

DEPOSITORS ARE EXPECTING HELP OF GOVERNMENT

U. A. Buchner Believes Provincial and Federal Bodies Should Be Approached.

OUTLINES REASONS

The federal government should not hesitate to come to the assistance of Home Bank depositors, U. A. Buchner, newly-appointed depositors' representative, believes. It would be good business from every point of view and would stabilize the banking of Canada, he said this morning.

With this in mind, representatives of the depositors' association will shortly petition the government to make full restitution to savings holders. The suggestion is that the cabinet ask all chartered banks in Canada to assume a proportion of the losses. Thus the burden would be distributed in a manner which would cause little hardship.

Both provincial and federal members of parliament for London will be invited to a depositors' meeting to be held here shortly. They will be asked to exert every influence in bringing the Dominion cabinet around to the depositors' point of view.

"The government should certainly come to our assistance," Mr. Buchner said. "In 1915-16 and '18 the government's attention was called to the condition of the Home Bank and a partial investigation conducted by them led people to believe everything was all right. Then when the banking act was revised Ottawa accepted the assurance of the Canadian Bankers' Association that the Home Bank was entitled to have its charter extended. This was equivalent to saying it was in sound shape."

"In the petition to be presented, however, no blame shall be attached to anyone, but we shall try to show that depositors acted in good faith on the assurance of the government that things were in good condition so far as the Home Bank was concerned," Mr. Buchner said.

The government, he added, will not lose a great deal on the proposal if it is accepted. Collection of the double liability will be avoided. This is at present one of the sorest points in the whole Home Bank situation, because the majority of shareholders were depositors also.

Although \$25,000 has already been secured to pay the expenses of the petitioning committee, much more will be required, many members of the committee coming from as far as British Columbia, where one-quarter of the bank's assets are held.

EDDIE GUERIN IS HELD IN SCOTLAND

Notorious Crook Who Escaped From Devil's Island Caught in Edinburgh.

Associated Press Despatch, Edinburgh, Scot., Jan. 3.—The police of this city believe that they have in custody Eddie Guerin, a notorious crook who made a dramatic escape years ago from Devil's Island, the French penal colony off the coast of French Guiana.

A woman entering a hotel room found a man trying to open a trunk that contained valuables.

She raised an alarm and the man fled, but was pursued and captured. His resemblance to photographs of Guerin, linked with other circumstances of the case led the authorities to suspect his identity.

Guerin, an internationally known crook who made his headquarters in Chicago, was sent to Devil's Island for taking \$30,000 from the American Express Company in Paris in 1901. He served four years and then escaped to the mainland of French Guiana in a canoe. His subsequent return to London and his re-association with his former pal, the woman known as "Chicago May" culminated in a quarrel between Guerin and Charles Smith, a citizen of the United States, over the woman. Smith shot and wounded Guerin and for this offence was sentenced to penal servitude for life in Dartmoor Prison, Southampton, England. This was in July 1917. Smith was liberated in May 1922 and was deported to the United States. At the time of the shooting the French government demanded that Guerin be extradited, but Great Britain refused to comply deciding that he was a British subject.

WILL INSTALL OFFICERS. City Clerk Sam Baker is the installation officer tonight at the Forest City Camp, No. 1, W. O. W., in the Duffield Block. Among the officers to be installed are: John MacNamara, advisory lieutenant, and W. S. J. Saunders, clerk. W. Stillson succeeds Harry Pope as council commander.

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COL. R. W. LEONARD,

who has donated Chatham House in London, England, to the British Institute for the Study of International Affairs. He lives at St. Catharines, Ontario.

HER FIRST VOTE AT EIGHTY-FOUR

Mrs. Marcus Hitchcock, Point Edward, Visited Pops New Year's Day.

CHANGE VOTING PLAN

Special to The Advertiser.

Sarnia, Jan. 2.—Mrs. Marcus Hitchcock of Point Edward cast her first vote in 84 years on New Year's Day.

One of the prettiest weddings of the season on New Year's evening united Daphne Leon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Parsons, North Christina street, and Dr. Thomas McInnis of St. Marys, Ont., a son of Mr. and Mrs. T. McInnis of Regina, Sask. The Rev. J. E. J. Millard of Central Methodist Church officiated.

The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Eula Parsons. The groom was attended by Dr. James McClinton of Toronto. Dr. and Mrs. McInnis left for a trip to Chicago, and will reside at St. Marys on their return.

Bylaws Carried.

Final figures in the civic elections here revealed that the proposal to elect half the city council in future for a two-year term had carried by a narrow majority, and also the proposal for earlier election in future years. This will therefore be held on New Year's Day.

Quite a feature of the election was the very large vote cast for Joseph R. Dagan, customs officer, who headed the aldermanic list, and now commences his ninth term on the city council, after a rest of several years. Mr. Dagan is something of a "tormy petrel" in civic politics, but an extremely popular representative.

UNBROKEN FAMILY AT ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. William Bunt Mark Half Century Married Life.

Special to The Advertiser.

Owen Sound, Jan. 2.—Surrounded by unbroken family circles, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bunt, of Kemble celebrated the 50th anniversary of their wedding on New Year's Day at the home of their son, A. M. Bunt, of Owen Sound.

Both are enjoying very good health. Mrs. Bunt is a native of Hampton, Durham County, Ont., and is a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Vanstone of Kemble. Mr. Bunt was born in Cornwall, England, and in 1868, as a lad, he came to Canada. He spent some time at Hampton and on New Year's Eve, 1873, they were united in marriage by Rev. Henry Kenner, Bible Christian minister at Hampton.

In 1875 they moved to Kemble, accompanied by Mrs. Bunt's father, Mr. Vanstone. They lived near Boss Lake, Woleseley, for about eight years, before they moved to Kemble, where they now reside.

There were four children, three sons and one daughter. Walter H. Bunt of Toronto, A. M. Bunt of Owen Sound, Mrs. A. Bannon of Parry Sound, and Howard Bunt of Owen Sound.

C. Brock met with rather a serious accident when he was driving through his orchard on his farm. The sleigh hit a stone and Mr. Brock was thrown off, the sleigh runner hitting him on the side. He was hurt internally.

BOARD HANDLES 61,109 MISHAPS

Increase of 10,000 in Year Due to Reports of Minor Accidents.

Canadian Press Despatch, Toronto, Jan. 2.—There were 61,109 accidents reported to the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board during the past year, 139 of them being fatal, a total of 50,411 during 1922, of which 418 were fatal. While there were over 10,000 more accidents reported during 1923 than in 1922, the increase was in those of

INJURES LEG.

Special to The Advertiser.

Port Burwell, Jan. 2.—Nathan Underhill, who is employed in the C.P.R. enginehouse, met with painful injuries last Saturday. He was under a huge engine, adjusting a jack, when it slipped and struck him on the leg with such force as to break the limb and injure his ankle also.

STUDENTS RETURN TO START WORK IN CITY SCHOOLS

Street Alive With Boys and Girls "Wending Their Weary Way."

NEW BUILDING READY

This morning London's streets were once more alive with boys and girls on their way to school, the term having opened after a 14-day vacation. According to the inspectors and principals the attendance was excellent and the children returned looking fresher and ready to take up the work leading to the pass examinations and tests of next June.

With Christmas Day almost a memory, the youngsters vied with each other in telling the story of the holiday; how Santa Claus had brought them this or that; how they had spent their vacation, in or out of town, and many other things, but once they did the thought of lessons and work enter into their conversation—that is, not until they reached the schools.

At the gruesome fact descended on them like a cloud, not dispelling their happiness, but making them realize that from now until the end of June it was a case of work if they wanted to advance.

In the public schools the attendance for the first day was excellent, all the classes being practically at normal and work starting right away.

The new public school unit, Trafalgar School, was opened this morning and six classes will be installed there before the end of the week. This will include an auxiliary and kindergarten class.

At the colleges it was a red-letter day, Principal E. A. Miller once more assuming his duties as head of the secondary school units after a protracted illness of several weeks. The students and staffs alike were more than glad to see him back and expressed their gratification in several ways.

Principal H. B. Beal of the Technical School was on hand to welcome back the hundreds of scholars of that institution. Owing to the fact that the six-room addition being built on the southwest corner of the present structure is not yet completed, the overcrowding at that school must continue for a short while, but this will be remedied before the end of the month.

At the Normal School the students again returned to their work, while University of Western Ontario threw open its doors to hundreds.

From now until Easter there will be an unbroken period of study, the schools closing again about April 17 for the short Easter vacation. They will then re-open and with the exception of May 24, will remain so until the final examinations of the year in June.

REMAINS IN JAIL TO KEEP SECRET

Belgian Refuses To Disclose Source of His Liquor Supply.

Special to The Advertiser.

St. Thomas, Jan. 2.—Archie Devereaux, Belgian tobacco worker, who was fined \$200 and costs a week ago for having liquor in his possession in a place other than a private dwelling, appeared before Magistrate Maxwell this afternoon. It was expected that Devereaux, who is of a peevish, stubborn disposition, would be in a more amicable mood following a week in jail, but he expressed his willingness to stay in jail rather than pay his fine, and refused to disclose where the liquor came from. A charge of assault is pending.

Father and Son Banquet.

The fifth annual father and son banquet will be held in the Y.M.C.A. on January 21. The secretary, Mr. Urie, states that he is preparing for 300. The tables will be set in the lobbies instead of in the gym, as has been the custom.

Fourteen in Jail.

A record attendance for this time of the year is announced at the county jail, where there are fourteen guests.

Hearing Date Set.

Word has been received from T. J. Hannigan of Guelph, secretary of the Ontario Municipal Electric Association, that the date for the protest against the diversion of the Great Lakes waters at Chicago has been fixed for January 11, at 11 a.m. Representatives from virtually every municipality have been appointed to meet with the prime minister and the cabinet on this occasion. This city will be represented by Lieut.-Col. W. J. Green, chairman of the local commission; W. K. Sanderson, vice-president of the Ontario Municipal Electric Association; E. H. Caughell, manager of the commissions offices; Mayor Raven and City Solicitor W. B. Doherty.

College Reopens.

Alma College resumes activities on Tuesday next. There will be a meeting of the active committee of the board at the college on Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The city schools and industrial classes reopen on Monday next.

Horse Runs Amuck.

No little excitement was caused here this evening when a horse hitched to Stephen's bakery wagon ran amuck on the main street. While the driver was absent the horse trotted off towards home. The cries of the driver and the people on the street frightened him and he commenced a fast clip. For a block the wagon more by good luck than good management, raised other vehicles. Finally it struck Buck's car.

In the re-bound the wagon struck an electric light post with such force that the chandelier was jarred off and fell crashing to the ground. At this point the horse broke loose from the wagon and disdaining the use of the road, tore madly down the sidewalk, striking fire from its hoofs at every pace. For three blocks people ran into doorways for shelter, till after negotiating several difficult turns the nag was finally captured on Mary street.

BALDWIN CONFERS WITH PARTY HEADS ON KING'S SPEECH

British Premier Not Definitely Decided On Line of Action to Follow.

MUGH SPECULATION

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Jan. 3.—Premier Baldwin, who returned to London yesterday after the Christmas holidays, conferred with some of his colleagues presumably with reference to the composition of the king's speech at the opening of parliament next week. There is much speculation as to whether the address from the throne will be as worded as to avoid immediate defeat, or whether it will frankly admit the adverse vote of the country and invite a challenge on the preferential proposals agreed upon with the dominion representatives at the recent imperial conference. The Times strongly urges the ministers to take the latter course and accept the full responsibility for their policy.

The political news mongers continue to discuss the appeal to the prime minister made by the city of London Conservatives Association in which Mr. Baldwin was asked to seek an agreement with the Liberals, but all the best informed reports tend to strengthen the belief that this communication did not meet with the desired response. The Times condemns this move as due "more to fear than to foresight" and believes that any move of a sort that would balk labor "would be the surest and speediest way to foster the rise of a really revolutionary, subversive party."

Some of the Conservative newspapers say there will be a cabinet meeting today, although there has been no official announcement to the effect.

RESCUED BRITISH SAILORS LANDED

Brought Ashore At Portland, Maine, by Steamer Carmona.

Associated Press Despatch.

Portland, Maine, Jan. 2.—Captain C. Taylor and seven members of the crew of the British schooner, Czarina of St. Johns, Nfld., which sank off the coast of Newfoundland Dec. 28, were landed here today from the steamer Carmona.

The men were rescued from the schooner a few minutes before the vessel went down.

When the Carmona sighted the Czarina the latter's sails had been carried away, its lifeboats smashed to pieces and the schooner was settling fast in terrific seas and gale.

TOWN TREASURER MARKS SEVENTY-NINTH BIRTHDAY

Special to The Advertiser.

Strathroy, Jan. 2.—John W. McIntosh, who is in his 79th year as town treasurer, celebrated his 79th birthday on Saturday last.

Home From England.

Major-General W. Bethune Lindsay, officer commanding the Canadian Engineering Corps in the great war, is a guest with his mother, Mrs. W. E. Lindsay, at Camdelf Villa, Gen. Lindsay's present residence in London, England.

Colonel Retires.

The officers of the 26th Regiment held their annual meeting yesterday, at which Col. G. E. Berdan announced his retirement from command. His probable successor will be Major W. P. Uens of Parkhill, who is next in seniority.

Leg Fractured.

Mrs. Ernest Elliot, who was a patient for so long this summer at Strathroy Hospital with a broken leg, was so unfortunate last week, as to fall while washing her dishes and again fracture her leg at the ankle.

CAPITAL ISSUES DECREASE CONSIDERABLY IN BRITAIN

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Jan. 2.—New capital issues in Great Britain in 1923 amounted to £203,750,000, compared with £235,500,000 in the previous year.

The geographical distribution of the 1923 issues, excluding British government loans raised directly for national purposes, shows the amount for Great Britain to have been £67,500,000, India and Ceylon £25,500,000, other British possessions £62,500,000, and for foreign countries £48,500,000.

POLICE ASKED TO HUNT FOR REUBEN WARDER, AGE 16

Canadian Press Despatch, Hamilton, Jan. 2.—The local police have been asked to help in locating Reuben Warder, Orton, Ontario, who boarded at the college on Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The city schools and industrial classes reopen on Monday next.

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