

SCANDAL IN ONTARIO HOUSE HAS CROPPED UP MOST UNEXPECTEDLY

Rowell Forces Sat in Meek Silence When it Was Shown That One of Their Number Sought Salary to Work For the Liquor Forces.

TORONTO, Feb. 26.—With his leader and his colleagues sitting silent and dumbfounded, Gustave Evanturel, Liberal member for Prescott, was faced in the Legislature yesterday with the proof in his own writing that he had offered to sell his political influence to the Ontario Hotelkeepers' Association for \$10,000, and to oppose his own leader and his party.

During the Prescott member's speech the Opposition members had become quite enthusiastic. They had heartily approved of his opening reference to "our beloved leader" on this side of the House, and had applauded each fresh attack he made upon what he tried hard to make a scandalous alliance between the Conservative party and the liquor men.

When Mr. Rowell got up immediately after he had a letter in his hand. "There has been so much talk of resigning here," he said "that it is time somebody should be asked to live up to that responsibility. The member for Prescott has been attacking the law enforcement of the Liquor License Act; presumably he is supporting his leader. Well, I am going to show him the servant of the liquor interests with which he is personally allied. I am going to prove that he is in an alliance with the liquor interests over his own signature."

The Denunciation. "When a man comes into court or into a tribunal such as this representing the people of the province, and attempts to attack either a person or the administration of a department, he must come in with clean skirts and show himself consistent in his own public career. "I say that the member for Prescott has put himself in the pay of the liquor interests, that he has offered to take a retainer from the liquor interests to advocate their cause, and yet he has the hardihood

(Continued on Page 4) "You will not need to explain after the House hears all of this," said Mr. Rowell. "You have explained yourself very fully here." When the Grenville member had wound up with a brief scathing denunciation of the "mean, miserable, selfish game of stabbing his leader and his policy in the back, of which the Prescott member had been guilty," Mr. Evanturel said not a word. In the corridors of the buildings last night the members talked of nothing else, and various were the conjectures passed as to means that could be taken to force Mr. Evanturel out of the Legislature. It seems apparent, however, that unless his French-Canadian member resigns there is no way of declaring his seat vacant.

Brought it on Himself. Mr. Evanturel brought the whole odorous mess upon himself. He rose to speak during the afternoon in support of the Opposition "abolish the bar anti-treating" amendment. Mr. Evanturel's lukewarm sympathy with his leader's temperance policy has been generally understood. He has always avoided a vote when the ayes and nays have been called, and some surprise was occasioned by his appearance as a speaker. However, he carefully avoided the Opposition policy, but proceeded with a great show of determination to prove an alliance between the Conservatives and the liquor interests in his riding. While his Liberal colleagues loudly applauded, Mr. Evanturel declared that he would resign his seat in the House if he could not prove his charges. Then he set out to declare that the license inspector Prescott was a Conservative party worker, that one of the license commissioners had tended bar in a local hotel for three days during the Exhibition, that one of the vice-presidents of the Conservative organization was a saloon keeper, who had continually violated the law, but had never been fined, while the former Conservative member for the riding, Mr. Pharrand, had used his party influence to force an applicant for a shop license to take his son as a partner, and that Mr. Pharrand himself was now financially interested in that liquor shop.

Case Against Mohawk Institute Will Be Tried In High Court Here

Quite An Argument in Osgoode Hall To-day in Which Mr. W. S. Brewster, K. C. Comes Out Best—Miller's Action For Damages.

(SPECIAL TO THE COURIER) TORONTO, Feb. 26.—According to W. S. Brewster, K.C., of Brantford, the Six Nations Indians of Brant County have a House of Lords of their own, and they don't like it.

This matter came up at Osgoode Hall to-day, when Master-in-Chief Cameron ruled that Miller, the Indian, who is suing Superintendent Ashton of the Mohawk Institute for alleged ill-treatment of two Miller girls, had erred in laying his venue at Simcoe, instead of Brantford. The Master decided that the damage action must be tried in the Telephone City.

J. E. Jones, acting for Miller, quoted ten Indian Chiefs as saying that Miller, being an Indian, could not obtain a fair trial before a Brant county jury.

Then did Mr. Brewster disillusion the popular mind as to the status of an Indian chief. "The office is hereditary," said Mr. Brewster, "and Indian chiefs are not the important persons many people believe them to be. Among the Indians themselves there is a feeling that the chiefs do not represent them, and there has been an agitation to abolish this hereditary position of chief."

Mr. Jones argued that the Indian's mind should be convinced that he would receive a fair trial, and Mr. Jones was willing to pay the additional expense trial at Simcoe would entail.

County Clerk Watts, Mayor Spence and others deposed that an Indian had always received a fair trial in Brant county. There was no discrimination against an Indian there. Further, any friends of the defendant or of W. F. Cocksbutt, M.P., would desire that the action should be disposed of on its merits.

"The Slemkin case does not apply," said Mr. Brewster. "In that case, the police station was attacked and the police were mobbed. For that reason the venue was changed to Simcoe, but it has been returned to Brantford. The Miller-Ashton case has not caused any excitement, and it is not reasonable to assume that twelve men could not be found in Brant county to give Miller a fair trial."

Mr. Brewster was given the costs in any event, although it was suggested that "You can't collect from an Indian."

ONTARIO ALLIANCE DELEGATES THINK LOCAL OPTION IS MUCH BETTER THAN THE SCOTT ACT

Sharp Discussion at Meeting in Toronto This Morning—Letter is Read From Hon. W. J. Hanna to the Representatives.

(By Special Wire to The Courier) TORONTO, Feb. 26.—There was a sharp discussion by the Ontario Alliance delegates, this morning as to the advisability of endorsing the Canadian temperance act or encouraging temperance workers to seek to have this law passed. Three counties having carried the Scott act recently the occasion was seized for some rejoicing but a large number of the delegates thought it was a backward step to rely on the Scott act, while it was possible to get local option. Grave doubts were expressed as to whether any serious attempt would be made by the provincial government to enforce the law, but the chairman, Rev. Canon Greene read a personal letter from the Provincial Secretary, which pledged the government to do its whole duty in the matter, "but," added Mr. Hanna, "it is much more difficult to enforce than local option."

After a prolonged debate the convention went on record as favoring the Canadian Temperance act when local conditions were such that local option could not be put into effect throughout a county. Ex-Mayor Oliver of Toronto, led a discussion attacking the selling of liquor in dining cars and the open violation of the license law by the steamboat companies.

Evanturel Reae Out Of the Liberal Party

(By Special Wire to The Courier) TORONTO, Feb. 26.—In answer to an enquiry from the press at the adjournment of the Liberal caucus this morning, Mr. Rowell said "Mr. Evanturel came to the Liberal caucus this morning and made a statement with reference to the letter read in the House yesterday by the honorable member for Grenville. Mr. Evanturel after making his statement retired. "It was unanimously decided that Mr. Evanturel should not be recognized as one entitled to take part in the deliberation of the Liberal members in the Legislature and this decision has been communicated to Mr. Evanturel by the chief whip of the party in the Legislature."

HYDRO ELECTRIC ON BRANT AVE.

At last the Hydro Electric has obtained the long sought permission to use the poles of the Brantford Street Railway for lighting purposes. Mr. Henderson, city solicitor, received the consent of the company yesterday from Mr. C. B. Stockdale, official receiver for the company.

This means that in several sections of the town, namely Brant Avenue and the East circuit, which were tied up for want of the use of the railway poles, work will be gone on with and progress made faster than ever. Chief Engineer Ireland will endeavor to

BIG FIRE IN STATE PRISON

Hospital Near Montreal Was Destroyed Early Today.

Fire Department From Big City Summoned To Assist.

MONTREAL, Feb. 26.—A fire which broke out in the St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary this morning destroyed the hospital annex and did extensive damage to the surgical department. The patients in the hospital were all moved safely to the main building and no lives were lost, though at one time it looked as if some of the prisoners had been cut off.

There are 399 prisoners in the institution, which is a state penitentiary. The fire was first discovered at 6.15 this morning by J. B. Jardine, a watchman in the stores department. The flames spread with tremendous rapidity to the hospital and all hope of saving it was soon abandoned. The work of transferring the patients of which there were about a score, to the main building was proceeded with without incident. An urgent message for help was then despatched to Montreal, about fifteen miles away, as it was obvious that the prison fire department could not cope with the blaze.

After consuming the hospital annex the flames travelled to the little chapel which was soon consumed.

Fearing that the main body of the penitentiary would be fired and that it might be necessary to move the prisoners there the guards were notified to be ready to march the convicts out. The arrival of steamers from Montreal, however, and the enormous amount of water they were able to throw on the flames soon checked them and at 10.30 the fire was reported as under control.

Novel Idea Is Advanced

London Daily Mail Says There Should be Two Foreign Secretaries

(By Special Wire to The Courier) NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—A cable to the Tribune from London says: "The Daily Mail this morning makes the novel suggestion that Great Britain should have two foreign secretaries. It argues from the fact that all British negotiations with European governments are based in the last resort upon force, while as between America and Great Britain the very notion of the employment of force on one side or the other has completely vanished. The article proceeds: "It is becoming a serious question whether we ought not to have two foreign secretaries—one to manage our relations with Europe and Asia. In accordance with the principles and atmosphere that govern a diplomacy rooted in the idea of force and the other to conduct negotiations with the United States, from which the element of force, whether actual or implied, is expelled."

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Irish Parties Unite on This

They Want Mail Service Between Queenstown and America.

(By Special Wire to The Courier) NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—A cable from Dublin to the New York American says both Irish parties, enemies on home rule, have united in protesting against the desertion of Queenstown by the mail steamers. An important deputation, including John Redmond and Sir Edward Carson, will present to the Premier and the Postmaster-General Ireland's claims in this connection. The Dublin corporation simultaneously will present to the House of Commons a petition for the reinstatement of the regular mail service between Queenstown and America.

The question of the relation of navy men to labor disputes was discussed in the British House of Commons.

Has Not Passed On the Agreement

City Solicitor Henderson said to-day in reference to the street railway agreement, which he has received, and which is to go before the courts, that he had looked over the document, but as yet had not passed upon it. It is possible there will be some minor changes, but of these Mr. Henderson was not prepared to make announcement.

BRITANNIC IS VERY LATEST IN SAFETY

White Star Liner Was Launched at Belfast To-day.

(By Special Wire to The Courier) BELFAST, Ireland, Feb. 26.—The launching to-day of the Britannic, the 50,000 ton White Star Liner, marks an important development in constructional safety so far as engineering ingenuity can secure it. The Britannic intended for the Transatlantic service had only just been laid down when the Titanic disaster occurred, and as a result of that accident the plans of the new liner were almost completely remodelled, which accounts for her long stay on the stocks. She is a triple screw steamer 900 feet in length and there has been introduced into her construction every device possible to prevent a recurrence of disaster which overtook the Titanic. A complete inner skin extends to a considerable height above the load line, the most vulnerable portion of the vessel and the height and number of the bulkheads has been increased.

It is claimed for the Britannic that she will be able to float with any six compartments flooded. The inner skin consists of heavy plating, which extends for more than half the length of the vessel from the watertight bulkhead in front of the forward boiler room to the after end of the turbine engine room.

Those in official circles here, who believe foreign countries generally ought to ask their subjects to leave, think such a move could be an added precaution in case the Mexican question later developed more serious aspects in relation to the policy of the American government. Evidence was still being gathered by the State Department to-day in its inquiry into the Benton incident. The court martial proceedings which Consul Edwards mailed from Juarez have reached Secretary Bryan and were being translated from the Spanish to-day. Its details were summarized in El Paso despatches a few days ago. Officials to-day were awaiting further messages from United States Consul Letcher at Chihuahua as to the attitude of Gen. Villa on the disposition of Benton's body. Though plans are being made for an examination of the corpse by an American army surgeon, the State Department early to-day had not been advised either of the time when the body would be exhumed or exactly where it was buried. On both these points, the American consular representatives have been instructed to seek information from General Villa.

Inquiry Launched. EL PASO, Texas, Feb. 26.—Investigation of the story told last night by A. Michaelis, that Gustav Bauch and 13 other Americans were locked up in a jail in Juarez was set on foot to-day. Despite Michaelis' assertion, that his father is a Brooklyn, N. Y. banker, his statement was received skeptically for United States Consul Edwards at Juarez has been assured that with the execution of Wm. S. Benton and the removal of Bauch, no foreigners remained behind the bars. Michaelis, who said he left his home at 236 Vernon street, Brooklyn, after a quarrel with his family and was arrested at Juarez because a fist fight over a game of cards, declined to leave Juarez when newspapermen offered him an asylum on the American side. He said he had telegraphed his father for money and would leave this section as soon as funds arrived. He said his jailors took his clothes from him and left him only rag in which he was turned into the street. Charles Perceval, British Consul at Galveston, Texas, is expected here tonight to co-operate with the American investigation of the death of Benton.

Miss Emerson's Case Discussed

Her Deportation From England Not Considered at Present.

(By Special Wire to The Courier) LONDON, Feb. 26.—Confirmation of the statement that no steps were being taken by the British Government for the expulsion of Miss Zelle Emerson, the militant suffragette of Jackson, Mich., was given by Reginald McKenna, Home Secretary, in a printed reply to a question put to him in the House of Commons to-day. The Home Secretary added: "If Miss Emerson again commits an offence bringing her within the provisions of the Aliens Act, the question of applying to the court for a recommendation for her expulsion will be considered."

The original question also asked whether there was any precedent for the deportation from the British Isles of an American citizen as an undesirable alien. To this Mr. McKenna replied that 143 American citizens convicted of crimes had been ordered expelled from the British Isles during the eight years since the enactment of the Aliens Act.

Mr. McKenna to-day had an audience with King George. It is assumed that Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst's application for an interview with his Majesty.

FROZEN TO DEATH.

NORTH BAY, Ont., Feb. 26.—A man named Mitchell from Richmond, Que., who had been working in a lumber camp up the Kippewa branch of the C.P.R., was badly frozen and died at Mattawa hospital as the result of exposure. Mitchell left camp where he had been working and walked all night in the intense cold. He was found unconscious and badly frost-bitten, by C. P. D. section men and sent to Mattawa, where he died.

MEXICO IS STILL IN TURMOIL

Despatches Today Show That Situation is Unchanged.

Great Britain is Quietly Waiting for U. S. to Finish Inquiry

(By Special Wire to The Courier) WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The possibility that Great Britain Germany, France and other powers may follow the lead of the United States in warning their subjects to leave Mexico was destroyed in official circles here to-day as a likely effect of the execution recently by the constitutionalists of William S. Benton, a British subject. Some officials pointed out that while the United States has twice warned her citizens to leave the rebellion-torn country, European nations have taken no such precautions, making the problem of extending protection to foreigners who insist on remaining in dangerous territory, a burden that is giving the Washington government much concern.

The United States government, it is understood would render any assistance possible to foreigners desiring to leave Mexico, affording means of transportation or consular assistance, wherever desired.

Those in official circles here, who believe foreign countries generally ought to ask their subjects to leave, think such a move could be an added precaution in case the Mexican question later developed more serious aspects in relation to the policy of the American government.

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GUELPH'S RELIEF WORK

GUELPH, Ont., Feb. 26.—Col. Clark, relief officer here for the past 33 years, says that this winter has been the hardest on his department in his experience. For January and February of last year, relief cost the city about \$335. Since the first of the year, 1914, the amount has been almost \$700.

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