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**CAPTAIN McLEOD  
INTENDED RETIRING****He Had His Eye on Fruit Farm  
Near Union, South of  
St. Thomas.****HEALTH WAS AFFECTED****Also Complained That He Had Not  
Time to Spend With Wife and  
Family in Connaut.**

Capt. McLeod, of the wrecked steamer Bessemer, intended to retire in a year or two at most on a farm near Union, Ont., there to spend the rest of his days in quiet. Such was the burden of a conversation he had with Mr. Philip Pocock, of the London Shoe Company, last summer while on a trip across the lake.

Mr. Pocock, who is a gentleman, was crossing to Connaut, and was entertained in the captain's quarters. He had a reading-room, a large bedroom, with a handsome brass bedstead, and up-to-date bathroom. All rooms were splendidly furnished, and it looked extremely comfortable.

**A Memorable Conversation.**

"You are very fortunate, Capt. McLeod, in having such comfortable quarters," said Mr. Pocock. "You are happily situated."

"Well, it does look comfortable," the captain answered, "but do you know that for years I have had not more than two hours on any day with my family. I miss them, and I am going to quit it. There is a farm near Union, 200 acres of it, that I have picked out, and I am going to retire there, and settle down. It is a fine fruit farm, and I can live happy with my family the rest of my days. It may be next year, if circumstances turn out as I expect, but it will not be longer than two years."

"This life is getting me. Did you notice when I came aboard that I seemed in pain? That's rheumatism. I am feeling it now, and what is that? I will have to retire sooner than I expect."

Born in Kincardine.

"I did not know you were a Canadian," said Mr. Pocock.

"Oh, yes; I am a Canadian," replied the captain. "I was born in Kincardine."

The conversation was brought vividly to the minds of the gentlemen who made the trip since the wreck.

They all speak in the highest terms of Capt. McLeod, who was a most genial, affable fellow, and a well-informed man.

**POWER LITIGATION  
BARRED, SAYS COURT****Act Declared Valid in the Case of  
Smith vs. the City of  
London.**

Toronto, Dec. 17.—The act passed last session by the Ontario Legislature to put a stop to threatened litigation against the hydro-electric policy of the Ontario Government was declared valid yesterday by the divisional court in the judgment delivered upon the case of R. H. Smith against the City of London. A similar decision was given in the case of Boyd in the case of Mr. W. Beardmore against the city of Toronto.

The judgment of the divisional court is written out by Chancellor Boyd, the other judges concurring. His lordship, after exhaustively reviewing the powers conferred upon the Legislature and previous cases, holds that the statute attacked (the validating act) is within the competency of the Legislature. The court holds that within the domain reserved to it under the British North America act the Legislature of Ontario possesses powers as ample as any other representative assembly within the Empire.

In his judgment upon the case against the city of Toronto the chancellor says he follows the ruling of Mr. Justice Riddell in the action of Smith against London, declaring the act forever stayed, a ruling now affirmed by the divisional court.

"I have not seen the judgment," said Mr. J. M. McEwen, who interviewed "I presume that the court considered that they were tied up by the legislation enacted by the Provincial Government. However, it is a stepping stone in the way. We are going to the court of appeal next, and from that court to the privy council, if necessary. We did not want to go to the divisional court in the first place, preferring to go direct to the court of appeal. They would not have it that way, so now we must go by the regular track. Our appeal will be taken at the earliest possible moment."

**AID FOR WISSAHICKON****Wrecking Tug Sent From Soo to Scene  
of the Accident.**

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Dec. 17.—If possible an effort will be made to release the steamer Wissahickon from Outer Duck Island and get her to port for the winter. The tug Reid, which was to have gone to work on the Steinbrenner, has received orders to proceed at once to the Wissahickon. Capt. Sinclair, who has been supervising the work of repairs to the Derwind for the insurance company, goes on the Reid from London, where he is expected that what will be done. The tug left at daylight. The crew of the Wissahickon have not arrived at Detour yet.

Disinfecting 'Phones.

Hamilton Times: The Hamilton Board of Health is slow in taking up the matter of disinfecting the mouthpieces of public telephones. Dr. Hutchinson, London's medical health officer, has made a strong recommendation to the board there in connection with the matter, and action will be taken at once. Disinfecting the mouthpieces is a simple matter, and a number of Hamilton firms, who keep pace with sanitary improvements, have already taken the precaution.

**MAY NOT MOVE FERRY  
FOR MANY WEEKS****Continued Heavy Seas at Port  
Burwell Making Salving of  
Boat Difficult.****[Special to The Advertiser.]**

Port Burwell, Dec. 17.—A blow from the southwest started here last evening, and today there is such a sea running that the Reid Wrecking Company find it impossible to get to the Ash-tubula. It is feared now that there will be little done this year towards salving the vessel owing to the fact that it will be almost impossible to have calm seas long enough to pull her off. However an attempt will be made as soon as the sea runs down.

Yesterday afternoon stoves and supplies were taken out to the men on board the ship. There was also taken out a plentiful supply of bedding. During the first few days of the imprisonment the men were compelled to use their bedding to prevent the water coming into the hold.

The men, of good spirits, there being no sickness among them. A casual examination of the vessel showed her to be in better shape than anticipated, and it is declared that in her present position she can stand any kind of a sea.

**CLOTHES WERE STOLEN  
FROM THE CLOTHESLINE****Glynn Scott, of Simcoe St. East,  
Is Charged With the  
Offense.**

Glynn Scott, a young man, who says his home is on Simcoe street east, was arrested last night for being drunk and stealing a lot of ladies' underwear from the clothesline of Mr. O. W. Cambridge, Rectory street. Scott admitted taking something, but said he was too drunk at the time to know what he was about.

Mr. Cambridge told the court that on different occasions he had missed articles of clothing from his clothesline, and he has been making a business of stealing from clotheslines. I must deal with you accordingly."

The court was merely a drunken frolic," said the court. "It will not be so very serious, but if on the other hand you have been making a business of stealing from clotheslines, I must deal with you accordingly."

Magistrate Love dismissed the charge, and ordered a detective to accompany Mr. Cambridge to search to see if any stolen property can be located.

"This was merely a drunken frolic," said the court. "It will not be so very serious, but if on the other hand you have been making a business of stealing from clotheslines, I must deal with you accordingly."

The defendant was merely a drunken frolic," said the court. "It will not be so very serious, but if on the other hand you have been making a business of stealing from clotheslines, I must deal with you accordingly."

**A PECULIAR CASE  
AT DECEMBER SESSION****Defendant Says He Dismissed Plaintiff  
Because Latter Was Immoral  
Man.**

The case of John A. Collins, of concession 1, London Township, against the township council for damages to his land through the alleged faulty construction of a drain, was the first case called at the county court this morning. The plaintiff asked that \$210 be paid him as the cost of the drain be refunded, and damages be awarded him. After some consideration a question arose as to whether the court had jurisdiction to try the action, and the case was reserved until this point had been settled.

The case of William H. Denham, who brings action against his employer, H. L. Patrick, of London Township, for alleged dismissal without cause, occupied the remainder of the morning.

The defendant alleges that he dismissed Denham because of statements made to him by the plaintiff himself regarding certain immoral acts he had committed, which convinced the defendant that he was not a fit man to have around the place. The case was brought into court \$210 in full satisfaction of the claim for wages.

**FIVE GIRLS PERISH****Caught on Sixth Floor of a Burning  
Building.**

Philadelphia, Dec. 17.—At least five girls who were employed in the six-story building occupied by Scarck and Sherrill, manufacturers of undertakers' supplies, which was destroyed by fire last night, are missing, and it is feared they were killed. One of the firemen, Joseph Toner, killed, 20 years old; Edward Smith, 21; Eva Apepa, 21; Catherine Smith, 18; Louise Cumea, 17; Camden, N. J.

A score of persons sustained burns and other minor injuries. About twenty women were at work on the fifth floor when the fire was discovered. The floor below was covered, but some were carried out unconscious from the smoke. Five failed to return to their homes during the night, and as there are no injuries to persons in the hospitals, it is believed their bodies are in the ruins.

**SUPPOSED DEAD MAN  
SITS UP AND YAWNS****Terre Haute, Ind., Dec. 17.—As an under-  
taker started to prepare the body of  
Edward Murphy for burial, the supposed  
dead man arose in bed and yawned.**

"I feel better after that long sleep," he said.

Murphy had been in a state of coma for ten hours. He had been an invalid for a long time. But the undertaker, who was recalled for Murphy, really died yesterday, and the frightened undertaker about his "first death."

**CANAL TOTAL TONNAGE****Freight Handled During Year Closing  
Showed a Remarkable Increase.**

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—With the close of navigation for the season a phenomenal increase in the total tonnage of freight handled by Canadian canals last year is reported. Statistics issued by the canal department this morning show that the total tonnage through the canals since last spring has been 22,735,598, an increase of 15,632,885 tons, or almost 70 per cent, as compared with last year. This increase was largely at Sault Ste. Marie, where 14,535,611 more tons were handled this year than last. The Welland Canal traffic increased by 86,644 tons. With the exception of the Trent all canals showed increased traffic this year. On the Trent canal there was a decrease of 21,738 tons, as compared with last year.

**BOTTLE FLOATED  
TO YANKEE SIDE****Dropped From Lakeside in Sept-  
ember—Answer to Message  
Is Now Received.****HAD REMARKABLE TRIP****Went Across From Port Stanley and  
Followed Route Taken by the Ill-  
Fated Bossemer Lifeboat.**

Raymond Evans, of 35 Weston street, South London, has received a letter from William J. Durbrow, of the Pennsylvania State Museum, at Harrisburg, Pa., acknowledging the receipt of a note which Evans wrote on the steamer Lakeside, 15 miles out from Port Stanley, on Sept. 4, and threw overboard in a bottle.

The letter, which follows, explains itself:

Raymond Evans, 35 Weston Street, London, Ontario, Canada.

Dear Sir,—While hunting specimens for the Pennsylvania State Museum on Presque Isle, Erie, Penn., I found a bottle on the beach. On breaking it I found a note which read as follows:

"Lake Erie, Sept. 4, 1909.

"This bottle was thrown from the Lakeside steamer at 3:30 p.m., 15 miles from Port. Finder please drop a line to Raymond Evans, 35 Weston street, London, Ontario, Canada."

I found it on Oct. 2 about 2:30 p.m. near the Presque Isle Light, about 75 miles from where it was cast in. N. W. by W. 1/4, West from Erie. That was a very long distance for a bottle to travel in less than a month. Please acknowledge receipt of this and oblige. Very respectfully yours,

WM. J. DURBROW,  
Pennsylvania State Museum, Harrisburg, Pa.

Carried Across the Lake.

The bottle evidently was carried over practically the same course as the yawl of the Marquette and Bessemer, which was picked up containing the bodies of nine of the shipwrecked crew.

**MAJOR BEATTIE SAYS  
HAS SOLVED MYSTERY****Locates the Missing Race-Track  
Petitions and Will Tell About  
It When Home.**

[Special to The Advertiser.]  
Ottawa, Dec. 17.—Major Beattie, M. P., states that after an anxious search he has solved the mystery of the missing petitions against race track gambling which were supposed to have been sent to him. He says that he prefers not to give the explanation until he returns to London tomorrow. He will then make a statement which he feels certain will be acceptable.

**GRAND TRUNK PAY CAR  
LEFT \$80,000 IN LONDON****Checks This Month Are Most  
Numerous and Heavy for  
a Long Time.**

The Grand Trunk pay car arrived in the city last night, and all day long streams of men have been continually filing in and out of its doors away bearing away the money. The green checks that come in handy at any time, but particularly handy when Christmas is only a week distant. The pay roll this month is a result of the rush of business greater than any previous month in the year, and according to officials will reach close to \$80,000. The other railroads also pay their employees, and it is expected that in the next few days the railroads that come into London will have paid out to their employees more than \$100,000. Many are looking forward to a big business tomorrow evening, when not only the railroad men, but a good many others, will come down to complete their Christmas shopping.

**WILL BE A SAVING  
SAYS TRUSTEE GRAHAM****As a Result of the Change in Kinder-  
garten System.**

Trustee Graham contradicts the assertion of a fellow-trustee that no saving in money will be effected by the reorganization of the kindergarten. Mr. Graham explains the results of the change as follows:

"Under the new arrangement each teacher, by the time they reach the maximum, will be doing as much work, and handling as many pupils, and receiving \$750 per year. As a director and assistant now receive \$700 and \$400 respectively, there will be a saving of \$350 on each teacher at the lowest calculation. This is beyond contradiction."

"The board has recently taken steps to extend the work to four extra stations, thus employing four teachers more than are needed to handle the classes. If the board had not done this, and let the work be done only in the same classes as this year, there would have been a saving of \$6,000 next year over the present year."

"I am ready to show this to your representative, or any person else."

"C. M. R. GRAHAM."

**Shriners Are Off.**

About twenty-five Shriners left at noon today for Toronto to attend the ceremonial session of Ramesses Temple there this evening. Among those who went down were Ill. Potentate A. L. Davis, Noble W. H. Abbott, recorder, and Nobles Harry E. Buttery, Ben Noble, C. W. McGuire, Thos. Allen, Ken Murray, A. Jones, C. Forrester and others. At Brantford they will be joined by a dozen others.

**PRINCE ALBERT OF FLANDERS,  
Nephew of the Late King Leopold of  
Belgium, Who Succeeds to the  
Throne.****ANOTHER DEBATE  
OVER THE TENDERS****Utilities Board Once Again Failed  
to Agree on the Awarding  
of Contracts****MAY LAY THEM OVER**

Chairman Jones Says He Would Pre-  
fer to Have Next Year's Board  
Deal With Matter.

The utilities board had another two-hour tussle this morning with the tenders for transformer station equipment, and the contract has not yet been awarded. It is not likely that anything will be done this year. The matter may be referred to next year's board.

There was little new in the debate. The figures were gone over and twisted in every shape, but where the discussion ended nothing had been done.

The item referring to the reflectors was again taken up, and in the opinion of Commissioner Darch, the tender of the Canadian General Electric Company was the lower.

He moved that it be accepted, but other Chairman Jones, nor Mayor Stevely would support it.

Mayor Stevely took the ground that the engineer of the city, Mr. Sifton, had reported that the Westinghouse tender was the lower. That opinion was borne out by the engineers of the hydro-electric commission, who in communication to the board, had stated that such was the case. This he considered a disturbing factor, and he favored accepting the recommendation of the engineers.

"There is little need for delay," said his worship. "It seems very clear to me."

Which Is Lower?

Commissioner Darch, however, declared that the Canadian General Electric tender was the lower by \$1,300 when the reductions were considered, and as the lower tender he favored its acceptance.

Chairman Jones would not settle the question by voting either tender.

"I have not given the question that consideration that I would had I intended to be on the board next year."

This matter was forced on us at the last moment, and I would much prefer next year's board settle it. There will be but little time lost, and I think it would work out to better advantage."

Nothing Doing.

So the matter rested there. Commissioner Darch was quite willing to allow it to go over until next year.

The letter of the London Electric regarding the situation of the city's light poles, and notifying the city that they would hold the corporation liable was sent to the city collector.

Those present were Mr. William Jones, chairman, Commissioner F. J. Darch, Mr. Steele, Engineer Sir, Engineer Moore, and Secretary Ellwood.

**CONSECRATION OF  
BISHOP FALLON**

In well-informed Catholic circles it is understood that the consecration of Bishop Designate Fallon will not take place until the last week of January or the first week of February.

Although the cable announced that he was named for the honor the official document must arrive from Rome announcing the appointment, and it will take 25 days for that to reach London.

Father Fallon must ten enter into a retreat for two weeks prior to his consecration, so that it will be at least February before he can be installed.

**TOMORROW—COLDER.**

Toronto, Dec. 17.—8 a.m.

Today—Cloudy, with light local snow-falls, and becoming much colder, with strong west and northwest winds.

Saturday—Strong northwest winds and colder.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Low.	High.
Calgary	30	20	15	35
Winnipeg	4	0	2	2
Edmonton	24	10	5	28
Parry Sound	23	20	15	28
Toronto	34	20	22	34
Ottawa	24	14	10	28
Montreal	26	14	10	28
Quebec	26	14	10	28
Halifax	24	10	5	28
Dawson	24	10	5	28
Atlin	24	10	5	28
Vancouver	24	10	5	28
Kamloops	24	10	5	28
Edmonton	24	10	5	28
Battleford	24	10	5	28
Moos Jaw	24	10	5	28
Qu'Appelle	24	10	5	28
St. John	24	10	5	28
Halifax	24	10	5	28

Minus (—) means below zero.

**PROF. BAKER ON  
"IMPERIALISM"****An Interesting Address Delivered  
Before the Canadian Club  
at Noon Today.****MADE SOME SUGGESTIONS****Which He Said Would Add to the Im-  
perial Spirit—A Tribute to Can-  
ada's Broad-Mindedness.**

At the meeting of the Canadian Club held at noon today in the grill room of the Tecumseh House, Prof. Alfred Baker gave a most interesting lecture on "Imperialism." There was a very large number of members present, and they thoroughly enjoyed the address.

C. B. Edwards, president of the club, presided.

In beginning his lecture, Prof. Baker alluded to the growth of the imperial spirit throughout the empire. He gave a short resume of British history tracing the growth and development of the idea. It was greatly fostered by the South African war—in fact, this conquest he said, added exceedingly strong the idea of imperial unity in the minds of the colonies of the British crown.

Some Suggestions.

In concluding his address, he gave some suggestions that would add to this spirit—preferable trade among the colonies, fast steamship lines, and cheap fares, lower rates on steamships for British subjects travelling through the empire, to be made up by subsidies to exchange army and navy units, not only of officers, but of men, more space in Canadian newspapers to matters pertaining to the empire, for which there should be a well-organized system; lecturers who should travel in the empire, explaining the advantages of the country to which they belonged, but not for immigration purposes; more systematic teaching of the geography of the empire than at present; separate alcoves in libraries for the history and geography of the empire; exchange of professors among the universities of the empire; and ridding the public of the idea of the absurdity that the tariff binds the country. He advocated the toast "Canada and the Empire," rather than "Canada," at banquets.

Tribute to Canadians.

Prof. Baker paid a tribute to the broad-mindedness of Canada, as shown by the fact that a Roman Catholic Frenchman could earn the highest gift in the hands of the Canadian people, when a Catholic was compelled to resign the presidency of the United States.

A vote of thanks was tendered Prof. Baker.

**LLOYD-GEORGE CAUGHT****Suffragette Jumps Into His Auto-Car  
and Shakes Him.**

London, Dec. 17.—Mr. Lloyd-George, who spoke at Queen's Hall last night, had a remarkable experience. On his arrival at the hall, two suffragettes approached his car. One jumped in and the other locked the door, and stood on the footboard, while the car proceeded to the side entrance of the building. The woman within upbraided and shook the chancellor, who merely smiled. The crowd resented this action, and roughly handled the two suffragettes.

The feature of the election campaign continues to be the strong feelings displayed against the peers and the amount of disturbance and disorder to which the Unionist meetings are subjected. Mr. Austen Chamberlain, ex-chancellor of the exchequer, at a meeting of last night, was compelled to give a speech before he had half-finished, on account of interruptions. The meeting broke up in disorder.

Reginald McKenna, first lord of the admiralty, is the latest victim of suffragette violence. After addressing a meeting at Southend, Mr. McKenna was surrounded by several women. They succeeded in getting the first lord into his motor car, but one of the suffragettes jumped on the footboard, and it was necessary to stop the car and forcibly remove the woman. Several other women then chased the car to the railroad station and managed to catch the same train, and again molested Mr. McKenna, who, he alleged, endeavored to escape. A scuffle ensued in which Mr. McKenna received a blow from a feeding tube.

**CITY NOT LIABLE****SAYS MR. MEREDITH**

Mr. J. A. Tancock's Claim For a Furnace Is Denied.

The city is not liable for the damage done the furnace of Mr. J. A. Tancock, on account of a sewer backing up. This was the opinion of City Solicitor Meredith, received today at the city hall.

It will be remembered that some time ago Mr. Tancock wrote claiming \$75 damage. A sewer had backed up, flooding his cellar and ruining the furnace. He threatened suit unless the claim was settled.

The opinion of Mr. Meredith was obtained on the subject, and he points out that the corporation is liable only during the lifetime of the debentures on a sewer. The time expired in 1894 as regards the sewer complained of, and a rest of the city is in no way responsible for the damage.

The communication will be read at the next meeting of the council. It is not thought that Mr. Tancock will push his claim, as he intends to be a candidate for next year's council, and if he had an action against the city he would be disqualified.

**Campbell Acquitted.**

Norman L. Campbell, who was arraigned in the county court yesterday charged with stealing two bags of oats from Mr. Nicholson, brother of Strathroy, his employer, was found not guilty by the jury, and discharged by the judge. Mr. Campbell claimed that the oats in question were his own, and had been brought to Mr. Nicholson's house and stored in the cellar, when the accused came to work for him. The bulk of the evidence seemed to bear out his contention.

**LITTLE GIRL PEEKED  
AT PLAYFUL PUP****Result Was That a Little Nose  
Was Bitten by Youthful  
Canine.**

Alma Sholdice, of Wellington road, a pupil at Shincove street school, had her nose bitten by a terrier pup yesterday and had to have the wound cauterized by a physician. The little girl had gone into a store near the school, and seeing the pup, leaned over to pat it. In a playful spirit the dog jumped up in her face, and its teeth came in contact with her nose, causing an ugly cut. Dr. F. P. Drake was called and dressed the injury, and the girl was able to attend school.

**RIG TURNED TURTLE  
DROWNING DRIVER**

Hamilton, Dec. 17.—William George Hill came to his death under circumstances on Wednesday night. Hill formerly farmed at Weston, but sold out and was moving his goods to Glanford, when the fatal accident took place.

His rig fell over into a creek, and turned turtle.

Hill's head was pinned underneath it in a few inches of water, and he was drowned before the rig could be taken off him.

**ITALY IS AFTER  
TREATY WITH CANADA**

Rome, Dec. 17.—The appointment of the Marquis of Molinaro as a special delegate of the foreign office to negotiate at Ottawa a treaty of commerce and reciprocity between Italy and Canada, is expected immediately. It is also likely that a commissioner of immigration will be appointed to reside in Canada to look out for Italy's immigration.

**COBALT MINES  
ROBBED OF ORE**

Dr. Wilkinson, of Toronto, and Alex. Littlejohn, of Cobalt, Arrested for Theft of \$20,000 Worth.

Toronto, Dec. 17.—Following the exposure of large thefts of silver ore from Kerr Lake and other Cobalt mines, Dr. John E. Wilkinson, 511 Sherbourne street, manufacturer, and Alexander Littlejohn, miner, Cobalt, were arrested yesterday by Detectives Murray, McKinney and Guthrie.

They are charged with receiving stolen ore, and Dr. Wilkinson faces the further charge of having violated the amendment to the criminal code, recently made, by which it is an offence to purchase ore unless under the written authority of the mine owner.

Dr. Wilkinson was admitted to bail last night by consent of Mr. Garfield, in the absence of Crown Attorney Corley, and David A. Dunlop, 33 Highland avenue, went on his bond for \$20,000, the sum fixed.

**COLORADO CLUBHOUSE  
FIGURES IN COURT**

Magistrate Love Orders That the Club Be Disbanded.

Charles Cox, a young colored man, appeared before Magistrate Love this morning, charged with allowing people to act in a disorderly manner at his house, 4174 Ontario street, last night.

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