

FORMER MINISTER SAYS HE IS FULLY PREPARED FOR COMMITTEE PROBE

Hon. F. C. Biggs Expresses Surprise That His Name Was Connected With Public Accounts Investigation—Received No Notification of Committee's Plan.

DECLARES HE HAS NO BOOKS TO PROVE CASE

Special to The Advertiser.

Dundas, March 29.—"I will be right there when the public accounts committee meets next Tuesday or Wednesday, and I will be ready to make a statement, too," stated Hon. F. C. Biggs, former minister of public works in the H. E. O. government, to The Advertiser yesterday.

"That's news to me," said Mr. Biggs, when told that the public accounts had opened with the testimony of Mr. Nash, accountant, as to bond transactions, and that the former minister's name, along with that of the firm of Browning, Harris & Co., had been mentioned in his testimony.

"I got no notice at all that this was coming up at yesterday's session," asserted Mr. Biggs. "I'm surprised I wasn't notified. The notice that I got distinctly stated that the committee would be meeting for organization purposes. I told Mr. Lethbridge (Progressive M.P.) that I would not be there as I had to attend to some matters connected with my father's estate."

Sees Report.

Mr. Biggs was shown a newspaper report of the proceedings in the public accounts committee.

"There's one thing wrong, Caldwell never received nomination from any political party in any election," asserted Mr. Biggs. "In fact, the Liberal party had no candidate in North Westworth at the last general election."

Regarding the statement that he had dealt with Browning, Harris & Co., to the extent of \$55,000 in bonds, Mr. Biggs said: "I never sold any bond house in my life \$55,000 or half of that amount. I never had a bond transaction of that size with any company."

As to another paragraph in the newspaper report, referring to a \$25,000 transaction with Browning, Harris & Co., Mr. Biggs denied ever having such a deal. The largest deal he ever had was for \$20,000 6 per cent. Ontario bonds.

"This was partly paid for by bonds, partly by cash and partly by note."

"Were you in the habit of dealing with large amounts of cash?"

Had the Habit.

"Yes," replied Mr. Biggs. "When I was a lump of a lad my father offered to send me out with \$3,000 in cash to go through the country and lift 30 or 40 head of cattle. In that way I got into the habit of using cash. When was in Toronto and got a check for \$2,000 or \$2,000, or in Brantford, where I have had large business dealings for a number of years, particularly in lumber, I would never pay exchange on it to Dundas. I would go into the bank and get the cash, use what I wanted in my business, and deposit the balance in Dundas."

About another item, province of Saskatchewan bonds, Mr. Biggs thought the fact that Harris had lifted some on one day and purchased a similar amount from him the day following must be a coincidence. He could not recall just what occurred.

It might be that Harris had been holding the bonds for him and took them up to make delivery and at first he afterwards sold back. At first he could not say that he ever held any Saskatchewan bonds, but he thought this might be the explanation.

Acted Under Statute.

Referring to the rumor about the administration of the highway department, and the allegation that the city of Hamilton was favored to the extent of some \$20,000, Mr. Biggs said: "Neither the city of Hamilton nor the county of Wentworth ever got any special privileges or favors. All dealings with the city of Hamilton and the county of Wentworth were under the different highway acts. I received many deputations from these municipalities, but dealt with all requests absolutely under the statute, and I was never asked by a representative of either Hamilton or Wentworth to do otherwise."

"When I took hold of the department the use of vouchers was sadly neglected," said the ex-minister referring to alleged missing vouchers. "As speedily as the work could be reorganized a system was installed so that every payment would be

covered by a voucher, which the last two or three years of my administration will show.

"I never knew there was such a firm as the Provincial Securities Co. until it was brought out in the public accounts committee last year," declared Mr. Biggs. "I never at any time purchased a bond from the Provincial Securities Co."

Bought Various Kinds.

For the last twelve or fifteen years I have been buying blocks of bonds of various kinds and different amounts. I bought them from different bond firms and from private holders. Among these firms was Browning, Harris & Co. I told the committee last year that I became acquainted with George Harris on Victoria loan campaigns. I was chairman of the municipality. He was organizer for Wentworth county.

"When my holdings of bonds accumulated, instead of having a few coupons of this kind or that kind, with interest falling due on different dates, I generally converted them into a block of one year's bonds. Sometimes I held these blocks, and sometimes I turned them over. At one time I turned over \$10,000 of Ontario 6's for which I got about \$11,000."

Traded For G. T. P.

"About a year and a half ago I converted some small lots into G.T.P. bonds. I think I traded some Borden City hotel. I am saying this from memory. I will have to refresh my memory in order to speak exactly. I do not think I ever owned a city of Winnipeg bond in my life, at least I have no recollection of ever having owned any."

"I do not know how it shows on the Harris' books. I do not know anything about Harris' books. I am not accountable for the Harris' books in any way. I know nothing of their system of bookkeeping."

"I am in a position to give evidence," Mr. Biggs went on. "I don't keep any books myself. I dealt with Harris among other firms."

ERIE—DESTINY

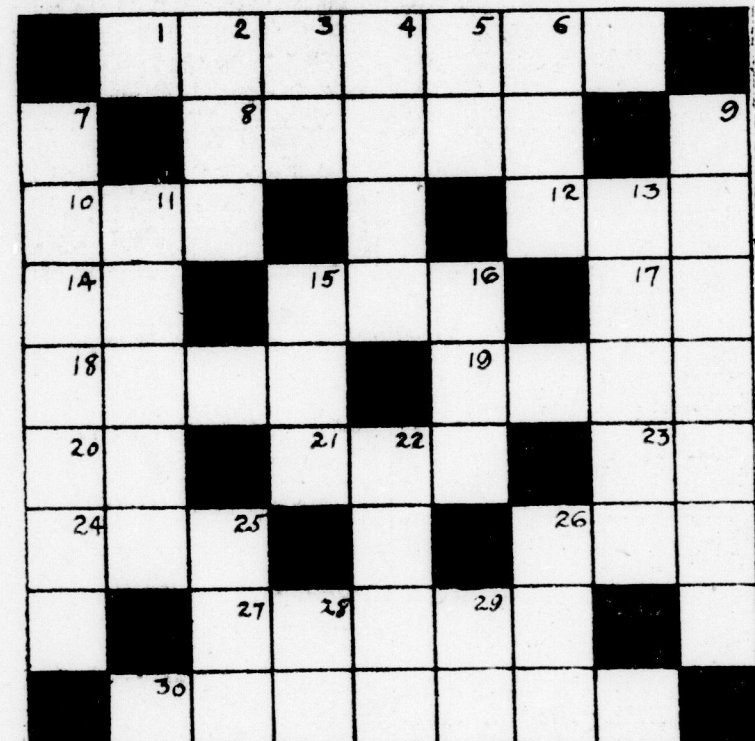
The title of this puzzle is the solution to a word or group of words appearing in this puzzle. Can you find them?

Each word reads from left to right (horizontal) or downward (vertical) according to position. Lettered in correctly, words that cross will interlock. Each number in the white squares also refers to a definition in the accompanying table.

Each definition suggests a word possessing the exact number of letters to fit the white spaces allotted to it.

Each white space is to receive one letter only. Words start only in numbered squares.

THE ADVERTISER'S DAILY CROSS WORD PUZZLE NO. 142.



HORIZONTAL.

- 1 Neither animal nor vegetable.
- 8 To stop for a while.
- 10 A vegetable.
- 12 Organ of hearing.
- 14 Eastern state (abbr.).
- 15 Sorrowful.
- 17 Note of musical scale.

VERTICAL.

- 2 Feminine name.
- 3 Point of compass (abbr.).
- 4 Girl's name.
- 5 Egyptian sun-disk.
- 6 An affirmative vote.
- 7 Seems to be.
- 9 To say you will do.
- 11 Not late.
- 13 Ocean.
- 15 24 hours.
- 16 Mark.
- 18 Adam's wife.
- 19 Japanese coin.
- 20 25 Scotch (abbr.).
- 21 If (French).

SOLUTION TO NO. 141.



GUARD IS BEATEN IN JAIL BATTLE

Desperate Battle in Toronto Prison Ends As Desperate Face Guns.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, March 29.—About 22 prisoners in Toronto jail were involved in an attempt to escape this evening. Guard Thomas Richards was badly beaten and is now in hospital. The other guards had a desperate battle with the prisoners and police reserves were rushed to the jail. None of the prisoners escaped. The ringleaders in the attempted break are said to have been James Moss, undergoing a sentence of from 18 months to 24 months for shop-breaking, and is now in hospital, and a sentence of from six months to two years for auto stealing. They have been isolated by Governor Basher and will appear in police court tomorrow morning on a charge not yet decided.

The governor said he had not yet learned the true story of the affair. It appeared that Richards, guard on the third floor, went to the cell of Moss and Morrison to caution them against making a noise, and when he entered the cell with an iron leg of the cell got. He grappled with his assailant, but was beaten to the floor.

Richards' keys were taken from him by the prisoners, who released other prisoners and a getaway was attempted. Other guards and officers, hearing the commotion, rushed to the third floor and found Richards unconscious. The prisoners were proceeding to the main floor, when they were halted by guns in the hands of jail officers. The prisoners abandoned their attempt and returned to the top floors.

When two carloads of armed police arrived at the jail, the prisoners found on the top story of the jail and the others had retreated to the cells. Moss and Morrison made no resistance when seized by the police. Richards was wrenched from a cell window. Guard Richards is a war veteran, and the injuries to him are as yet undetermined.

TILLSONBURG RESIDENT
BURIED FROM LATE HOME

Special to The Advertiser.

Tillsonburg, March 28.—The funeral of Mrs. Catharine McKenney was held on Friday from her late residence to the town cemetery. It was largely attended by friends from town and district. Rev. W. H. Dunbar of St. John's Anglican church conducted the funeral services. The late Mrs. McKenney was a daughter of Anthony Scott, and was born in Dereham town, where she resided until about six years ago, when she came to Tillsonburg.

Survivors are: Five brothers and five sisters as follows: George Scott of Ostrander, Fred of Medicine Hat, Angus of Dereham, Anthony of Buffalo, Harry of Ostrander, Mrs. Ed. Wright of Northern Ontario, Mrs. Daniel Ellis of Dereham Centre, Mrs. Harvey Raison of Harvey, N.D., Mrs. Lloyd Woolley of Medicine Hat and Mrs. Mabel Empey of Ingersoll.

TEACHERS' ALL EXPENSE TOUR
TO THE PACIFIC COAST, INCLUDING CANADIAN AND AMERICAN NATIONAL PARKS.

A complete thirty-day All-Expense tour is being arranged from Toronto to the North Pacific Coast, special trains leaving Toronto via Canadian National Railways July 9th next.

Westward the party will pass through some of the most important cities of Western Canada—Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Edmonton, stopping over at Jasper National Park, thence to Prince Rupert and via Canadian National Pacific Coast Steamers through the wonderful scenic seas of the North Pacific Coast to Vancouver, returning via Portland, Yellowstone National Park, Salt Lake City and Estes National Park, through Chicago, thence back to Toronto.

The tour is being arranged under the direction of Mr. A. E. Bryson, principal of Silverthorn school, Toronto, and Mr. Martin Kerr, principal of the Earl Kitchener school, Hamilton, Ont. Full information may be secured from Mr. Bryson, 44 Silverthorn avenue, Toronto, June 25th, also from Mr. Kerr, 4 Beulah avenue, Hamilton, Regent 842.

While primarily designed for the benefit of teachers in the province of Ontario, the tour is open to members of the general public and any who care to join the party will be most welcome.—Adv.

Brewing License
For 4.4 \$5,000

Canadian Press Despatch.

Kingston, Ont., March 28.—The Standard says that it has advice that the license to be put upon breweries brewing 4.4 beer will be \$5,000 a year. If this is so then many of the smaller brewing plants will be unable to pay the fee and will be forced out of business. The object of the high fee, apparently is to concentrate the manufacture of beer in the province of Ontario, and thus enable the government to exercise greater supervision and more easily force compliance with the law.

NEW PASTOR HITS PENTECOST SECT

Rev. John H. Slimon Opens New Pastorate at Adelaide Street Baptist Church.

The march of the Pentecostal movement in London and elsewhere in the province was roundly scored by Rev. John H. Slimon, who yesterday opened a new pastorate at Adelaide street Baptist church.

"A belief that salvation and power were to be found by making mental or physical wrecks of people is wrong," he said. "Power is far more likely to be found in quiet communion with God."

Mr. Slimon's advent as pastor of the church was the occasion for large attendance by young and old, members of the Sunday school occupying the gallery at the morning service. The preacher spoke earnest, powerful messages that were listened to with interest.

Without a lengthy program or an extensively new creed to offer, Mr. Slimon's quiet eloquence and the sincerity of his messages, carried a wealth of spiritual weight and offered much promise for the new pastor as a leader of the people.

He has been endowed with a well-toned voice, with some Scottish accents, that gives clarity and conciseness to his messages. His language is friendly and unostentatious, but definite and decided. In a clear-cut way he speaks of the church as a united front against outside forces. But withal he seems a man of keen spiritual thought, an advocate of the power of God above all things.

"A Pastor's Prayer" was Mr. Slimon's subject at the morning service, when he took his text from St. Paul's Epistle to Hebrews, xiii, 20, 21.

"In a great many churches there are disgruntled souls who seem to be set upon causing trouble in the church of God. I believe that even God Himself cannot give peace in such a church. Let us remember that we serve the God of Peace. Make the church a haven of peace for the stranger as well as our own folk. I come to you without knowing your troubles, but I believe that if you are you, I appeal to you, therefore, not to be peddlers of small gossip. We shall be the better for it if we forget the shortcomings of our neighbors in our church life."

Referring to the Pentecostal movement, he said: "Power is the keynote of the Pentecostal movement. But if the power of God is that which it is said to be by those of Pentecostal beliefs, there is something wrong. There is a short circuit in it, some shortcoming of the power of God was ever generated for show."

"It was generated for service. Any-thing that tends to make one a nervous wreck is wrong. If a belief will make a clown out of me is it not wrong?"

And as for the 'gift of tongues' which has been such a fad in London and elsewhere, I have little belief in it. I stand with Paul. I'd sooner speak five words in my own tongue than a hundred in a language that I cannot understand. I challenge any man in this city to show me a case where a person has been given the 'gift of tongues' and has used it to convert the people of a foreign country."

In the evening Mr. Slimon preached on "Life's Restless Artist." Music of the service included invocations, songs of service.

ONTARIO MARRIAGE ACT VALIDITY NOW DOUBTED

Justice Mowat Believes Contested Case Would Prove Law Ultra Vires.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, March 28.—Mr. Justice Mowat of the supreme court of Canada hopes for a "contested case" before the courts to decide the validity of the clause in the Ontario marriage act, permitting judges to declare null and void the marriages of persons under the age of 18, who have married without the consent of their parents. His lordship made this observation today in giving judgment declaring no legal marriage in the case of Dorothy E. Doyle, aged 17, and J. B. Deady, aged 21.

It was sworn before Judge Mowat that the girl did not consent to the marriage and on this ground, among others, the "marriage" was annulled.

Justice Mowat intimated that there had been some question as to whether the clause in the Ontario marriage act was not ultra vires of the province.

STRATHROY MINSTRELS
MEET MUCH SUCCESS

Special to The Advertiser.

Strathroy, March 28.—The Strathroy junior athletic club minstrels drew a capacity house Thursday, when they repeated the performance by request. This is their third appearance locally, after successful showings in Watford and Mount Brydges, the boys had so improved that all present last evening declared it to be the best performance yet.

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For Half a Century
Successful Treatment

Dr. CHASE'S
OINTMENT

The better a product is—the sooner you'll see it in an advertisement.

PETROLIA HYDRO WRECKED IN BLAST

Overheated Transformer Causes Fire, Resulting in Total Loss of Equipment.

Special to The Advertiser.

Petrolia, March 29.—Local hydro power plant was almost totally destroyed this morning, when an overheated transformer exploded, causing the building to become ignited. The doors were blown off and roof and walls of the brick building were torn open by the explosion. All its equipment, wiring, bus bars, switches and one transformer were utterly destroyed by fire.

Prompt action by local officials were responsible for temporary fixtures that allowed the hydro to be turned on early this evening. Gangs were summoned from Chatham and London, and they worked untiringly throughout the day.

The old plant will have to be replaced, stated Mr. Scamper, local hydro manager, tonight, and the damages will amount to several thousand dollars. Some churches hearing that the hydro would not be on this evening held their vesper services this afternoon. It will be several weeks before the lights will be back to normal, for only two transformers are available for use, due to the effect of recent thunderstorms.

PRINCE IS SAILING
OVER SUNNY SEAS

Wales Cheered by Dense Crowds As He Sets Sail From Portsmouth.

Associated Press Despatch.

On Board H.M.S. Repulse, March 29.—The Prince of Wales was greeted today with warm, sunny weather and a smooth sea as the battle cruiser Repulse ploughed its way through the Bay of Biscay, headed for South Africa.

Yesterday, shortly after the cruiser left Portsmouth for the trip to South Africa and South America, the Prince underwent typhoid inoculation. He gallantly led a band of volunteers who took the inoculation on the recommendation of the ship's doctor.

The Prince intends to enjoy a thorough rest before the arrival of the cruiser at Bathurst on the west coast of Africa on April 4.

The tour of the Prince of Wales has so far been blessed with calm weather. After dinner last night the Prince and his entourage were entertained by a motion-picture film featuring the overhauling of the Repulse for the Prince's trip. One incident in the film caused amusement. A junior officer, not knowing the film was being filmed, walked up behind the captain who was posing. Realizing his mistake the junior officer turned and fled, but was recalled by the captain, with whom he had a brief interview.

The prince appeared thoroughly to enjoy the incident. Wales and his party sailed at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon from Portsmouth.

The great battle cruiser, with the prince and his suite on board, was towed from her dock at that hour, and a few minutes later under her own steam sailed out of the harbor escorted by two destroyers.

Dense crowds cheered the prince all the way from his residence, St. James' Palace, to Victoria station, shouting, "Safe voyage and a safe return."

Many distinguished persons were present at the station to pay their respects and wish the royal traveller good luck. These included Premier Baldwin, Lord Beatty, the Argentine and Uruguayan ministers, the Chilean charge d'affaires and J. S. Smit, high commissioner for South Africa in London.

BEER IS SPURNED
BY CHAIN STORES

Several Grocery Firms Refuse To Handle Drink Despite Law.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, March 28.—The big chain grocery store concerns operating in Toronto announce that they will not handle the new 4.4 per cent beer sold to be placed on the market. One of the largest mentions their lack of a delivery system as the chief reason for passing up the business, while another shies at the trouble of looking after the empties. One of the big concerns interviewed by a local paper today is passing up the business on moral grounds.

"If I Had
Only Known—"

TWO women went out to buy a certain expensive labor-saving device for the home.

One was greatly disappointed when, a few days later, they compared notes. She had bought the same product that many of her friends had owned.

The other woman had secured a greatly improved, new product—costing less, but of much more value.

"If I had only known there was a better one," the first woman said, "I would never have bought this old one."

"I had just read about it in an advertisement," explained the wise buyer.

Every day you miss good news of an improvement in different articles of merchandise—unless you read the advertisements. They tell you of practically every worth-while invention—of every progress from the old to the new.

Read the advertisements—regularly. Know all about the thing you are going to buy before you buy it. It will save you disappointment, money and time.

For Half a Century
Successful Treatment

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The better a product is—the sooner you'll see it in an advertisement.

To Sleep To-night Use
RAZ-MAH
for ASTHMA

No Smoke—No Sprays—No Snuff
Just swallow a RAZ-MAH Capsule
RAZ-MAH is guaranteed to restore normal breathing, stop mucus gatherings in the bronchial tubes, give long nights of quiet sleep; contains no habit-forming drug. Druggist will refund your money if \$1 box does not bring relief.

Use RAZ-MAH for Head and Bronchial Colds
Generous sample for 5c. in stamps
TEMPLETONS, 122 King Street W., Toronto

**EXHAUSTED WOMEN
QUICKLY RESTORED**

COUNTLESS thousands of women must work day after day in their homes, in offices and stores who are really unfit for their tasks. With bodies exhausted and nerves overstrained, they must get through each day by will power alone.

Such women should not be content to drag on, making their sacrifices of health, strength and even happiness. They should begin at once the upbuilding of their bodies.

Weakened bodies can quickly be restored. Amazing improvement often is shown in just a few days. Signs of returning vitality soon appear.

Wincarnis gives to wasted bodies the very elements they must have to be nourished back to vigor. For fifty years this strength-giver has reinvigorated weak, nervous, exhausted men and women. If you are lacking in strength and your vitality is falling, go to your druggist today, obtain a bottle of Wincarnis and begin the safe Wincarnis treatment.

Wincarnis is an effective tonic that only three tablespoonfuls a day need be taken. Try Wincarnis at once and see the difference just a few days will bring.

WINCARNIS
Coleman & Company, "Canada" Ltd., 47 Portland St., Toronto.

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The better a product is—the sooner you'll see it in an advertisement.

Cuticura Soap
Best for Baby

Sample Soap, Ointment, Talcum Free. Address Canadian Depot: "Outlines," P. O. Box 2816, Montreal.

**PETROLIA CANNING PLANT
TO OPERATE ON BIG SCALE**

Special to The Advertiser.

Petrolia, March 29.—The Lambton Packing Company intends to operate its factory on a large scale this summer, according to the amount of acreage the firm is advertising for. Three hundred acres of peas and 400 acres of corn will be the acreage this year. If the weather continues as at present seeding will begin about the middle of April.

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