

RADIAL COMMISSION RESTS TWO MORE WEEKS

Lawyers Deny That Any Time Has Been Really Wasted— Counsel for Pro-Radial Municipalities Desired Adjournment to Prepare His Case—Anxious to Avoid Calling "Experts," Who May Not Know Anything of Situation

According to the lawyers in the case, the Sutherland Radial Commission has been the busiest, most energetic commission ever seen in this province, has literally worked the lawyers almost to death to keep pace with it, has never wasted any time during its busy term of office, and any criticism to the contrary is wholly unjustified and unwarranted.

All this interesting information was brought out at the close of the session yesterday afternoon when Robert McKay, K.C., pro-radial municipalities' counsel, asked for a two weeks' adjournment in order to have time to prepare his case before proceeding any further.

The commissioners were visibly shocked at the thought of another long adjournment, and their attention to the fact that they had already been severely criticized in the press for the way matters had been delayed and the inquiry prolonged.

"I cannot understand why, with so much ahead of us an adjournment of two weeks should be made," said Justice Sutherland, "a week should be enough."

One Week Not Enough.

"I can only say that an adjournment of only one week would be quite impossible as far as I am concerned," said Mr. McKay. "I am not going to bring alleged experts from Chicago, New York and other parts of the United States only to find out when they get here that they don't know anything. I am going to find out whether witnesses I bring here know anything about the matter instead of bringing witnesses here to waste the time of the commission. Since September this inquiry has been sitting 105 days, including days that were not legitimate working days. It has taken two-thirds of my time, and has not given me any time in which to prepare a case and obtain witnesses."

"There has been much adverse criticism in all the newspapers about the way the commission is supposed to be delaying matters, and as the rural member of the commission, I have to bear the brunt of it all," said Commissioner Amos. "The people in the country do not get to know the reasons of these delays, and do not understand why matters are prolonged."

"It is the old, old story," replied Mr. McKay. "The outsiders, I have to do anything I imagine they could do better than the men actually on the job. All this criticism rolls off me like water off a duck's back. I have noticed the same thing by my own clients. Some of them imagine that sitting behind a roller top desk in New York they can with the aid of a few telegrams accomplish things here that I could not even do myself."

"I sympathize with the commission for the way they are being criticized, but I can assure you that you could not have done any better."

Mr. Helmut, K.C., the commission's counsel, here came to the rescue of that body. "I see that the papers have been making a feature of the delays of this commission," he said. "They think we have not been sitting often enough and that the inquiry is being dragged out. I beg to point out that any adjournment must have been the fault of the commission and that there has not been a single day on which the commission has not been willing to sit."

"I will say that never in my experience have I been so hard driven as by this commission," said Mr. McKay. "I do not mean as a reflection on the commission, but say it merely to show what a fast pace has been set."

"I have also been hard driven," said Mr. Helmut. "And might say that the commission has sat with much regularity and that any delay experienced has been much against the members' wishes; and yet if you read any of the newspapers you will read that the commissioners are practically daubing their time away and trying to lengthen things out."

"I appreciate your sympathy, anyway," said Commissioner Amos, "but do not see how it is going to help us very much."

"I will say that there is certainly no reason for another long delay," declared Justice Sutherland, "but I suppose this adjournment cannot be avoided. We will adjourn until two weeks from next Monday."

The lawyers pointed out in some consternation that this would mean sitting on Easter Monday, but Justice Sutherland said that he did not care for the fact that the sitting could not be adjourned any longer than that date. Incidentally it might be added that Mr. McKay, asked whether only two weeks' delay, which would have meant the 23rd of this month, and without ever asking for the extra time secured an adjournment until the 28th of the month, which will be Easter Monday.

The whole of yesterday was taken up finishing the evidence of C. E. McKay, consulting engineer of New York City, the expert brought here by the "Antis." It has taken three days to take the evidence of this one witness.

Expert's Admissions.

Under further cross-examination by Robert McKay, K.C., the witness admitted that the operating expenses of the radial were far below those of a steam road. He then admitted that the proposed location of the Hydro lines were about as good as could be found anywhere for such a purpose, and that the sweeping assertion that radial railways no longer were regarded as a paying proposition and for that reason no new radial lines had been built on this continent for the past ten years. A few of the existing lines had made some extension during that period, but no new lines had been established, as radials were regarded as a bad investment, that a decade ago used to go to building radial lines now went into power companies. The witness regarded this as the power age.

Justice Sutherland wanted to know if the reason for the radial lines in the United States did not pay the investors better was not due to the fact that the radial lines were over-capitalized. The witness admitted that this was the case with practically all American lines, but thought the financial difficulties encountered were to be blamed on radials being a poor paying investment.

Cross-examined by Mr. Helmut, the witness further admitted that radials would probably get 15 per cent of the local business between Bowmanville and Toronto and between Toronto and St. Catharines now enjoyed by the steam railways.

Questioned regarding the advantage a private high-speed right-of-way into the centre of a city, the witness said United States lines having this advantage showed a ten per cent greater revenue than those which had to come in slowly over the tracks of street railways.

Commissioner Bancroft asked the witness there were any public-owned electric radials in the United States, and Mr. Bailey said that Canada was ahead of the United States in the matter of public ownership as there were no public-owned railways in that country. He added, however, that this was because public-owned railways did not pay.

GARGOYLES ARE SOURCE OF CITY HALL DANGER

A commotion was caused in the drafting room of the works department yesterday afternoon, when one of the 600-pound gargoyles on the north-east tower of the city hall came crumbling down the roof and missed one of the draftsmen, James Marshall, of 98 Hogarth avenue, by a few inches. The drafting room is on the attic floor and the offices below were not disturbed. Architect Price says the gargoyles of which there are twelve, are made of New Brunswick sandstone, which crumbles away in course of time. He will recommend that all the gargoyles be removed, as he believes they are crumbling and getting loose and are therefore a constant source of danger. Property Commissioner Chisholm is looking into the matter. He is also having the roof repaired.

FUNERAL OF VICTIM OF DRUG STORE TRAGEDY

The funeral of L. Cecil Sabine, the Toronto druggist, who was shot in his store on Saturday night, took place yesterday. Rev. J. H. Turnbull of the High Park Presbyterian Church conducted the services. The pallbearers were Toronto druggists. Many telegrams and letters of condolence and a large number of floral offerings were received.

In a personal reference to the victim of the assassins, Mr. Turnbull said that Mr. Sabine had been a splendid type of man, consistent in his integrity, his kindness of heart, and his church membership.

AUTO SMASH DAMAGES.

Because John L. Roberts was run down by an auto at Dundas and Jane streets on August 1st last, Mr. Justice Sutherland yesterday awarded him \$18,000 damages, as against Thomas Sheard, the owner, but dismissed the action as against Brimbley, chauffeur.

PRaises Toronto Cadets.


Principal Grant states that he has received word from General Williams that the cadets of Upper Canada College did very well at the recent inspection, and that General Burstall is very well pleased with their showing.

A. M. HOBBERLIN BETTER.

A. M. Hobberlin, president of the "House of Hobberlin," has recovered from a serious illness sufficiently to return to his business.

MEN YOU HEAR OF Seen as Their Friends Know Them

No. 151.



MR. WILLIAM K. MITCHELL, manager of Loew's Uptown Theatre, he was born in Montreal and educated in the public schools of that city. Mr. Mitchell has been 18 years in the theatrical business, including eight years in the moving picture field with the William Fox productions, he having been personal director of Theda Bara and William Farouk. He is a baseball enthusiast.

SEND IN YOUR THUMB-PRINT AND YOU MAY WIN \$25 PRIZE

Thumb-Print Contest

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....

Make your thumb-print in blank space next to Miss Dean's fill in your name and address, clip coupon and send to Contest Editor of The World. You may win \$25.00. Competition open to all. Thumb-print must be on coupon clipped from this World.

THOSE who believe that their thumb-print will come near to that of Priscilla Dean are advised to make the impression early and send it in on the accompanying coupon. The idea is that, while no two thumb-prints are exactly alike, yet there is a similarity and the one who sends in the nearest like Miss Dean's will receive a prize of \$25.

This contest has now been open 24 hours and already the answers are beginning to come in. The contest will not last very many days, so someone is going to get \$25 pretty easily. The answers, as already stated, will be referred to local thumb-print experts, who will decide the winner. The next nine will be given two tickets each to the Regent Theatre, there to see Priscilla Dean and Lon Chaney in the photoplay production, "Outside the Law," next week.

It's easy to make a thumb-print by rubbing the right thumb with a soft lead pencil or by using an ordinary ink pad. The ink pad gives the best results, as the lines come out a little more distinctly. However, either will suffice. No answer will be considered that is not upon the coupon from The World. Use the space next to the photograph of Miss Dean's print—and mail your reply to the Contest Editor, The World, Toronto. By the end of this week there will be thousands of replies, so hurry yours in today.

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How Was \$50,000 Spent During the Timber Investigation?

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Mr. Harding produced a letter, dated May 1, 1920, from the provincial treasurer, saying the government would include a sum of \$10,000 in the further supplementary estimates covering expenses in connection with the timber inquiry. Mr. Harding said he took this letter to the Home Bank, and on the strength of it, received \$10,000, which he placed in a trust account.

Where Some of it Went.

Witness submitted a statement of moneys he had paid out, including \$2,240 to J. M. McEvoy, one of the counsel at the probe, and \$2,104 to T. B. Lawless, an accountant. Then an item of \$2,000, paid on July 2, to Justice Riddell on account of fees. "You knew at the time of the new legislation at Ottawa?" asked Hon. G. H. Ferguson.

"I knew from the newspapers," Hon. Mr. Ferguson was interested in an item of \$108 for the Employment Defective Agency, and asked: "That was not for the gentleman who gumshoed around after me last summer, was it?"

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Mr. Felton stated that although the present problems confronting Toronto business men were not so serious as some thought, yet foresight was needed if successful progress was to be assured.

To the speaker, said the confederate of a very large athletic club, as well as a great opera house seating 4,000, Massey Hall was serving a very useful purpose, but vision was needed, and he strongly urged the club not to wait until money was in sight but to get out and regulate their actions by their vision of future possibilities.

Mr. Felton also thought that with the infinite possibilities that Toronto had as a business centre, 10,000 houses could be built at less cost than was dreamed of at present. He spoke of the great work being done by the harbor commission, and said that there was no single economic reason why Toronto should not stand unrivaled as a centre where problems were handled with perfect ease, provided her business men were optimistic and far-sighted enough to watch their danger signals and realize the importance of doing so.

Kiwanian John O'Connor remarked on the campaign for membership in the 5,000 club. There were 19 teams in Kiwanis, whose report would be read next meeting. He believed that Kiwanis would obtain at least 1,000 members for this great humanitarian undertaking on behalf of the mentally deficient.

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Mr. Felton also thought that with the infinite possibilities that Toronto had as a business centre, 10,000 houses could be built at less cost than was dreamed of at present. He spoke of the great work being done by the harbor commission, and said that there was no single economic reason why Toronto should not stand unrivaled as a centre where problems were handled with perfect ease, provided her business men were optimistic and far-sighted enough to watch their danger signals and realize the importance of doing so.

Kiwanian John O'Connor remarked on the campaign for membership in the 5,000 club. There were 19 teams in Kiwanis, whose report would be read next meeting. He believed that Kiwanis would obtain at least 1,000 members for this great humanitarian undertaking on behalf of the mentally deficient.

The International Kiwanis convention will be held in Cleveland on June 25 next.

ONTARIO GROWERS ARE THE LOSERS

Present Marketing of Apples in England Should Be Changed.

T. R. Preston of Port Hope told a special committee of the legislature yesterday that millions were lost yearly because the marketing of Ontario apples in Great Britain was in the hands of an "apple ring" in the old country. He suggested that the government should erect warehouses in England and supervise the sale of the apples.

Apple shipments from Ontario in one year cost the British consumer \$25,000,000, whereas the actual cost, f.o.b. Liverpool was not more than \$6,000,000.

Mr. Preston said that he had taken the matter up with Premier Drury, who was "more than sympathetic."

The committee passed a resolution recommending that the scope of the committee be extended so that the inquiries conducted by it might include all kinds of farm products, not necessarily only fruit products.

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