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SENSATIONAL STATEMENTS IN POLICE CHIEF HEARING

Commissioner McLellan Makes Main Speech Before Legislature Committee

Serious Matters Spoken of and Draw Remarks From Premier Flemming—Bill Now in Hands of Law Committee—Other St. John Legislation

(Special to Times) Frederick, N. B., Feb. 23—The question of who shall appoint the chief of police, the city of St. John or the government, held the attention of the law committee in the legislature this morning, and the interest was so great that the assembly chamber was used for the hearing.

Before closing Mr. Mullin dealt with the laws in force relating to the police force and also read some letters from other cities showing that the police were more or less controlled by governments.

Commissioners Frink, Schofield, Agar and Wigmore all spoke strongly in favor of placing the appointment of the chief in the hands of the city of St. John and Mr. Schofield in particular said that that was one of the important planks decided upon by the citizens' committee, placed in the charter and endorsed afterwards by the citizens at the election.

Mr. McLellan First Speaker The bill was supported first by Commissioner McLellan, who made a lengthy and vigorous speech based upon his experience with the head of the police department and the investigation he had held into the service. He dealt rather with the abuses that had crept into the force because the city had no control over the head of the department.

Mr. McLellan said that he had evidence in his possession which showed that one former member of the force had been guilty of brutality which had serious results to the cases of several men, and that showed another officer to be guilty of grossly immoral conduct. He charged that the chief knew of these conditions.

Mr. Mullin Replies Commissioner McLellan was proceeding to go into the evidence and the facts of his report in some detail when Premier Flemming interrupted him with the result as noted. Several of the members of the committee, however, particularly A. H. Slipp and F. J. Carter, thought that as Mr. McLellan had been permitted to make his statements with regard to the chief that Daniel Mullin, K. C., who appeared to oppose the bill, should have the same latitude. In the end Mr. Mullin did make the statement that he wished and assailed the commissioner of public safety pretty sharply, calling his investigation a stammer proceeding and then reading an affidavit of Douglas McArthur which stated that Commissioner McLellan had said in conversation with him that, as he had not succeeded in getting the evidence from him, who was a former chairman of the safety board, that he wished, he would not report until he had found somebody who would give it.

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The municipalities committee agreed to the bill to amend the St. John City assessment act. Other St. John bills were considered and were stood over for further consideration. The bill relating to the town of Edmundston was taken up and delegations appearing both on behalf of and in opposition to the bill were heard and it will be considered later.

BARBOUR STAFF HAVE SLEIGH DRIVE Dinner at Loch Lomond—Presentation to E. D. Fairweather The annual sleigh drive of the G. E. Barbour Co., Ltd., took place last evening. The staff in a large sleigh, left the company's offices on North Ward about 8:30 p. m. and drove to Barker's at Loch Lomond, where dinner was served. After justice had been done to the good things provided, several toasts were drunk and responded to by various members of the staff. In the absence of the president, the toast to the firm was replied to by F. K. Stuart, accountant. The health and success of the tea department was ably acknowledged by Olive Dickson.

During the evening a presentation was made to E. D. Fairweather who is severing his connection with the staff. After a very pleasant evening spent in music, dancing, etc., the staff returned to the city, all voting the drive one of the most successful in their history.

FINANCING OF VALLEY RAILWAY AFFECTED BY TIGHT MARKET Negotiations for Additional Bond Issue Said to Have Been Dropped—Price of the First

Frederick, N. B., Feb. 28—A rumor is current here that the tightness of the money market is somewhat embarrassing to those who are financing the Valley Railway. The bonds guaranteed by the province did not bring as much as was expected. The price was 95 3/4 and by the time the expenses are paid the company will be lucky to have \$85 for every \$100. The difference between that figure and part of the whole guarantee of about \$5,000,000 amounts to the tidy profit of \$300,000.

There can be an additional issue of \$10,000,000 and it is said that negotiations were about completed to dispose of these when the money market became more cramped than was anticipated and the offer was withdrawn. The situation interests many people and the question is if assistance is necessary who will come to the rescue?

MR. STEWART IN THE CITY Norton Griffiths & Co. Manager Speaks of Courtenay Bay Work and the Iron and Steel Industry W. Burton Stewart, general manager of Norton Griffiths & Company arrived in the city today on a trip of inspection. He said this afternoon that the work on the rock cut at Courtenay Bay has been progressing according to their expectations and that they expect to commence dredging in Courtenay Bay early next month.

Speaking of the prospects for the iron and steel and ship building industries, Mr. Stewart said that they are now waiting to hear from the municipal and provincial governments regarding the subsidies for which the company has asked. Owing to the scarcity of money due to the war, there is difficulty at present in securing money for new industries, but as soon as the European situation has quieted down money will be easier.

PYTHIANS TO TRURO Members from local lodges of the Knights of Pythias and from other lodges in the maritime provinces are on their way to Truro, N. S., to day to assist Grand Chancellor Palmer of Moncton in the re-constitution of the lodge in that place, and the initiation of several new members. Among those who left the city at noon for Truro, were Frank Kincaid, Wm. Thomson and S. W. MacKinnon. A movement is now on foot throughout the maritime provinces to increase the membership of the Pythian lodges during this year and it is the intention to send from here a large and representative contingent to Winnipeg next year for the convention of the supreme lodge, the first to be held in Canada since 1888.

Since that time great progress has been made in Pythianism throughout the dominion, and working on the slogan "a million in '14" those interested in the order locally and through the sister provinces are working to reorganize any lodges which may have been to a certain degree dormant of late years.

WEATHER BULLETIN Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Ship, director of meteorological service. Synopsis—The disturbance which was in the Ohio Valley yesterday is now passing south of Nova Scotia, and snow is falling throughout the maritime provinces. The weather in the western provinces, which has been extremely cold for some days, is now moderating.

Maritime—Strong northeast and north winds, clearing Saturday, moderate and north west winds, fair and moderately cold.

MERCANTILE FLEET IN AIR

Graham-White Promoting Project in England WANTS GOVERNMENT AID

Stations in All Large Cities and on the Coasts and Business Carried on as Steamers Do on Ocean—Financiers Back Him

(Canadian Press) New York, Feb. 28—A cable to the Tribune from London says: A comprehensive scheme for dealing with the entire subject of an aerial fleet and its necessary appendages has been laid before the government by Claude Graham-White. The scheme includes the establishment of a mercantile air fleet, subsidized by the government, airport stations in every large city and around the coast, and schools for air pilots all over the United Kingdom.

It is understood that a powerful group of financiers is ready to finance any scheme having government support for building airships simultaneously in various parts of England. Mr. Graham-White is an aviator. We could carry mails for the government and the airships could be used for general purposes in times of peace. Our proposals are out and direct. We are prepared to do the work provided we have government assurance. We are prepared to foster this immense industry with private capital and to take all the responsibility. We are ready to secure the finances from all parts of Europe and to put a mercantile air fleet on a paying basis.

INVESTMENT OF SOME MILLIONS IN ST. JOHN AND THE VICINITY Bangor Paper Sees This in Offer Made to Purchase Street Railway

The Bangor Commercial in a long article on the street railway situation in St. John says: The beginning of an offer means the beginning of a street railway and power development for St. John, which carried off the office on North Ward, is an investment of probably several million dollars in that section of the province.

The St. John Railway Company owns and operates about twelve miles of street railway in the city of St. John. It is not what can be termed a modern street railway in the present sense of the phrase but it serves a city of 50,000 inhabitants, and some comparative idea of it may be gained from the fact that here in Bangor, a city of less than half that number, there are sixty miles of street railway, including the suburban lines.

POLICEMAN A SUICIDE "Honest Patrolman" Was Tried on Clubbing Charge

New York, Feb. 28—Edward D. Ehlers, a policeman, whose service of seventeen years on the force had gained him the sobriquet of the "Honest Patrolman," shot and killed himself with his police revolver on the eve of his trial on a charge of clubbing a citizen.

SAND POINT WEDDING An interesting wedding took place at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon in the immigration building at West St. John. The bride is Miss Agnes Pringle who came from Scotland on the Saturna to be wedded to her sweetheart who has been preparing a home for her in the western states. As the young woman had no other means of support, the United States immigration officials insisted that the wedding ceremony be performed before she could be allowed to cross the border. The prospective bridegroom, John Kidd, was located in Montreal where he was waiting for his bride and summoned to St. John and the ceremony took place this afternoon, Rev. Gordon Dickie officiating.

KASIER LOSES HIS SUIT BROUGHT AGAINST FARMER Ribing, Germany, Feb. 28—Emperor William today lost a law suit brought against him by a tenant farmer named Solist, whom he boasted during a recent speech before the German Agricultural Society, had been "thrown out because he was no good," from a plot of land he rented from the imperial estate at Cadenen.

REBBERS FAILED Little Rock, Ark., Feb. 28—An unsuccessful attempt was made to hold up a west bound passenger train near Rock Island & Pacific last night near Banks, Ark.

HOTEL BURNS; MANY PEOPLE USE LIVES

From 25 to 75 Dead in Omaha Tragedy—Register Burned and Names May Never be Known

(Canadian Press) Omaha, Neb., Feb. 28—Low of life estimated all the way from twenty to seventy-five, resulted from a fire which destroyed the Dewey Hotel, a second class hotel, occupying a three story building at 18th and Franklin streets today. Three hours after the fire was discovered it was pronounced under control. It was confined to the building in which it started.

The fact that the hotel register was destroyed will make it difficult to obtain a list of the dead and while the manager says that about fifty were registered others who were about the hotel declared that many of the guests were not registered and the total number was more nearly 100. Of these not more than twenty-five are known to have escaped. The known dead: Miss Alice Broonnie, Charles Cummings, jumped from third story, breaking neck, Beverly, waiter, Charles Cuming, a bar tender, who had

a room on the Farnam street side of the hotel, jumped from a third story window first on the sidewalk, and then fell head first on the sidewalk, Mrs. C. E. Hawkins, who had a room on the second floor, dragged her sister, Miss Alice Broonnie, to a window. There Miss Broonnie collapsed. Mrs. Hawkins jumped and though two policemen broke her way she was badly injured. Her sister's body is in the ruins.

Jose D. Noid, night clerk, opened the door of his office, on the second floor, when he heard an explosion. He was driven back by smoke and flames. He attempted to arouse a few guests on the floor, but soon had to seek the street to save his own life.

The few who escaped from the second story windows and from the entrance to the 13th street side, were in night attire. They were carried to a drug store across the street and to a nearby restaurant, and later cared for at neighboring hotels.

PATERSON MAYOR BARS AGITATORS FROM OUT OF TOWN Working Man Has Sympathy But He Must Guard City's Good Name

Pateron, N. J., Feb. 28—In response to an appeal by the silk strikers to the public that Mayor McBride be interceded with to permit speeches by leaders even though the leaders might be from out of town, the mayor explained his position as follows: "I am a working man, and I keenly sympathize with those who work for a living, but I cannot stand for seeing Pateron flooded with persons who have no interest in Pateron, and who can give me a bad name, who can spoil in a few hours the good name we have been years in building up. I propose to continue my policy of locking up these outside agitators on sight. To prevent undesirable strangers from invading a city is an ancient right of cities."

GIVES DIAMOND BRACELET TO QUEEN OF THE CARNIVAL Mme. Poincare Receives Typewriter Gift Chosen Queen Because of Beauty

Paris, Feb. 28—Germaine Bregat, queen of this year's Mid Lente carnival, a typewriter gift, chosen for the honor yesterday by the wife of President Poincare who presented to her a diamond bracelet. Mme. Bregat had previously passed in procession through the grand streets amid the plaudits of thousands of people who took advantage of the general holiday to engage in lively confetti battles lasting until late in the evening.

A large number of arrests of pickpockets was made by the police, who, under the direction of the prefect, Louis Leiris, took stern precautions to suppress rowdiness.

MAKE \$800-MINIMUM WAGES IN POST OFFICE Washington, Feb. 28—That a man cannot live on \$720 a year and "keep up appearances" was the decision of the senate when it overruled the post-office committee voted out all \$720 salaries for postal clerks and mail carriers and accepted \$800 minimum salary previously fixed by the house. A senate adopted the \$800 salary by a vote of 31 to 17. Senator Ashurst produced figures during the debate to show that the average man in a responsible position could not maintain his family for less than \$720.

Belgium, Feb. 28—Apprehensions of a possible war among the great European powers appears to exist among the members of the Belgian cabinet, last night to be shared also by the leaders of the opposition parties, who have been taken into the confidence of the ministry with the object of making the pending increase

MORE FIGHTING IN MEXICO SOON

Government Forces to Attack Rebel Governor Today ANOTHER ENCOUNTER LIKELY

(Canadian Press) Mexico City, Feb. 28—An attack on the rebel governor of Aguascalientes, Alberto Fuentes, will probably be opened today by a force of government troops under General Garcia Huilidaga. The fight, it is thought, will occur at the city of Aguascalientes, now in the occupation of the rebels.

Another encounter is likely to be brought about soon between the rebels and the federal troops, as General Tracy Albritt and his column are about to effect a junction with the forces under General Gerardo Trevino and the combined army will then begin to close in on the rebels commanded by the defiant governor of the state of Coahuila, Venustiano Carranza, at Saltillo.

The isolation of Mexico City from the United States by rail is complete. The train service south of Aguascalientes on the Mexican Central line, owing to the occupation of that city by Governor Alberto Fuentes and his rebel followers who refuse to recognize Provisional President Huerta in any way, will be entirely interrupted, while the presence of another rebel force at Saltillo in Coahuila prevents operation of trains to the north over the national railroad lines.

The roads to Tampico also are interrupted, thus making a detour by way of that port from the United States to this city impossible.

Ramon Martinez, who for several months conducted semi-official negotiations for peace between the late president Francisco Madero and Venustiano Carranza, doubts will surrender and co-operate with the central government, but that the rebel is waiting for an official messenger to him from Huerta's government.

The federal government is expected to begin an attack on Fuentes.

BURIAL OF MADERO The burial of former President Francisco Madero is to be interred today in the cemetery at his old home, at San Pedro de Los Pinos in the state of Coahuila.

Laredo, Texas, Feb. 28—Ricardo Garza Gutierrez and Manuel Garza Alhago, peace representatives of the Mexican government, arrived at Nuevo Laredo last night to confer with representatives of the revolutionary bands in Northern Mexico.

The private secretary of Huerta declared last night that the situation in the state of Sonora was grave. Bandits, he said, were over-running portions of the state and many families resident in the city of Hermosillo were abandoning the city, fearing an attack. Governor Jose Maytorena has abandoned the governorship of the state, which has been since assumed by Ignacio Pesqueira. Maytorena says he will take command of forces now being organized to sustain him in opposition to the central administration, which he still refuses to recognize.

Eagle Pass, Texas, Feb. 28—Loyal troops from Lampasas engaged the revolutionary force of Governor Carranza of the State of Coahuila near Monclova, 150 miles south of the border yesterday afternoon. The dispatch related briefly that a battle was in progress and the fighting was desperate, but did not state the number of men engaged, or if either of the forces had gained an advantage.

A dispatch from Cuatro Ciénegas, near Monclova, reports that the rubber company located there, controlled by German capital, has been forced to subscribe \$50,000 to the cause of maintaining constitutional government in Mexico.

THAW MATTER MAY MEAN BRIBERY INVESTIGATION New York, Feb. 28—District Attorney Whitman today considered the advisability of calling Harry K. Thaw to testify before a grand jury to investigate charges and counter charges of bribery in connection with an attempt to release him from Mattawan state hospital.

Peary Subscribers New York, Feb. 28—Rear Admiral E. Peary, North Pole explorer, having a list of a few subscribers who had started an American branch of the Scott memorial fund. The movement, it was explained today, would supplement the work in England, where \$150,000 is being raised.

SERVIANS AND GREEKS JOIN IN THE ATTACK ON SCUTARI FORTRESS

Bombardment of Adrianople Still Goes on—Turks Ask Russia to Aid Them to Peace

London, Feb. 28—No actual fighting is reported from any point in the Balkans, but, according to a Constantinople despatch, the bombardment of Adrianople is being kept up in desultory style.

The Allgemeine Zeitung of Vienna states that Servia and Greece are operating to a further extent with Montenegro for the capture of Scutari. Thirty thousand Servians with ten siege and twenty-four field guns are preparing to leave Salonica on Friday Greek transports. They will land at Durazzo, Sas Giovanni and Antivari.

A Sofia despatch states that Mahmud Shevket Pasha, Turkish chief of state, has requested the Russian ambassador to try to arrange peace with the allies with a frontier in Midia on the Black Sea and an enclave on the Aegean Sea. No indemnity is offered.

It is understood that the ambassador has communicated the request to the Russian minister at Sofia and asked him to submit it to the government.

PRISONERS TURN ON POLICEMAN AND SHOOT HIM DEAD Kansas City, Feb. 28—Homer Riggle, a policeman, thirty-seven years old, was overpowered, disarmed and killed by two burglars he had arrested and was taking to jail early today.

While the burglars were robbing a saloon Riggle came upon them and ordered them to surrender. They obeyed and he started with them to the police station. After going three blocks they attacked him, took his pistol and ran. He pursued them and they shot him with his own weapon. The burglars escaped.

ASKS WOMEN TO HELP TO SAVE THE BIRDS Berlin, Feb. 28—Colonial Secretary Solf has issued an appeal to German women to renounce the use of birds of Paradise plumage in their millinery.

The colonial office is doing its utmost to discourage the slaughter of birds and is raising the export duty on birds killed in the German colonies.

ANOTHER HITCH OVER NEW YORK SUBWAY CONTRACT New York, Feb. 28—Another snarl over finances has caused further delay in the signing of the subway contracts. The action of George J. Gould and others in blocking the consummation of the negotiations between the Interborough Rapid Transit Company and the city for the operation of the major portion of the proposed dual system was attacked in the board of estimates yesterday and an inquiry into the matter was suggested by Mayor Gynor. He thought the grand jury might be the proper body to conduct the inquiry.

The Manhattan Railway Company, owner of the city's elevated lines, in which Mr. Gynor owns a large amount of stock and which is leased to the Interborough, has raised objection to the proposition.

LABOR MEMBER IN WILSON'S CABINET Washington, Feb. 28—The house last night agreed to the senate amendments to the bill relating to the government's new department of labor, to be supervised by a cabinet officer. It will be in President Taft's hands today and if signed will increase to ten members the incoming administration.

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