

The Toronto World

A Morning Newspaper Published Every Day in the Year.
MAIN OFFICE, 38 YONGE STREET, TORONTO.

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THE LOGICAL STEP.

Premier Whitney's reply to ex-Premier Ross not only shows that the "slavery" clause in the charters of the power companies is the work of the late government, but also hints that grave suspicions regarding the obtaining of these charters are harbored in the minds of the members of the present government.

What do these extracts from Premier Whitney's statement mean, if not that he suspects everything was not fair and square and above board?

"Perhaps the senator will tell us what the cabinet had to fear from the legislature? What action was in contemplation, which it would be dangerous to have come under the notice of the legislature? Who is able to discuss or suggest the secret history of the four years during which the government held fast to the sole power to deal with this great provincial asset free from an inquisitive legislature? And who shall say that they gave up this absolute power after exercising it for four years solely because there was little or nothing left to deal with?"

Having cast the searchlight of suspicion upon the beginnings of these power companies, Premier Whitney should go further and appoint a royal commission to investigate them. Much information might come out. He might also find out who the men were who made the contracts by which the Electrical Development tied up the Toronto Electric Light Company and the Toronto Railway Company. He might discover they were the same set of directors. It might be revealed how and why these contracts were made.

Had all this electrical power promotion in its haste and secrecy anything to do with elections? Was there any campaign fund lying about?

Such information ought to come out, and a royal commission is the way to get it out. It would be appreciated by the public, and so long as it did not delay the rapid progress of the power policy would enhance Premier Whitney's reputation as the guardian of the people's rights.

Mr. Whitney, the next and logical step is to issue a royal commission to investigate the power companies.

THE DUTY OF THE COUNCIL.

No reluctance should be shown by the city council in approving the proposal of the board of control to make an immediate contract with the hydro-electric power commission. It is evident that the Electric Light Company has not the slightest present intention of selling out on such terms as the city might be prepared to consider, and further delay is simply playing into the hands of the astute financiers, whose real purpose it is to kill, if possible, the government's power policy. Plainly enough they have not yet given up hope that by continuing indefinitely a series of abortive conferences and raising all kinds of difficulties, partly plausible, but mostly rather dilatory than convincing, the concert of the municipalities may be disbanded and ultimately destroyed. Toronto must act promptly and straightly now, and by entering into the necessary contract enable the government to carry out its part of the bargain.

Also many of the matters discussed at the recent conference rather confused than elucidated the true issue, their discussion revealed the absolute futility of carrying the negotiations further on their present basis. In 1903, only eleven years from now, the city can resume the light company's franchise under the provisions of the agreement, whether it is willing or unwilling, and very shortly afterwards can exercise a similar option in the case of the street railway. With a government contract for Niagara electricity and a civic distribution plant, Toronto will occupy an absolutely independent position. Possibly when the Electrical Development Company is set face to face with a withdrawal of two important contracts, those who are now responsible for its policy may discover the error they are making in assuming the impracticable attitude now affected. As affairs stand, and in view of the early expiry of these two important franchises, the freedom of action that the city can secure by steadily supporting the scheme of the hydro-electric commission will be cheaply bought at the cost of a few years' competition with the light company.

For any loss which the company may sustain thru that competition, and the establishment of a civic distribution plant, the company—or those responsible for its present policy—will be alone to blame. It has no monopoly of electric supply, and it has only a terminable franchise. What the city really asks is that the lease should be brought to a close now and the basis of transfer should be that provided by the agreement plus a reasonable allowance for any profit the shareholders of its term. But what the company apparently expects is a sum calculated on the assumption that it possesses a perpetual monopoly, and is an unwilling seller. Neither is admissible—the

first because it is inaccurate, and the second because the company has itself been engaged in inviting public competition on account of the loss to be sustained thru civic competition. The company has not the slightest right or title to be placed in any better position than it would be had its lease run its natural course, and were the city now exercising its option.

Very instructive and suggestive, too, is the history of the now celebrated contract between the Electrical Development Company and the Toronto Electric Light Company. It has in a comparatively brief period played several parts and served various contradictory purposes in this controversy. First, utilized to float the Development Company's bonds in London, and described as an entirely satisfactory arrangement for that concern, it was later represented by the light company to be very profitable for it, and correspondingly disadvantageous for the Development Company. Then, when the Development Company is offered by the government the same price for power at the Falls which the Ontario Development Company is to receive, and if it chooses, can thus rid itself of the same unprofitable contract, that irrefragable document bobs up as an impassable barrier to the purchase by the city of the light company's undertaking. No wonder that company hesitates to make public the terms of this remarkable contract, made to all intents and purposes by the same individuals acting for companies possessing, by legal fiction, separate personalities. Out of this maze the city can only get by proceeding rigorously to carry out the mandate of the people.

Therefore, gentlemen of the city council, ratify the proposal of the board of control and leave it to the high financiers of the electric ring to unmake the difficulties they have themselves created. Your course is clear, and distinctly marked by the provincial government and the hydro-electric commission, acting in the interests of the public, whose representatives you also are.

AN EXPLANATION.

Editor World: The information given to you about the many men shipped to Parry Sound by some agents of Toronto is not correct as concerning John Venerandi. The facts are as follows:

Ross-Harris Co. of Parry Sound on March 5 sent a telegram to the office of L. P. Scarrone asking, "How many men can you send to-morrow morning without fail, answer quick." John Venerandi, in the absence of the proprietor, gave the following reply: "Eighty men are ready and more if desired."

Ross-Harris Co. sent another telegram saying, "Only ship fifty to-morrow; wire when shipped."

Next morning John Venerandi sent fifty-one men to Parry Sound and collected from each man \$3.75 for railway fare and \$1 for commission. Three or four days after seven men of the fifty-one came back, the balance (\$4) are working for Ross-Harris Co.

John Venerandi had the order for sending the men and the Ross-Harris Co. did not refuse the job to the men. Venerandi did not collect one cent more than what was right, as the ordinary fare to Parry Sound is \$4 for a single ticket; he got a reduction to \$3.75 because he chartered a special car. About the \$1 commission there was no fraud at all, because it is an established practice among the Italian agents in Toronto and elsewhere to collect \$1 because, and because the English laborers, the Italian want to be accompanied to the trains, and the agent must take care of the baggage, buy the tickets, and besides that the agent has many expenses for telegrams, telephone, correspondence, etc., so they charge 50 cents for commission and 50 cents for expenses and services.

In this particular case Venerandi, besides the expenses of telegrams, had a lot of trouble in getting for his 51 men a special car. It was not very easy to put in the train 50 men with many bags among the other passengers who do not very much like Italian in the same car.

He had nothing to do with Bryce Davidson or with anything he did. L. P. Scarrone.

TO SUE HARRIMAN RAILROAD

Government May Recover 2,000,000 Acres of Land.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—A complete history of the methods pursued by the Oregon and California Railroad, a company controlled by E. H. Harriman, in disposing of valuable lands granted to it by the government, is contained in a report on the subject prepared by the attorney-general and forwarded to the senate by President Roosevelt.

Suits are about to be instituted by the attorney-general against the Oregon and California Railroad Company on the ground that it has flagrantly violated the terms of the grant under which it secured millions of acres of lands from the government. If the government wins the suit the railroad's title to a tract of approximately 2,000,000 acres, formerly embraced in the public domain, will be forfeited. In the report of the attorney-general submitted to the senate by the president, it is pointed out that the Oregon and California road secured about 3,000,000 acres of government land in accordance with acts passed by congress. Under the law it was required that the lands so granted should be sold to actual settlers only in quantities not greater than one-quarter section to one purchaser and for a price not exceeding \$2.50 per acre. Attorney-General Bonaparte declares that the provisions of the grant have never been respected. He says:

"The lands have been sold to any person, whether settler or speculator, in as large quantities as possible, and at the highest price possible. In making sales the railroad company has always observed the law of supply and demand and has never obeyed the law of congress."

Presbyterian Ministerial Ass'n. Mr. McMillan will speak before the Presbyterian Ministerial Ass'n. this morning at 10.30, at the Bible House, on "Conditions of Church Life in the Old World."

AT OSGOODE HALL.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TO-DAY.

Chambers. Cartwright, master, at 11 a.m. Single Court.

The Hon. Mr. Justice Riddell, at 10 a.m.:

1. Bell Telephone Co. v. Windsor. 2. Toronto General Trusts Co. v. Richardson.

3. Re Solicitor. 4. Ottawa Cobalt v. Davidson.

5. Re Stewart and Meaford. 6. Cutler v. Sher.

7. Bertrand v. Petrie. 8. Dreaney v. Chaplin.

9. Jordan v. Trevis and Guarantee Company. 10. Moses v. Markowitz.

11. Re Forrest Estate. Divisional Court.

Peremptory list for 11 a.m.:

1. Dixon v. Garbutt. 2. Murphy v. Murphy.

3. Nellis v. Windsor. 4. Re Cochrane and A.O.U.W.

5. Roberts v. City of Port Arthur. 6. McLennan v. C.P.R.

7. Toronto Non-Jury Sittings. Peremptory list for 11 a.m.:

1. Falvey v. Falvey. 2. Williams v. Hyslop.

3. McKay v. Nipissing. 4. Feller v. Peacy.

5. Todd v. Lavigne. 6. Silverman v. Sager.

Toronto Spring Assize. Peremptory list for 11 a.m.:

1. Todd v. Falvey. 2. Wells v. Sims.

3. Owens v. Anderson, McBeth. 4. Van Nort v. Canada Foundry Co.

5. Spalding v. C.P.R. Action for Slander.

Wilfrid Leduc has taken proceedings against Alphonse Aubin, to recover damages for alleged slander. Both parties live in the Township of Badgrew, Nipissing District.

A suit has been entered by Harvey Blain against the Toronto Railway Co., claiming \$10,000 damages for injuries alleged to have been sustained thru the negligence of the company or its servants.

Board and Lodging. To recover \$1284 alleged to be due for board and lodging of Ann Lang, deceased, Samuel Stewart has begun an action against her executors, William Bennett and Elizabeth Bennett. Included in the claim is an item of \$15 alleged to have been loaned the deceased in 1907.

Alleged Negligence. A. J. Eaton of Toronto Junction is claiming damages from the G. & T. R. Co. for alleged negligence. In writ of summons issued the amount of damage is not stated.

Stable Rent. Annie Smith has begun an action against Henrietta Thomson and C. W. Thomson of Toronto, to recover \$468 for the use and occupancy of stables on the private road leading from the Don Mills-road to the Don Paper Mills.

LENNOX GIVES PARTICULARS. Provides Some Details of the Making of His Bill.

Acting on the suggestion of the city's legal department, Architect E. J. Lennox has supplied particulars as to certain items in his claim for \$208,000, less \$61,000 already paid.

Mr. Lennox admits that some of his instructions were not given in writing, but says he can produce the official pamphlet, dated Feb. 18, 1908, showing that he was asked to prepare plans for a court house.

The cost of building the original court house was \$400,000. Plans were prepared for a portion for \$280,000, which at 2 per cent. comes to \$5600. Plans and specifications were received for the balance of \$110,000, which at 3 per cent. amounts to \$3300, a total of \$9100.

For other particulars the architect refers the plaintiffs to the city council meetings and copies of letters to him containing instructions and orders.

For his work in connection with the furnishings, the architect charges 7 per cent. on a cost of \$130,000, being \$9100. The amount for building contracts is placed at \$21,627.34. This is 1 per cent. on \$400,000, and 2 per cent. on \$881,383.

Wiping Out the Saloon. J. N. McKendry occupied the chair at the meeting of the Canadian Temperance League in Massey Hall yesterday afternoon. He said there was such an awakening among the people against the saloon that he believed the time was near when the barroom would cease to exist in Canada from ocean to ocean.

The address of the afternoon was delivered by Col. George W. Bain of Lexington, Ky., who has been visiting Toronto on his way to Ohio, where he will remain for some time.

Next Sunday will be closing Sunday for this season with the league, when Lou J. Beauchamp of Hamilton, Ohio, will speak.

WAS A TOTAL WRECK FROM HEART FAILURE.

Heart disease is characterized by its stealthy approach and its variety of forms, yet in all its forms nature gives unmistakable signals which warn us of its presence.

One of the first danger signals announcing something wrong with the heart is the irregular beat or violent throb. Often there is only a fluttering sensation, or an "all gone" sinking feeling; or, again there may be the most violent beating, with flushings of the skin and visible pulsations of the arteries. You may experience a smothering sensation, gasp for breath and feel as though about to die. In such cases the action of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills in quieting the heart, restoring its normal beat and imparting tone to the nerve centres, is, beyond all question, invaluable. They give prompt relief, such speedy restoration to health that no one need suffer.

Mr. Darrell Carr, Geary, N.B., writes: "It is with the greatest of pleasure I write you a few lines to let you know the great benefit my Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills have been to me. I was a total wreck from heart failure, my wife advised me to take your pills, and after using two boxes I was restored to perfect health. I am now sixty-two years old and feel almost as well as I did at twenty."

Price 50 cents per box or 3 for \$1.25 at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

ARREST YOUNG MAN

Continued From Page 1.

the doctor took the girl upstairs. They were gone from half to three-quarters of an hour, and when they returned the doctor said that she would be all right in a few days.

The doctor also gave him a prescription for powders and pills, which he filled. Saunders and the girl left and went to Saunders' boarding house in Shuter-street. On the way there the girl was seized with violent pains, but managed to reach the house.

At the house it was said yesterday that the girl did not stay there on Sunday night, but remained in Saunders' room until about 11 o'clock, when she was taken by him to her room in Miles' street. On Monday morning, saying that she was seriously ill, Saunders brought her back and two of the girls in the house made room for her in their apartment.

Beginning of the End.

Dr. Fletcher called later in the day and examined the girl. Saunders was not in the room at this time. Saunders said that the doctor seemed worried and sent a nurse that night to attend the girl. On Tuesday her condition seemed more serious, and Saunders, becoming alarmed, telephoned for Dr. Fletcher, who came to the house. The nurse and another woman were in the room at the time. This was in the forenoon, and at 1 o'clock the girl was sent to the Western Hospital in Miles' private ambulance. Saunders did not order this, but with the girl's mother and father to the hospital. Saunders paid the man for the ambulance and also paid for a week's care of the girl at the hospital.

Cause of Her Death.

He remained at the hospital until evening, returning to his home. Afterward he was questioned by the police. He said that he had been called to the Shuter-street house to administer a post-mortem on the girl before issue was made of the body. He said that he was not a doctor, but a nurse, and that he was not qualified to perform a post-mortem.

Mr. Miles denies this and says that he did not know what was the matter with the girl.

Miles asked Saunders for the address of the girl's people, and he gave him that of the father, in Peterboro.

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EATON'S DAILY STORE NEWS

THE SPRING OPENING

The Store is in a gala dress in honor of the Grand Spring Opening—the first complete exhibition of all the new things for Spring and Summer. The principal exhibitions this week are:

DRESS FABRICS MILLINERY RIBBONS
SILKS, WASH GOODS GLOVES HOSIERY
DRESS TRIMMINGS LACES VEILINGS
WOMEN'S SUITS WOMEN'S COATS WOMEN'S WAISTS
MEN'S CLOTHING MEN'S HEADWEAR FOOTWEAR

But all around the store—everywhere you look you'll see complete stocks and everything sparkling with a fresh newness that will appeal to everybody.

The store looks like Spring in its beautiful floral dress, and if a few hundred singing birds were allowed freedom, and you could hear the gentle ripple of the woodland stream, your imagination would do the rest.

You see a myriad of the pretty blossoms of radiant Spring, and it seems but a step into the verdant fields or the green-gowned woods, where nature has painted the surroundings in colors to inspire the very soul of man.

The rich display of merchandise to the right of you, to the left of you, all around you, brings you gently back to the realization that here the practical blends so perfectly with the beautiful that it's a pleasure to buy, and to the knowledge that to be real happy you must be rightly dressed, and to choose from the largest and best selection you must choose here.

Words to describe the beauty of everything are not available. Let your eyes drink it all in—our invitation to you to come and see—buy if you feel like it—is as broad as it is warm.

Come This Very Day—If You Can

THE T. EATON CO. LIMITED 190 YONGE STREET, TORONTO

prisoners. On the charge made, no bail can be allowed, according to the police routine. Saunders is held at the Easter-street station. Both will be arraigned before Magistrate Denison in police court this morning. Dr. Fletcher yesterday consulted with J. W. Curry, K.C., with a view to having him conduct his defence.

Dr. Fletcher is one of the two surgeons of the Q.O.R. of this city. He has been connected with the corps as a private and non-commissioned officer for about twelve years, and has held his present rank of lieutenant for about two years.

The effects of the dead girl were taken from the Shuter-street house to headquarters at the close of the police inquiry. They consisted only of a few articles of wearing apparel, a number of letters and photographs and \$2 in money.

The dead girl is described by those who knew her as of a sunny disposition. She had many friends and was held in high esteem among them. She had been employed as a waitress at the Shuter-street house for several weeks. Before that she had worked in restaurants, living with her sister at the Shuter-street house, for a considerable time before Christmas last. About that time both girls lost their situations and the elder sister, who is ill, placed on the girl shifted from place to place.

Inclined Toward the Stage. Speaking of the girl yesterday, her boarding mistress said: "That was where she made her mistake. If she had only gone back home with her sister, she would have been alive and happy to-day."

But the life of the city was attractive to the girl. She had, too, a lean-to a stage career, and among her effects was found a signed contract showing that she had either enlisted or contemplated enlisting with a theatrical company known as the "Will-o'-th'-Wisp," controlled by S. E. Arnold, in August of 1906.

Dr. Fletcher is a graduate of Toronto University Medical College. He has been practising medicine in the city for a number of years. He is married and is 28 years of age.

He was born living in Toronto for the past seven years. He comes from Richmond, Quebec, but his mother time he lived in this city for some time. He has also one brother, who lives with him here. His father is at present in Richmond, where he went to see his mother, who is ill.

At the Hospital. The appearance of the girl when admitted to the hospital was such as would point to a state of syncope or air hunger. Her face was blue.

When taken to the undertaker's room the blueness of the face was noticed that there was also a slight frothing at the mouth. Her appearance was very similar to that of Rose Winters, the victim in the case in which Minnie Turner is charged with murdering that girl in a similar way.

It was in the same room where Rose Winters' body was laid after it had been exhumed that that of Jessie Gould was laid awaiting the arrival of her father.

Present for Policeman. Ex-Police Constable James McKinney (8) was presented with a handsome hunting case gold watch, with a fitting inscription engraved. The watch was made by McKinney when he joined the force ten years ago.

McKinney goes to take up a farm near Milton. In all his service he never received a reprimand and while acting as a plainclothes officer he plucked the first f gang who robbed Ward's pawnshop, and who all got long terms.

The quo-warranto proceedings against Mayor Oliver and nine councilmen have been adjourned for a week.

Michie's Teas are regular in their superior quality and flavor.

The English Breakfast Blends at 40c lb. and 50c lb. are favorites, but there is variety to suit all tastes.

Michie & Co., Ltd., 7 King Street West.

Telephone Main 7591. Private Branch Exchange Connecting All Departments.

POLICE TURN ROBBERS. At Point of Revolver Forced Laborers From Street Car.

NEW ORLEANS, March 15.—Following the complaint of two citizens, that they had been taken off a street car at the point of a pistol, conducted to a nearby building and there robbed, a squad of police went to the building, and were surprised to find two of their brother officers in the place.

One of the officers, Supernumerary Patrolman Warren E. Bonfill was identified as the man who ordered the citizens off the car after he had shown them his police badge.

The other officer, Patrolman Arthur Connell, was declared to be the man who had sat at an improvised desk and answered questions when Bonfill addressed him as "sergeant." Bonfill was placed under arrest and locked up on several charges. Connell was surcharged from the force pending a further investigation.

The men who made the complaint are laborers, who allege that Bonfill took about \$1.25 from them.

Power at Port Arthur. PORT ARTHUR, March 15.—(Special.)—Port Arthur has received assurances from the Ontario Government that the lease of Dog Lake power will be granted as soon as details can be arranged. The government will build a regulating dam at the outlet of the lake at a cost of \$20,000.

The lease of this power is a big thing to the city, which will doubtless go ahead now and develop. A good customer for some of the power will be the Twin Cities Electric Railway. Under the agreement of sale with Port Arthur, Port Arthur will continue to supply power for the whole line.

Whether or not the Electrical Development Company will consent to the cancellation of its contract with the Electric Light Company is a question that will probably be decided within the next few days; at least such is the expectation announced on Saturday by E. F. R. Johnston, K.C.

"I have seen their representatives, but just for the moment they are not in a position to give an answer," he said. "Matters are in a transition stage, as the company's transactions are not closed yet, but I expect to take up negotiations at the beginning of the week."

The "transactions" referred to are the stock certificate transfers by which William MacKenzie gains controlling interest.

THE TRADERS BANK OF CANADA INCORPORATED 1888