

## L. P. BERNARD IN WITNESS BOX AT QUEBEC INQUIRY

Was Under Crossfire of Questions For Some Time.

### INTERVIEWS OVERHEARD

Stenographer Says Mousseau Promised to Rush the Bill Through and Got \$500.

Quebec, Feb. 4.—After being successful in getting called to the witness stand, L. P. Bernard, one of the three legislators accused by the Montreal Daily Mail of accepting bribes in connection with the passing of the Montreal Fair Association Bill, L. T. Marchal, counsel for the Mail, was compelled this morning to face a determined attempt by Alne Geoffrion, K. C., counsel for Mr. Bernard, to prevent his being compelled by the legislative committee of inquiry from answering certain questions.

The witnesses present included Guy B. Biddinger, the Burns detective, who, with S. C. Malone, heard last night, invented the trap into which the legislators have been accused of falling.

G. Keys, stenographer for the Burns Detective Agency, employed on the case, described the telephone conversations between "Mr. Sampson," "Mr. Hyland" and Mr. Mousseau heard by him. He swore that he had never doubted the accuracy of evidence received in this way. Mr. Keys then gave reports of interviews overheard, not mentioned by Edward Beck in his evidence. The first took place in Room 369, at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, on Dec. 3, between Mr. Mousseau and Mr. Biddinger, the latter being known as "Hyland."

Could Rush Bill Through. Mr. Mousseau had said that he could elect four or five good men on the majority side of the House, and one or two on the other side, to rush the bill through. He said Mr. Bernard would be useful in the Upper House, as he was a friend of the Premier and would never have been appointed had it not been for that friendship. Mr. Biddinger then gave Mr. Mousseau \$500. Mr. Mousseau acknowledged receiving \$500 from Mr. Sampson or Malone. Mr. Mousseau promised to distribute the money.

Should Be Photographed. At the outset this morning, L. T. Marchal formally offered to operate the photograph for the benefit of the inquiry into the Montreal Daily Mail graft charges.

Hon. L. T. Marchal, chairman of the committee, said his conferees and himself would be glad to see the instrument demonstrated.

After Armand Legerne, the Nationalist member of the committee, had asked what was to be done in regard to the proposed appearance of Achille Bergevin and L. P. Bernard, Mr. Tassebevin said he would allow Mr. Bernard to appear to answer questions.

Berard Called. Mr. Bernard then called Mr. Bernard, and asked him if he had met Mr. Mousseau during the session of the Legislature. Mr. Bernard said he had met Mr. Mousseau—Did you meet Mr. Sampson?

Mr. Bernard—I decline to answer that question on advice of counsel. Mr. Marchal—Meeting a man is not a criminal action. Would you say whether you met Mr. Sampson in Montreal?

Mr. Bernard—I decline to answer. Mr. Marchal—Did you receive \$500 from Mr. Hyland?

Mr. Bernard again declined to answer. Mr. Marchal—If you did get the money what did you do with it?

Objections Raised. Mr. N. K. Lafontaine, who represented Mr. Mousseau, objected to the question. He said Mr. Marchal was asking the same question in different ways, in an attempt to catch the witness. He had refused to answer and the committee should decide whether he should do so or not.

Mr. Marchal read the law in regard to evidence given before the committee and of the House, and argued that the (Continued on page 11.)

### THE WEATHER.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London for the 12 hours preceding 8 a.m. today: Highest, 4; lowest, 28.

The official temperature for today: Highest, 35; lowest, 17.

TOMORROW—MUCH COLDER. Toronto, Feb. 4, 8 a.m.—Forecasts. Fresh west to north winds, some light snowfalls and flurries, but mostly fair. Much colder tonight and on Thursday.

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

| Station     | High | Low | Weather |
|-------------|------|-----|---------|
| Victoria    | 38   | 28  | Cloudy  |
| Ottawa      | 38   | 28  | Snow    |
| Winnipeg    | 38   | 28  | Cloudy  |
| Port Arthur | 38   | 28  | Clear   |
| Parry Sound | 40   | 30  | Snow    |
| Toronto     | 40   | 28  | Clear   |
| Ottawa      | 40   | 28  | Cloudy  |
| Montreal    | 40   | 32  | Cloudy  |
| Quebec      | 40   | 32  | Snow    |
| Thunder Bay | 40   | 32  | Cloudy  |

(—) Minus, below zero.

Weather Notes. A depression which formed during the night in the lower lake region now covers the St. Lawrence Valley, while the western and northern cold wave continues to increase. Light rain or snow has fallen from Ontario to the Maritime provinces, and light snow has occurred at a few points in the West.

## Commanding Officer Who is to Retire From 7th Regiment

LIEUT.-COL. A. A. CAMPBELL.

## IS APPARENTLY NO FEVERISH DESIRE TO ENFORCE A BYLAW

Officials Unwilling to Tackle Vague Provisions of Smoke Nuisance Prevention Regulations.

There does not seem to be any feverish desire upon the part of public officials to enforce the anti-smoke bylaw passed in 1909, although Ald. H. H. Myrland, of Montreal, called the attention of the city council to the matter.

In many parts of the city are heard complaints against the smoke nuisance, and only Monday night, Robert Kilgour told the council that the smoke from 380 houses in the vicinity of the city hall was causing a nuisance.

The weakest point in the bylaw seems to be the provision regarding the method of its enforcement. No prosecution may be commenced until at least 30 days' notice in writing has been given by the municipality to the person to be proceeded against.

According to this clause, a manufacturer might allow smoke to issue from his plant in objectionable quantities for five months and then, at the end of 30 days' notice, take steps to choke it off. If then summoned to court, he could point to the fact that his plant was not causing a nuisance. In this way, the bylaw is very ineffective.

When it is considered that the bylaw is to prevent the emission of the atmosphere of opaque or dense smoke for a period of more than six minutes in any hour, from any premises, ovens or furnaces, or the manufacture of cement, or the manufacture of steam, and that it includes railroad engines, the difficulty of carrying out the provisions of such a measure is apparent.

The bylaw does not apply to any furnace or fire used in connection with the production, refinement or smelting of ores or minerals, or the manufacture of cement, or to private dwelling houses, except they be apartment houses of a greater height than three stories and basement.

The penalty for violation of the bylaw is a fine not exceeding \$50 for each offence, and in default of payment of goods and chattels of the offender. In the event of there being no distress, a jail sentence, not to exceed twenty-one days, may be imposed.

At the same time a diamond and sapphire pendant and a silver tea service were presented to Mrs. Inch. The lord mayor and William Marchal, the wireless inventor, delivered eulogistic speeches, in reply to which Captain Inch modestly disclaimed having done anything but his duty.

At a session of the standing committee of the retailers' section last night it was decided to call a meeting for Tuesday evening next, when the matter will be fully discussed and a recommendation made to the full board, along these lines.

It is pointed out that London merchants each year lose many thousands of dollars through the cheap excursions to Detroit, when scores of citizens avail themselves of the reduced rates to slip down to the border city, where they are kept at hotels. The retailers argue that the merchants are the heaviest taxpayers and chiefly responsible for the progress, commercial and otherwise, of London, and feel that trade should be kept at home.

It is likely providing the board of trade accepts the recommendation, that representatives will be sent to the annual meeting of the passenger agents, to press the claims of the retailers.

The Travellers' Club has taken up the matter also, and urged upon the board of trade the necessity of making some move to keep the buyers in London.

TO INSTALL MAMMOTH PURIFIER AT FIELDS. Tilbury Natural Gas To Be Delivered to Municipalities Purified.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Brantford, Feb. 4.—The pleasing announcement was made today at a meeting of the directors of the Brantford Gas Company that steps were being taken to install a mammoth gas purifier at the Tilbury natural gas fields, which it is expected will do away with all complaints about the objectionable smell from the gas at points of delivery. The difficulty was partly overcome in Brantford by the installation of a local purifier, but this was not large enough to handle the entire supply when the demand on the gas is heavy, and consequently all cause for complaint was not removed. There was talk of further action against the Brantford Gas Company, but with the announcement that a purifier large enough to handle the total output is to be installed at the fields, no further action will be taken in the meantime. The announcement will be welcome news in Galt, Paris, Woodstock and other places which receive their natural gas supply from Tilbury. Hamilton is also getting a considerable amount of the objectionable gas, but it is being used there for manufacturing purposes only.

OCEAN STEAMSHIPS. New York, Feb. 4.—Arrived: Steamer America. New York, Feb. 4.—Steamer Lusitania. Liverpool for New York, 1,470 miles east that duration by the street railway men.

STREET CAR DELAYS. Lost Time Through Richmond Street Level Crossing.

Yesterday's street railway delays caused by the blockade of the Richmond street level crossing of the Grand Trunk were as follows:

| Line       | Duration       | Time Lost |
|------------|----------------|-----------|
| Oxford     | 3:52—3:58 p.m. | 6 min.    |
| Oxford     | 6:42—6:47 a.m. | 14 min.   |
| Oxford     | 3:48—3:57 p.m. | 14 min.   |
| Oxford     | 3:49—3:58 p.m. | 9 min.    |
| Wellington | 6:19—6:20 a.m. | 11 min.   |
| Wellington | 3:52—3:59 p.m. | 7 min.    |
| Wellington | 3:50—4:00 p.m. | 10 min.   |
| Wellington | 3:44—3:47 p.m. | 3 min.    |
| Wellington | 3:48—3:57 p.m. | 9 min.    |
| Ridout     | 3:45—3:58 p.m. | 13 min.   |
| Ridout     | 2:54—2:58 p.m. | 4 min.    |
| Ridout     | 3:40—3:48 p.m. | 8 min.    |
| Ottawa N   | 8:12—8:20 a.m. | 8 min.    |
| Ottawa S   | 3:56—4:05 p.m. | 7 min.    |
| Ottawa N   | 3:40—3:55 p.m. | 15 min.   |
| Ottawa N   | 8:18—8:22 p.m. | 4 min.    |
| Normal     | 6:50—6:55 p.m. | 5 min.    |

Nothing under 3 minutes is submitted in the above report, nor is any record made of delays of less than that duration by the street railway men.

Rate War Brings Steamer Schedule Down to \$22.

Montreal, Feb. 2.—The White Star Line today announced a further cut in steamship rates, the second made within a week. This is regarded as an answer to the latest move by the Hamburg-American Company, which gave out a cut to \$25. On Sunday the White Star cut its rates to \$22. The next move is up to the German company, over which the White Star has the advantage, which the Hamburg-American men say that the book-keeping, owing to the time of the year, is slow, but they admit that the rate war precipitated by the Hamburg-American may affect seriously the early spring traffic. So far it is not believed that first or second cabin rates will be reduced, though this admittedly is a possible development of the rate war.

E. C. MITCHELL, ILL. Acting President E. C. Mitchell, of the London Board of Trade, has been in- disposed, and confined to his residence for a couple of days, but is reported to be progressing favorably.

## MAJOR H. C. BECHER TO SUCCEED TO THE SEVENTH COMMAND

Will Get Advance in Rank As Result of Lieut.-Col. Campbell's Resignation.

CAPT. SPITAL FOR MAJOR Will Become Senior Field Officer, With Capt. Little as Junior Major.

Important changes in the officership of the Seventh Regiment are pending, according to authoritative information received today. Lieut.-Col. A. A. Campbell is to retire from the command of the regiment, and Major H. C. Becher, now senior major of the regiment, will in all probability succeed him in the rank of Lieut.-Col. Capt. William Spittal is to succeed to the rank of senior major, with Capt. A. T. Little as junior major.

The annual meeting of the regiment takes place the last week in this month, and it is understood that the above changes will be made public then. Lieut.-Col. Campbell's term expires in May, and his successor will probably take command about the first of that month. Annual spring drill is expected to begin in March, and for the first time the regiment will be uniformed in khaki, which hereafter will compose the regular service uniform of the regiment. The official establishment of the regiment has been increased to 540, an increase of 150 over the present strength, and provision has been made for this number. The uniforms are now being placed in store, and will be issued shortly. The scarlet tunics and breeches will still be maintained for ceremonial work, and a complete new issue of tunics is also among the changes promised.

F. J. KUEHNE, wireless operator, who gave his lifebelt to a woman and a month later slipped on the icy dock, fell into the sea and was drowned.

WILL APPEAL FOR DISCONTINUANCE OF CHEAP FARES. Board of Trade Retail Section To Fight Against the Detroit Excursions.

During the year, 56,550 feet of hydrant hose, 8,000 feet of chemical hose, 2,310 feet of ladders, and 1,833 gallons of chemicals were used, and the department travelled 1,361 miles. There were eleven accidents to the men, none of which, however, being of a very serious nature.

The chief recommended the appointment of additional hose, besides a motor tractor to draw the hose, and in order to have a ladder in some portions of the business sections.

Chief Aitken pointed out the necessity of remodeling No. 2 fire hall and quarters in this city. This morning, J. C. Duffield, of the company, refused to either confirm or deny the rumor.

"We are not in a position to make a statement yet," said the advertiser. From authoritative sources it is learned, however, that the negotiations are practically completed.

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## FIREMEN TO GET ONE DAY OFF IN EVERY SIX NOW

Controllers Recommend Addition of Two More Men to the Department.

CHIEF'S ANNUAL REPORT Asks For More Motor Apparatus and Alterations to Hall.

The board of control this morning decided to recommend the appointment of two additional firemen, in order to give the men one day off in six, instead of one in seven days as at present. There are forty men in the department at the present time, although the ratio in most cities is one for every thousand of population. At this rate, London's department is undermanned to a considerable extent.

In Hamilton, the men get one day off in six and in Toronto, one in five, and Fire Chief John Aitken told the controllers this morning that he quite agreed with the request of the men to allow them a little more time to spend at home with their families.

The chief presented his annual report, showing 193 alarms during the year, 31 of these being false. The most serious fires were at Beck's box factory, Johnston & Murray's shoe store, the Western Fair buildings, and at the plant of the Ontario Spring, Bed and Mattress Company.

As near as the chief could ascertain there was a total loss on buildings of \$50,132.65 and on contents, of \$2,801.89, making a grand total of \$112,934.54. The total insurance on buildings and contents was \$1,108,470.

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