

# The News Record

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### WHO KILLED THE BEAR?

An old saying has it that when Homer was alive he was refused bread in a dozen cities which, after he several Canadian centers that were more or less doubting Thomases now claim the honor of initiating the Hydro power movement.

For instance, the London Free Press declares that: "London was the pivotal point in the initial campaign for Hydro-electric power to the Western Ontario municipalities."

For historical accuracy's sake, let us examine recorded facts. In 1901, several private-owned power companies made applications for charters to develop electric power at Niagara Falls. Early in 1902, Mr. E. W. B. Snyder suggested at a meeting of the Waterloo Board of Trade that the municipalities in this section of Western Ontario cooperate in securing Niagara power. About the same time, Toronto applied to the legislature for a charter to develop power at Niagara for its own use. The application was defeated. It did not occur to its leaders that through cooperation of the municipalities, within striking distance of the Falls, the desired end could be achieved.

Mr. Snyder had several ideas. One was a municipal development, and another the formation of a company with a capital of \$5,000,000. The suggestion was new and strange and consequently was treated as being more or less visionary. But the seed fell on good ground. It lodged in the mind of Mr. D. B. Detweiler of this city. He grasped its possibilities and with characteristic energy set about to make the dream come true.

At a meeting of the local Board of Trade on May 9, 1902, he introduced a resolution, declaring the advisability of appointing a committee from various inland centers to take steps to secure Niagara power. His suggestion was pronounced a good but impracticable one. One member jocularly remarked: "Be a Committee Yourself!" The upshot was that he and Mr. E. W. B. Snyder were delegated to investigate the subject and report.

In the light of present activities, it is creditable to his powers of foresight, that Mr. Detweiler suggested that the municipalities secure a charter at Niagara Falls and develop as well as distribute power. Awed by the probable cost, his coworkers decided that it was too big a bite. Toronto's failure a year earlier to get a charter for power development may have influenced them against tackling the development of power. Since then the Hydro Commission has purchased the Ontario Power Co.'s plant and holdings, it being the company which originally sold the municipalities current, to be distributed among member communities.

A month after his appointment on the Committee, Mr. Detweiler had arranged for the holding of a public meeting in this city. On June 1902, representative men from all the nearby Western Ontario municipalities were invited to a conference there. Toronto, Guelph, Galt, Waterloo, Preston and Bridgeport sent representatives. There were 50 men present but according to the published report of the meeting none from London.

After a number of prominent men, including C. H. Mitchell, then engineer in charge of the Ontario Power Company's plant, and F. S. Spence of Toronto, addressed the gathering. The meeting appointed committees to further the project in the following municipalities. Berlin, (now Kitchener), Waterloo, Toronto, Preston, Galt, Brantford, Guelph, Hespeler, Bridgeport and St. Jacobs.

A second meeting was held here on June 30, and a third at Galt on October 30, 1902. Early in 1903 the project had taken firm root. A fourth meeting was held in this city February 17, at which a large number of municipalities were represented, including London. Adam Beck, then mayor of that city, Alderman Gerry and J. R. Mihalnick were its delegates.

Adam Beck worked hand in hand with Mr. Detweiler in promoting the enterprise and later was on the floor of the legislature and in caucus able to persuade Premier Whitney of the practicability and desirability of the proposed enterprise. The results since obtained are written large over Western Ontario.

This municipality, least of all, desires to detract any credit from the part London played in the east. This much may however be said: it was at first questioned whether it would be feasible to transmit power that distance; London was not regarded as a municipal-ownership town and many of its leading men were and are still opposed to the Hydro power undertaking. Toronto was in reality the pivotal point in the campaign. Had its civic leaders not wholeheartedly espoused the cause, thereby guaranteeing the use of a large block of power, the other municipalities might not then have succeeded. London's adhesion to the project was not vital though always desirable. Its biggest contribution to the Hydro undertaking was Adam Beck and he like many other good things hail from North Waterloo.

There is scripture for it that he who begins at the eleventh hour shall receive as much credit as he who began at seven. Very good. But it is unfair for the eleven-hour worker to claim not only his fair share of the credit but to take as well that of the man who began before the morning.

It is trying to make it appear that Bacon wrote Shakespeare.

### EXTENSION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS.

Canadian women are to have the right to vote at future Dominion and Provincial elections. In addition, it is proposed at the present session to give them the right to be elected to the federal parliament.

That the gentler sex appreciate its right of voting, may be concluded from a conversation overheard in a streetcar. Every seat was taken, when a lady entered and professedly grabbed a strap. A well-mannered man, across and invited her to take the seat he had occupied. "No! Thank you," she replied, "we women have been given the vote and must play life's game on a fifty-fifty basis."

What would! the same lady say now that women are to be enabled to become candidates for parliamentary honors? Will they offer to become breadwinners or will they after the novelty has worn off be content with marking their ballots and letting John do the strapholding in national affairs?

### WESTERN FARMERS' WEATHER INSURANCE MUTUAL COMPANY.

At the meeting a few days ago of the Western Farmers' Weather Insurance Mutual Company, at Woodstock, the directors were able to present a most gratifying report, showing a phenomenal increase in the Company's business in the year just passed. "During the year the Company

wrote \$5,500,000 of new insurance, an increase of \$3,319,000 as compared with the previous year. The Company has assets of \$270,329.56, including a cash balance of \$11,801.00 and a Victory Bond for \$5,000. During the year the Company's investments yielded an income of \$1,507. The meeting was addressed by a large number of policy holders, who expressed confidence and satisfaction in the manner in which the affairs are managed and the progress made.

### OBJECT LESSON IN INDUSTRY.

In a certain explosives factory there was a leaking tap. Hour after hour the water slowly, very slowly, escaped from it in drops. Seeing that the rest of the apparatus is designed to avoid the least waste of material this tap looks peculiarly shiftless, and its inefficiency is emphasized by the prominent position it occupies. One would think that the manager was proud of the leak. Indeed he advertises it by making provision for a pool to collect beneath. A printed notice hard by explains. The pool is to show the workers the ultimate volume of a tiny continuous drip, and thereby to persuade them of the duty of preventing leaks in channels in other parts of the factory which convey liquid more precious than water. Many eloquent speeches would not have the effect which has resulted from the frequent sight of the drop and the pool.

### BY THE WAY.

Boss: Why were you late this morning?  
Office Boy: Went to market with Sis, who wore a bubble skirt.

The Weekly Sun, while passing comment on the by-elections, refers to a hint made by Attorney-General Lucas that the provincial government may make an early appeal to the electors. June is mentioned as a possible date for it.

The story of Canada's external trade during the war period reads like a romance. In 1914, it was \$381,000,000; in 1915, \$614,000,000; in 1916, \$1,091,000,000; in 1917, \$1,547,000,000 and in 1918, \$1,239,000,000. Everyone who can help is trying to keep the volume from going down to the 1914 mark.

The County Council has rendered a tax bill of \$13,074.52 to the city. Last year the levy was \$8,338.19. An advance of \$4,700 in one year is some jump. The account is now being audited. Should it prove correct, it will lead our taxpayers to conclude that the county councillors are not as careful in their administration of affairs as were their fathers before them.

### WAIT A MINUTE

**JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL**  
(Born February 22, 1819)

James Russell Lowell has been proclaimed by critics to be America's strongest poet. He fails of being greatest in the volume and range of his achievement. His work, too, is uneven, and much of it lacks artistic completeness and finish. But in his best phases it is strong, virile and inspiring to a degree not reached by any other American poet.

Lowell was born in Cambridge, Mass., and was descended from Percival Lowell of Bristol, England, who settled in Newbury, Mass., in 1639, and became the progenitor of one of New England's most distinguished families.

At 19 the poet was graduated from Harvard. For ten years thereafter he waded between business, medicine, the ministry and the law, unable to decide upon a profession. When he finally chose the profession of law he counted it rather a joke.

Then came an earnest purpose of life, through love of the girl who became his wife—Miss Maria White, an exceptionally gifted and noble young woman. Their marriage was one of ideal happiness; they lived simply but together they enjoyed the world of books and of Nature.

After nine years of perfect happiness death claimed the young wife, and Lowell was left desolate. Time, however, brought its balm on his sore heart, and he devoted himself to more earnest literary study.

In 1846, at the time of the war with Mexico, Lowell began to write the Bigelow papers, which were hailed as the rare work of a Yankee poet. Their success marked the turning of the tide in the poet's fortunes.

In 1855 he succeeded Longfellow as professor of modern languages at Harvard. For twenty years he continued his professional work, and as a teacher no man, not even Longfellow, was ever more popular or more honored.

In 1857 he became the first editor of the Atlantic Monthly and at once enlisted in his service the flower of New England genius and ability, including Hawthorne, Holmes, Emerson, Longfellow, Whittier, Agassiz and others.

In 1877, Lowell was appointed by President Hayes United States minister at Madrid, for which post he was eminently fitted by his learning, his accomplishments, his character, and his dignified yet courteous manners.

In 1880 he was transferred to London. It is scarcely too much to say that as American minister to Britain he was successful and popular to a degree till then unequalled.

The poet's second marriage, like his first, was a happy and congenial one, the wife having been Miss Frances Dunlap, of Portland, Me.

After resigning from the diplomatic service in 1885 Lowell devoted himself to writing and to travel. His death occurred at Elmhurst, the Cambridge house in which he was born, on Aug. 12, 1891.

### TODAY'S ANNIVERSARIES

1732—George Washington, first President of the United States, born in Westmoreland County, Va. Died at Mount Vernon, Va., Dec. 14, 1799.

1778—Rembrandt Peale, the famous artist, who introduced the teaching of drawing in American schools, born in Philadelphia. Died there Oct. 3, 1860.

1819—John N. Maffitt, Jr., a famous Confederate privateer born in Dublin, Ireland. Died at Wilmington, N.C. May 15, 1886.

1842—Abraham Lincoln addressed the Washington Temperance Society at Springfield, Ill., favoring total abstinence.

1871—Announcement made that armistice between France and Germany was further extended.

1894—Michael Tierney was consecrated bishop of the Catholic diocese of Hartford, Ct.

1915—Russian admitted the loss of an entire army corps to the Germans.

1916—Italians captured Sugana Valley and two towns fifteen miles east of Trent.

1917—French and Italian troops, in contact in Albania, cut off Athens from Central Powers.

### ONE YEAR AGO TODAY IN THE WAR

Entente airmen bombed Innsbruck, capital of Austria Tyrol.

Berlin reported peace treaty signed by Germany and the Ukraine.

Food Administrator Hoover urged people of United States to observe meatless days.

### TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Leut. Gen. Sir Robert Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scout movement, born 52 years ago today.

Frank L. Stanton, celebrated Georgia poet and author, born at Charleston, S.C., 62 years ago today.

Marguerite Clark, one of the most popular of motion picture actresses, born in Cincinnati, 32 years ago today.

### IF CRIPPLED WITH A LAME BACK READ THIS.

Tells All About a Safe Medicine That Relieves After One Dose.

That throbbing pain at the base of the spine is caused by improper kidney action. Fix up the kidneys and the backache goes in a hurry. The most wonderful kidney medicine ever made is Dr. Hamilton's Pills. They contain the juices of certain herbs which soothe and heal all kidney illness. It's a pleasure to use Dr. Hamilton's Pills. They relieve after the first dose, give you a new feeling entirely, remove that dull, throbbing backache, correct urinary disorders, stop headaches, and vague pains through the muscles and joints.

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### Sir Lomer Gouin May Enter Federal House

QUEBEC REPRESENTS BEING WITHOUT REPRESENTATION AT OTTAWA.

MONTREAL, Feb. 21.—Speaking to an audience of English-speaking Canadians following the death of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, one of the most distinguished and eloquent of the French-Canadian editors of Quebec Province said: "Not only must we see to it that the returning soldier is given his place in society and industry as he well deserves, but we must be sure as well that he comes back to a united Canada. Later I asked him concerning his views upon Canadian unity.

"We French-Canadian Liberals would gladly give the Ontario Conservatives 25 federal seats in Quebec and 15 seats from your province," he said. He explained that among the thinking people of the Lower Provinces there is deep concern at the fact that Quebec has seemed to range herself against the other provinces.

Cannot Go On As We Are. "We must have unity, he said with emphasis. "We cannot go on as we are going. Our people are Canadian and British and we want to work with our English-speaking fellow-Canadians to a common end."

No word of complaint was to be uttered against Sir Wilfrid Laurier because of present conditions, he maintained, but the fact could not be denied that though Sir Wilfrid had desired unity his death found the English-speaking Canadians ranged upon one side in the Federal Parliament and the French-Canadians upon the other side.

Gouin Unionist Or Liberal? "Who will be chosen leader of the French-Canadians, now that Sir Wilfrid is gone?" I asked.

"That is very hard to say," he replied.

"Will Sir Lomer Gouin undertake the task?"

"He might. But who can say upon which side? Will he be Unionist or Liberal?"

This was a surprising statement, coming as it did from a journalist whom I believe more than any other in Quebec has the confidence of the French-Canadian Liberal leaders.

"Perhaps you do not know," he said, "that Sir Lomer is not opposed to Union Government and that it is quite possible he would consider a proposition that he should join the present Government? That is the fact. It is the feeling of many of our Quebec people that this province ought not to stand out against a Government that is made up of Liberals and Conservatives. We feel separated and estranged through that sort of thing. We should have representation in any Government at Ottawa, no matter what it may be, and we have not that representation today."

### Stadhlm Mas Usher In Former Members

POSSIBLE HE MAY INTRODUCE NEW M.P.'S. IN LEGISLATURE.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—Z.A. Hall, of South Waterloo, and Irwin Hilliard, Dundas, will move and second the motion in reply to the speech from the throne on Wednesday next, the day after the formal opening of the Legislature.

### NEARLY EVERY GIRL CAN MAKE HERSELF PRETTY AND ATTRACTIVE

Some Wholesome Truths Every Girl Should Think About. Probably you now just wish a girl. Perhaps she is a little—good to look at, and pretty—quite interesting because she reflects the grace and charm that give promise of happiness to herself and others. But she is not strong. The color in her cheeks, once so rosy, has faded away—her eyes are hollow—the buoyancy of spirit that once possessed her is sadly lacking. Parents, friends, the girl needs Ferruzone—needs it that her blood may be renewed—needs it that she may have force that growth, study and the development of her fresh youth have exhausted. This girl will become a girl with Ferruzone, which will restore her color—bring back her old-time energy—give brightness to her eyes and vivacity to her system. In Ferruzone every girl finds strength—then she can do things. In Ferruzone there is endurance—that drives away "morning tiredness and languor. For the girl or woman that wants to be happy, healthy, winning—who values her cheeks, laughing eyes and abundant good spirit—letting out Ferruzone with Ferruzone. 50c per box or six for \$2.50. Get it today from any dealer in medicine or by mail from The Catarthouson Co., Kingston Ont.

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