

57TH YEAR. NO. 23003

Natural Gas Bill Is Opposed

POLICE CAR WITH THREE LONDON DESPERADOES AS PASSENGERS TURNS TURTLE IN DITCH NEAR MELBOURNE VILLAGE; NO ONE HURT

Prisoners On Way To Court To Stand Charge of Murder. Make No Attempt To Escape When Car, Speeding At Twenty Miles An Hour, Is Wrecked One and a Half Miles From Melbourne.

[By Staff Reporter.] Melbourne, April 21.—The police car from London, containing Inspector Nickle, Detective Down, Sidney and William Murrell and Jack Williams, the three men charged with the murder of Russell Campbell in this village, April 11, turned turtle in the ditch a mile and a half east of this village shortly after 1 o'clock today. No one was hurt. The prisoners, who were handcuffed together, made no attempt to escape. The top and the windshield of the car were smashed completely. According to Russell Boyd, Advertiser reporter, who with Mrs. Collins, police court stenographer, were passengers, the speed of the auto was about 20 miles an hour. No explanations could be given for the accident, but the scribe admitted that they all had a very narrow escape.

THIRTY DOLLARS PER WEEK TOO MUCH FOR DESERTED WIVES

Piece of "Monstrous Extravagance," Says T. D. McCullough.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS "About All I Make Some Weeks," Declares Major T. J. Murphy.

At a recent meeting of the mothers' pensions board of this city a number of recommendations were drawn up and sent to the commission at Toronto. One of the recommendations was to the effect that a deserted wife whose husband is legally dead be given an allowance the same as a widow. The local board suggested that the deserted woman's husband must not have been seen or heard from for five years instead of seven to make her eligible for the benefit.

In the Ontario Legislature on Wednesday, Major McNamara brought in a bill to provide \$30 per week for the maintenance of deserted wives and children. Major T. J. Murphy and Rev. T. D. McCullough, members of the local railway board this "piece of monstrous extravagance," and stated that the province could not stand such a ridiculous amount being paid out to every deserted woman. "I do not know what McNamara could have been thinking about when he proposed such an amount," said Major Murphy. "That is about all I make myself some weeks."

LONDON ALDERMEN TO OPPOSE M'GRAE BILL IN TORONTO

J. C. Wilson, W. A. Wilson and P. J. Watt Will Speak Before Legislature Tomorrow.

Three aldermen, namely: Ald. J. C. Wilson, W. A. Wilson and P. J. Watt, will go to Toronto to fight the M'Grave bill, which comes up in the Legislature at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. Sir Adam Beck is also said to be opposing the bill, which aims to give the Ontario railway board the power to set wages or fare scales in connection with street railway disagreements, which the board has investigated, without a vote of the people.

Those who are opposing the bill say that such matters where the people's money is concerned should not be disposed of without an expression of public opinion. Those supporting the bill say that as the board has secured the information in the disagreements, it should be able to come to a fair conclusion without consulting the electorate.

ILLEGITIMATE HAS NO RIGHT TO ANY OF FIELD FORTUNE

Springfield, Ill., April 21.—Henry Marsh, son of Henry Field, of Chicago, and Peggy Marsh, is not entitled to inheritance of the Marshall Field fortune, the supreme court decided today in ruling that the Marshall Field will specifically exempts from inheritance any illegitimate offspring.

OFFICIAL COUNT OF REFERENDUM VOTES BEING MADE TODAY

Some Deputy Returning Officers Locked Boxes and Dropped Key Inside.

COL. GRAHAM IN CHARGE

Declaration Being Made at Court House in Presence of "Wet" and "Dry" Advocates.

Today the official declaration of the city referendum poll is being made at the court house. At 9 o'clock this morning the returning officer, Col. G. M. R. Graham, was on the scene, accompanied by Harold Lawson, official election clerk, and A. Pugh, assistant. The London Prohibition Association was represented by Capt. A. B. Dewberry, and B. C. Hertel was present on behalf of the Citizens' Liberty League.

The process of opening the ballot boxes and examining the vouchers sealed up therein by the deputy returning officers was immediately commenced, and continued the greater part of the day, the figures from the various polling subdivisions being carefully noted by the representatives of the local organizations, under the supervision of Col. Graham. At the conclusion of the work of examining the ballot boxes it is necessary to retain them for thirty days in case of a recount or other recording, under the supervision of Col. Graham. At the conclusion of the work of examining the ballot boxes it is necessary to retain them for thirty days in case of a recount or other recording, under the supervision of Col. Graham.

HOUSING COMMISSION MAY RENT HOUSES ON GARFIELD AVENUE

Applications for Loans Will Be Considered by Commissioners Tonight.

Renting houses to relieve the housing shortage will be a matter discussed at a meeting of the housing commission tonight. E. R. Dennis, a member of the commission, stated that the commission was not going into the real estate business, but merely wanted to help in the promotion of the city. On Garfield avenue, he said, there were a number of the commission's houses that could be rented.

WHEAT GROWERS ADOPT PLAN FOR POOLING

End, Okla., April 21.—More than one thousand United States wheat growers at a mass meeting here last night unanimously adopted the compulsory pooling plan of the National Wheat Growers' Association in preference to an optional plan offered by the committee of seven at Chicago in connection with its program for the co-operative handling of the grain.

GERMANS ATTACK AMERICANS.

Berlin, April 21.—James E. Tobin and his wife of Chicago, were attacked by a crowd of German men, women and children Tuesday following the funeral of former Empress Augusta Victoria. They were mistaken for French people, it is explained.

HULL ALDERMEN HAVE NO DESIRE FOR LIQUOR TRADE

Ottawa, April 21.—The Hull City Council seems determined to wipe out the sale of liquor in Hull after May 1. At a special meeting held last night it was the intention to move for the abolition of liquor under government control in Hull. However, City Solicitor J. E. St. Marie advised the council that action could not be taken by motion. A bylaw was necessary.

Therefore notice was immediately given that a bylaw would be presented at a special meeting of the council to be held on Friday night. Mayor Cousineau, Aldermen Legault, Charon and Talbot have announced that they are in favor of the abolition of liquor selling in Hull. Mayor Cousineau contends that with prohibition in Ontario, Hull, if liquor was sold by the bottle, would become an oasis for thousands of thirsty residents of Ontario. Crime of all kinds would become widespread, as all liquor sold in Hull would be consumed in the city before the visitors commenced their homeward journey.

MRS. PANKHURST TO ADDRESS NUMBER OF ONTARIO AUDIENCES

Noted English Suffragist To Speak in Western Ontario Cities.

Toronto, April 21.—Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the noted English Suffragist leader, after campaigning in the United States for several months past against Bolshevism, is in the city, and after addressing a mass meeting here this evening, she will speak in several Western Ontario cities. She will then leave for Western Canada and, after a lecture tour on the coast, purposes taking a real summer holiday in Victoria, B. C. A very special interest is awaiting her in the coast city, an adopted family, and no less than three little girls, war orphans, whom she brought out from England and is having cared for in the capital city of British Columbia.



Some day he will run out of hollow logs. —Hanny in the St. Joseph News-Press.

Negro That Sheriff Forgot To Hang; Not To Die Now

Shreveport, La., April 21.—The death sentence of Lonnie Eaton, the negro sheriff of Ouachita parish forgot to hang, has been commuted by the state pardon board to life imprisonment, according to reports received here today from Baton Rouge. The board considered the negro's case on meeting there yesterday.

Eaton was convicted of murder several months ago and was brought from Ouachita parish to the Caddo parish jail for safe keeping. Governor Parker set the date for the hanging, but the sheriff forgot all about the hanging until the legal date had passed.

New Proposals To Be Presented by Berlin Not To Be Accepted

French Premier Will Outline at Hythe Conference On Sunday, Measures To Be Taken To Enforce Reparation Payments by Germany — Plan Includes 40 Per Cent Tax On All Exports.

Paris, April 21.—Germany's proposals relative to reparations had not been received by the French Government up till late last night, but officials here declared they expected they would be the same as those published in German newspapers. For this reason they said they believed the Berlin Government's terms would be "insufficient and unacceptable."

It is probable that the Italian and Belgian ambassadors to Great Britain will attend next Sunday's conference at Hythe, at which Premier Briand will communicate to Prime Minister Lloyd George the measures France purposes to take if Germany does not make the reparation payments demanded on May 1.

Louis Loucheur, minister of liberated regions, has completed a plan for the economic penalties to be placed upon Germany in default of her payment of reparations. The Echo de Paris declares that his plans include a tax of ten gold marks on each ton of coal and a smaller tax on lignite and perhaps manufactured goods. A tax of 40 per cent, payable in foreign money, would be levied on all exports.

SLEEPING LEGISLATORS RUDELY AWAKENED WHEN M. M. M'BRIDE INSISTS ON AN ADJOURNMENT

Early Morning Session Characterized by Some Active Work On Part of Premier and Government Whip — Acting Speaker Diplomatically Refrains From Count Until Quorum Is Assured.

Toronto, April 21.—The Toronto Star says: "A joyous and rollicking session of the Legislature turned from comedy into near burlesque, when, at about a quarter past one this morning, M. M. MacBride of Brantford observed that there were only seven members on the floor of the House, and insisted that, since there was not a quorum, the assembly was automatically adjourned. The premier hastily awakened Andrew Hicks, the Government whip, and frantically waved in R. L. Brackin and other members who were peacefully dozing on the luxuriously upholstered chairs behind the speaker's throne."

"A. T. Walker of South Oxford, who was acting as chairman, diplomatically refrained from making a count until three members had slipped into their seats and thus re-established a quorum."

"Frenzied S. O. S. calls soon raised the attendance to nearly two score members, but Mr. MacBride held the floor and for nearly three-quarters of an hour vainly endeavored to force the adjournment and incidentally to get revenge for some old scores against the prime minister, R. L. Brackin, R. R. Hall, Charles J. Wray and other opponents. Eventually, however, the members got back to business and proceeded to wade through the further supplementary estimates."

WESTERN ONTARIO CITIZENS MANTAIN MEASURE GIVES RIGHT TO ALTER CONTRACTS

HICKS ADMITS HE SAID U. F. O. MEMBERS WERE OFFERED BRIBES

Investigation of the Ashplant Charges Is Commenced by Committee.

SUMMON ESSEX M. L. A.

Evidence Is Adduced That Offers Were Not Accepted.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Toronto, April 21.—Initial investigation proceedings regarding statements of H. B. Ashplant about the City Gas Company and the Ontario Legislature were commenced this afternoon by the committee on privilege and elections. A. C. Carty, correspondent in London for the Toronto Globe, was the only witness who appeared today. At 3 o'clock the committee could not hear all the evidence today. Other witnesses, including Mayor Little, several aldermen and H. B. Ashplant, will be called next Tuesday.

Andrew Hicks, U. F. O. Centralist, admitted making a statement at a U. F. O. picnic in London June 9, 1919, to the effect that efforts had been made to bribe the Ontario Legislature, but that none of the U. F. O. members had accepted them.

He admitted this statement to expedite matters and save the trouble of calling witnesses, he said. His grounds for making the statement were based on an incident in connection with the beach protection act. With Mr. Fox, South Essex, he supported this measure. Mr. Fox subsequently stated to him that he (Hicks) could have had \$20,000 if he reversed his stand. Mr. Hicks' statement was based entirely on a denial ever having been approached by any interests. The impression arose through a misunderstanding.

Col. Lennox, cross-examining, asked if Mr. Hicks had subsequently denied the statement. Mr. Hicks replied no. He did not think he did wrong in not asking for an investigation of Fox's statement. He said he had not realized the seriousness of it.

Col. Lennox suggested that the reporter who had interviewed Hicks in relation to his charges be called as a witness. Fox will be asked to attend the next session of the committee.

ATTITUDE OF AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT NOT FULLY UNDERSTOOD BY ALLIES

Paris, April 21.—Reports received in official circles of continued agitation in Munich and other parts of South Germany in favor of the plebiscite which it is proposed to hold Sunday in the Austrian Tyrol, to decide whether the population desires to be annexed to Germany, are causing much anxiety here. The plebiscite is regarded by the Allies as being contrary to the treaty of St. Germain, and, if held, will be considered null and void.

THE WEATHER

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. Following are the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 67; lowest, 39.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours from 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 60; lowest, 47.

TOMORROW—SHOWERY. Toronto, April 21—8 a.m. Forecasts.

Today—Easterly and southerly winds; cloudy, with occasional rain. Friday—Showery.

The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: High. Low. Weather. Victoria. 52. 41. Rain. Winnipeg. 58. 26. Fair. Winnipeg. 56. 26. Cloudy. Port Arthur. 46. 36. Clear. Parry Sound. 52. 42. Cloudy. Port Stanley. 58. 42. Cloudy. Buffalo. 58. 50. Cloudy. Toronto. 56. 45. Cloudy. Kingston. 56. 42. Fair. Ottawa. 70. 42. Fair. Montreal. 68. 42. Clear. Quebec. 64. 24. Cloudy. Fort Point. 48. 22. Clear. Father Point. 48. 36. Clear. Halifax. 40. 34. Fair.

The centre of the western disturbance has moved slowly northward toward Iowa, while the pressure has increased to the northward of Manitoba and the Great Lakes.

Legislature Committee, After Hearing Arguments of Delegates From Windsor to Hamilton, Approves Principle of Proposed Measure—Clauses Will Be Discussed at a Later Sitting—J. M. Pyke, K. C., of Chatham, Warns That There Will Be Serious Trouble if the Bill Is Forced Through.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Toronto, April 21.—Representatives from many municipalities from Hamilton to Windsor, spoke in opposition to the natural gas bill before the gas committee this morning. They opposed the principle of the bill inasmuch as it gave it the right to alter contracts. One Hamilton speaker bluntly suggested that if contractual rights were to be interfered with the Government had better take over the gas companies.

C. St. Clair Leitch, representing several townships in Elgin County, said that there was no emergency at the present time calling for such drastic action, he might say, revolutionary legislation. He called it revolutionary, he said, because vested interests contracts and municipal governments all were destroyed in this bill. The rights of the municipalities, he represents ought not to be invaded by this bill.

William Cameron, township of Southwold, said that under this bill, if a man owned a farm he could not deal with gas on it, nor make contracts, except subject to conditions, in which the owners would be interfered with. Right was being given to enter upon private property by permit to do anything the intruders thought advisable. He did not think that was a right thing when a man had a farm.

Mr. Waddell, solicitor for Hamilton, maintained that the council of Hamilton should be considered, and no variation of agreement authorized, unless the council consented. The bill was far too drastic, especially when it gave a referee power to fix prices.

Objection to a referee was also taken by D. C. Shaw, representing Rodney, who said he was given power to interfere with contracts that had been entered into in the most solemn manner.

J. M. Pyke, K. C., of Chatham, quoted a clause of the constitution of the United States which he said expressly forbade such legislation as this bill stood for. "Today as a legislature some of you are willing to take away the rights of one party of contract without compensation to the other party and with the utmost sangfroid, as if you were eating your dinner. You need not be surprised if there is a revolution in South Western Ontario."

The farmer and consumer, he said, had not received any compensation for the change of contract. Furthermore he was opposed to the taking away and centralizing in Toronto the powers of councils of various municipalities.

Chatham Man Objects. O. E. Hill (Chatham) said this was not the bill the conference had agreed to, and he would not stand for it. The city of Chatham would not stand for the bill. The bill he had sanctioned, he said, did not provide for control by the municipality.

Commissioner Henderson explained how the bill came to be drawn up. Contractual rights should stand until it was absolutely necessary to ignore them. There would be cases in which contractual rights would have to be ignored in parts. Not one iota of authority of the referee had been taken away. The bill as it stood was the best bill he could be worked out.

Mr. Henderson told Hon. Manning Doherty that primarily he would conceive that his duty as a judicial officer would be to protect public interests.

Mr. Currie, reeve of Dresden, seemed to object to so much power being given a referee. Mr. Henderson was all right, but some other referee might be "greased" with money. "If you are going to alter contracts, why doesn't the Government take over these gas companies?" said W. Morrison, Hamilton. "That is the only way not to interfere with vested rights."

The committee, on motion by J. C. Tolmie, Windsor, and Wilson Crockett, Wentworth, approved the principle of the bill. Clauses will be discussed at a further sitting.

Y. M. C. A. AUDITORIUM TO BE TURNED INTO GYMNASIUM

Directors Decide On Important Move at Meeting Wednesday Night—Growth of Membership Made Action Absolutely Necessary.

The auditorium of the Y. M. C. A. will be turned into a gymnasium, the directors have decided at the regular meeting of the board of directors on Wednesday evening. This move has been under consideration by the board for some time. Late last year the auditorium was faced with a serious task in providing room for men and boys who use the "Y" gymnasium floor. The membership during the past year has practically doubled, and the auditorium at the meeting on Wednesday indicated this.

When the new gymnasium is completed, the equipment will be of the latest style. The floor space will measure 64 by 50 feet. The present gymnasium is 56 feet long and 38 feet wide. It will be necessary to lay a new floor in the auditorium. This will be level with the present gymnasium floor and will be built from the small gymnasium to the large one. There will be space under the new gym for additional locker room for the boys and senior men.

A. M. Allen of the Y. M. C. A. building bureau, New York, will meet the directors Friday evening to discuss the plans that have been drawn up. It is thought that by Saturday afternoon the cost of the alterations will be decided on and tenders will be called at once. During the past year the auditorium has not been used to a great extent. Considerable funds can be provided for the work in hand by the sale of the seats and other equipment.

While the directors were in session on Wednesday 80 Trial Rangers were participating in different calisthenics, and 25 more were sitting in the gallery because of the limited floor space. The boys' membership on March 21, 1920, was 461, and on the corresponding day in 1921 the number of boys belonging to the gymnasium classes was 1,000. From March 1919, to March, 1920, was 2,201. An increase of 532 has been reported since then. The bathing pool in 1920 was used by 3,523 boys. From March 31, 1920, to March 31, 1921, 4,870 used the pool.

Find Fortune While Working For \$1 Month

Salem, Va., April 21.—Henry Dameron, 25, descendant of pioneer Virginian settlers, who works on his uncle's mountaintide farm near here from sunup to sundown at \$1 a month, while plowing the other day found a small metal pot and silver coins valued at \$15,000. About \$13,000 was in gold, \$600 in silver, and the balance in currency so badly disintegrated that the denominations could not be distinguished. The latest date on any of the coins was 1823.

Young Dameron was fearful that his fortune might be taken from him and kept his discovery a secret until today.

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS. New York, April 21.—Arrived: Huronia (British) from Liverpool, April 9; Fort Victoria (British) from Bermuda, April 19.

BLOCKADE OF BLACK SEA IS MAINTAINED BY GREEK FORCES

Bulgarians Lodge Strong Protest Against Seizure of Steamer.

Constantinople, April 21.—The Greeks are maintaining a strict blockade of the Black Sea. A Greek destroyer seized a Bulgarian steamer repatriating Greek officers and men of the forces of Col. Jafar Tayer, former Turkish commandant in Constantinople. The Bulgarians have lodged a protest against the Greek action. The Turkish Nationalists are reported to be placing orders for tanks, rifles, and aeroplanes in Russia.