

BENNETT'S WOULD BUY ENTIRE SMALL INTERESTS IN CANADA

Company Approach Theatrical Magnate on Matter, But Negotiations Have Not Been Opened—Canadian Circuit Included.

It was stated today that the Bennett Theatrical Enterprises Company, of this city, has made an offer to A. J. Small, the Toronto theatrical magnate, to buy out his entire circuit in the Dominion of Canada.

The statement was further made that the Bennett people had offered Mr. Small the sum of \$1,600,000 for the circuit and its connections, and that the offer, having been refused, was later increased to the sum of \$1,250,000.

THE HOUSES INVOLVED.

The theaters affected would be the Grand and Toronto Opera Houses in Toronto, the Grand in Hamilton, the Grand in Ottawa, the Grand in London and the Grand in Kingston.

All these houses are owned by Mr. Small.

In addition, Mr. Small controls the bookings of practically every theater between Windsor and Toronto, excepting, of course, the vaudeville theaters, which are controlled by the Bennett people in London and Ottawa, the Savoy in Hamilton, and the Shea house in Toronto.

There are also two dramatic houses in Toronto not controlled by Mr. Small.

DIDN'T GET DOWN TO FIGURES.

General Manager C. W. Bennett, of the Bennett Theatrical Enterprises, was seen in his office today by The Advertiser in regard to the report.

"It is not true that we reached that point where we got down to figures," Mr. Bennett said. "It is quite true, nevertheless, that we have approached Mr. Small on the subject. We have made the offer to him that any time he is willing to sell we will buy out his entire circuit at a fair valuation. Thus far Mr. Small has not seen fit to accept our offer."

CANADA TO JOIN EAST AND WEST FAST SHIPS ON BOTH COASTS

Twenty-Four-Knot Service to Britain an Imperial Project.

London, April 30.—A recent Canadian Associated Press cable stated that an important announcement with regard to a fast steamship line from England to Canada would be made before Sir Wilfrid Laurier returned to Canada. The Canadian Associated Press today has undoubtedly authority to state that the service, which has been so long in contemplation, will in the very near future be an accomplished fact. It is stated that there is to be a 24-knot service across the Atlantic and a fast service to the Pacific, cutting down the time to such an extent that the route will practically command business. It is regarded as the greatest imperial subject approached for many years, making as it does the mother country and Canada the world's thoroughfare to the east. It is very well understood here that Lord Strathcona and Hon. Clifford Sifton have devoted a great deal of time and consideration to the matter, and will probably, if an agreement is reached, take the making of the necessary arrangements to carry the enterprise into effect. There will be no more need of addressing letters to Canada via New York. It is believed that the project will have the endorsement of the conference. It will no doubt involve a heavy subsidy from Canada, and Great Britain will probably participate equally.

A RECORD MONTH

London Clearing House Returns for April Neared \$6,000,000 Mark.

April was a record month for the London clearing house. The report issued today shows that the clearings amounted to \$5,925,393, a weekly average of \$1,481,348.

The total clearings for April, 1906, were \$4,377,974, showing an increase for the month ended today of \$1,547,419, a weekly average of \$386,855.

ATTEMPT TO KILL CABRERA

Chief Executive of Guatemala Has Narrow Escape From Assassination.

Guatemala City, Guatemala, April 29.—An attempt was made today on the life of President Estrada Cabrera. While out driving, a dynamite bomb was exploded near his carriage, killing the horses and wounding General Ornelana, the chief of staff. The calmness of the President, who was not injured, is universally commended, and the would-be assassins are condemned on all sides.

GROUND TO SAVE SHIP

Small Port Huron Steamer Narrowly Escapes Foundering.

Port Huron, Mich., April 30.—The small passenger steamer Pilgrim, carrying four passengers and a crew of 26 people, was run ashore last night near the life-saving station, to save her from foundering. The crew and passengers were safely landed by the life-saving crew.



MAYOR SCHMITZ, of San Francisco, Reported That He Is Ready to Confess to Gigantic Grafting.

CRASHED INTO SIDE OF WAY FREIGHT

Accident in East End Yards of Grand Trunk—Trainmen Escape Injury.

An accident which involved the loss of \$200 or \$300 occurred last evening about 8 o'clock in the east end yards of the Grand Trunk.

The way freight from the east was pulling into the yards, when a number of cars which were being brought out of a siding by a yard engine crashed into the side of the train.

The sides of two or three cars on the way freight were torn out and the contents of the cars damaged, while the cars attached to the yard engine also suffered injury.

The accident, however, was not attended by injury to any of the trainmen. The auxiliary was called out and had the track cleared in a short time. Neither east nor west bound traffic was delayed in the slightest by the mishap.

FOUR DAYS ENTOMBED TELL MATES ARE ALIVE

Great Effort Being Made to Rescue Coal Miners.

Johnstown, Pa., April 30.—"Still alive" is the report brought to the surface this morning by the rescuing party that have been trying to reach the seven men who have been imprisoned in the Berwyn-White mine at Foustwell since Friday last, by a rush of water that filled all the headings of the mines. The men have been able to make known that they were not drowned by tapping on compressed air pipes, signals that but renewed the vigor of the men working at pumps to empty the mine sufficiently to enable the men to be brought out.

GRAND TRUNK LOSES IN DUMP CAR APPEAL

Divisional Court Upholds the Decision of Mr. Justice Clute.

Toronto, April 30.—The divisional court this morning upheld the judgment of Mr. Justice Clute at London, in the case of John Griffiths, of Chicago, against the Grand Trunk Railway. Griffiths was a contractor and was doing some work for the railway, which got hold of 32 of his dump cars and kept them for a considerable period. Griffiths sued for damages and was allowed \$7,200. The company appealed unsuccessfully.

A CONSERVATIVE TOUR

Montreal, April 30.—The Conservative organization is arranging for a speaking tour of the provinces during the coming summer, and it is planned to have a series of meetings in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, which will be addressed by Mr. R. L. Borden, the Conservative leader, and other prominent speakers.

BETRAYED BY HER HUSBAND NOTED WOMAN RED SUICIDES

Russ Revolutionists Bury Mme. Baradina With Great Honors.

St. Petersburg, April 30.—The funeral today of Mme. Madzhda Baradina, a well-known revolutionist, who committed suicide abroad, aroused the greatest interest in revolutionary circles on account of her romantic history. Mme. Baradina was the daughter of a rich manufacturer of good social position, and left her home to engage in the revolutionary propaganda. She was sent to Kiev, where she was arrested and imprisoned for two years, being released in October, 1905, on condition that she went abroad, where she met M. Baradina, who was known as an energetic member of the organization, and married him. A few days ago Mme. Baradina suddenly opened a letter showing that her husband was a traitor who had successfully planned the arrest of an important group of revolutionists and even, proposed to bring his wife back to Russia in order to deliver her into the hands of the police. The police advised him to open the letter step in order to avert suspicion. Mme. Baradina after reading the letter took poison. Her body was brought to St. Petersburg, and was interred here today, the coffin being buried under wreaths of crimson flowers.

DEATH OF MR. FRED COX

Second Son of Senator Cox Passes Away at Toronto.

Toronto, April 29.—Mr. Frederick Cox, managing director of the Imperial Life Assurance Company, and vice-president of the Central Canada Loan Company, passed away tonight, with pneumonia. The late Mr. Cox was born in Peterboro 40 years ago and was the second son of Senator Cox. At an early age he entered business life and his rise was rapid.

He is survived by Mrs. Cox, who is a daughter of Mr. L. H. Swan, of Woodstock, Ont.

A COURTEOUS KING

Rome, April 30.—King Edward, while passing outside of Rome on his way to London today, was met by King Victor Emmanuel at a country station. Their majesties remained in conversation for about fifteen minutes. The courteous action of the Italian king in leaving Rome to say good-bye to the British ruler is considered to be further evidence of the cordial feelings existing between the two kings, and a desire to emphasize the good relations between these two countries.

MINERS' STRIKE ALMOST SETTLED

Govt. Brings About an Agreement Between Operators and Leaders.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, April 30.—Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, Minister of Labor, has received a very satisfactory telegram from Mr. Mackenzie King, the deputy minister of labor, who is now at Fernie, B. C., endeavoring to settle the labor troubles in that and surrounding districts. The telegram was sent last evening and is as follows:

"Fernie, B. C., April 29.—Am pleased to be able to inform you that as the result of negotiations between the parties during the past two or three days, the outstanding points of an agreement have been so adjusted through conciliation to make it acceptable to the operators of the seven companies comprising the Western Coal Operators' Association and to the district executive board of the United Mine Workers' Association.

"The district executive have agreed to strongly recommend this agreement for acceptance by the men at all the mines. A referendum vote will be taken on Thursday of this week. In the meantime the sittings of the board of conciliation and investigation which were to have commenced tomorrow, will stand adjourned. (Signed) W. L. Mackenzie King."

KING LEOPOLD BLUFFS TO TRICK PARLIAMENT

Offering of Congo Free State to France Probably a Feint.

Paris, April 30.—King Leopold's visit to Paris in a moment of political crisis in Belgium, and his majesty's lengthy conferences yesterday with President Faillieres, Minister of Foreign Affairs Poincaré and Premier Clemenceau, has given rise to considerable gossip and speculation.

The prevailing impression appears to be that the King intends to make a feint by offering the Congo Free State to France, for the purpose of coercing the Belgian Parliament into complying with his wishes.

C. P. R. SHOP'S CLOSE DOWN

Caused by Shortage of Coal at Winnipeg—Early Resumption Expected

Winnipeg, April 29.—The C. P. R. shops here have closed down for want of coal. An early resumption of work is expected.

7th Band Makes Its Debut; Scores Hit at Armories

SOUTHERN TOWN FIRESWEPT

Eighteen Buildings in Leesville, Louisiana, Destroyed at Great Loss.

Leesville, La., April 30.—Fire started today in the Regal Hotel, and spread rapidly, destroying eighteen buildings, in which were located 25 firms, including the First National Bank and the Leesville National Bank. Loss estimated at \$100,000 with insurance of about \$50,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

PREMIER BARON PASSES

London, April 30.—Baron De Ros, Premier, Baron of England and colonel of the First Life Guards, died on his Irish estate, Old Court, Strangford, County Down, last night. He was the twenty-fourth baron of that name, and was born at Brighton in 1827, and succeeded his father in 1874.

THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—FAIR AND M.L.D. FORECASTS.

Toronto, April 30.—8 a.m. Today—Fresh to strong northerly to northwesterly winds; cloudy, with showers of rain or sleet.

Wednesday—Westerly winds; fair and becoming milder.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Calgary	30	26	Fair
Winnipeg	34	30	Clear
Port Arthur	26	18	Clear
Perry Sound	26	26	Snow
Toronto	42	42	Rain
Ottawa	36	36	Rain
Montreal	42	42	Rain
Quebec	42	42	Rain
Father Point	34	30	Rain

The first column in the above table records the temperatures at 8 o'clock this morning, and the second column records the minimum temperatures during the 24 hours previous.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Monday were: Highest, 59.2°; lowest, 45° above.

WEATHER NOTES.

The weather is now much warmer in the Western Provinces, but has become cold and wet again in Ontario and Quebec, and snow is falling in the northern districts.

Will Not Mean Unfiltered Water for Use of Streets

Rhodes' Dream

London, April 30.—The Standard this morning says that among the aspirations in the will of Cecil Rhodes, to which Earl Grey, Governor-General of Canada, referred in his speech at the national arbitration and peace congress banquet in New York April 17, were the ultimate recovery of the United States by Great Britain, British occupation of the whole of Africa, and South America, and of the seaboard of China and Japan.

FRISCO'S MAYOR WOULD CONFESS

Scared by Vigor of Prosecution in Celebrated Graft Cases.

San Francisco, April 29.—Mayor Schmitz, indicted mayor of his city, frightened by the vigor of his prosecutors, has filed his application for immunity. It is under consideration, but the well-informed do not believe it will be accepted, as both Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Heney and Riddolph Spreckles, head of the anti-graft movement, are determined to convict Schmitz and send him to prison.

Schmitz offers to: Resign his office of mayor of San Francisco. Make a full confession to the grand jury of everything he knows about municipal graft. Join the ranks of the reformers.

STRIKING CABDRIVERS READY TO ARBITRATE

Willing to Return to Work on Conditions Prevailing Before Lockout.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Toronto, April 30.—The striking cabdrivers propose returning to work tomorrow morning on the conditions prevailing before the lockout, leaving settlement of the dispute to Judge Winchester. He is to be sole arbitrator. Livery owners have made no reply to the proposition and decline to make a statement. It is not likely owners will recognize the union, but may grant increased wages.

Bandmaster Slater Has Now a Magnificent Organization—Regiment's Weekly Drill.

Londoners should take off their hats to Bandmaster Slater, who came here a few months ago from England, and in a very short time has given the city a band it may well feel proud of.

In the armories last night the Seventh Regiment paraded for its weekly drill, and during a fifteen-minute intermission the new band made its debut to Londoners.

The night was wet and uninviting, but nevertheless there was a large number of ladies and gentlemen in the galleries when the regiment went on parade.

The maneuvers were watched with the greatest interest, as the men, under command of Capt. Reid, and later commanded by Adjutant McCrimmon, were moved about on the big floor, oiled and marked off in squares, below.

But great as was the interest taken in the regiment, it was the band the people had come out to see and hear. Expectancy was in the air, for it had been rumored that Bandmaster Slater and his men would surprise even the most critical of Londoners. Consequently, when the regiment laid their arms with a clatter on the floor, and marched off for intermission, all eyes were turned on the band quarters.

In a few seconds Bandmaster Slater and 26 men marched across to the other side of the armories and took up a position in a circle.

A Real Band.

With a wave of his baton the bandmaster brought the musicians to attention, and with another wave the music was brought out with a flourish and sympathy, which worked the audience up to the highest pitch of appreciation, and at its conclusion a mighty cheer reverberated through the armories.

Bandmaster Slater, after months of tedious work, after numerous disappointments, had cast his lot and won. He had proven to the people (Continued on Page Ten.)

PREMIERS TODAY TALK PREFERENCE

It Is Expected Australia and Cape Colony Will Press Resolutions.

London, April 30.—The Imperial conference will open the discussion on the preference today. It is stated that the premiers from Australia and Cape Colony will press their resolutions with vigor, while Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Botherell will take the line that it is not for the colonies to dictate the policy of the Imperial government any more than for the latter to dictate the policy of the colonies. The Imperial government will, of course, adopt a non-possessum attitude. The debate will probably extend over more than one sitting, in fact it is anticipated that at the present rate of progress the conference cannot conclude before another fortnight elapses. The keenest interest continues to be manifested in the question here, and appeals are being made from all quarters for publicity.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has written to the secretary of the Empire League expressing his appreciation of its work in connection with the reduction of postal rates.

The Duke of Sutherland, as president of the Tariff Reform League, gave a reception to the premiers at Stafford House yesterday. All the premiers and ministers were present, and there was a great number of invited guests. The Earl and Countess of Derby also entertained them to dinner.

The freedom of the city will be presented to Sir Robert Borden on Wednesday morning at the Guildhall. The Duke of Connaught gave a private luncheon to the premiers and ladies at Clarence House at St. James' Palace. Later a reception was held, at which a large number were present.

HEAVY DEATH RATE FOR THIS MONTH

List Shows Big Increase Over April, 1906—Marriages Were More Numerous.

According to vital statistics for the month of April, compiled by City Clerk Baker, there were 21 more deaths in London than in the same month of a year ago.

Against this big death rate, there was one birth less in April, 1907, than in April, 1906.

The month about to close was a great one for marriages, there being 32 more than in April of a year ago.

The following are the figures for the month in both years:

	1907	1906
Births	69	70
Deaths	56	24
Marriages	72	51

It is a remarkable fact that amongst the deaths in April this year those of three persons above the age of 90 were recorded.

There were nine deaths of persons between the ages of 80 and 90, and there were 22 deaths of persons between the ages of 50 and 85, the latter being the greatest age recorded.

Six people died of heart failure, 6 of consumption, 6 of pneumonia, 2 of Bright's disease, 2 of cerebral spinal meningitis, 2 of paralysis, 1 of blood poisoning, 2 of cancer, and 2 died as the result of accidents.

Too Eager to Work

Young Windsor Man Dies Suddenly From Heart Failure.

Detroit, April 29.—Because he was so anxious to go to work Henry K. Barnes, who resided at the corner of Chatham and Goyeau streets, Windsor, left his bed too soon after an illness from typhoid fever and died from heart failure. He was around the house Saturday and Sunday morning dressed and told his mother what he would like to eat for breakfast. A few minutes after he returned to his room and was found dead by his brother.

The deceased was 22 years old and was employed by the C. P. R. in Windsor. He was a member of the Twenty-first Essex regiment. His funeral this afternoon will be attended by the members of his company. A salute will be fired over the grave by a firing party.

Cut Off by Flames.

New York, April 30.—Miss Sarah McGowan, aged 22 years, was burned to death today in a fire which damaged a five-story tenement in East Thirtieth street. Miss McGowan lived on the top floor and her escape was cut off by the flames. The firemen made several daring rescues of other imperiled tenants.

Farmer Near Dutton Sustains Heavy Loss by Electrical Storm.

Dutton, April 29.—The barns belonging to Angus Munn were struck by lightning this afternoon and completely destroyed by fire, together with all the grain, hay and implements therein. The loss is estimated at over \$1,000.

Blizzard and Eruption Bring Woe to Italians

Rome, April 30.—A cold wind, which rose suddenly, is blowing over the peninsula, particularly in the northern part, where also a severe snowstorm is in progress. In the Alps and in the provinces of Belluno and Bergamo, the snowfall has reached several inches. At Messina great apprehension still prevails over the eruption of the Stromboli volcano. The condition of the volcano is still unknown as smoke and fog prevent signals being exchanged between Sicily and the Island of Stromboli. It is reported, however, that a considerable number of persons have been injured as a result of the eruption and a torpedo boat has been sent to Stromboli with men and material to assist persons in distress. A panic still prevails in Calabria, and many persons are fleeing from the villages along the coast.