

COUNCIL OF WOMEN WORK FROM ATLANTIC TO PACIFIC

Constantly Aiming to Improve the Conditions of Women and Children in the Dominion of Canada in All Walks of Life.

LONDON CONVENTION IS NOTABLE FOR MANY WOMEN OF INTELLECT

Gathering in the Normal School Is Representative of the Best Feminine Thought and Advanced Opinions—Some Interviews Today.

Not often in a lifetime is a Canadian city visited by such a gathering as the National Council of Women now convened in the Normal School Building. Probably in no other country could there be found such a representative body of women, both intellectually and geographically, as are now gathered together for the discussion of problems affecting the womanhood and child life of Canada. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the coast towns and the cities of the Middle West, nearly every centre in the Dominion has its representative in the council, and each delegate stands for the best feminine thought of his community.

The leaders in civic, social and charitable work throughout the nation are here, brought together for the interchange of helpful ideas, to study the results accomplished by the council, and to make plans for the continuation of the work of the council.

The National Council is the actual working out of that interchange of thought and interest among the women of Canada which is the underlying idea of the women's movement.

FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN. While neglecting no opportunity for the agitation of better laws for the protection of women and children, and standing firmly for the cause of social betterment, the Council of Women is not a militant body in the sense that the English suffragettes and other workers for "women's rights" might be called "militant." They prefer to work along same broad lines for the improvement of conditions as they are, rather than to attempt the upsetting of the present order, and the establishment of an entirely new political status for women. In fact, it is very hard to get one of the delegates to discuss the suffrage question at all, except in the most guarded manner.

For instance, a reporter asked Mrs. W. J. White, of Vancouver, whether the women of British Columbia desired the same political status enjoyed by their sex in the neighboring state of California, where women are allowed to vote in national elections.

WOMEN'S VOTES. "Well, you see, we already have a vote in the municipal election," was the reply, "and in our first campaign we elected a woman school trustee by a large majority. Our candidate never made a speech, yet the support she received was gratifying, and she is filling her position in a way which commands the respect of the community. Through her influence with the civic government, backed by the Council of Women, we have secured the appointment of two women policemen, who will, no doubt, be of great service to the community in the handling of certain cases where women are involved. These officers have full police powers, and can make any arrest within the jurisdiction of a city patrolman. It is felt that many unfortunate women and children might be led to confide their troubles to a woman officer, who might in this way accomplish much which would be impossible to a man."

LAW'S UNFAIR. "The Council of Women in Vancouver feel that the laws regarding women and children in British Columbia are unfair and behind the times. Enacted for the most part in pioneer days they are not adapted to present conditions, and we are making a determined effort for better legislation. We especially desire a change in the laws regarding inheritance and the custody of children."

"I really don't think our women need the vote," said Mrs. F. C. Perry, of West Algoma. "The men of our district are always ready to show us every consideration, and I think the objects for which we are working can be attained without the use of the ballot as a weapon."

Mrs. Perry is largely interested in hospital work, and work among the large foreign population of the cities of Port William and Port Arthur.

INFANT MORTALITY. "One of the most important works accomplished in our district is the reduction of infant mortality," she told The Advertiser. "In former years the infant mortality of the two Lake Superior cities was awful to contemplate. The council of women has for a long time been working hand in hand with the board of health to minimize this slaughter of the innocents, and we have reduced the mortality among babies a great deal more than 50 per cent. You would scarcely believe the remarkable improvement which has resulted from the passage of a pure milk bylaw and other health measures. Largely through the influence of the Council of Women the twin cities now have a good system of playgrounds, where the children can find room to play amid wholesome surroundings."

(Continued on Page Eleven.)

RED CROSS WORK IN S. A. WAR

GREATEST OF NATIONAL COUNCIL

Lady Taylor Tells The Advertiser of the Inception of the Organization.

"What is the greatest work of the Council of Women? That is a hard question to answer," said Lady Taylor, of the Advertiser, this morning. "The scope of the council's interest includes all branches of charitable and reformatory work among women and children. I think one of the greatest achievements to the credit of the council is its work in connection with the Red Cross at the time of the South African War."

Lady Taylor has been prominent in the work of the council since its organization back in 1893. The achievement was largely an outgrowth of the World's Congress of Women at the Chicago World's Fair.

Lady Taylor told the reporter. It was organized right across the country from coast to coast by Lady Aberdeen, and has taken firm root throughout Canada. It was largely influential in establishing the Victorian Order of Nurses in Canada, another work which I regard as among the greatest undertaken by any body. The broad scope of the work, however, makes it impossible to point to any definite line of work in which the council excels. Its members are ready to work together for anything which promises to be for the best interests of the women and children of Canada."

BRANTFORD MAN ROBBED AT THE GRAND TRUNK DEPOT

Joseph Smith Relieved of the Sum of Forty-Eight Dollars.

That pickpockets operated with a degree of success on Grand Trunk trains in the vicinity of London in the holiday rush, is the belief of half a dozen people who lost money and valuables, and particularly Mr. Joseph Smith, an aged gentleman, who resides at 34 Bryden Place, Brantford.

Mr. Smith passed through London on Thursday afternoon en route from his home to Petrolia, where he spent the holiday with his brother. While in this city his pocket was picked, \$48 being taken from him. The money was kept in a black wallet and was made up of \$40 in ten dollar bills, two one dollar bills and the remainder in silver.

Mr. Smith returned to his home today, and while awaiting connection here reported the matter to the authorities.

Thomas Francis, who was arrested when he attempted to pick the pocket of Policeman Alex. Ewen at the Grand Trunk depot on Thursday afternoon is down on remand until Friday next when he will be brought before Police Magistrate Judd.

FIRE AT MOOSEJAW TIES UP THE CITY

Power House Which Cost Half a Million Destroyed.

Winnipeg, May 25.—Fire this morning destroyed the power house at Moose Jaw, with valuable machinery, which cost half a million dollars.

City light and water and power are shut off, and many industries, including all newspapers, are idle.

The citizens are back to primitive conditions.



DR. CURTISS.
Worcester man, who will deliver a series of addresses on the playgrounds movement in London.

FORMER LONDON MAN KILLED AT THE SOO

Remains of Late John Dinan Brought to This City For Burial.

The remains of John Rex Dewan, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. James Dewan, of 357 Oxford street, who died at Sault Ste. Marie on Thursday afternoon as a result of being crushed while employed at railroad work at the Soo a few days ago, arrived in London on the C. P. R. this morning, and interment will be made at St. Peter's Cemetery on Monday morning.

Mr. Dewan, who was but 27 years of age, was working as a brakeman at the Soo about a week ago, when he slipped in the snow, and stumbled in such a manner that he was crushed by a train about the lower part of the body. He was removed to a hospital there, and died on Thursday afternoon.

He is survived by his father and mother, one brother and five sisters—Ernest, Teresa, Loretta, Mary, Evelyn and Margaret. Requiem high mass will be solemnized at St. Peter's Cathedral on Monday morning.

DIED AT COURTHOUSE. [Special to The Advertiser.]

Courthouse, May 25.—The funeral of John Huff was held from the family residence today, and interment was made in the Union Cemetery at Moorestown. Deceased was 56 years old, and died on Thursday.

P. F. RENAUD DEAD. Quebec, May 25.—P. F. Renaud, of Beauceville, one of the most prominent merchants of the Beauce region, died suddenly yesterday at his home.

25-MILE AN HOUR WIND KEPT THE BIRDMAN ON THE GROUND

New York Airman Here With a Machine, But Owing to Conditions, the People, on Victoria Day, Did Not See a Flight at Queen's Park.

Beckwith Havens, of New York, a well known aviator, was to have made an ascension in an airship at Queen's Park yesterday, but owing to the strength of the wind, which showed a velocity of about 25 miles an hour, no attempt was made by the birdman to go up in the air. As a matter of fact, the ship was not even on the grounds, but was located on the south end of Carling's farm, on Dundas street east, the other side of the Empire Brass Manufacturing Company.

The crowd in the grandstands were very much annoyed, inasmuch as through an oversight it had not been announced that the birdman had found it impossible to fly. The people waited around after the close of the motor-cycle races, and the vain hope that the wind would go down, and the entire programme would be carried out. But the wind increased

in velocity, and out in the green pasture field on Dundas street the flier and his craft were waiting, too. Very few people knew that the ship had been taken out of the big tent on the fair grounds, and as a result, only an Advertiser reporter and a few "in the know" were able to see the ship at close range.

Ship Is No. 13. Mr. Havens, the aviator, is a young man of about 25, weighing less than 150 pounds. He is gentlemanly and good looking, and before he went into the bird business was something of a motor-cycle and auto racer. He's not superstitious, but when he saw the ship he was somewhat disappointed. "I'll be blown," he exclaimed, as he read the number of the aeroplane on the rudder.

It was No. 13. (Continued on Page Thirteen.)

LONDON FACE TO FACE WITH LONG, RUINOUS STRIKE

Over One Hundred Thousand of the Transport Workers Have Gone Out—Government Inquiry Started in Effort to End the Trouble.

London, May 24.—Today's developments have brought London face to face with the certainty of another prolonged, ruinous strike. Both masters and men seemed to be determined not to give way. All that has happened during the day has served to accentuate the differences between the employers and the employed in the transport workers' dispute.

A Government inquiry has been started, but it is not likely to have an immediate influence on the course of events. It is clear that the price of foodstuffs must soon be affected.

The most radical section of the strikers this afternoon threatened that they would soon hold London's food supply in their hands.

The transport workers' strike committee passed a resolution that no section of the affiliated societies should return to work until the grievances of all have been settled to their satisfaction. Over 100,000 men are now idle also, but in spite of this, the strike call has not been wholly obeyed. Some thousands of affiliated bodies, including most of the carmen, are working, but the recalcitrants will probably obey the strike call shortly.

AVIATOR FLEW OVER THE CITY; MADE SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT

Mr. Beckwith Havens, the aviator, made an ascent this afternoon shortly after 2 o'clock. The weather conditions were satisfactory, and he circled about the city without the slightest difficulty. Thousands of people were out to witness the exhibition.

He went to a very high altitude, until the machine looked scarcely larger than a large bird. At times he would come closer to the earth, and the whirr of the motor could be distinctly heard.

The Curtiss machine is a very graceful one, and fulfilled the expectation of all who witnessed it.

After flying about half an hour he alighted without difficulty on the Carling farm. The wind was growing in volume, and it was decided that owing to the tricky nature of the wind, no further flights would be attempted.

ELEVATOR FOR QUEBEC. Quebec, May 25.—The Quebec Harbour Commission has instructed B. A. Jameson, an expert elevator builder of Montreal, to prepare plans for the building of a million bushel capacity elevator, to be erected on the Louise Embankment, with provision for an extra million bushel storage.

THE MAN WHO REALLY UNDERSTANDS THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

By John T. McCutcheon.

(Copyright, 1912, By John T. McCutcheon.)



MRS. GEO. WATT,
of Brantford, Treasurer of the National Council of Women.

THOS. KENT'S WILL SUBJECT OF SUIT

Action to Invalidate It To Be Heard in the High Court.

THE CAUSE OF DISPUTE

Requests to Religious Purposes Held To Be Invalid—Next of Kin Enter Action.

An interesting action to have the will of the late Thomas Kent, who died on March 1, leaving an estate of \$100,000 to charities and missions, declared void, has been launched by the next of kin to the testator, and will be fought out in the high court here next fall.

Proceedings have been taken in the surrogate court, but the trial was transferred to the high court by an order made this morning by Mr. Justice Britton at the regular meeting of the weekly high court.

The Will. It will be remembered that the will of Mr. Kent, which was published in The Advertiser a few days after his death, provided small sums for certain relatives, and disposed of the remainder of the estate in the following manner:

To the Western Ontario Bible Society, ten shares of London Loan stock, Women's Christian Association and the Women's Refuge and Children's Home, fifteen shares.

Young Men's Christian Association, ten shares.

Protestant Orphans' Home, ten shares.

Convalescent Home, \$200.

Victoria Home for Incurables, ten shares.

Children's Aid Society, ten shares.

Victoria Hospital, London, twenty shares.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, twenty shares, to be devoted to home and foreign mission work.

First Methodist Church, twenty shares for the same purpose.

St. James' Presbyterian Church, \$1,000, to be applied to the church debt, and to Tabernacle Baptist Church for foreign missions, ten shares.

Mr. Kent's residence, "Elfrace," on Central avenue, is to be sold, and the proceeds given to the British and Foreign Bible Society, of London, Eng.

The moderator and session of the New St. James Presbyterian Church were then made the residuary legatees to the extent of about \$75,000, the money to be held in trust and devoted to domestic and foreign mission work of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

The Cause of Dispute. This residuary bequest is now the chief cause of dispute and will form the bone of contention in the legal battle.

The executors of the estate, Dr. MacArthur, John C. Snell and R. W. Puddicombe, are made the plaintiffs in the action, in accordance with the usual procedure and now enter suit to prove the validity of the bequest.

The defendant, Sarah Ann Strath, of Toronto, a sister of the deceased, and his next of kin, will contest the will and endeavor to show that the testator was not competent.

It is claimed by the relatives that the bequests to missions are invalid, the law relating to charities being called into the suit. This provides that no man may tie up his estate perpetually excepting for charitable purposes, and the contestants contend that missions are not charities.

Mr. Kent was one of the founders of the London Loan Company, and was for many years president and a director of that institution. A great deal of stock was, therefore, held by him, and this was distributed among relatives and different charitable institutions.

The will in dispute was made on Nov. 11, 1909.

THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—FINE AND WARM. Forecasts, May 25—8 a.m. Light to moderate winds; fine and warm today and on Sunday.

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

Stations	High	Low	Weather
LONDON	77	60	Clear
Calgary	72	40	Clear
Winnipeg	74	52	Clear
Port Arthur	64	40	Clear
Fort Snodgrass	64	42	Clear
Toronto	80	50	Clear
Ottawa	74	50	Clear
Montreal	78	54	Clear
Quebec	70	46	Clear
Father Point	56	40	Clear

The highest and lowest temperatures on Friday were 83.5 and 58 respectively.

Very fine weather now prevails in nearly all portions of the Dominion, with no immediate indication of a change in existing conditions.

DR. MACGREGOR TAKES THE STAND

Insisted On Having Post-Mortem Held On Body of Scyrel.

SUSPECTED POISONING

Mentioned Possibility of Arsenical Poisoning to Dr. Conboy After Studying Deceased's System.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Bad Axe, Mich., May 24.—Dr. Robert Macgregor took the stand to testify in his own behalf this morning. He said that he was 36 years of age. He related the early incidents of his life in and near London, Ontario. He said that he practiced medicine in Nebraska from April, 1897, to the fall of 1902. Then he located at Barnstable, Mich. for a year, and bought a practice at Uby.

The doctor said he first became acquainted with the Sparling family in 1907. He said that he had Mrs. Sparling go to London for an operation in the fall of that year. It was performed by a London doctor, and was partially successful.

Subsequently her eyes were seriously affected, and he recommended that she go to a specialist in Detroit, which she did. After that the doctor treated the woman, in accordance with the recommendations of the specialist. The condition of the woman's eyes was attributed to an hereditary disease.

With the final outcome of the case admittedly largely dependent upon the manner in which Dr. Robert A. Macgregor himself testified on the stand, a day's examination of him by his attorney, Joseph Walsh, resulted in his explaining away many of the facts previously construed unfavorably to him. Mr. Walsh was not through questioning him when the Friday session of court was concluded.

Asked for Post-Mortem. Dr. Macgregor declared that he asked the members of the Sparling family for a post-mortem examination after Albert Sparling's death, and insisted upon one after Cyril had died. He stated that he had asked for consultations with other physicians during the last illness of each of the boys, and that the other doctors were unable to diagnose the trouble correctly.

Denying that he had thrown medicine bottles into the fire that morning after Albert Sparling's death, the defendant said that what he did was to throw a box of strychnine tablets, for which there was no further use, into the stove.

Several other statements by the prosecution's witnesses were denied by the defendant.

That arsenic was not considered by either him or the other physicians until the time of Cyril's illness, was affirmed by the doctor who said that he first thought of poison after a careful study of the symptoms, and that he mentioned the possibility to Dr. Conboy as soon as the thought came to him.

Today's Evidence. Bad Axe, Mich., May 25.—Dr. Macgregor continued his recital of his side of the Sparling affair in the circuit court this morning. He stated that he asked Drs. Herrington, Conboy and Holdship to be present at the post-mortem in event of Scyrel Sparling's death. This request he said was made the day before the boy died. After the boy's death the doctor said that he first put in a phone call for the prosecuting attorney, and was unable to get him. He said he then called Drs. Conboy and Herrington, putting in four calls for them that night. He said that Dr. Conboy stated that he did not believe a post-mortem was necessary, and that the Bad Axe doctors were unable to come because of an emergency operation, and that he therefore went ahead, and that the liver was taken out, said Dr. Holdship stated that it looked malignant or cancerous. The defendant said that the reason for the post-mortem was removed because he and Dr. Holdship thought that the organ looked good, and Dr. Holdship stated that it was empty.

Other details of the post-mortem told of by the defendant were in accord with the statements of the previous witnesses. He said that he took the liver away for examination because its outward indications seemed to show that all the trouble lay there while the stomach seemed to be all right.

The doctor denied that he told Dr. Morden that he had cut into Scyrel's stomach. He declared that he made no such statement to either Dr. Conboy or Dr. Herrington, and indicated that they must have secured their idea regarding the matter from his statement that he had examined the stomach. He stated that he did not remove the stomach because his medical study had convinced him that if arsenic had caused death it would be found in the liver, while it might be found in the stomach without indicating that death was due to it.

MRS. PLUMPTRE. of Toronto, Recording Secretary of the National Council of Women.