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PROBS—MILDER WITH SNOW

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City Council Asks City Firemen Withdraw Union After Lively Time at Last Night's Meeting

Ald. Veale Brings in the Resolution Which Starts the Ball Rolling.

Ald. Avery He is Credited With Encouraging Formation of Firemen's Union—The Lie Passed.

At the meeting of the City Council last night at which there was a good attendance of ratepayers, a resolution from the fire brigade was read with reference to the requested increase of wages.

William Chestney, first spokesman of the deputation asked that the wages be \$110, \$120 and \$130 per month for first, second and third year respectively.

The two other delegates also addressed the Council. They said the last wages kept them in debt all the time. It is a state of affairs which they wish to have continued. They urged the advancement should be made at once.

Mayor Lovelace said he had no objection to the Council dealing with the matter sympathetically with the firemen and the firemen could rest assured that it would be settled at once without any dallying.

G.A.C. Asks Favors. Lincoln Post of the G.A.C. wrote Council asking the following conditions:

1. That we be granted the use of the city park for a pool room in our hall, together with a canteen; also that we be permitted to run or rent a hall for dancing.

2. That we be granted the use of the pavilion in the city park for being during the summer, two days a week.

3. That we be granted permission to run a canteen in the city park.

4. That we be granted the use of the park on July 1st, 1920, and that we be allowed to run a tag day on the same date.

5. That you refund to us the fee charged to us on January 1st, 1920, for our boxing match, \$15.

6. The G.W.V.A. asked that Thomas be appointed on the Housing Commission.

7. License asked for a license for a laundry at 111 Queenston St., which was ratified by Chief Greene.

8. Hold Elections Earlier. London City Council asked St. Catharines' co-operation in having municipal elections changed with a view to having all places vote on the same day, earlier than at present.

9. London Council also asked St. Catharines' co-operation in endeavoring to have part of auto license fees shared by municipalities to go to help up local roads.

10. Ald. Graves reported for the Finance Committee, concluding with: "Your committee would recommend that the various boards and departments of the city be requested to submit their estimates for the year 1920 on or before Feb. 15 next. Your committee would also recommend that this municipality guarantee the payment of \$170 to cover the city's share of the initial expense in connection with the Industrial Conference recently decided upon at the meeting of the Niagara District Industrial Association of the Canal and Power Zone."

BEAMSVILLE GETS WARDENSHIP FOR FIRST TIME IN 25 YEARS; REEVE C. E. GARLOTT CHOSEN

Reeve Charles E. Garlott of Beamsville was this afternoon elected warden of Lincoln county. There were two other candidates, Reeve Weststead of Grantham and Reeve Farrell of Grimsby, but in the caucus before the council met, Mr. Garlott was chosen on the first ballot. Weststead and Farrell third.

Warden Garlott, in taking the chair after being "moved" there by Reeve Weststead and Reeve Mitchell, made a brief address. He was extremely grateful for the honor conferred upon him. The last time Beamsville owned a warden was twenty-five years ago. He congratulated County Clerk Clench on his 58th year of office. He asked for the support and co-operation of the chairmen of the committees, and he felt sure that by working together they would have a successful and enjoyable year together.

Ald. Dakers read the report of the Board of Works Committee, recommending that the application of the Bell Telephone Company to erect poles on Ottawa street between Geneva street and Wiley street be and is hereby granted without prejudice to the city's interests and that the City Engineer be and is hereby instructed to supervise the location of same.

"Your committee further recommend that the Mayor and Clerk be and are hereby authorized to sign the agreement dated August 2nd, 1919 between the Hamilton Cataract Power, Light and Traction Company, Limited, and the Corporation of the City of St. Catharines, for an easement across lands on the western bank of the Twelve Mile Creek for the construction, operation and maintenance of an outlet sewer for the Western Hill sewer system.

The preliminary enquiry has been very protracted, and it is expected that the trial will last a fortnight. More than eighty witnesses are to be examined.

Information, so far to hand, does not give anything very new regarding the German method, but bears out previous information regarding incessant attempts in German prison camps, to undermine, by all methods, the loyalty of the Frenchmen. Of the thirteen defendants seven are in captivity, while six have disappeared. They are charged with assisting in the production of such propaganda journals as The Gazette des Ardennes, The Bruxellaise Paix and the Gazette de Lorraine.

Some of the accused, it is alleged, acted under the order of the "Blond Lady." Giving them money, she sent them into France, furnished with all the necessary papers apparently in perfect order, to spread the doctrine of defeatism. Others of the accused played a less risky role as agents provocateurs in prison camps.

THREE MILES LIBERTY WITH A BROKEN LEG LETHBRIDGE, Alta., Jan. 27.—Jessie Lakner of Lethbridge, who escaped from the Provincial Jail here Friday night, was caught on Saturday evening hiding in a house in the down-town district. He suffered a

Typographical Union Officers For 1920

At last night's regular monthly meeting of Typographical Union No. 416, the following officers were elected for the year 1920:

President: Frank Schmidt.
Vice-President: John E. Booker.
Financial Secretary: Lorne Calcott.
Record Secretary: Wm. Rody.
Cor. Secretary: Stanley Wilson.
Treasurer: Malcolm McSpottan.
Sergt. at Arms: Victor Hartman.

IRISH SMUGGLE IN AMERICAN RIFLES

LONDON, Jan. 27.—A report received from County Clare says that two thousand rifles of American manufacture have been smuggled on to the Irish coast. The police were aware of the smuggling, but did not interfere until the number reached big proportions.

OLD COUPLE OUT IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NIAGARA ARE IN NEED OF ATTENDANCE

Yesterday afternoon Agent R. E. Boyle of the Children's Aid Society in his meanderings through Niagara township in the discharge of his duties, found an interesting old couple living in a patch of woods below Virgil. They are Patrick and Bridgett O'Connell, but by reason of their using soft coal entirely, they are as black as negroes. The old couple are in bad circumstances and certainly need attention.

Patrick himself is stone blind and his decrepit spouse is scarcely able to look out for her own needs, to say nothing of a blind man.

Mr. Boyle questioned them as to their ages.

"I remember," said Patrick, in his rich brogue, "how me mother was carrying me about in a shawl in the year of the big wind in Ireland."

Further than that he was unaware of the date of his birth. His wife did not even remember the big wind.

"They must both be over eighty," said Mr. Boyle, "and they cannot look after themselves. Money would be of no use to them. They want care by kindly disposed persons." He said the old couple had of late been getting necessities of life by selling off the timber on their twenty acres.

"The Naughty Wife" Pleased a Good House

"The Naughty Wife," which was the attraction at the Grand Opera House last evening, proved one of the best chasers of the blues yet put on in the city. Reeve Greenwood, as Eloise Farrington, the naughty wife, proved herself a fitting artist in her role, as did the rest of the members of the company. The play, which was a comedy in three acts, produced many embarrassing moments for the principals in an elopement in which the husband of the eeloping wife did his best to make the honeymoon a fitting wayward couple a complete success, even to the extent of going to the trouble of packing his wife's wardrobe, and putting his fine summer cottage at the disposal of the elopers. It was mostly through the fine sportsmanship of the husband that the elopement was finally abandoned, and hubby and his romantic bride were reunited after a brief but embarrassing period of two days' duration. The home-smasher, Darrell McKnight, found himself at the altar in the end, with a lively young widow, whom he had only recently jilted to run away with Mrs. Farrington. At times, the audience, which was a large one, was moved to many a side-splitting laugh, provoked by the many embarrassing situations in which the young elopers found themselves at times.

Would Volunteer If Trouble Occurs

The Journal was informed by four different business men today that if the firemen persisted in their attitude with regard to the perpetuation of a union after being advised by the Council to disband, and if any trouble occurred between the city and the union these business men would volunteer to serve the city in case of any fire. They would step into the breach and do what they could to protect the city till the situation is cleared up. The sentiment of the men who spoke was that they felt the firemen were entitled to good conditions, to a living wage, and to as fair working terms as possible, but they do not favor the existence of a union and would lend their services if necessary at any time if the firemen could stand by their union and walk out.

Sacred Rota Tribunal is Approaching a Conclusion In Bishop Fallon's Case

ROME, Jan. 27.—The Sacred Rota Tribunal is approaching conclusion of the case of defamation between Monsignor Fallon, Bishop of London, Ont., and the Revs. Beaudoin, Langlois, Lereaux, Loiseau and St. Eyr, the last of whom is now dead. The case originated with articles appearing in Canadian papers in the year 1910 accusing Monsignor Fallon of favoring the Irish against the French-Canadians. The attacks extended to the Apostolic Delegate at that time.

Investigation of the case has been going on for ten years.

Theft in Railway Yard—At Niagara Falls Costs Yergler \$100 and Costs

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., Jan. 27.—John Yerrick, who came up at the police court yesterday morning, on a charge of receiving stolen goods, from a M.C.R. shipment or gloves and other merchandise, was fined \$100 and was made to pay another \$50 restitution and \$18 costs. The stealing had occurred at Montrose yards. According to M.C.R. detectives

FIREMEN DECLARE THEY WON'T STRIKE AND WON'T RESIGN, BUT THEY WILL STAND PAT

Claim Their Union is Merely An Association, and That They Cannot Strike if They Would.

Members of the fire brigade spoken to today as to the possibility of a strike or the whole brigade resigning because the city council had by resolution asked them to withdraw their union so recently organized, said there would be nothing of the kind.

"We are just standing pat," they declared. "Ours is not a union. We can't strike. Our Constitution says so. Firemen are organizing all over Canada and you can't stop them. We won't give up our union no matter what happens."

"Then there is no possibility of the brigade resigning as a body?" was asked by The Journal.

"Not the slightest. We are not going to resign and leave the city at the mercy of fires. We'll stand firm and do our duty."

They reiterated their statement that their union is affiliated with the Fire Fighters' Union of America, and that they are also affiliated with St. Catharines Trades and Labor Council.

The men appeared quite satisfied to have the City Council deal with their request for increase in wages, even if it didn't go through the union. "What we want is a living wage," said an officer. "We can discuss unionism with them, too, if they want us to, but we never brought up the subject of unionism. That was the City Council."

Sir Oliver Lodge Says He Has An Open Mind With Regard to Miracles

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—Sir Oliver Lodge's study of the supernatural has changed his attitude toward miracles. He has become more open-minded toward accounts of religious miracles in the subsequent ages and at the present time. In his rooms at the Ritz-Carlton Sir Oliver said:

"On the whole, I was a skeptic with regard to miracles and I felt sympathy with what I think Matthew Arnold said: 'Miracles don't happen.' But since my investigation I have come upon so many things that I keep an open mind on miracles. I think a great deal more is possible than we had supposed to be likely. On the whole, I am inclined to accept the New Testament record in the main as fairly corresponding to fact."

When asked if he had ever investigated any of the recent continuing miracles, as put forward by the Catholic church, he said:

"I have not gone into any ecclesiastical matters, but certain testimony about levitation makes me think it possible that some of the Catholic miracles are genuine. I have seen objects move without contact. What that means I am not prepared to say. It enlarges one's idea of physical fact. In these matters I am guided wholly by fact and experience, not by theory or prejudice."

SENATE PASSES BILL TO AMERICANIZE ALL CITIZENS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The senate by a vote of 36 to 14 today passed the Kenyon Americanization bill which would require all residents of the United States 16 to 21 years of age, not mentally or physically disqualified, and all aliens residents between the ages of 16 and 45 who cannot speak, read or write English, to attend school not less than 200 hours a year.

ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE GERMAN FINANCE MINISTER MADE ON BERLIN STREETS

Mathias Erzberger Shot in Shoulder by Bullet From Revolver of a Youthful Student—Was Leaving the Court Where Libel Suit on

BERLIN, Jan. 27.—Mathias Erzberger, the minister of finance, was wounded by a shot fired at him yesterday.

Her Erzberger was shot as he was leaving the criminal courts building after a hearing in the Helfferich suit. The minister was slightly wounded in the shoulder. His assailant, who gave his name as Oltwig von Hirschfeld, was seized by the police and taken to a police station where his name was discovered. He is twenty years old, and is now a student living in a suburb of Berlin with his parents. His father is a bank official.

Watch Chain Stopped Bullet. Herr Erzberger was engaged in conversation with his solicitor, Dr. Friedlander, outside the criminal court at 2.30 o'clock, when his assailant, who was well dressed, approached and fired a revolver at the finance minister. The shot grazed his shoulder. Dr. Friedlander sprang at the youth, who at the same time fired a second shot, which hit Herr Erzberger in the region of the stomach, but glanced off his watch chain and a button.

Herr Erzberger staggered into his motor car, which was waiting to take him home, and drove off at full speed.

While the finance minister is not seriously wounded, an operation will be necessary to extract the bullet from his shoulder.

When arrested von Hirschfeld declared that he considered Erzberger dangerous to the empire.

The police authorities began an investigation of the prisoner at four o'clock and interrogated him for several hours.