

HOME BANK DEPOSITORS BLAME ON OTTAWA

King George Opens British Empire Exhibition Today

DEPOSITORS CHARGE GOVERNMENT WITH NOT PAYING HEED TO WARNINGS GIVEN IN 1916 AND SUBSEQUENTLY

Latest Findings In Bank Probe

Counsel for depositors places responsibility for Home Bank crash on Dominion government. Will produce exhibit at Ottawa indicating bank accepted \$10,000,000 in deposits subsequent to warnings made to government in 1916. This included \$3,000,000 in deposits at branches newly opened during that period. Notice is given that S. H. Jones, late auditor for the bank, refuses to give evidence before the commission. Sir Thomas White is to be cross-examined when commission opens session in Ottawa tomorrow.

Will Produce Exhibit in Ottawa Tomorrow. Showing That Home Bank Accepted \$10,000,000 in Deposits After Warnings Were Issued in 1916.

FORMER BANK AUDITOR REFUSES TO APPEAR

Sir Thomas White, ex-Finance Minister, Will Be Cross-Examined When the Commission Opens Session Again in Ottawa Tomorrow—Adjourned in Toronto This Morning.

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, April 23.—Our claim for relief so far as the depositors are concerned is solely against the Dominion government and not against the directors of the Home Bank," was the declaration by A. J. Browning, counsel for the depositors of the suspended Home Bank, at the continued investigation here this morning by Hon. H. A. MacKeown, sitting as a royal commissioner under the Public Inquiries Act. Mr. Browning said the depositors would hold the government responsible, because the warnings given in 1916 and revived on various occasions before the collapse in 1923 had not been heeded by the finance department to the extent of an independent inquiry and audit by the department.

Consequent on this stand by the counsel for the depositors, it was decided that directors and other officials of the bank under indictment at the present time will not be summoned as witnesses at the inquiry, but invited to attend, if they so desire, and give evidence at the sessions to be resumed in Ottawa tomorrow morning. Sir Thomas White, former minister of finance, will appear for cross-examination tomorrow in Ottawa, and it is expected that H. A. MacKeown, one time assistant to the president of the Home Bank, and who made serious charges in 1918, will appear for examination in Ottawa on Friday. The investigation here was concluded this morning.

THIRTY KILLED IN SWISS WRECK

Zurich and Milan Expresses Crash Near Bellinzona, Switzerland.

Associated Press Despatch. Berne, Switzerland, April 23.—Thirty persons were reported to have been killed and fifty injured when the Zurich and Milan Expresses collided near Bellinzona this morning.

Twenty-one bodies had been removed from the wreckage early this afternoon, most of them so badly mangled that identification was impossible. Each train was driven by two large electric engines, all four of which were completely wrecked, and the four engines killed. It was the worst train wreck in Switzerland in more than twenty years.

Both trains had numerous foreign passengers, coming from or going to Italy. Four Americans are reported to have been in the sleeping car on the train from Italy, which car was less damaged than the others. The Italian train had on board some French and British passengers in addition to 45 Germans and 92 Italians.

Godless Homes Menace Country

Bishop Williams Preaches Before Anglican Synod in Montreal.

Canadian Press Despatch. Montreal, April 23.—Godless homes of the present menace the future well-being of the country; the rising generation of Canadian, not having the same grounding as their fathers, will not be as Christian, declared the Right Rev. David Williams, lord bishop of Huron, the preacher at the annual Anglican synod service, held here last night.

Part of the church's work for all time, he said, was to teach Christian principles to each generation as it arrived upon the scene. The only remedy, he said, was to increase the efficiency of the Sunday school.

BOARD IS ORDERING \$6,000 IN SUPPLIES

City Dealers Receive Contracts For New Equipment To Be Delivered in May.

School supplies to the value of about \$6,000 are now being ordered by the secretary of the board of education from the various dealers in the city. The supplies, which include ink, paper, examination paper, exercise books, pens, nibs and the usual school accessories, have to be delivered to the schools in May.

In most cases the contracts have been let to the lowest bidder, but quality has not been sacrificed to cost. The public school inspectors and the secretary of the board decide on the various samples which are suitable to the use of the pupils, and the trustees later pass on their judgment and either approve their choice or substitute some other.



PREMIER BRUCE, of Australia, who stresses the need of developing Empire resources in a cable sent to the Australian High Commissioner in London in connection with the opening of the British Empire Exhibition.

C. M'DOUGALL RUMORED FOR DEPUTY'S POSITION

Former Londoner May Be Recommended For Tax Collection Post.

C. C. McDougall has been recommended for the post of assistant city tax collector, it was announced at the city hall today.

Formerly the accountant at the market branch of the Bank of Montreal, Mr. McDougall was recently moved to the branch at Maitland.

It is understood, however, that an offer will be extended to him in due course by the finance committee of the city council, certain of the members hearing that he desires to reside permanently in this city.

FORMER COUNTY CONSTABLE IS SUMMONED FOR CRUELTY

Peter Butler of Lucan, a former county constable, will appear in county court before Magistrate C. W. Mawlishaw Saturday morning on a charge of cruelty to animals. Butler was served with a summons this morning by High Constable Wharton. It is alleged that Butler has been working a horse with a large, sore on his neck.

MOUNTAINS NOW GUARDING FEDERAL TAX OFFICES

Members of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police with bright red tunics and glittering buttons and spurs are lending a touch of color to the offices of the Dominion taxation department.

Staff Sergeant Miller is in charge of the detachment, consisting of Constables Walsh, Lynch, and Jacob, who will be on guard duty day and night until about May 4th.



H. R. KING GEORGE V. who declared the great British Empire Exhibition open in an official speech delivered at Wembley today.

PETER SMITH UP IN POLICE COURT

Remanded For Week on Charge of Conspiracy To Defraud Province.

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, April 23.—Peter Smith, provincial treasurer of Ontario during the years of 1919 to 1923, was again remanded for a week when he appeared before Magistrate Edmund Jones in police court this morning charged with conspiracy to defraud the province out of certain monies.

The charge arose out of the investigation conducted by the public accounts committee of the legislature into the financial administration of the province during the regime of the government led by E. C. Drury. Bail remains at \$102,000.

Mr. Smith was greeted by a few friends at the city hall and appeared in court without his glasses, looking younger and taking an interest in all that was happening around him. One of the bondsmen, S. Kastner, was not present, and Charles McLeod of Stratford assumed an additional \$4,000. With the exception of Mr. McLeod, the bondsmen are held in the sum of \$4,000 and Mr. Smith for \$50,000 to appear on April 29. The entire proceedings took up less than 15 minutes.

Unaware of Date Of Liquor Vote

Premier Ferguson Glad To Be Informed It is June 30.

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, April 23.—When interviewed this morning regarding a report that a plebiscite on the liquor question had been tentatively fixed for June 30, Premier G. Howard Ferguson said: "I am glad you told me; I hadn't heard the date."

PASSES THROUGH CITY.

C. G. Bouker, C. N. R. general manager of the central region, passed through London last night in his private car on train No. 83 en route from Toronto to Detroit.



TWO MARBLE CONTEST WINNERS. Chester Walters (left) and Joe Dowdell (right) were the third and fourth prize winners, respectively, in The Advertiser marble contest yesterday and will receive their prizes tomorrow from The Advertiser. They turned out for the contest in spite of the cold north wind and the nasty Scotch mist, and made up in enthusiasm for the disappointing weather. They both trundled a class "mizg" and earned their respective victories. Chester Walters is an older brother of Isaac Walters, the winner of the contest, and Joe Dowdell lives at 201 Horton street.

IVEY DENIES PRICE PLACED ON RAILWAY AT TORONTO

Purchase Not Gone Into at Session With Cabinet Members.

FIGURES CONFUSED

States Sir Adam Beck Was Given No Price at Conferences.

Emphatic denial was forthcoming today from Richard G. Ivey, vice-president of the London Street Railway Corporation that he, or any company representative, told Premier Howard Ferguson and members of his cabinet, during a conference several months ago, that the city could have the road for \$1,400,000, of which \$175,000 was to represent an additional sum owing London by the company. The actual purchase price was to be \$1,250,000. The vice-president is vigorous in his denial of this suggestion at last night's city council session from Ald. John Greer, chairman of the board of works, who had been advised from a competent source, however, he told the council, that such was the case. He stated that there were other members of the council who would support him in his contention. Offers Suggestion. The street railway vice-president offers the suggestion that the chairman of the board of works is confusing his figures with those brought in last fall by Sir Adam Beck, who was authorized by the city council of 1923 to secure a prospective purchase price.

Mr. Ivey stated today also that Sir Adam Beck was given no price by the street railway authorities during his conferences with them last year, or since, but that he knows nothing of the \$1,400,000 price brought to the council by Sir Adam or the \$1,400,000 price advanced last night by Ald. Greer.

Suitable Price. Mayor George Wenige is confident today that he will have a suitable purchase price from the street railway company within the next few days. He has already had a conference with Charles Currie, president of that corporation, and he anticipates another meeting within three or four days, when the final figures will be submitted, he assured.

Just what would constitute a "suitable price" for the people is a matter of opinion. Last night's council did not consider that \$1,400,000, submitted by Sir Adam Beck, to be a suitable price, but the general impression is that a price in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000, or perhaps a little more, would meet with the approval of the ratepayers should the proposal be sent them next December for ratification.

Hundreds of thousands throughout the British Isles heard the King's voice for the first time. In London, loud speakers had been set up in the public squares, and as the King began to speak a great hush fell on the street crowds.

In addition to the radio broadcast, See Page 2, Column 2 and 3.

SEVERAL HAVE PAID THEIR TAXES FOR '24

New Ruling States First Installment Not Due Until June 16.

Several citizens have already paid their 1924 taxes, it was reported at the city hall today, although tax notices were sent out about the middle of last week.

By a new ruling, however, the first installment is not due until June 16 this year, two weeks later than usual. The second installment is due August 15, and the final payment on October 15.

Some of the "annexed district" ratepayers have presented their taxes and the same have been promptly accepted by Tax Collector Houghton.

\$1,300 DIET KITCHEN APPROVED BY TRUST

New Equipment Will Make the Victoria Hospital Kitchen One of Best in Canada.

At a meeting of the hospital trust of Victoria Hospital held yesterday afternoon, it was decided to go ahead with the purchasing of the new diet kitchen equipment approved by the board at their last regular meeting. Accordingly, the contract was let to a London firm at a sum stated to be in the neighborhood of \$1,300. When this is completed, Victoria Hospital will have one of the finest diet kitchens of any hospital in Canada or the United States. The cost of running this branch will also be reduced, as several members of the staff will be released owing to new machinery being away with much routine work.



WILL SEEK MARBLES CHAMPIONSHIP.

Here are Isaac Walters, on the left, the winner of The Advertiser marble contest, and Garfield Newman, the runner-up on the right. The winner, who is the son of Thomas Walters of 19 Arthur street and a pupil at St. George's School, will go to Toronto to play in the finals in the Pantheon Theatre on Friday. There he will be the guest of the management of the Carls-Rite Hotel and will play against the champions of Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Calgary and Edmonton. The runner-up and the third and fourth prize winners will receive prizes from The Advertiser on Thursday afternoon. Garfield Newman, who lives at 566 Richmond street, was a close second. Both boys played a splendid game under the severe weather conditions prevailing in Thames Park Playground.



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KING'S SPEECH OPENS BIG EMPIRE EXHIBITION

Sovereign of the Empire Speaks For Whole World To Hear.

WILL BEGET UNITY

Says Exhibition Is Graphic Illustration of Spirit of Free Co-operation.

Associated Press Despatch. Wembley, April 23.—The British Empire Exhibition, covering 220 acres of ground and including displays from every part of the British commonwealth, was opened today by King George, to continue until September, as the mecca of thousands from overseas as well as the millions of the United Kingdom.

The exhibition was formally turned over to the King by the Prince of Wales, as president, at a colorful ceremony in the huge athletic stadium, staged with all the pageantry which surrounds the public activities of British royalty.

The addresses of the King and the prince, picked up by radio, were heard by more persons than have ever before listened at one time to the words of a British sovereign and his heir apparent.

Hundreds of thousands throughout the British Isles heard the King's voice for the first time. In London, loud speakers had been set up in the public squares, and as the King began to speak a great hush fell on the street crowds.

In addition to the radio broadcast, See Page 2, Column 2 and 3.

CITY LOST \$6,000 IN '23 THROUGH TAX SYSTEM

Treasurer Bell Predicts Government's Collection Methods Will Be Adopted.

The day is not far distant when the municipality will be empowered to collect income tax in much the same manner as the federal income tax is gathered in, predicts City Treasurer James Bell.

London lost about \$6,000 last year alone through the present system of assessment and collection of income tax, the treasurer reminds, stating that the greater portion of this amount would have been otherwise saved.

Under present arrangements, the citizen files his income tax return before April 30, the same day set by the federal authorities.

But the chief difference lies in the fact that the federal officials demand a certain payment at the time of filing.

LONDONERS WILL FURNISH CONCERTS OVER RADIO

A special musical program will be broadcasted tonight from station C.F.L.C. 439 metres, London, between the hour of 7:15 and 8 o'clock. Thursday night the Harmony Orchestra of this city will broadcast from the same station at the above hour. These programs will be broadcasted from the radio station of C. G. Hunter, Adelaide street, which is one of the finest sets in the city.

UDY PROPOSED SECURING BOYS' OPINIONS UPON LIFE VOCATION

Believes Plan Would Increase Number of Technical School Pupils.

MILLER UNFAVORABLE

Principal Beal, However, Is Vigorously in Favor of Plan.

As a means of relieving the pressure of attendance in the London Collegiate, Trustee A. N. Udy has a suggestion in favor of greater use of the Technical School, where possible along the lines of vocational training as follows.

He asks, "Would it not be a good plan to have the principals of the Central Collegiate and of the Technical School interview all the boys who have passed their high school entrance to see what they want to be in life, and find out the vocation they want to follow. I believe that many of them are old enough to have fairly definite ideas on this point, and that many would go to the Technical School for their training. Even if there was only this change in their place of study and their form of work, it would certainly relieve the pressure in the collegiate at least for a time, and would help to meet the situation this autumn."

Mr. Udy says that this is the plan followed in Ottawa, where it works out well and satisfies both the pupils and principals. He has interviewed Principal Miller of the collegiate on the subject, and also Principal Beal of the Technical. Principal Miller thinks that this would not be altogether fair on boys, who, he says, would be too young to make such a choice in his life work with justice to himself, while the principal of the Technical School is vigorously in favor of the scheme.

BRITISH PREMIER RETIRES TO WALES FOR HOLIDAY

Associated Press Despatch. London, April 23.—Prime Minister J. Ramsay MacDonald is in Wales taking his first holiday since the Labor Party's rise to power. He is far away from crowds and newspaper and orders have been issued that he is not to be disturbed with official business during the few days rest he is having before going to Windsor for his first visit at the king's home.

NAMES OF NEW FIREMEN TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

While Fire Chief Aitken has not yet announced who the ten new men will be, he stated that he has almost completed the job of picking from out of 40 applications received.

He expects to have the list ready for publication within a few days.

The Weather

FORECASTS. Today—Moderate winds; fine and somewhat warmer.

Monday—Fair to sunny. Southerly winds; mostly fair and mild.

The depression which was over the Lake Region yesterday morning now covers the Lower St. Lawrence Valley, and another low area extends from the Northwest States to Arizona.

Pressure is high from the Great Lakes southward. Rain and snow have occurred from the Georgian Bay eastward to the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The weather continues rather cool in the West. Temperatures.

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

Stations	High	Low	Weather
Victoria	52	38	Clear
Calgary	44	28	Snowy
Winnipeg	59	32	Clear
Port Arthur	48	24	Rain
Cochran	49	29	Clear
Toronto	42	26	Fair
Kingston	46	35	Fair
Ottawa	49	38	Cloudy
Montreal	42	22	Fair
Quebec	38	22	Snowy
Father Point	42	20	Cloudy
St. John's	40	24	Cloudy
Halifax	50	36	Rain

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 45; lowest, 31.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 44; lowest, 31. Barometric Readings. Tuesday—8 p.m.—29.99. Today—8 a.m.—29.88.