSPENSION INVOLVES OTHERS

Government Has Now Taken Charge of Washington Institution.

[By Associated Press.]

New York, Dec. 29.—There was a further development in connection with the suspension of the Washington Savings Bank, when the state banking department today announced that it had taken charge of the Washington Savings Bank, pending further investigation into its condition. J. G. Robin, whose operations caused the closing of the Northern Bank, is president of the savings institution. Superintendent Finney made the following announcement:

"The banking department has, for the present, assumed charge of the Washington Savings Bank, and a further examination into its condition. This step has seemed necessary by reason of the bank's relation to the Northern Bank."

It is expected that the depositors in the Washington Bank will be paid in full, but no definite statement as to the bank's condition is expected for a fortnight at least, pending completion of an examination of the bank's accounts.

It was learned this afternoon at the district attorney's office that the grand jury would hand down an indictment against Robin very soon, and that the formal director will be arrested or rendered as soon as the papers are filed.

FIRST AID WORK

Branches of Ambulance Society Will Be Organized in the West.

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—Capt. Birdwhistle, general secretary of the St. John's Ambulance Association, is leaving for the west to organize provincial branches in that province.

His first meeting will be in Winnipeg on Jan. 6, and this will be followed by a meeting in Edmonton on Jan. 10. British Columbia will be visited for a meeting in Victoria or Vancouver the following week, and the organization of Saskatchewan will be effected at Regina Jan. 27.

THE WEATHER

Tomorrow—Light Snowfalls.

FORECASTS.
Toronto, Dec. 29—8 a.m. Today—Unsettled, with occasional falls of snow or rain.

Friday—Light snowfalls and a change to colder.

TEMPERATURES.
Stations. Max. Min. Weather.
Victoria. 46 42 Cloudy
Calgary. 28 10 Cloudy
Winnipeg. 6 10 Fair
Port Arthur. 20 12 Cloudy
Perry Sound. 22 24 Cloudy
Toronto. 34 28 Cloudy
Ottawa. 28 22 Cloudy
Montreal. 30 24 Rain
Quebec. 30 23 Cloudy
Father Point. 29 19 Cloudy

WEATHER NOTES.
Cold, wintry weather prevails this morning throughout the Western Provinces, and temperatures there are generally well below zero.

Conditions are unsettled from the lake region to the Maritime Provinces, and snow and rain have fallen in most localities.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER.
A moderate depression from the Southwest States moved yesterday to the lake region, accompanied by rain and snow in the Ontario peninsula, and by snow in the Ottawa and Upper St. Lawrence Valley. There are indications of the development of another disturbance in Missouri, Colorado, and New Mexico today.

TODAY'S PROBS.
The East—Moderate winds, with sleet or rain.
Lake Superior—Mostly fair and becoming colder; some light snowfalls.

WOMAN BOUGHT \$12,000 BROOCH BY MISTAKE FOR SIX DOLLARS

Only Discovered What It Was Really Worth When She Took It Back to Have Some Stones Put In It.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Toronto, Dec. 29.—The holiday season brought out an interesting little romance of the business world which has been practically suppressed by the principals. One day, last week, a Toronto woman entered a department store, and asked one of the clerks what the cost would be for replacing two pearls in the setting of a brooch.

"Fifteen hundred dollars," said the clerk.

"You must be mistaken," was the rejoinder.

"No, I will call our expert," said the clerk.

The expert looked the brooch over and estimated that the missing pearls could not be replaced for less than \$2,000.

"That is strange," said the woman. "I purchased that brooch here last year, and it cost me only six dollars."

The clerk immediately called one of the members of the firm. He was told the story. He only took him an instant to look over the treasure.

"Madam," said he, "we had private detectives for several weeks endeavoring to trace this bit of jewelry. It was valued at \$12,000. We thought it had been stolen. We did not want the story to get to the newspapers at the time."

Then it was that the real truth dawned. Each year, student clerks in the department store had been placing the brooch behind the counter in a case of more moderate priced articles by mistake. Thence it had made its way across the counter.

The woman said she did not wish to pay a cent more for the brooch, and it was returned to her. On Christmas Day, however, she was the recipient of a present of silverware from the company's stock valued at \$1,000.

BLUEBLOODED DOGS HOLD SWAY

Colliers Suffered Severely During the Rabies Scare—Some Splendid Specimens Are To Be Seen in the Different Classes.

[Associated Press.]

This has not been the largest or most popular class heretofore, but this year there are some exceedingly fine ones on exhibition.

Alas! The Poor Collier!
The colliers are not so large a class as usual. No breed of dogs suffered quite so much as the collier during the rabies scare, and as a result, the exhibits are not numerous. However, there are some choice specimens. Col. McEwen, Byron, Dr. Bateson and Mr. William Clark have some very fine colliers.

The cockers are excellent as usual. Some Petrolia exhibitors are showing them.

The Bostons are fair. Mr. A. Turville has a beauty.

The bull terriers there are a score of good dogs. George W. Sherlock has a nice one in Duval King, a many-time winner.

Dr. F. P. Drake is showing half a dozen smooth-haired foxterriers, and they are beauties.

Miss Irene Muehry has a good exhibit of wire hairs, also.

(Continued on Page Nine.)

350,000 PEOPLE CAME TO CANADA

It Is Expected That Next Year There Will Be Half a Million.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—The immigration authorities are now in a position to state that the immigration to Canada during the year which is just closing will reach the total of 350,000. The indications point to a heavy increase next year, which will carry the immigration arrivals in Canada to the half-million mark.

DYNAMITE WRECKS DETROIT COUNTRY

Owner Believes He Is Victim of Persecution by Enemies.

[By Associated Press.]

Detroit, Dec. 29.—A grocery store owned by Jim Mano, at 265 Clinton street, was wrecked by two dynamite explosions early today, and ten houses in the neighborhood were damaged. Ten men, a woman and a child were sleeping on the second floor of the store but escaped unhurt. They were thrown from their beds. The explosions which followed each other in rapid succession, could be heard a great distance, and the residents in the vicinity were thrown into a state of excitement.

Several sticks of dynamite with half-burned fuses, were found nearby. Mano says he believes that Italian enemies of his talk with the police, and have had litigation in the courts of late, coming out victorious.

TALKS WITH RESCUERS

Man Who Has Been Buried in Ruins for Fifteen Hours.

[Associated Press.]

El Paso, Dec. 29.—Efforts of the rescuers at the slag dump of the El Paso smelter early this morning were directed toward the release of Eusebio Aguilar, the only living man remaining in the dump. Aguilar has been pinned under a mass of slag for nearly fifteen hours, but is able to talk with his rescuers.

It is expected that Aguilar will be released this evening.

It is stated that six is the total of the death list in yesterday's explosion when the accidental discharge of nearly four thousand pounds of powder buried a score of workmen engaged in burrowing into the huge pile of slag to secure material for railroad ballast. Four bodies still remain in the dump.

A SERIOUS CHARGE

Montreal Youth Struck Another With a Stick, and He Died.

[G. N. W. Dispatch.]

Montreal, Dec. 29.—The police have captured Rosario Casavant, the 19-year-old youth, who in a quarrel over Marie Soucy, struck Ernest Bigras on the head with a stick, from which a nail protruded, from the result of which Bigras died yesterday afternoon. He was arraigned on a charge of murder today, and the case put over for hearing. The nail entered Bigras' head.

RAILWAYMAN DEAD.
Detroit, Dec. 29.—Thomas Grose, for more than thirty years an employee of the G. T. R., died very suddenly last night at noon. Mr. Grose was about 55 years of age. He leaves a widow, two sons in Detroit and a daughter, Mrs. Watson, of Montreal. Interment will be in Montreal.

JOHNSON WILL FIGHT

Paris, Dec. 29.—It is announced that the Duke of Devonshire, formerly the Duke of Devonshire, has accepted the offer made some time ago of \$25,000 to come to Paris in April and fight the winner of the approaching match between Joe Jeane and Sam Langford.

LOCAL MINISTERS DOWN ON DIVORCE

Do Not Approve of Suggestion of a Court For Province of Ontario.

MAKE IT HARDER FOR RICH

But Do Not Increase the Evil by Making Divorce Easier for the Poor—Some Emphatic Statements.

London ministers are strongly opposed to any change in the present methods of obtaining divorce in Canada which would result in making divorce easier. The idea of a divorce court for the rich, as recommended by the Ontario Bar Association, has so far not been favorably received by local clergymen.

"I am opposed to any change which will make divorce easy," said Rev. J. Gibson, minister of the First Presbyterian Church. "If it is harder, as it has been claimed, for the poor to obtain divorce than for the rich, then make it harder for the rich, but no easier for the poor. The marriage relation is too sacred to be tampered with."

A Calamity.
Canon Hagarty of Memorial Church, expressed his opinion that it would be nothing short of a calamity to make divorce easier. The possibility of obtaining it should be reduced to a minimum.

"Let us make it harder, harder," he said. "Let us drive divorce out of the country altogether. We have no need for it in Canada. Let us make it harder for the poor to obtain it, and a hundred times harder for the rich. Divorce is practically unknown in the Dominion. Let us make it entirely impossible. The great mass of the people do not desire it. Let us do something that will tend to make it more common."

Lowering of Tone.
Rev. H. A. Graham also thought it would be a calamity to effect any legislation which would facilitate the means of obtaining divorce.

"There would be a general lowering of the tone of social morality in consequence," said Rev. Mr. Graham.

Rev. A. K. Birks, although not favoring the idea of a divorce court, was less pronounced and more moderate in his views.

"It is undesirable to make divorce easy," said Mr. Birks, "but that would largely depend on the power which would be invested in the new court. Under the present system, there may be some cases of injustice; but, after all, so far as society is concerned, it is better that a few bad cases should be decided by a court of justice than that the divorce evil and kindred evils should enter into our Canadian civilization. However, it should be just as easy for the poor man to obtain divorce as for the rich man. The enormous costs of divorce at present are unfair to the poor, and beyond remedying this injustice, I am opposed to any change."

The Catholic Church is, of course, absolutely against divorce.

LONDON PUBLISHER LIBELED KING GEORGE

Printed Old Story of Alleged Morganatic Marriage—Goes to Jail.

London, Dec. 29.—Edward Mylles, who was arrested on Monday at Shepherd's Bush, charged with being concerned in the publication of a paper called the Liberator, which contained a libel on King George V., was committed to prison today, charged with sedition.

Prior to the arrest of Mylles the police raided his lodgings in Courtney street, and there they found a number of copies of the paper. They also confiscated about 300 more which they found later.

The Liberator is published in Paris by the Duke of Devonshire, and its publisher is Edward Hilton Jones, said to be a wealthy American lawyer, now travelling in Portugal. He is a nephew of Henry James, the novelist. It is described as an international journal devoted to the extension of republican principles, and its contents are mainly virulent abuse of England, its Government, its ruler and the royal family. The police have been in the habit of raiding the paper's office, and it is closed for some time, but no action was taken until the November issue appeared.

A colored leaflet was issued with the June number, setting forth in large type: "France and America salute thee, England—Long live Kier Hardie—Hall to the Revolution—Down with the Classes—Up with the Proletariat—Long live Egypt, India and Ireland—Hall to the People, and long may they reign."

A virulent attack on the consort of the late Queen Victoria, and statements concerning the alleged morganatic marriage of King George caused the raid.

PAINTER FOUND DEAD

Ingersoll, Dec. 9.—A painter named Wm. Geddes was found dead in his bed in his boarding house, formerly the Hotel Normandie, opposite the town hall on King street west, yesterday evening. It is alleged that he had been drinking freely, and a severe cut was found on his forehead, but it is not considered sufficient to have caused death.

Deceased had been painting in McCarty's new building on Thames street. Dr. Colquhoun was called, and he concluded that the man had been dead for several hours when found. It has not yet been decided whether an inquest will be held or not.

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80 TO 90 POUNDS AT THE HYDRANT

Horton Street Plant Is Doing Excellent Work For the Entire City.

BIG CHANGE IN PRESSURE

It Is Expected That the City Will Shortly Have From 90 to 100 Pounds Pressure at the Hydrant.

The water pressure throughout the city today varies from 60 pounds to 90 pounds. The lower figures are shown on the dial at the city hall when the new pumping plant is not in operation. When it does work, however, the pressure jumps up 20 pounds, giving the firemen plenty of water, and abundantly enough to make all fires that may occur in the city.

This fact is the first and best argument in favor of the new artesian well plant.

This pressure is not the maximum. The machinery has not yet been run to capacity, nor anything near it. In the parlance of the sporting world, the machinery has been run "under wraps."

There is much expectation to make to obtain perfection in operation, and as in the case of all new machinery, the first test is not always a true one, nor the best.

When the plant has attained smoothness, and when everything has been adjusted properly, there is no doubt that the pressure at the hydrant will be from 90 to 100 pounds.

Electric Pumps Operated.
The two electric pumps have been operated together. Each has a capacity of 2,500,000 gallons, and in cases of emergency five million gallons can be turned into the mains.

The gas engine has been tested, and it works admirably. It is expected to serve unit, and will be used in cases of emergency only.

Experts state that it is the best type of engine seen in Canada for some time. The wells are all pumping, and show good results. One of the latest, located just east of the pumping station, is considered the best. It is running easily 900,000 gallons a day.

The others are giving satisfaction. None have been made to yield their light. The eighteen wells would, it is claimed, show more water than the old wells. The quantity which they will be called upon to produce daily as soon as the machinery is better adjusted, hours each day. When the construction work is completed, in two weeks' time, they will be working the full 24 hours.

Mr. Dark Is Satisfied.
"We are well satisfied with the new machinery," declared Manager Dark. "The new pumping plant is doing better than expected. The pressure down town is from 80 to 90 pounds now. That is a decided improvement as compared with what we have been accustomed to. There are a few little adjustments to make, and when they are made we can pump 24 hours a day, look out for better pressure. I am personally more than pleased. We will have plenty of water, and the best water, too, in the city. With everything running smoothly, we could shut off Springbank and serve the people from the city wells."

The Reserve.
The reserve reservoir capacity will be over six million gallons. Springbank reservoir holds over five millions, and the Horton street one over one million. The new plant will be able to supply the city with water, and will be able to meet all demands, no matter how great.

A test will probably be made shortly. This will not take place, it is understood, until the power is used for 24 hours on the pumps.

The underwriters' representatives will be here some time in January, and it is considered likely that the test will be made while they are in the city.

CALGARY'S CITY HALL COST \$175,000

Letter From City Clerk Spence to Mr. Hiscox.

As Calgary's city hall has been mentioned as a model for London, the following letter to Mr. George T. Hiscox from the city clerk of Calgary, showing the cost of the building there, will be of interest:

City Clerk's Office.
Dear Sir:—I am in receipt of your letter of the 17th inst., re newspaper talk on city hall matters.

I find in looking over the clippings that an error has crept into our figures that we gave you as to the area of ground occupied by the new hall. It is 23 feet, but your newspaper cutting reads 1208. Some typographical error, either in striking out the letter to you, or in printing in the office, has made it read otherwise.

As to the figures relating to the cost of the building, I can assure you that the outlay will approach very close to \$175,000. The first bid was for \$175,000 for the expenditure of money for the erection of a city hall was for \$150,000. This latter sum includes also the furnishing of the hall, equipping it for the use of the city.

There has been considerable trouble during the progress of the erection of the building, both with contractors and architects, that has added somewhat to the cost, but the sums of money provided by the two bylaws will be practically expended when the city hall is ready for occupation. I am, Yours sincerely, W. D. SPENCE, City Clerk.

BANK MANAGER IS CHARGED WITH THEFT

Head of Northern Bank Said To Have Taken \$80,000.

New York, Dec. 29.—The grand jury this afternoon handed down an indictment against Joseph G. Robin