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BRITTON HOLDS CHAMPIONSHIP

The Sport Writers Give Him Shade on Shade

Swimming Records are Broken—Reorganization of Athletics at Dalhousie — Late News in the Sport World.

(Canadian Press.)

New York, Feb. 18—Jack Britton, at hirty-seven, still is the master boxer and by virtue of that fact he today remains he world's welterweight boxing champion. Last night in Madison Square Garden, Britton met young Dave Shade, of San Francisco, in a fifteen-round match. The judges decided the contest was a draw and that enabled Britton to retain his title.

In the majority opinion of fistic writers at the ringside, however, the judges erred in their decision, for Britton appeared to have had the advantage on points over his young rival.

It is true that the Californian always was on the aggressive, that he made the champion miss occasionally, but, nevertheless the champion, whether retreating or standing his ground, was sending gloved fists against his opponent's head and body. Shade was missing too, and many of his terrific assaults were cleverly smothered in the Britton defence. Shade shook the title-holder several times with rights to the jaw, but was himself shaken oftener by Britton's blows to the jaw and body.

Tank Records Go.

Montreal, Feb. 18—University of Toronto swimming team defeated McGill's men by 37 points to 31 in an intercollegiate meet here last night. Three intercollegiate records were smashed, one of them being also a new Canadian record. Fisk, of McGill, covered the fifty yard back-stroke event in 33 2-5, bettering by 1 3-5 seconds the mark established by Wood, of Varsity, in last year's meet at Toronto. In the long plunge, Waldron, of Varsity, made 71 feet 3 inches, which is also a Canadian record. The old record was 63 feet 8, established by him last year. The last record was in the relay when the Varsity quartette covered the 200 yards in 1.52 1-5, just two-fifths of a second faster than the mark established by the McGill relay team last year in Toronto.

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 18—Johnny Weismuller of the Illinois Athletic Club, broke the world's record for the 100 yard free stroke in the Milwaukee Athletic Club tank here last night, covering the distance in 1.06.3. The former record of 1.08.2 was made by Warren Keoleha.

Chicago, Feb. 18.—William Coburn, of St. Louis, and David Lands, of Newark, N. J., were leading in the six day bicycle race here today at the end of the 130th hour, with 2,112 miles covered. The teams of Lawrence and Thomas and of Debaetes and Persyn were on the heels of the leaders and six other teams were one lap behind.

Maritime Provinces

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Feb. 18.—The curling matches between Moncton and Charlottetown last night resulted in Moncton winning two rinks by 13-12 and 20-12, and Charlottetown one, 11-10. The respective skips were: Moncton, Black, Gibbons and Simpson; Charlottetown, Robertson, Ebers and Whear.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 18.—That "Billy" Roche, professional baseball player and former Glace Bay hockeyist, played on the Pere Marquette hockey team of Boston early this season and appeared in games against McGill and Toronto universities, is stated in a New Glasgow despatch to the Herald.

Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 18.—Roche has since been suspended by the U. S. Amateur Hockey Association, and has not played with the Pere Marquette team in recent games, according to Boston papers recently received here, which said Roche was ruled out of amateur hockey in Boston as soon as Canadian authorities reported he had offended in Cape Breton.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 18.—Reorganization of athletics at Dalhousie, looking to secure more general participation by the student body and greater interest from the faculty, is being discussed in college circles.

It has been suggested that an advisory board be formed, consisting of one member of the board of governors, two members of the faculty and two of the alumni. At its last meeting the Dalhousie Amateur Athletic Club, which controls athletics at the college, appointed representatives to meet these other bodies in this connection. It is also proposed to bring the Dalhousie football quads together before college opens in the fall. It is pointed out that the collegians are at a disadvantage in the city Rugby league owing to the other teams having a month of practice before Dalhousie line-ups can get into action. The absence of a gymn at Dalhousie has been remedied by the recent opening of a temporary one in the basement of the new Arts building at Studley.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 18.— Coming through with a last period rally, Victoria's stayed in the race for the Pacific Coast Hockey League championship by defeating Seattle 3 to 2 here last night.

Edmonton, Feb. 18.—The Edmonton Eskimos defeated the Regina Capitals by a score of 4 to 3 here last night in the Western Canada Hockey League.

Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 18—Definite arrangements have been completed for the U. N. B. and Mount Allison play-off for the championship of the western section of the Maritime Intercollegiate Hockey League in Moncton on Monday night in the new Sunny Brae rink, which will seat 6,000 spectators. The title hinges upon the outcome of the game. Neil Wilkie of Halifax has been agreed upon as a referee.

Arrangements are now in course of completion for the winners of the Moncton-built to play King's College on Wednesday night for the Sumner trophy, now held by U. N. B. as winners in 1921. If U. N. B. prove as successful as they were last year, they will endeavor to compete next week in a game with Dalhousie University, winners of the eastern section title, for the maritime intercollegiate championship and possession of the Halifax Herald trophy. It was said today that U. N. B. were ready to meet Dalhousie in Halifax, if they represent the western section in the play-off, while they said they were prepared to play King's College anywhere but Amherst, barring that town, they said, because of the unsatisfactory gate receipts for intercollegiate play-offs there last year.

Moncton, N. B., Feb. 18.—A representative of the Mount Allison University hockey team completed arrangements here this morning for the play-off between Mount Allison and U. N. B. for the western intercollegiate title to be held in Sunny Brae rink on Monday night, Feb. 20.

Binghamton, N. Y., Feb. 18. — Zero weather the last two days has afforded ideal weather for the professional outdoor speed skating championship which opens at Endicott this afternoon.

Professionals who participated in the Saranac Lake races will compete at Endicott this afternoon and tomorrow. The events will be continued at Lake Placid on Monday and Tuesday.

LANDIS QUITS BENCH; WHOLE TIME TO BASEBALL

Chicago, Feb. 18—Federal Judge Kenesaw M. Landis today announced that he has resigned from the bench and would devote his entire time to his position of baseball commissioner. The resignation is to be effective on March 1. Announcement of it was made formally by the judge today as took his place in court.

CARS OFF TRACK

As a result of a run-off of freight cars near Macamp, Me., last night, C. P. R. passenger trains were late arriving in the city today. No. 40 from Montreal, due here at 6.45 a. m., was reported running seven hours and forty-five minutes late, and No. 16 from Montreal, due here at 1.20 o'clock, forty-five minutes. The derailment was caused by a broken beam on one of the cars, which is thought may have resulted from the severe weather. Twelve cars left the rails, and all but one were empties. Aside from the delay, the damage done was said to be slight. No. 9, from Halifax, due here over the C. N. R. at 7.45 a. m., was over an hour late arriving this morning. The delay is said to have been caused by heavy snowstorms east.

DOLLAR AT PAR IN U. S. THIS YEAR IS BELIEF

Discount on Canadian Money in New York Today Only 3½ Per Cent.

New York, Feb. 18—(Canadian Press)—The discount on the Canadian dollar in the U. S. will very probably disappear entirely within the current year, so the Wall Street Journal predicts this morning in a review of the exchange situation. While in the past the Canadian exchange rate has generally followed the flutuations of sterling exchange, the paper asserts, other factors have recently influenced the Canadian rate so that sterling, for certain periods at least, has ceased to be the dominant factor.

The discount rate on Canadian dollars reached 3 11-16 per cent. here this week. It had gone as high as 17 1-2 per cent.

New York, Feb. 18—Sterling exchange strong. Demand 4.37 1-4. Canadian dollars 3 1-2 per cent. discount.

PROHIBITION FROM NEW ANGLE

Transport Workers in England Threaten to Strike Against High Beer Prices.

London, Feb. 18.—(Canadian Press.)—The threat of the Transport Workers' Federation, numbering one million members, to go "dry" because of the alleged unreasonable price of beers seems to be seriously meant. A circular has been sent to the various branches of the dockers' union, suggesting that the proposed beer boycott should operate next Monday.

Brewers' profits and high taxation are declared responsible for the present price of beer. Brewing firms' shares have riven to more than four times their value in 1914, and shares in kindred concerns which were unsaleable before the war now command good figures.

The taxation on the consumption of thirty million barrels of beer in 1914 was £13,000,000. The present taxation on twenty-six million barrels is £123,000,000.

SIR DAVID WATSON, QUEBEC CHRONICLE CHIEF TAKEN ILL

Quebec, Feb. 18—Sir David Watson, proprietor of the Quebec Chronicle, who suffered a slight stroke on Thursday while playing cards at his club was resting easily last night and making good progress toward recovery. It is thought his illness was due mainly to over-exertion and anxiety in regard to the trying industrial situation here brought about by a strike of job printers.

HEADS CHARITABLE IRISH SOCIETY IN HALIFAX.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 18—Ald. Andrew J. Finlay was elected president of the Charitable Irish Society of Halifax in succession to E. P. Allison, at the 156th annual meeting of the body here last night.

BITTERLY COLD, THEN MILDER

Fourteen Below in St. John This Morning.

Mercury Very Low All Over Province and in Nova Scotia and P. E. Island—Reaction to Higher Temperature in the U. S.

Today was the coldest in this city in two years, according to an official report from the Meteorological Observatory this morning. The thermometer registered fourteen degrees below zero early this morning, but at 9 o'clock climbed to ten degrees below and at 10 o'clock to four degrees below. At noon it was still ascending. People were talking of the "Cold Friday" of Feb. 8, 1861, when the mercury touched 22. In Rothesay it was 31 below, Hampton 32 and Sussex 36. Moncton had 26 below last night and at 8.30 this morning it was 20 below there.

Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 18—New Brunswick is having its most extreme below zero weather today in a decade. The official temperature here this morning was 35 below zero, that being the record at the Dominion Meteorological Station at the U. N. B., while private thermometers showed as low as from 38 to 44. The city's record shows 36 below as the temperature here this morning. This has been unequalled since January 27, 1912 when the 36 below mark was reached. The only colder dates on the records are:—41 below on Feb. 6, 1904 and 44 below on January 15, 1905. Water pipes and services at scores of houses are frozen up and the plumbers are reaping a harvest.

Temperatures elsewhere in New Brunswick this morning were:—

Edmunston 40 below.
Blackville 38 below.
Woodstock 42 below.
Newcastle 36 below.

Reports via Western Union are:—

Fredericton—Fine; lowest, 38 below.
Grand Falls—Fine; lowest, 32 below.
Woodstock—Fine; lowest, 45 below.
Chatham—Clear; lowest, 32 below.
Campbellton—Clear, lowest, 28 below.
Moncton—Fine; lowest, 27 below.
Florenceville—Fine; lowest, 33 below.
Edmundston—Fine; lowest, 40 below.
Sydney—Fine; lowest, zero.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 18—The zero weather of yesterday and today reached 11 degrees below at five o'clock this morning. At 10.30 the mercury had risen to two above.

Amherst, N. S., Feb. 18—Amherst has been overtaken by very severe weather during the last twenty-four hours, the thermometer dropping to 28 below last night. Fortunately yesterday's cold wind abated during the early night.

New Glasgow, Feb. 18—The mercury reached twenty-eight below here last night.

Sydney, N. S., Feb. 18—Fourteen below during night.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Feb. 18—Charlottetown experienced its coldest weather in thirty years when the mercury dropped to twenty-three degrees below last night. Summerside reported thirty below.

In the United States

Washington, Feb. 18.—The cold wave which for two days has been holding the east in its grip, was giving way today to higher temperatures.

"There has been a marked reaction to higher temperature throughout the Mississippi Valley, the region of the Great Lakes and the eastern and southern states," the weather bureau said, "and a considerable drop in temperature over Minnesota and the Dakotas."

SANDS IMMUNE IF HE CAN SOLVE MURDER MYSTERY

Los Angeles, Feb. 18—Investigators of the murder of Wm. Desmond Taylor, film director, were waiting today to see if anything would result from the announcement of Thomas L. Woolwine, district attorney, that Edward F. Sands, missing former butler secretary to Taylor would not be prosecuted on an embezzlement charge entered by his former employer if Sands could prove himself of the slaying of Taylor and untangle this murder mystery.

Woolwine's announcement followed receipt of a letter purporting to have been written by Sands. The writer stated that he was in Los Angeles, was not guilty of the murder of Taylor, but could name the murderer and solve the mystery of the slaying. He inquired whether he would be set free in case he surrendered and proved innocent of the slaying.

He asked that the district attorney publish his reply in any of the Los Angeles papers and Woolwine made public the letter and the answer, the latter being addressed "to Edward F. Sands, through the public press.

Woolwine said he had no means of knowing whether or not the letter was genuine but that he and his investigators thought it better to "treat it as such" in the hope that it was.

As Hiram Sees It

"Hiram," said the Times reporter to Mr. Hiram Hornbeam, "how would you like to be minister of railways?"

"I'd ruther be a racker," said Hiram promptly. "Do you mind when we used to call the fellers that worked on the section on the old I. C. R. 'rackers?'"

"I do," said the reporter. "But I had not thought of the name for years. I remember the first rebel. He set his name down as 'John Jones, Trackman.' And do you remember the old tank with the frogs in it—and the old hand-car—and the cast-iron rails—"

"Hold on," said Hiram, "you're gittin' a long ways from the minister o' railways."

"Well," said the reporter, "it's a long way from the old I. C. R. as we knew it to the minister of railways, with his twenty-thousand miles of steel."

"Yes, sir," said Hiram—"it is so. An' I aint hankerin' after his job. He kin hev it. But I hope he'll go back an' tell them Ontario fellers we started the railroad bizness down this way an' we aint gittin' as much out of it as we orto—By Hen!"

LUNENBURG SCHOONER IS ABANDONED

Crew of the Kathleen Spindler are Rescued—Barges in Trouble.

New York, Feb. 18 — The British steamship Argalia from New Orleans to London, wirelessed today that the Lunenburg, N. S., schooner Kathleen Spindler, has been abandoned at sea leaking, about 150 miles west of Bermuda Islands and that she has rescued the crew. The Argalia will proceed to London.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 18—The schooner Kathleen Spindler, 196 tons gross, was on a voyage from Turks Island to Lunenburg with a cargo of salt when she was abandoned west of Bermuda Islands, and her crew rescued by the steamer Argalia. The Spindler was in command of Captain Alvin Spindler and carried in addition a crew of six. All are from Lunenburg. Thet vessel was built at Lunenburg.

Boston, Feb. 18—Two tugs left last night to go to the assistance of two barges which went aground, one at each entrance to the Cape Cod canal. The tug Neponset went to the aid of the barge Socony No. 6, from New York to Boston with oil aground near the eastern end of the canal. Another tug which attempted to reach the barge earlier in the day was compelled by heavy seas to return to port.

The tug Clara H. Doane went out with a wrecking lighter to aid the barge Greenwood ashore at Hunnewell's Point in Buzzard's Bay near the western entrance to the canal. The Greenwood was bound for Boston from New York with coal.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries. R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis — Shallow depressions are situated in British Columbia and over northern Ontario, and pressure is highest in Nova Scotia. The temperature has moderated considerably over the greater portion of Ontario, attended by a few light local snowfalls. Elsewhere in the dominion the weather has been fair and for the most part very cold.

Forecasts:—

Milder, With Snow.

Maritime—Winds becomingly fresh, southerly; fair today; gradually rising temperature. Sunday milder with a few local snowfalls or flurries.

Gulf and North Shore—Fresh southeast shifting to southwest winds; gradually rising temperature with some light snowfalls tonight and on Sunday.

New England—Cloudy and unsettled tonight and Sunday; warmer tonight; fresh to strong southerly winds.

Toronto, Feb. 18.—Temperatures:—

Stations.	8 a. m.	Highest yesterday.	Lowest during night.
Prince Rupert	26	40	24
Victoria	38	46	48
Kamloops	30	40	30
Calgary	0	8	20
Edmonton	*2	0	*4
Prince Albert	*2	10	*2
Winnipeg	*12	14	*12
White River	14	12	*14
Sault Ste. Marie	12	16	12
Toronto	29	16	15
Kingston	28	2	*2
Ottawa	*2	2	*6
Montreal	*2	*6	*6
Quebec	*3	*6	*18
St. John, N. B.	*10	2	*14
Halifax	*10	4	*20
St. John's, Nfld.	*4	26	*4
Detroit	34	28	26
New York	20	18	10

*Below zero.

Tell Minister of Needs of St. John

Delegation Points Out to Hon. W. C. Kennedy Necessity for Breakwater Extension, Terminal Development, Better Railway Connection and New Station—Visitor Says He Will do Everything He Can—Tour of City.

The necessity of an improvement in the terminal facilities in St. John, the needs for a new railway station and the importance of the routing of Canadian trade over Canadian roads and through Canadian ports were impressed upon Hon. W. C. Kennedy, minister of railways, by a delegation of representative citizens which waited upon him soon after his arrival here this morning.

Mr. Kennedy, accompanied by Major G. A. Bell, deputy minister, and J. A. Nevins, acting secretary, arrived in the city from Moncton soon after nine o'clock. They were met at the station by Dr. W. P. Broderick and H. R. McLellan and taken for a trip around the city, the harbor terminals and Courtenay Bay. L. R. Ross, terminal agent of the C. N. R., accompanied them.

Arriving at the Royal Hotel at 11-30, they were met by a delegation representing the city and the board of trade, when the needs of the port and the city were pointed out to him. Mr. Kenedy and his party left on the 1.40 train for Moncton on their way back to Ottawa.

Royal Hotel Conference.

Included in the delegation which met Mr. Kennedy at the Royal were His Worship Mayor Schofield, T. H. Bullock, commissioner of harbors; W. F. Burditt, president, and R. E. Armstrong, secretary, of the St. John Board of Trade; Hon. Dr. J. B. M. Baxter M. P.; Dr. Murray Maclaren, M. P.; D. W. Ledingham, H. C. Rising, A. C. Skelton, M. E. Agar, G. E. Barbour, W. S. Allison, John Sayre, C. P. Humphrey, J. Fraser Gregory, H. C. Schofield and others.

Short addresses were delivered by Mayor Schofield, Mr. Burditt and Dr. Baxter.

Mayor Schofield.

Mayor Schofield, after welcoming the minister to the city, said that he wished to bring to his attention the fact that we in St. John had a port which was open all the year round, a port which was one of the important outlets of the country and which during the war had enabled Canada to do its share.

He said that $2,000,000 had been spent by the people of the city in making it a port and had gone so far as it was possible for them to do. It was now up to the federal government to develop it along national lines.

Considerable development had been carried out, he said, on the western side of the harbor, but he wanted to draw Mr. Kennedy's attention to the eastern side. A year ago the C. N. R. management had an idea of the development of the section between Reed's Point and the Sugar refinery wharf, which would provide for filling in and the erection of steamer berths. This would give the railway better access to the harbor facilities.

The railway board, he said, had endorsed the project, and if it was feasible he was sure that the citizens would desire that it be brought to the attention of the minister. He said that the people expected only what was reasonable development.

Trade Board President

Mr. Burditt said that the most urgent necessity in the harbor at the present time was the extension of the Negro Point breakwater to Partridge Island, without which further development of the government berths would be of no avail. The same also applied to the east side development.

Another urgent need was the construction of a railway station. He said that the people did not urge useless or unnecessary expenditures at the present time, but it was felt that the C. N. R. should be kept up to date.

Another important necessity to St. John, Mr. Burditt said, was better C. N. railway connections with the harbor terminals. He spoke of the line in from Moncton, the Transcontinental Line which connected with Fredericton at McGivency Junction and the St. John and Quebec Railway down the river valley which was under lease. The last named however, ended on the C. P. R. Line at Westfield and had to come over the C. P. R. Rails to St. John. What was required, he said, was a more direct connection, which was not what it should be. He would like to see the C. N. R. under no obligations to any other road for direct connections with both sides of the harbor and if this could be realized, it would be in the interests both of the port and the C. N. R., as it would tend to reduce mileage on freight carried.

Canadian Trade Through Our Ports.

Dr. Baxter said that he was sure the citizens would greatly appreciate Mr. Kennedy's coming so early in the life of the new government to look over the situation in the maritime provinces.

While the local problems presented by the other speakers were urgent ones, there was another and larger question of which he wished to speak. He said that it was time when political differences should cease and everybody should unite in an effort to see that every pound of Canadian freight for export should be carried over Canadian rails and shipped through Canadian ports. He said that St. John and Halifax should be made the real winter ports of Canada and not Portland. He was sure that this was the unanimous sentiment of the country and there would be no political interference if those in authority pursued that policy.

Hon. Mr. Kennedy.

Hon. Mr. Kennedy said he appreciated the welcome that had been extended to him. He regretted that his stay in St. John must be so short; he had planned to stay longer but storms in Nova Scotia had delayed him.

It was necessary that he should go to Moncton this afternoon, but he hoped to come to St. John again and then to be able to stay longer.

He said that he was keenly interested in the remarks of those who had spoken. After coming to the city this morning he had driven around the city, viewed the present station, the site of the proposed new station, the water front and Courtenay Bay. He understood that the sentiment was that the first necessity of the port was the extension of the breakwater. The station, he thought, was equally important, and the plans he knew were now with the management. Plans of the harbor were also on file in his office.

"I realize," he said, "the importance of St. John as a national port; that it should have suitable harbor accommodation, and a railway station that would accommodate its needs and impress the visitor."

He said he was impressed with the importance of both St. John and Halifax as maritime ports, and he felt that everyone was agreed in the principle of developing and building up a Canadian national spirit. He said he was proud of the country and was ready to do his part to make it great.

Make No Promises.

Regarding those things which were asked, he said he could make no promises; the minister of finance must first be consulted. He said the country was faced with a loan of some $400,000,000, and how it was to be raised was a question not yet determined. The money when raised, he said, was intended to be used not for new work but for the taking care of money already expended.

Mr. Kennedy said he would go away impressed with the needs and opportunities of St. John, with first hand information on the matter, and a desire to do everything in his power to fulfil the needs of the port.

After the delegation had withdrawn, Mayor Schofield and Messrs. Burditt and Armstrong conversed for a few minutes with the minister on the proposed development on the eastern side of the harbor, a plan of which was shown Mr. Kennedy. They also discussed informally matters relating to immigration and colonization.

WEEKLY PAPERS FOR A MINIMUM $2 SUBSCRIPTION

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 16—In view of present day costs, the Canadian weekly newspapers association decided at its annual meeting yesterday that the minimum rate of subscriptions to weekly papers should be two dollars a year. Ottawa was fixed as the place of the association's convention next June.

Seventeen directors of the association were present. Reports showed an increase in membership, which now stands at above 500, and a favorable financial condition. Nearly every province in the dominion was represented in the attendance.

SAYS INFLUENCE ON THE YOUNG IS NOT FOR GOOD

Montreal, Feb. 18—Declaring that he "doubted much" the cry "better the movie than the bar." Dr. J. Gordon Laing, dean of the faculty of Arts of McGill University, delivered an attack on popular magazines and newspapers which he asserted were destroying a taste for good literature on this continent, in an address before a meeting of the principals and teachers' association of suburban schools here last night. He affirmed that the schools merely follow the popular trend, the goal of financial success being pointed out to the young and "the schools have adapted their courses to the popular demand.

WHITE PLAGUE FIGHT ON P. E. I.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Feb. 18—Dr. Woodshouse, secretary of the Canadian Association for Prevention of Tuberculosis held a conference here with the president of the local anti-tuberculosis association, Joseph McCarey, Premier Bell and others, and discussed two important co-operative schemes. These are:

(1)—Encouragement of municipalities having public health nurses to establish and maintain chest diagnosis clinics.

(2)—Encouragement of sanitoriums to undertake field extension work in organizing and maintaining such clinics.

The question of re-opening the Dalton Sanitorium was discussed but the premier said this could not be considered by the provincial government owing to expense of upkeep and scarcity of water.

EDDIE DURNAN AND SON SAVE A DROWNING MAN

Toronto, Feb. 17—After a desperate struggle in Toronto Bay for twenty-five minutes yesterday, George Sherlock, a middle aged man, was rescued from drowning by Eddie Durnan, former professional champion sculler of the world, and his son, John, both of whom heroically risked their lives.

MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE.

Montreal, Feb. 18—(10.30)—Trading during the first half hour this morning was quiet and unfeatured, with the paper stocks, which displayed some strength yesterday, continuing strong, although only fractional variations were recorded. Other leaders were uninteresting.

QUIET ON THE ULSTER BORDER

Better Outlook for Avoidance of Clash.

Return of Some Prisoners, However, Still a Matter Requiring Attention — Limerick Soldiers Refuse to Recognize Provisional Government.

(Canadian Press Cable)

London, Feb. 18—The joint liaison commission may begin to function over the week-end, so it is unofficially stated, thus giving a fair prospect for prevention of the dreaded clash between the rival forces lined up along the southern Ulster border.

Peace seems for the moment to have descended over Northern Ireland, the release of the remaining kidnapped Unionists, announced yesterday, tending to ease the tension.

Nevertheless both sides still hold prisoners and it is understood the south is determined not to release the special constables captured at Clones until the Monaghan football players are freed by the Ulster authorities, the south contending that if the latter are guilty because they carried arms, the Clones captives are equally guilty.

Moreover, there is the question of four Sinn Feiners held at Rathfryland, charged with "tumultous assembly" this growing out of disorders in connection with a republician funeral two weeks ago, and also that of the arrest of the three Irish Republician army officers at Newry Notwithstanding the repeated northern assertions that the footballers will be held unless they apply for bail, there is a rumor that they may be liberated as an "act of grace" within a few hours.

Resumption of the British evacuation has not been officially declared, but some troops left Dublin yesterday, others departed from Limerick, and some are at the Cork station for embarkation.

Limerick, Feb. 18.—A proclamation was issued today on behalf of the mid-Limerick brigade of the Irish Republican army refusing to recognize the present heads of the army or the provisional government and pledging allegiance to the existing republic.

SAYS FIRM WAS "ROBBED BLIND"

Evidence in Case of Failure of New York Brokers for $4,000,000.

New York, Feb. 18—Testimony that the bankrupt brokerage house of E. D. Dier and Company, which failed recently for four million dollars had been "robbed blind" by those in charge of the business, was given by E. Franklin Gaines, an employ of the firm, at a hearing yesterday before special U. S. Commissioner Gilchrist. The witness said the firm's book keeping was a joke and that one "insider" with enough money to retire fied to Canada.

STRIKE TIES UP SHIPPING AT LIVERPOOL

London, Feb. 18—The shipping trade in Liverpool is dislocated and liners are unable to enter or leave port today owing to a strike of the tugboat men, says an Evening News message from Liverpool today.

The strike is against the owners' demand for increased hours with a reduction in wages.

JUDGMENT IN THE KNOX CASE

In Chambers this morning Chief Justice McKeown dismissed an application with costs to the plaintiff in the matter of the children of W. H. Knox in connection with certain alleged libellous matter published in the local newspapers during the prohibition referendum campaign some time ago, to have the action stopped. The case was been pending for some time. Action was brought some months ago for damages in favor of the children who described as those of a "drunken father," with their pictures shown in print. The father, a returned soldier, brought action on his own account and won a verdict. Points of law arose in connection with the suit of the children and H. A. Powell, K. C., for the defendants applied to have the action ceased. The court found, however, that there was reasonable ground for the case to continue and go to a jury to establish whether or not damage had been done, and accordingly disallowed the application today. The case will probably be heard at the next sitting of the circuit D. Mullin, K. C., appeared for the children.

His Honor this morning also set aside a judgment entered in the case of Crispette Co. vs. Andrews, an action on a bill of exchange for an amount within the jurisdiction of the city court, but on an instrument dated outside the province. The defendant filed an appearance, but no defence was entered. Judgment was signed by the plaintiff's solicitor with supreme court costs, with no notice of the signing being given the defendant's solicitor. The court found that notice should have been given and accordingly set aside the judgment with costs in favor of the defendant. K. A. Wilson represented the plaintiff and H. A. Porter the defendant.

A COSTLY TREAT.

Windsor, Feb. 18—One round of drinks served to friends by Charles Fleming, proprietor of the Imperiol Hotel, Sandwich street and Ferry avenue, cost Fleming $2,050.50 in fines and costs. Fleming was caught dispensing the liquor from a bottle he said he had purchased for his wife, who was recovering from pneumonia.