

GERMAN MASS FORCES IN THE FRENCH LINES

WENIGE POSITIVE HALL
WILL BE BUILT IN YEAR

Undaunted by City Solicitor's Opinion, Mayor Declares He Will Go to Toronto for Permission to Sell Land—Council Divided.

BLAMES COUNCIL OF 1922 FOR MESS

Mayor Wenige refused absolutely to accept defeat for the city hall project.

"We'll go to Toronto for the necessary legislation," he assured The Advertiser confidently today. "The city solicitor has not said that we cannot build a city hall this year. He has merely given his opinion that we cannot sell land adjacent to the McCormick property without the permission of the Ontario legislature."

"I believe that we will be successful when we go to the government for this legislation. In the final analysis it is our property that is involved, and surely we shall be allowed to dispose of a portion of it if we see fit. The question is by no means settled. We go to Toronto."

The mayor still maintains, incidentally, that the last session of municipal election voted a desire that their new administration offices should be built in 1923.

Several of the council fell to see "eye to eye" with Mayor Wenige. Certain of them desire that the entire problem be shelved until 1924. Others, like Ald. Leonard Douglass and W. A. Wilson, want a site other than the McCormick property. Still others acknowledge that the latter location is ideal, but question the advisability of immediate construction.

If the councillors ever divert a moment from their original line of thought, a veritable "ward grabbing" epidemic will ensue, it is expected, each one of them determined that the new hall shall rise majestically in his district, or not at all.

Ald. Gordon Drake is but one of the 1923 council who places unconditional blame for the present period of chaos squarely upon the shoulders of the retired council—ex-Mayor Wilson and his colleagues.

The people were deprived of a real opportunity to express their sentiments, he asserts, and a member of the 1922 council who essayed to interfere with the procedure was promptly directed to maintain a discreet silence. Such tactics will not go this year, he promises.

A Vote Right Away.

"We'll take a vote right away," he urges, "just as soon as we can get things straightened away. We should say to the people, 'We don't want four or five locations proposed or else we'll get all mixed up again. The people say 'no' this time, there it will be up to us to get rid of the property.'"

This should never have happened. We are losing time and money. There was a clique in last year's council

that was running things and if we edged in we were told to shut up. They wanted the hall on the Spencer Block and were afraid to let the people vote on anything else.

"It's time for action. We have been fooling around too long. 13 years. Now nobody knows what they want or the people never know how to vote. We're going to find out this year and I tell you right now that I'll not stand for such action in the council as in 1922."

Won't Get Far.

"I'm afraid we won't get very far this year," states Ald. Albert Judd, chairman of the finance committee, incidentally placing the blame for the present situation upon the manner in which the city hall bylaw was drafted by the 1922 council.

"I objected to the manner in which the bylaw was presented to the people," explained Ald. Judd. "When I was asked for a change but was voted down. Col. Coles was there that night."

"However, it looks as though all progress is again halted. We have no funds now in the first place and no way of securing them without a vote of the people again. That would mean a \$700 or \$800 now for another time of the year. I do not believe that the people would be willing to spend such a sum during the present time."

The chairman of the finance committee explains that the council may order a vote of the people without delay. "This is not a public utility," he says, "therefore we do not need to wait until the next municipal election."

No Hall This Year.

"I don't think there will be a city hall this year," Ald. Leonard Douglass, chairman of the board of works, stated.

While no doubt the concession of opinion is that the building should be placed on the federal square, it has always been a question in my mind whether the people meant that the work should be done this year.

"However, I do not consider that we have a mandate to proceed without another vote and it is just a question whether we can take the vote before the municipal election. I will make enquiries myself."

"There will be no vote this year as far as I am concerned," declares Ald. W. A. Wilson. "I am not going to take a vote until next year. We can do with the present building until then. I am opposed to spending any money on the present building. In the meanwhile, this is the year the council could select whatever site it considered best."

"Personally, my choice is the northwest corner of Queen's avenue and Clarence street, as suggested by the government plan. I would probably be able to secure this property for about \$30,000."

WANT IMMIGRATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

United Farmers Believe Population Would Help Agriculture.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Vernon, B. C., Jan. 16.—Questions of finance and organization occupied the convention of the United Farmers of British Columbia during most of the time here yesterday. The yearly report showed a deficit of \$2,100.

Discussing the condition of agriculture in this province, delegates were inclined to be pessimistic, until Sam Routhie, labor member, asserted it was nonsense to send apples to the Old Country to advertise British Columbia at the exhibitions. "We don't want any immigrants," he said.

Several delegates thereupon took the stand that a wise policy of colonization was essential to the development of the province, and suggested that the Indian army officers who were being encouraged to come here should be welcomed, warmly opposed. The general opinion seemed to be that agriculture was not making adequate progress in this province and that immigration should be stimulated and taxation decreased.

"DOWN WITH THE FRENCH" SAY HUN REVOLUTIONISTS

Associated Press Despatch.

San Salvador, Jan. 16.—Alfonso Quinonez Molina was chosen president of the republic at the elections held Sunday.

POET OF THE NORTH DIES.

Winnipeg, Jan. 16.—S. J. Johannesen, recognized in the Icelandic communities as a poet of outstanding merit, died Monday, aged 82.

Designers of Clothing for Real Men

War on Jazzy Styles a la Valentino

Associated Press Despatch.

Cincinnati, Jan. 16.—Style creators of masculine apparel will fashion the coming season's sartorial style at the semi-annual convention of the International Association of Clothing Designers, which opens a three-day meeting here tomorrow.

The board of governors will meet in executive session today.

A movement against the so-called "jazz" effect to men's suits will be launched at the convention, which

FREDERICK HARRISON, Publicist and leader of the positive movement, is dead in England.

CITY TREASURER CLAIMS SAVING AT LEAST \$80,000

City Sells Bonds at Greatly Reduced Interest Rate.

UNIVERSITY GAINS

Debtore Terms Increased Ten Years, Which Means \$72,000 Saving.

Upon the direct recommendation of City Treasurer James Bell, the city council has "swung" one of the most profitable financial deals accomplished in London in many years.

Following quiet negotiations in progress for several days past, a detailed announcement was forthcoming this morning at the city hall.

Approximately \$1,730,000 is involved in the sale of municipal debentures, and the saving to the city is quite substantial, at least \$80,000.

"In the first place," City Treasurer Bell reports, "London has sold to the Wood, Gundy Bond Company of Toronto and London \$675,000 worth of one-year 5 per cent bonds on a basis of 5.20 per cent; that is \$9,810 less on the dollar. To my mind this is the best deal that has been witnessed since before the war, at the least."

"We are taking advantage of the market, which is constantly changing, as everyone is aware, and we are doing this to pay off loans that fall due in New York City March next. We employ this method rather than dispose of our debentures outright."

The \$250,000 debenture for the Western University, approved by the vote of the ratepayers and authorized to be issued at 20 years and 6 per cent, has been changed to 30 years at a basis of 5.25 per cent, thus saving during the next 23 years of about \$72,500. I strongly recommend this, and the council has seen fit to do so."

"We have sold \$250,000 worth of debentures, 1 to 19 years, and \$250,000 debentures, to 29 years, on a basis of 5.25 per cent, and \$4 per cent bond, the price being 101.15."

"This is also an excellent deal for the city. As a matter of fact in December last we couldn't see this at par, and we are saving at least \$6,000 by withholding until now."

Business in this instance was transacted with Gaird, Clark & Co., Toronto.

The city councillors have expressed confidence in the judgment and effort of the city treasurer.

BETTER BUS SERVICE FOR KNOLLWOOD PARK

Northeast and Downtown Sections Linked Up.

Increased transportation service for Knollwood Park and vicinity is assured within a few days. The Advertiser was informed today.

An out-of-town resident, it is explained, contemplates the operation of a bus to link up Northeast London with the downtown section, and will provide a nine-minute service.

From such meagre information as is available at this juncture, it has been learned that the bus route will be far different from the present car now in operation. It is understood that the new line will extend down Queen's avenue to Richmond street, down Richmond street to King, and then east on King to Adelaide or Rectory street.

The new vehicle is expected to make its appearance within a few days.

EPIDEMICS RAMPANT THROUGHOUT GREECE

Athens, Jan. 16.—Epidemics of typhus, smallpox and cholera have reached such alarming proportions in the refugee centers throughout Greece that the government today forbade admission of more unfortunate from Asia Minor until the crisis is brought under control. There were 60 deaths on one refugee steamer arriving here.

WELLAND MAN, BELIEVED DEMENTED, FIRES HIS HOME AFTER QUARREL.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Welland, Jan. 16.—James Hackwood, living in Thorold Township, about six miles from this city, is believed to have burned down his house and barn, and then attempted to commit suicide at an early hour this morning. Hackwood, who is 50 years old, a returned soldier, and reported to have suffered shell shock, quarrelled with his son, Sam, last night. Neighbors claim there were frequent quarrels in the family.

At 5:30 a.m. today, while the rest of the family were still in bed, he is thought to have lighted a fire right on the kitchen floor, then rushed out to the barn, started a fire there, and after that used a razor in an attempt to end his life.

Sam, the oldest of a family of two sons and three daughters, knew that his father was up to something, but, as he told friends, he was afraid to go down into the kitchen where his father was. Instead he leaped from this bedroom window and ran to a neighbor's for help. In the meantime the family had got out of the house in safety and found the father lying in the snow behind the garage. His arms were rolled up and his arms and throat were cut. It was first thought he was dead, but when the body was taken to the undertaking rooms in the village of Pontill, the doctor found the man was still living. He was rushed to the county hospital at Welland, where he still hangs between life and death.

Hackwood and his sons work in the city here.

STREET RAILWAY CHIEF WILL FIGHT LONDON COUNCIL

President Currie to Battle Antagonistic Factions.

HERE IN FEW DAYS SAYS HIS COMPANY RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM OLD COUNCIL.

Developments in London's little bus and car row are succeeding one another with even regularity.

Charles Currie of Cleveland, Ohio, president of the London Street Railway Company, is coming to the city within a day or so to view the local transportation situation, and determine a policy for 1923.

In conversation with The Advertiser at noon today over long distance telephone from his Cleveland office, President Currie gave frank information that any determined effort on the part of the London city council of 1923 to halt the operation of one man cars February 1 would be met with equally stiff resistance from the corporation of which he is president.

CARS NOT OPERATING.

"The cars are here, but not in operation yet," The Advertiser informed the president.

"What's the matter?" was the prompt inquiry.

"They are not quite ready for operation," he was told. In any event, there are members of the new council who protest their use. They say you have no authority."

"We have the full permission of the council of 1922," maintained the president. "However, I'll be there in a day or two to get in closer touch with the situation."

The president inferred that the street railway company was quite willing to consider without further delay the question of immediate transportation service for London. The entire situation would be carefully considered following his arrival, he stated.

"What do you think of the suggestion that your company assume control of the several busses now operated by the city?" he was asked.

Can't Say Offhand.

"Well, I would hardly care to say offhand," he replied, "until we go into the situation more thoroughly. I'll be there shortly, when we'll look into these things."

Mr. Currie inquired as to the more recent developments of the situation, whether the police commissioners' omnibus bylaw was yet effective. He did not state whether the company anticipated any legal procedure to test the right of these cars in the city streets, however.

The president's visit will be opportune, particularly in view of the fact that a special committee of the city council is already considering Mayor Wenige's recommendation that the company be compelled to adhere rigidly to the terms of its agreement with the city bylaw 916, or else face a test case in the courts.

REPORTS OF THE FIGHTING AT BOCHUM YESTERDAY ARE CONFLICTING. SOME REPORTS SAY THERE WAS A CLASH IN THE STREETS BETWEEN THE FRENCH INVADERS AND REACTIONARIES, NOT DIRECTED AGAINST THE FRENCH, WHO EITHER MISTOOK THE CHARGE OF THE DEMONSTRATION OR CONSIDERED THEY HAD TAKEN OVER THE DUTY OF RESTORING ORDER WHEN LOCAL POLICE PROVED POWERLESS.

Just as a matter of a rising tide of temper among the invaders is believed to presage trouble for the civilian population of the Ruhr, so the French invaders are believed to be making overtures to the German citizens crowding out. These were indicated when Germans at the Ruhr yesterday, in the morning, and with heads bowed down, and flag and shredded it to ribbons. The mayor of the town was forced to answer for the insult.

It is freely predicted that inside a month, the bloodiest guerrilla warfare will devastate the Ruhr Valley. Especially will this be inevitable, if the French invaders endeavor to force the miners to "slave labor."

The German Government is apparently adamant on the subject of withholding coal deliveries from France, was permitted to be made known that the Cuno administration will not negotiate with the French on this point as long as the Ruhr is occupied. The Ruhr is to be cleared of the factory negotiations and coal deliveries, the situation seems completely dejected.

CONTROL EVERY OUTLET.

Associated Press Despatch.

Dusseldorf, Jan. 16.—The French now control every outlet from the Ruhr into Germany whether by rail or water. The lines were extended today through Dortmund ten kilometers northeast to Luenen and Lippe and thence to Witten which is seven kilometers south of Dortmund.

U. S. HOPEFUL OF SETTLEMENT BY A. L. BRADFORD.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 16.—High authorities of the American government believe today that as soon as France has realized the futility of her experiment in the occupation of the Ruhr, she will gladly take up in some form the United States proposal for an international commission of economic and financial experts to recommend a German reparations sum.

Already there have been some indications that the Poincare government was considering such a step, but so far there has been no official confirmation here of these reports.

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GENEROUS LEADERS MASTER PATH OF FRENCH ARMY

Troops, 25,000 Strong, Concentrated Few Miles From Invading Line.

PREDICT BLOODSHED

Authorities Fear Bloody Guerilla Warfare in Ruhr.

Associated Press Despatch.

Dortmund, Jan. 16.—French general headquarters has information that 25,000 men of the German Reichswehr are concentrated south of Muenster, less than 25 miles north of Luenen, to the north of Dortmund.

The French, by advancing to Dortmund and Luenen and the outposts of the French and German forces at some points are only from eight to ten miles apart.

The French, by advancing to Dortmund and Luenen, passed out of the neutral zone fixed by the Versailles treaty on the right bank of the Rhine, into territory which is forbidden to send regular troops, into the territory where the Reichswehr holds sway.

The French are continuing to send up reserves, which are taking up positions behind the River Lippe.

The occupation of the Ruhr Basin is now complete and the French declare that not a single pound of coal can get out of the Ruhr into the unoccupied territory without their checking it up for the coal tax.

By CARL D. GROOT.

Special Cable to The Advertiser.

Berlin, Jan. 16.—French infantry marched through the streets of Dortmund, third Ruhr town to be occupied, today. Before noon today, fears of trouble were allayed as citizens of the industrial center stood quietly on the sidewalk watching the troops.

Advance of French troops through the district continued.

By CARL D. GROOT.

Special Cable to The Advertiser.

Berlin, Jan. 16.—French troops in the Ruhr pushed farther today over a fan-shaped area today, and it is believed the invaders will extend their occupation beyond the River Lippe as far as Hamm.

The French occupied area reached this afternoon passed through Recklinghausen, Castrop and Bochum. Complete occupation of Dortmund was reported today.

It is indicated that the occupation will include virtually all of Rhineland, the industrial region, representing about three-fourths of the whole German output. This will take French troops into the heart of the Ruhr.

The first bloodshed of the occupation, at Bochum, where French troops shot down German civilians yesterday, killing one and wounding others, is feared in Berlin to be but preliminary to further casualties throughout the occupied zone.

Reports of the fighting at Bochum yesterday are conflicting. Some reports say there was a clash in the streets between the French invaders and reactionaries, not directed against the French, who either mistook the charge of the demonstration or considered they had taken over the duty of restoring order when local police proved powerless.

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EXIT CHILD OF NORTH, ENTER BLASE YOUTH

Jacques Richter's Romantic Tale of Vengeance Quest, But Fabric of Imagination—Yankee Twang Belies Story of Unsophistication.

"ADVENTURES" ARE TISSUE OF LIES

By F. G. GRIFFIN.

Special to The Advertiser.

Toronto, Jan. 16.—The strange case of Jacques Richter is ended. The closing chapter of a two weeks' mystery came in a small bedroom in the quiet Kirkfield Inn on Sunday evening, when an angry, fighting boy faced those who were calling him bluff and threatened to make them pay in ugly terms that crashed out through the door to the ears of the excited guests who were waiting near to hear the clash of the climax.

At that moment exit Jacques Richter of the Great Slave Lake, who had been beaten and robbed on the trail to Fort Henry, and had come to Toronto in search of vengeance, and enter John George Richter, Jr., of Cincinnati, Ohio, an American youth, who had fought a game fight against odds to the very last to hide his identity.

In less than five minutes of concentrated quick-fire action, the nerve-racking contest of days ended, and the mystery vanished like a pricked bubble.

First Into Line.

"Jacques Richter" came first into the limelight on Jan. 2 last, when, lying in St. Michael's Hospital here, his feet frozen and his entire constitution undermined by four days of starvation, he told his story of having followed a trail of vengeance, which led him from the region south of Great Slave Lake to Toronto, in pursuit of two men who, he claimed, had robbed him of furs valued at more than \$800.

Richter declared that he had been reared in the wilds by his father, an Englishman, who had been years of age before he saw a woman, and that he was now visiting a city for the first time in his life.

Following the publication of his story, came despatches from Edmonton, indicating that Richter might be Donald Perry, a trapper missing from the Last of the Lake region, and previously thought to have been murdered by his partner.

Child of the Wilderness.

Richter