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The London Advertiser

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LONDON, ONTARIO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1922.

TWENTY PAGES.

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AWAIT OTTAWA RULING IN McDONALD CASE

Carmen Ready To Battle Wage Cut In Courts

UNION SERVES FORMAL NOTICE UPON COMPANY

Street Railway Employees To Use Injunction Method To Prevent Lower Pay.

CONFERENCE WITH FIRM WILL ALSO BE PROPOSED
President Colbert Intimates Determined Opposition Awaits 3-Cent Reduction.

Saturday afternoon the London Street Railway Company was notified by officials of the street railwaymen's union that "there would be no acceptance on March 1 of the proposed three-cent an hour reduction."

In addition to this the company was invited to a conference with representatives of the union, following which it will be necessary, the men say, to take such legal action as will restrain the company from carrying out its proposal.

This is the first time that the men have officially notified the company that they cannot accept the proposed change in wages, and the decision, although anticipated for a considerable length of time, came after a special meeting of the union executive Friday evening.

Should the company decline to open negotiations it is freely admitted by the men that injunction proceedings will be resorted to in lieu of a strike.

The men claim that the company would be deliberately violating the street railway act should it place any revised schedule of wages into effect without seeking the advice of a board of conciliation.

In discussing the question today John Colbert, president of the union, was emphatic in his contention that the men would fight the company, and desired to point out that among the various municipalities of the province the street car men of London were the lowest paid.

The president intimated a struggle to the finish loomed.

SUES MACKENZIE-MANN FOR SHARES

James Moodie, Calgary Coal Operator, Enters Action for \$200,000.

Calgary, Feb. 18.—James M. Moodie, coal operator of Calgary, has commenced an action in the courts claiming judgment for \$200,000 against Sir William MacKenzie and Sir Donald Mann, P. Burns of Calgary, the Rosedale Clay and Products Company of Calgary; Rosedale Coal Company, Toronto, and the Trusts and Guarantee Company of Calgary, all co-defendants in the action.

Mr. Moodie is suing for himself and other shareholders in the Rosedale Coal and Clay Products Company with the exception of those shareholders who are defendants in the action.

In 1915 Moodie was the largest shareholder in the Rosedale Coal and Clay Products Company. He claims he transferred 32,320 shares of the capital stock valued at \$5 each to MacKenzie and Mann. He now alleges they or their agents have converted these shares to their own personal use and have refused to give an accounting. It is further alleged that by the formation of the Rosedale Coal Company in 1921 MacKenzie and Mann gained complete control of the old company and transferred all assets of the new company.

No defence has been filed by the co-defendants.

BELOW ZERO WEATHER HITS NEW BRUNSWICK

Fredericton, Feb. 18.—New Brunswick is having its most extreme below zero weather in a decade today. The official temperature here this morning was 35 below zero, and that being the record at the Dominion meteorological station at the University of New Brunswick, while private thermometers showed as low as from 35 to 44 below zero.

URNS OVER STADIUM TO FRENCH COMMITTEE

Paris, Feb. 18.—Pershing stadium was turned over by the City of Paris today to the French committee in charge of the arrangements for the 1924 Olympic games. The stadium will be used exclusively in the training of the athletes who will compete in the games.

Students Can't Agree Why Love Is Blind

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Feb. 18.—Twenty-one young men and women, members of the university biblical club, who were studying for the ministry here, have answered the question, "Why is love blind?" propounded at the last meeting of the club and here are some of the answers from the women:

"Because he respects other people's feelings."
"So that lovers will not be embarrassed."
"He is too much taken up with the matter in hand to notice other people's feelings."
"He must be blind because he does not profit by his past. Pedagogically speaking, he has merely recapitulated."
"It's luck he is blind or he'd work himself to death."
From one of the men came:

"Take a look around the old town at the spectacles. If he weren't blind would he have made any such combinations?"

HOLDS UP BANK IN EDMONTON

Lone Bandit, Unmasked, Steals \$2,000 in Daylight Robbery.

Edmonton, Alta., Feb. 18.—A daring daylight robbery took place at the North Edmonton branch of the Union Bank at noon yesterday, and the lone bandit who held up the manager single-handed at the point of a shotgun, made his escape with about \$2,000 in cash. The entire force of the city police are in pursuit of the man, who became lost to view in the bush in the vicinity of Beverly. At 10 o'clock last night no arrests had been made. The bandit operated alone, according to all evidence at hand, although he told the bank manager that a false move would bring bullets from another man. The holdup left the bank by the front door, and a few minutes after the manager emerged and fired three shots after him. That was the first intimation outsiders had of the crime, but they joined in a whole-hearted pursuit.

The posse, following tracks in the snow, found the trail, leading in the direction of Beverly, but could not sight their man. A party of surveyors working in the vicinity gave the last clue as to where the bandit was last seen, and the local police authorities took up the chase from this point.

AHRENS TO STAY IN KITCHENER

Kitchener, Feb. 18.—Carl Ahrens, who was found not guilty of the charge of murdering his wife and discharged by Justice Latchford last night, will remain in Kitchener and resume his duties at the Dominion Tire Company, according to information learned from a close friend of the exonerated man.

The young man has a host of friends in this city and in their congratulations extended to him last night following his acquittal they urged him to remain in the city. It is understood Ahrens had no intention of leaving home.

CLAIMS BOTTOMLEY GAVE HIM WAR STOCK TICKET

London, Feb. 18.—(Canadian Press)—In the course of the opening of the trial of Robert Bigland yesterday at the Shropshire assizes on a charge of inciting three persons to blackmail Horatio Bottomley, M. P., during the Wrokin-by-election in 1920, Bigland's counsel alleged that his client had lent money to Bottomley, and Bottomley in 1918 had given him a ticket in what he called was stock combining, saying that he had arranged that, Bigland or his nominee should win the third prize of £2,500 in war bonds. Counsel added that the prize was actually won by Bigland's niece, Bigland went to Wellington, said counsel, with the idea of returning the money and clearing his conscience.

Three witnesses testified, upholding the blackmail charge. The hearing was adjourned.

CLAIMS PRICE OF WIVES HAS DOUBLED IN SOUDAN

London, England, Feb. 18.—Lord Dewar, speaking at a meeting of the Leysian Mission here, said that profiteering had spread everywhere since the war, even into the Sudan, where it had extended to the price of wives.

"In the Sudan before the war," he said, "a wife could be got for four spearheads. Now the price has doubled; one has to pay eight spearheads. In the cattle country it used to be four cows; now the price is seven cows."

RADIAL ISSUES LIKELY SOURCE OF BIG DISPUTE

Far-Reaching Question May Involve Future of Public Ownership.

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT GUARANTEE RADIAL BONDS

Sir Adam Beck Leads Faction Seeking More Authority for Hydro Commission.

(Written for the Canadian Press by R. K. Carnegie.)

Toronto, Feb. 18.—By Canadian Press.—With the opening of the Ontario Provincial Parliament, the forecast is heard on all sides in the legislative halls and corridors at Queen's Park that the measure around which will revolve the greatest arguments during the session, will be the hydro radial bill, which the government plans to introduce. It is just possible, of course, that the separate school question will burst like a comet into the political sky and bedim other issues, which now appear brilliant and imposing, but with the exception of that possibility the radial bill looks like the big dispute.

It is a far-reaching question, on the disposal of which may largely depend the future of public ownership in this province. It is of great importance to the more densely settled portions of Ontario, but it should, and no doubt does interest the more thinly inhabited constituencies.

Many a man who 15 years ago was as little concerned with the hydro-electric projects as he was with China's problems, is today using hydro energy to light his house and all his silos, so that it is hard to prophesy which townships will be outside the electric railway schemes of the future.

Guided by Commission. The view taken by the Drury Government is that if municipalities want to build and operate, they are free to do so by obtaining a majority vote of the ratepayers, but that the government will not assist them to finance the schemes, either by guaranteeing bonds or by any legislation which would give anyone the right to fix the slightest responsibility to the province as a whole for losses which these railways may entail.

The Sutherland commission, which the government appointed early in its regime, went extensively into the radial projects, which had been proposed under the Conservative Government, and pressed again when the Farmer-Labor coalition came into power. This commission came to the conclusion that if these railways were built, the most of them at least would be more apt to produce deficits than profits for some years to come. The Drury Government has been evidently guided by a great extent by the finding of this commission, as well as the history of the steam railways in this country.

If the municipalities want to take the chances, well and good, but the government will not be responsible to the extent of giving the investors the protection of a railway which would contracture of a railway which would serve only a group of municipalities.

The premier has since gone farther and opposes the proposal that municipalities issue debentures which would be turned over to the Hydro-Electric Commission, so that this commission could then sell bonds to finance the undertaking with the debentures as security for the bond issue. The ground for opposing this is the opinion that if the Hydro Commission issued the bonds, the provincial government could not escape financial responsibility in case of failure whether it actually guaranteed the securities or not.

Opposition Assured. This attitude is pretty sure to be opposed by those members of the opposition who stand for a vigorous prosecution of hydro radial schemes. While they may not be prepared to go as far as to want the province to guarantee the bonds, they will insist on much more generous provisions in the bill by which to enable the municipalities to sell the securities than the government has seen fit to include.

There will be minor points on which the status of the Hydro-Electric Commission in regard to radials. The original draft of the new bill provided that the municipalities behind any radial scheme could select any commission they chose to manage the project, and in this way could select the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission.

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Will Be Best Man at Royal Wedding!



SIR VICTOR MacKENZIE. LONDON, England, Feb. 18.—Sir Victor MacKenzie, who was twice wounded in the world war, it was announced today, will be best man for Viscount Lascelles when he weds Princess Mary Feb. 28.

PLAN OTTAWA SCHOOL FIGHT

Orangemen and Protestant Clergy From Public School Defence League.

URGE NATIONAL SYSTEM

Speaker Challenges Bishop Fallon To Accept Education Freed from Religion.

Ottawa, Feb. 18.—A public school ratepayers' meeting in St. George's parish hall last night to protest against any redivision of taxes to further benefit separate schools, formed themselves into a Public School Defence League, with a nominating committee empowered to form an executive that will institute a local campaign. The committee is headed by J. R. Hill, chairman of the public school board. Public School Trustee Harold Shipman presided at the meeting, which was attended largely by local Orangemen, Protestant clergy and laymen.

Mr. Hill pointed out that if Ottawa taxes were divided according to the school population separate schools would get the majority of taxes. Also that many companies serving the public in Ottawa voluntarily paid a proportion of their taxes to the separate schools.

The new tax move was characterized by Rev. R. Jefferson as another illustration of the Roman Catholic Church's desire to further its political ambitions. What he most regretted was that it should stir up racial and religious feeling in Ontario and Quebec which had begun to die down.

Laud Ontario Law. "Give us Ontario's law and the Protestant minority in Quebec will be well satisfied with what the Roman Catholic minority in Ontario claims unjust treatment," Rev. J. A. MacFarlane of Quebec, said. "In many parts of Quebec 76 per cent. of the neutral panel goes to the Roman Catholic schools and 20 per cent. to Turn to Page 3, Column 3.

Look For Boys' Own Tiser in This Edition

THE first edition of the Boys' Own Tiser is published today as a part of the regular Saturday afternoon edition of The Advertiser. You will find your copy inside this paper.

The boys of London are determined to make the Boys' Own Tiser interesting and instructive, so that parents and friends of the boys will take greater interest in the things that appeal most to boys.

"We'll have more pals among the boys and their dads, and better citizens as a result," said one of the editors of the new paper.

AHRENS FREED BY KITCHENER JURY VERDICT

Maintains Composure That Marked Conduct During the Trial When Discharged.

COURTROOM TENSE AS DECREE BRINGS FREEDOM

Foreman Announces Decision After Deliberation of Three and a Half Hours.

Special to London Advertiser.

KITCHENER, Feb. 17.—Carl Ahrens, charged with the murder of his wife in the Grand River on the evening of Nov. 16, is a free man, having been declared not guilty by a jury at 8 o'clock tonight and promptly discharged by Justice Latchford following the rendering of the verdict.

The jury was out three and a half hours.

It was a dramatic moment when the jury returned to the court room. The court had been adjourned from 6:30 until 8 o'clock, and Justice Latchford had just resumed his bench duties with a civil case when the foreman of the jury rapped on the door and informed the waiting sheriff that a verdict had been arrived at.

When the verdict was delivered no signs of emotion showed on Ahrens' face.

He maintained the same attitude of composure that had characterized him during the trial.

Discharges Prisoner. In discharging the prisoner, Justice Latchford said: "The jury, after patiently deliberating and considering the evidence, has found you not guilty of the most serious charge that can be laid against any man. You and you alone know in fact whether you murdered your wife or not. If you are innocent you have the satisfaction of it. If guilty in fact I am sorry of it, because I feel that in the most joyous moments, when loving eyes look into loving eyes, a face will rise before you and come between such pleasures. You are discharged."

Ahrens then left the courtroom accompanied by Governor Cook of the county jail.

In the corridors he was surrounded by friends who were overcome with joy at the verdict.

His lordship was quite impartial in his charge, placing stress upon strong points of the crown's evidence, and discarding other points which might lead to an unfair inference in connection with the accused.

Amends Statement. He amended his previous statement to the grand jury that the case was one of murder or nothing, and stated that the jury might bring in a verdict of guilty of manslaughter if from their deliberations they were convinced that Ahrens had brought his wife into a position of peril knowing that a slip of the pole she used in propelling the boat would precipitate her into the water, and after that had happened he did not make a very reasonable effort to save her life.

He especially counseled the jury that if they were truly convinced of the story Ahrens told in evidence was a true story they were to bring in a positive verdict of not guilty.

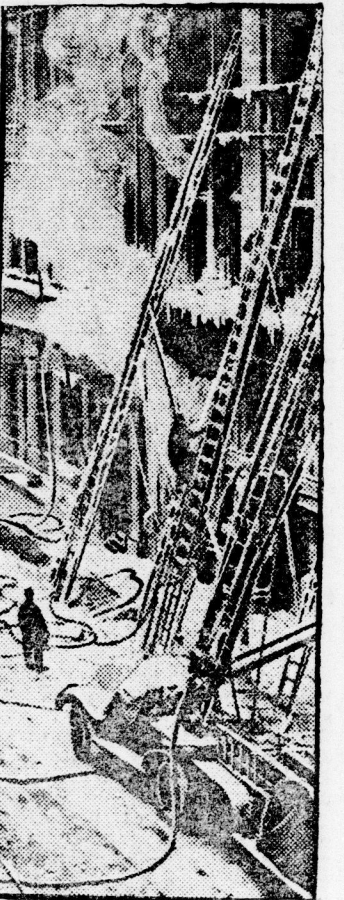
The principal points emphasized by his lordship in going over the evidence was the fact that although there was a friendship existing between Carl Ahrens and an unnamed Toronto woman there was nothing in the evidence to show that they had had at any time intimate relations. He declared, however, that the friendship was of sufficient strength to attract Carl Ahrens away from the employment, association and pleasure of the attractive summer camp on several occasions to visit this lady in Toronto.

Cites Auto Lack. His lordship also dwelt upon the fact that Ahrens had provided a motor car to take his wife to his parents' home when she arrived, and had also provided a motor car to take her for a medical examination for insurance the next day, but that he did not provide a motor car to take her to the camp in spite of the fact that to go by street car he had to get off at a point two miles distant from the Webber farm and walk a slushy road and cross the river in an uncomfortable punt to get to their destination.

Another feature of the evidence, which was emphasized by Justice Latchford, was the fact that when the body of Mrs. Ahrens was found, it was in a humped-up position with the clothing over the head.

Ahrens' reason for taking his wife to the camp was also dwelt upon by his lordship, who stated that pictures of the camp and camp life were shown to Mrs. Ahrens, with the result that she expressed a desire to see the place.

Ran On Sidewalk!



ST. JAMES STREET, Montreal, is so narrow that fire trucks had to be run on the sidewalk to fight the recent fire in the Standard Building, in which the loss amounted to \$1,000,000.

CRITICIZES WORK OF ARMS PARLEY

Norman H. Davis Fears U. S. Embroidery in European Alliances.

New York, Feb. 18.—Criticism of the Washington conference on armaments and Far Eastern questions was voiced in an address last night by Norman H. Davis, former United States under-secretary of state, who said it had been "anything but an American diplomatic victory."

Mr. Davis, speaking before the council on foreign relations, centered his attack upon the four-power treaty, which, he declared, left the British and Japanese fleets in control of the Far East. It also seemed, he argued, that instead of getting rid of the Anglo-Japanese alliance the United States had entered it, enlarged it, and changed the territory covered by it.

Through the treaty, he said, Japan obtained from the United States a pledge of good behavior in the Pacific without giving a reciprocal assurance.

The United States' entry into the pact, he added, might lead this country into the European system of alliances, such as have made wars general instead of localized, rather than toward the League of Nations "for any other genuine association of nations."

FINDS DUEL WAS FOUGHT TO DEATH

Hamilton, Feb. 18.—Inspector John Miller, of the provincial police force, believes he has solved the double murder of Dominic Trotte and Pasquale Villella, Italians, at Welland last Sunday. He has established that there was no third party, and that the men fought a duel to the death. The quarrel on Sunday afternoon over O. T. A. charges. Thirty-six witnesses have been subpoenaed for the inquest Monday night.

TO BUILD ROAD FROM TORONTO TO QUEBEC

Toronto, Feb. 18.—"There will be a good surfaced road from here to the Quebec boundary by next fall," said Hon. Frank C. Biggs, minister of highways, today. "It will not be a paved road, but it will be good, serviceable highway that will greatly improve the conditions of motor traveling between here and the sister province."

The minister pointed out that the Quebec government had started taking soundings for a bridge across the Ottawa River, not far from where it joins the St. Lawrence. At that point there is a portion of the province of Quebec on the west side of the Ottawa River. There is a splendid road from Montreal to where the bridge is to be built. The Quebec government will only have to build the road from the new bridge to the Ontario boundary, and there will be a splendid automobile road right from Windsor to Montreal. The minister expressed the opinion that this would be a fact by next fall.

BISHOP M. F. FALLON AT DYING MOTHER'S BEDSIDE

Kingston, Feb. 18.—Mrs. Bridge Fallon, the aged mother of Bishop Fallon of London, who has been failing for three months following a fall, is very low and her death is momentarily expected.

HEART-BROKEN WIFE ASSURED OF EARLY PROBE

Claims Her Letters to Imprisoned Husband Never Delivered.

SECRETARY LANCE GETS WORD FROM DEPARTMENT

Mrs. McDonald To Remain in Home of London Citizen.

"Clara isn't writing; she doesn't care any more," writes despondent William Angus McDonald as he sits and broods in his lonely cell in Kingston Penitentiary.

"Here I am heart-broken. I write and write, and he does not get my letters," claims Mrs. McDonald hysterically as she seeks information as to why her husband does not get her mail.

McDonald is the London man sent to Kingston for five years for what is alleged to be the crime of another. Today a legal battle is under way to secure his release, that he may return to his wife and three little children.

Numerous crosses have beset this little family in the last few months. The husband, it is charged, has been unjustly branded a convict. The wife endeavored to battle for herself and children, undertook work. She fell and broke her wrist. Then members of the family she was caring for developed quickly that dreadful malady, the white plague. Mrs. McDonald, with her little girl, were in their midst.

Letter to Relatives. Then comes the letter from her husband to relatives, "Clara don't care."

It was only after the joint efforts of Dr. W. T. B. Mitchell at Westminster Hospital and the father of the children being cared for by Mr. McDonald and Egbert McManis, arrangements were finally made to get 11-year-old May McDonald into the Byron Sanatorium. She was taken there Friday. She is stricken with the illness, it is believed, that in eight weeks proved fatal to her mother. Six-year-old Nellie is also afflicted, but her condition is materially better than that of her sister.

In her utter helplessness, due to her broken wrist, with her little girl by her side, also in danger of contracting the dread disease, and with her worry about her husband and her dependent children, the doctors believed that Mrs. McDonald was in grave danger of contracting the disease herself.

Condition Improved. However, today her state of mind is much improved. Mr. McMane does not want her to leave as she is proving as nearly as possible a perfect foster-mother for his motherless little children.

She must now wait for the all seeming slow movement of the law to see whether her husband will obtain his freedom.

The latest word which reached the city on Friday afternoon is encouraging. It was from the minister of justice at Ottawa and was addressed to Secretary Ed. Lorne of the Soldiers' Aid Commission. The important part of the letter read: "The case of William Angus McDonald is now being investigated and will in due time be submitted to his excellency the governor-general."

The Weather

FORECASTS. Fresh south and west winds; local snow flurries, but mostly fair and comparatively mild.

Sunday—Fair and somewhat colder. 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.

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

	High.	Low.
Victoria	46	38
Calgary	38	23
Winnipeg	34	12
Pt. Arthur	30	4
P. Sound	30	6
London	28	15
Kingston	28	2
Ottawa	28	8
Montreal	28	6
Quebec	28	4
St. John	28	4
St. John's	28	4
Halifax	28	4

*Below zero.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 21 above; lowest, 4 below.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 28 above; lowest, 4 below.

Barometric Readings. Friday—8 p.m., 23.36. Today—8 a.m., 23.16.