

TORY TRICKERY FOR TELLS PERIL TO HYDRO

James Johnston, Chester Street, Asphyxiated Today

ALDERMEN EXPOSE THE TORY PLOT TO HOLD UP BUSINESS OF THE CITY IN INTERESTS OF SIR ADAM BECK

Party Chieftains Tried To Get Aldermen To Stay Away From Last Night's Meeting.

BUT SCHEME FAILED

Douglass, Drake and Burdick Refused To Be Persuaded and Thus Provided Council Quorum.

Astonishment leading to disgust and a spirit of supreme indignation throughout municipal circles today follows the sensational expose of Ald. Drake, Douglass and Burdick, of the despicable Tory plot to block city business in the interests of the party candidate—Sir Adam Beck.

What happened last night and yesterday is farcical in its contempt for the citizens of London. London should know about it—and the Tory newspaper covers it up.

Mayor Wenige has demanded the L. & P. S. pay lists. Sir Adam Beck and the commissioners have refused on the grounds that it would be detrimental to the people's railway. Two meetings of the L. & P. S. board declared this stand.

Yesterday Sir Adam decided to take hydro into politics by becoming London's Tory candidate. To buy off opposition from Mayor Wenige and an influential wing of the Conservative party he suddenly surrendered the pay list, without any meeting of his board.

The lists were to come under discussion by the council last night. The Tory executive feared that publicity on the matter might throw a bad light on their party candidate. A member of the executive accordingly telephoned to the aldermen—Douglass, Burdick and Drake—and ordered them to stay home so that there would be no quorum and therefore no business executed.

In other words, the affairs of the people of London were shoved contemptuously to one side to make way for political trickery and manipulation in the interests of the Tory candidate, Sir Adam Beck.

The plot failed, but its failure removes nothing from the guilt of the men whose frantic partisanship takes precedence over hydro, public railways, municipal affairs and the business of the city of London. And these are the men to whom Sir Adam Beck, Ontario's champion of hydro, has lent himself as a party tool.

"Stay away from tonight's meeting" was the frantic call all yesterday afternoon and as late as 7 p.m., from those who pull the strings at Conservative headquarters. And these are the men who, without full knowledge of the calibre of at least three of the men holding public office today.

The time has passed when the boys in the back-room at the party strong hold can beckon the finger and they come, or drop their hands and they go. Not for them the back-room politics become involved in municipal endeavor to the detriment of the citizens, and last night's bold attempt by the Tory chieftains to block the business of the city is a disgrace to the city of two decades. If there was ever a doubt about Sir Adam's candidature bringing hydro into party politics, this settles it.

Risky Party Expulsion.

Although threatened with expulsion from the party and ignominious defeat at the next civic election, Ald. Drake preferred to risk all in order that the interests of the masses should be first served. Before the group of individuals convening behind closed doors to plot the confusion of their adversaries—irrespective of its effect upon the community at large.

Ald. Drake was in his accustomed place last night when Mayor Wenige rapped for order, and he acted as chairman of the council. In the absence of Ald. Albert Judd, who claimed today that he was in Sarnia on business until 1 o'clock this morning, although he was in London at 6:30 and 6:45 p.m.

Challenges Tories.

Ald. Leonard Douglass, chairman of the board of works, is another who flings a challenge at the Tory leaders. He relates that he was not "asked" to stay away from last night's session. He was "directed" to stay away. "And that is the worst possible move they could have made," he explains. "I would certainly not remain away from a regular session of the council when I was able to attend, and even if I was open to persuasion I certainly would not when they told me to."

From what Ald. Drake says this did not confine their activities to members of the Conservative party alone. Ald. Burdick is not a member of that organization, never was or expects to be, but he was approached nevertheless. By whom he would not say in the city council last night, although Ald. Frank McKay, labor member, essayed the opinion that this was a charge that should receive the full consideration of the council at large. The name or names of those aldermen supposed to be involved in the move should be known, he asserted strenuously.

Ald. Burdick was loath to divulge any further information upon the ground that he had given his word of honor to the man who called him and he never broke his word. He added, however, that it was never his intention to remain from a session

These Put City's Welfare Above Party Expediency

ALD. GEORGE BURDICK.

"I was called at 6 p.m. and asked to stay away from the council meeting. I would not do that. I won't say who called me as I promised that I wouldn't and I never break a promise."

ALD. LEONARD DOUGLASS.

"I was called up by a member of the executive of the Conservative party and directed to stay away. They can't call me up and tell me to do that. The member got quite peeved with me when I told him I would not stay away. He said, 'Well I'm not going to coax you.' I replied, I wasn't asking him to coax me."

ALD. DRAKE.

"I am expelled from the Tory party, although I have worked for it for years. A prominent member of the executive called me up at 5 p.m. and told me I would be ruled out. I am fired out because I would not stay away from the council meeting and sacrifice city business."

And Here Are the Excuses of Men Who Were Absent

ALD. ALBERT JUDD.

Chairman of the finance committee—"I was in Sarnia until 1 o'clock this morning. If that man Wenige thinks that I am going to attend every darn meeting that he calls he is very much mistaken." Alderman Judd was seen on the street at 6:45 last night coming from the station. The council meeting was at 7:30 o'clock. His visit to Sarnia must have been sudden and brief.

ALD. JOHN GREER.

"I was out of the city, in Montreal. I just got back this morning. I did not think that they would hold the meeting with so many questions of importance coming up. It would not have hurt them to lay it over."

ALD. WILLIAM H. WILSON.

Had no statement forthcoming. It is known that he was at his home while the council meeting was in progress.

him on the cross of political expediency.

While Ald. Drake refused to be crucified, he refused to listen to the dictation of those who would set aside important municipal business in order that the interests of the Conservative party would be first served.

Rather than let city business be indefinitely shelved, Ald. Drake stuck to his duty to the honest workers of ward three who elected him as one of their representatives and declined point-blank to become a party to a Tory plot to block possible procedure of doubtful consequences to the party nominee, Sir Adam Beck.

Two Absentees.

Ald. John Greer, one of the absentees, stated this morning that he had also been out of the city while the meeting was in progress. From his story he returned to London about the same time as Ald. Judd—1 a.m.

He adds that "he does not know any affiliations to come before the city hall this morning that he had resigned from the chairmanship of one of the Conservative subdivisions."

Ald. William Arthur Wilson was also absent at last night's session although Mayor Wenige declared that he was in the city and his worship gave assurance that "if someone would call his home they would find him there."

Suggests Resignations.

The mayor is particularly aroused over the Tory plot to stampede the council session and voiced the hearty opinion today that "those members of the city council who were in the city and refrained from attendance and were not ill should tender their resignations from the council."

His worship flayed the use of such tactics as those exposed and denounced all who would allow party affiliations to come before their duty as elected representatives of the people.

It is the first time that I was aware that the Tory executive was administering the business of the London and Port Stanley Railway Commission," he declared, "as now I know and I will know why the L. & P. S. pay lists were available last night."

A Peculiar Move.

His worship senses that there is something peculiar about the entire manoeuvre, and has demanded copies of the last two regular meetings of the L. & P. S. Commission.

"By whose order was this list furnished the council yesterday?" he asks. "There was no special session called to transact this business that I am aware of. If there was I was not in attendance. And if there have been any secret sessions I want to know about it. They'll hear further from me about this."

His worship has been informed by members of the Conservative party that the advisability of handing over the pay list and preventing any move to unseat Sir Adam from the L. & P. S. Commission was threshed out at three special sessions of the Tory executive. And the mayor vigorously denounces such procedure, if it proves to be correct.

Drake Sacrificed.

Ald. Gordon Drake has been sacrificed for the sake of good government at the city hall.

To use the expression that made Cameron Wilson famous at the Tory nomination they tried to "crucify"

MAYOR ASKS TIME TO CONSIDER NOW THAT BECK IS IN

His Worship Says He May Know Tomorrow as to Candidacy.

WILSON SARCASTIC

Thinks Mayor Finds Water a Little Cool For the Plunge.

Now that Sir Adam Beck has definitely entered the field, Mayor Wenige is undecided as to what course to pursue.

Early this afternoon he stated that he would not keep his supporters in suspense as Sir Adam had done for a week or more but would have a final decision to announce within a reasonable time. "I may know tomorrow," was his brief comment.

"Water still a little cool for Mr. Wenige," commented "President" Wilson this afternoon. "Well, we are not worrying about him. He won't make any difference whether he is in or not. Sir Adam will be elected in any event."

The ex-mayor states that he may yet be impelled to "take the stump" for his party nominee but in the meanwhile he is going up-country to join in the fight for the Huron ridings.

WESTERN RIVER RISES 3 FEET IN FIVE HOURS

Saskatoon Residents Fear Their Homes Will Be Flooded Today.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Saskatoon, June 6.—Thousands of people thronged the banks of the South Saskatchewan River here last night, watching the rapid rise of its waters. Warnings from Alberta that a huge rise was to be expected had excited unusual interest. Last evening the water climbed five feet in three hours. One section of the south bank is already crumbling away under the floods, which at midnight were within eight feet of the street level.

Residents along the south bank of the river were busy removing everything possible from the basements of their homes, plugging basement sewer traps, and generally preparing for the overflow of the banks which is expected to come today.

TWENTY-FIVE DOCTORS TAKE LICENSE TESTS

Graduates of Western Fry Examinations For Permit To Practice.

The examinations for the license of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario are being conducted this week at London, Toronto and Kingston. Dr. Robert Ferguson of this city is presiding over the examinations being conducted in London.

The written examinations were held at the Medical School on Tuesday, and the clinical and oral examinations were at Victoria Hospital on Thursday and Friday. Drs. Clegg and Hale are the examiners from London, but officiate at Toronto and Kingston instead of their home town.

There are 25 candidates undergoing examination at London, all but two being graduates of the London Medical School. The results will probably be announced about the middle of June. The university degree of M. D. is a pre-requisite to this examination, but the license of the College of Physicians and Surgeons is a necessary qualification for the practice of medicine.

Rumor 500,000 Austrians Will Be Sent To Canada

British Newspaper States Plan On Foot To Bring In a Large Number of Aliens.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, June 6.—The Daily Express gives prominence to a statement that Canada "may fill her vacant lands with Austrians," although this plan of dumping half a million aliens into the Dominion has not reached its final stage, owing to financial difficulties.

The Canadian authorities in London do not appear at all perturbed at the prospect. The Express says, and it adds that the immigration department in London the last few days has been in correspondence with Sohr, a former Austrian consul, who is responsible for the scheme. Sohr



THEY BLOCKED THE TORY GAME. To Ald. Leonard Douglass, centre, game to halt last night's council meeting, in order to save Sir Adam Beck from possible embarrassment by the credit for blocking the Tory game.

The City Council Rules

THE line of action to be taken by the Conservative Association in London has been laid bare.

The line of action to be taken by the Conservative Association in London—and already taken by that association—is leading them to the point of impertinent interference with the business of this city in order that a supposed political point might be gained.

That political point was not gained, because there are some Conservative members of the London city council who see in their office as aldermen a greater responsibility to the people of this city than any allegiance they may owe to any political organization.

Officers of the London Conservative Association called up members of the London city council—men whom the electors had chosen to attend to their business—and urged them not to attend the meeting of the city council on Tuesday evening. They went further—they threatened to "get them" later if they did attend.

They did not want them to attend because the pay list of the London & Port Stanley Railway was going to be considered at that meeting. Mayor Wenige had given his promise that after the lists were handed over to the council there would be reconsideration on the matter of publishing them in the city year book.

It is high time for the citizens of London to ask and demand, regardless of their political affiliations, what business the London Conservative Association has in interfering and seeking to block a meeting of the London city council where public business was waiting to be transacted.

It is high time for the citizens of London to ask and demand, regardless of their political affiliations, what business ex-Mayor Cameron standing president of the London Conservative Association, whose one outstanding accomplishment during his year as mayor was the cutting of the garbage men's wages, has in interfering with and seeking to block a meeting of the London city council, where public business was waiting to be transacted.

London can well part company with any and all such men. This kind of business, where telephone and whispered politics takes the first and most abiding place in the minds of men, has got to be chased out of this city, bag and baggage, if this city is going to go ahead.

THE spectacle of aldermen of the city of London standing up in their places at the city council meeting and announcing that they had been asked, coaxed and warned to keep away from a meeting of the city council smacks too much of the meanest days of Tammany Hall. It was a direct attempt to place the seat of authority in this city behind the closed doors of the London Conservative Association, and no words are too strong or too plain to speak the unqualified disgust of the people of this city at the introduction of such tactics and political efforts into the affairs of this city.

The city council of London is running the affairs of this city, and not the London Conservative Association.

The incident shows the atmosphere into which hydro and public ownership in general is being thrown by the entrance of Sir Adam Beck into the campaign as the candidate of an association that carries on this kind of business.

Sir Adam Beck wants public ownership kept out of politics, and yet he drags the whole thing in right up to the neck, in the center of the most contentious political center in Ontario.

THE next thing that the people of London do not like is the fact that Sir Adam Beck hands over the pay lists of the London & Port Stanley Railway, and the next hour presents a statement to the press of the country announcing his candidature in London.

At the last two meetings of the L. & P. S. commission it was voted that this pay list should not be handed over to the city council for purposes of publication in the city year book. Then, when political matters are getting hot, and there seems to be a chance of bribing Mayor Wenige to not run for the legislature, Sir Adam hands over the list.

This one incident stands out in letters a foot high to show clearly and conclusively that when politics gets its hands on the property of the people, the latter is going to have a poor show.

THE Toronto Globe today, in the face of all this miserable manipulation, has the hardihood to tell the people of London—the Liberals of London—that it is their duty to support and elect Sir Adam Beck as the representative of hydro.

The Liberals of London are not eager to quarrel with Sir Adam Beck. They are willing to pay full tribute to the worth of the work he has accomplished. They are ready to back him in any reasonable project he may undertake, and they would welcome the opportunity to do so, but the path is blocked when we find the champion of a public ownership undertaking placing himself in a position where he comes out under the auspices of men who place the politics of the Conservative party above every other consideration.

There is a great big local issue in this affair, and it has got to be fought to the last ditch. The London manipulation overshadows all else, and right off citizens must make it plain to all Conservative manipulators that the city council is running the city of London, and that it is not going to be cajoled or threatened from its right course by the henchmen of any political association.

WENIGE REFUSED SESSION MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Mayor Informed Permission Must Come From Manager of L. & P. S. Railway.

REQUIRES ORDER

Trip to Office of Commission Fails To Bring Result.

Mayor Wenige, although a member of the London & Port Stanley Railway commission, has found out that he cannot have access even to the minutes of regular sessions of that body.

"This is the worst yet," exclaimed the mayor, when after being in touch with the secretary of the commission, he was informed that he could not give him the minutes without the sanction of the manager of the road.

The mayor asked for the minutes of the last two meetings at a fairly early hour this morning, and the answer from the secretary was that they would be delivered at his office at the city hall.

At 11:30 Mayor Wenige finding that the minutes were not yet on hand, called the office of the L. & P. S., asking if he could not have them sent over.

"No, not without the order of the manager,"

Requires Orders.

Further questioning brought out the fact that nothing was to be given to the mayor without orders. There is no written instructions posted up to that effect, but apparently that is the understanding.

"Remember," said the mayor, "I am not asking for anything secret. I am only asking for something that any citizen is entitled to. Surely you can furnish that."

But there was no disposition to do any furnishing of minutes, and the mayor did not get them.

He even drove down to the commission's office at 12:30 to see if they would be supplied to him, or if he could even have a chance to look at them, but noon hour was being observed, and there were no men in the mayor's head or in the back seat as he drove away.

JAMES JOHNSTON DEAD, COMPANION SICK; DUE TO GAS

City Gas Company Employees Asphyxiated on Tecumseh Avenue.

REPAIRING MAIN

James Johnston, 19 Chester street, is dead and William S. Arbuckle, 5 Brighton street, lies in a serious condition at his home as a result of being overcome with gas when he and Mr. Johnston were repairing a leak in a main of the City Gas Company in front of 41 Tecumseh avenue about 11:30 this morning. Both are employees of the Gas Company.

Edward R. Emery, a teamster, residing at 16 Briscoe street, was driving home to lunch, and in passing the excavation where the leak was being fixed he noticed some tools lying on the ground. Looking down into the hole he saw at once that the two men were unconscious.

Ross Warner, a driver for Jeff Lockyer, butcher, of 122 1/2 Wharf-cliffe road, who was passing at the time, was stopped by Emery and they lifted the bodies out of the hole. The fire department was then called, and in fifteen minutes the pulmotor was being worked on Mr. Johnston, who appeared to be affected the worse of the two.

When taken out, Mr. Arbuckle was in a semi-conscious state, but the teamster there would be no inquest. Although for an hour and a half every effort was made by Dr. J. E. McCullough and the firemen to resuscitate Mr. Johnston, he never regained consciousness, and was pronounced dead by the physician. He was breathing faintly when discovered by Mr. Emery, and at times when the pulmotor was at work it was thought that he might recover, but he never did.

It is thought, however, that after an hour of ceaseless effort it was apparent that nothing could be done for the unfortunate man.

Coroner Robert Ferguson, who was summoned soon after the men were found, said that under the circumstances there would be no inquest.

"Mr. Arbuckle was in a sitting posture when I found him," Mr. Emery told The Advertiser, "while Mr. Johnston lay crumpled up, his hat lying beside him as if he had knocked it off when he toppled over."

A handkerchief belonging to Mr. Johnston was also found in the sewer.

Mr. Arbuckle when seen at his home about 1 o'clock was still in a dazed condition, and did not seem to be able to remember anything prior to the accident. It is thought, however, that he will recover.

In speaking to The Advertiser Mrs. Arbuckle said that her husband had always been extremely sensitive to the smell of gas and she could not understand how he was overcome so quickly. For this reason she thought that the gas must have burst through the main very suddenly.

Questions Authority.

"The thing I can't understand is on what authority the pay sheets were handed to me by Sir Adam. I have been at the meetings right along and I know for a fact that they have voted not to hand these lists over. I want to know if there has been a meeting held to which I was not invited, or whether Sir Adam simply acted over the head of the commission because he thought it was good politics to do so."

Thus a dark mark is set up, a member of the L. & P. S. commission is not entitled to have a copy of the minutes of the regular meetings, which any citizen, should he desire to do so, can attend.

SAYS TRADE POLICIES IN EMPIRE FOOLISH

Premier Massey of New Zealand Denounces Dumping of Foreign Goods.

Associated Press Despatch.

Wellington, N. Z., June 6.—Premier W. F. Massey, speaking at Christchurch, declared his sympathy with free trade, but the present policy by which foreign goods were dumped in the countries of the British Empire was "a sensible, not a fair trade. The Empire, he said, was capable of being self-supporting, but it was not being given the opportunity to prove this."

Premier Massey urged that this object should be kept in view at the coming imperial economic conference in London.

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS.

Moderate winds, mostly north and northeast; partly cloudy and cooler today and on Thursday.

Temperatures.

The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations.	Hgh.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	78	56	Fair
Calgary	78	54	Fair
Winnipeg	70	42	Clear
Port Arthur	60	44	Cloudy
Port Sound	70	52	Fair
Toronto	78	48	Clear
Kingston	73	56	Cloudy
Ottawa	72	52	Cloudy
Montreal	70	52	Cloudy
Quebec	62	54	Clear
Father Point	64	32	Fair
St. John	64	32	Cloudy
Halifax	78	48	Cloudy

Casualties Inflicted on Both Sides in Military Assault.

Associated Press Despatch.

Madrid, June 6.—A big military operation is proceeding in the neighborhood of Tizilaza, Morocco, in which a large force of Spaniards, comprising the foreign legion and regular troops, are engaged against the Moroccans.

An official communication says the Moroccans, who numbered 70,000, and were strongly entrenched, were routed yesterday. Aeroplanes followed their flight inflicting severe losses.

The Spanish losses were 45 killed and 210 wounded, according to an official statement issued today.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 88; lowest, 68. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 77; lowest, 63.

Barometric Readings.

Tuesday—3 p.m.—29.10.
Today—8 a.m.—29.10.