

LOOSE SYSTEM FOUND IN WORKS DEPARTMENT

Report of Investigating Committee at City Council Last Night.

Foreman Legacy Will Likely be Asked to Resume Work.

The report of the Board of Works relative to the investigation recently conducted into the Streets and Sewers Department was presented and passed without comment at the City Council session last night. No official was named in the report, although the document contained the reference that the charge that the foreman of the sewer department had received moneys to give men jobs was unfounded. The Courier was informed by an alderman at the close of the proceedings that Foreman Legacy was at present out of the civic employ, but that in all probability he would be asked to resume work. From the gist of the report it will be seen that as a result of the investigation that fault has been found not so much with employees as with the system. A special committee was named to improve matters in this regard.

Your committee has in conjunction with the finance committee, held several meetings, and has thoroughly investigated charges in connection with the administration of the sewers department, and has followed up all information received and made full enquiry into all the circumstances.

Your committee finds that irregularities of a minor nature have existed in connection with the care of supplies for the city's use, and the tools and implements used in this branch of the city's work, but your committee has to report that any loss accruing to the city in this way has been made good.

Your committee has found no evidence of any irregularities in the fact that the foreman of the sewers department has exacted or has received moneys as consideration for the hiring of workmen.

Your committee finds that a very loose system prevails in regard to the custody and care of the supplies of this department, due partly to the absence of proper buildings for storing the same and also in part to the fact that the city employs no one in the capacity of caretaker.

And your committee strongly recommends that steps be taken to organize this and other branches of the civic service and put them upon a more efficient basis.

Your committee believes that moneys spent in the way suggested will be true economy.

Your committee would recommend that this report and recommendations be referred to a special committee composed of board of works, finance members and chairman of standing committees who shall make a report at the earliest possible date upon the whole matter.

Your committee desire to acknowledge the services and assistance given by the chairman and members of the finance committee, who have also approved this report.

Signed, S. Suddaby, Wm. Sutcliffe, S. P. Pitcher, W. A. Hollinrake, J. H. Minshall, J. H. Spence, Geo. A. Ward, Thos. Quinlan.

A rough sea and a strong northerly wind prevented the Mauretania, from New York, landing passengers and mails at Fishguard on Monday, and the liner proceeded direct to Liverpool.

NOTICE

Conservatives Ward Two.
A meeting will be held at Conservative headquarters (old Masonic Hall), on Wednesday evening, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of electing a ward chairman.
G. H. RYERSON, President.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE BRANTFORD

Tuesday, April 29.—Wm. A. Brady presents ROBERT B. MANTELL in Shakespeare's greatest masterpiece of romance, "THE MERCHANT OF VENICE." Robert B. Mantell, by right of ability, efficiency and professional achievement, is now the legitimate leader of the American stage. William Winter, dean of American dramatic critics, in Shakespeare on the Stage, his permanent record for posterity. It is indeed gratifying to know that there is still an actor who is basing on the best traditions of our stage. The late Horace Howard Furness, America's greatest Shakespearean scholar, Curtin will raise promptly at 8 o'clock. Prices 25c to \$2. Seats to non-subscribers Saturday. See the swell outing shirts with separate collars, to-morrow at Ludlow's, priced at \$1.00.

COURIER WINS AGAIN

The action against the street railway will go into court within two weeks. The announcement was made by Ald. Hollinrake at the City Council last night in reply to a query of Ald. Minshall. The latter declared that it was time for this city to seriously consider the question of municipal ownership of the railway. He had been reading the Courier, Ald. Spence further explained the situation by stating that the court action would fully protect the city in regard to the acquisition of the railway by the city. In fact, Ald. Spence hoped that before the end of the year a by-law would be submitted whereby the ratepayers would have a chance to vote on the proposition, and that it be run in conjunction with the Hydro-Electric.

LOCAL OPTION GOOD AND BAD

A. L. Baird Deals With Temperance Issue at Meeting Last Night.

At the regular weekly meeting of the Colborne Street Epworth League last evening, Mr. A. L. Baird, K. C., delivered an address upon the proposed local option campaign, in which he made a plea for the support of the young people.

Mr. Baird in his opening remarks said that although many of those present were not as yet voters, they should all know the particulars in order to assist intelligently and also because they were the coming voters, even the ladies. Mr. Baird expressed himself in favor of giving the "lady property owners, anyhow," said Mr. Baird. The three Acts, the Scott Act, the Local Option Act, and the act which provides for the reduction of licenses were dealt with.

The Scott Act
In dealing with the Scott Act, the speaker explained that the Act was a Dominion wide one which permitted the majority of voters eligible to vote at an election for the Dominion House, to carry the measure. "Ladies could not vote under this act," said the speaker. He explained that the Scott Act was not so good as regards enforcement as local option. Under the Scott Act the minimum fine for the first offence was \$50 or imprisonment for not more than one month, whereas, under local option, the fine for the first offence was \$200, and for the second offence four months in jail. Mr. Baird said that the Scott Act was not a success, owing to the jealousy of the legislatures. "Men," said the speaker "are cantankerous creatures, and politicians are more so. In the county of Halton the politicians simply united and threw out the Scott Act."

Local Option
Mr. Baird explained to the gathering that under the local option act, it was necessary to present a petition to the city council signed by twenty-five per cent of the ratepayers, which is one out of every four. The by-law is given two readings and then it is necessary to poll a vote of three out of five of the electors. The unmarried ladies having property under this act vote. Mr. Baird made it plain to the learners that it was the ladies who lost local option when it was tried before. "Many of the ladies were out of the city on voting day when local option was last tried."

In speaking of the violation of the local option law, Mr. Baird said: "Men may venture once but not the second time because of jail." The speaker assured the gathering that the same officers who govern the city at the present time will govern the sale under local option, and furthermore, the Whitney government has promised to enforce it.

Reduction of Licenses
The speaker dealt very briefly with the reduction of licenses. He pointed out that although the citizens of towns and cities, including Brantford, could not cut off all the licenses, but were obliged to leave two tavern licenses and two shop licenses, the citizens of villages and townships could cut them all off on a simple majority vote. The speaker emphasized the fact that if the people knew

(Continued on Page 7.)

NEW COMPANY IS NOW LAUNCHED

A number of well-known Brantfordites are making application to the Ontario Legislature for a charter for \$50,000 to start a grey iron foundry here. There is stated to be an unlimited demand for castings, chucks and other essentials in the cast iron business. The final selection for the site of the new factory has not yet been decided upon. Mr. Carl Smith, who recently resigned from the position of purchasing agent of the Pratt & Letchworth Company, and Mr. Rowell of the Auto-Cycle Company are especially interesting themselves in the formation of the new company. The stock is being rapidly taken up.

ENQUIRY OPENED THIS MORNING AT THE LEGISLATURE

Hon. W. J. Hanna and Sir James Whitney are Defending Themselves Against Charges Made by Proudfoot--The Proceedings

(Canadian Press Despatch)

TORONTO, April 29.—The opening session of the committee on elections and privileges, called to investigate the charges against Sir James Whitney and Hon. W. J. Hanna, was devoid of sensations. The only touch of color to the proceedings was furnished by Hon. Walter Nesbitt, who endeavored to get John R. Cartwright, the deputy attorney-general, who is responsible for the issuance of writs, to stigmatize the statement that the fiat in question was issued as a result of corrupt influence, as an "infamous lie." Mr. Cartwright however, contended himself with the dignified statement that the charge was untrue, certainly as far as he was concerned.

The proceedings generally were exceedingly tame, and consisted largely in filing exhibits in the shape of departmental correspondence and more or less intelligent exclamation of how certain papers could not be found, papers which may or may not be of much interest.

Sir James Whitney was not present in person, but Hon. W. J. Hanna, Hon. J. J. Eoy, and a number of Cabinet Ministers were interested spectators.

The witnesses examined were A. Armstrong, assistant provincial secretary; John R. Cartwright, deputy attorney-general, and Dr. Gilmore, warden of the Central Prison.

TORONTO, Ont., April 29.—The opening session of the committee on elections and privileges to investigate the charges against Hon. W. J. Hanna and Sir James Whitney was held in the reception room at the Parliament buildings this morning. There was a full attendance of the committee and an extra strong battery of newspapermen and artists representing papers all over the province.

Mr. Proudfoot who refers the charges, was represented by H. H. Dewar, K.C., assisted by W. E. Elliott, while Hon. Wallace Nesbitt, K.C., and W. N. Ferguson, K.C., looked after the interests of Hon. W. J. Hanna and the premier.

The chairman, G. Howard Ferguson of Grenville, announced that as Mr. Hanna and Sir James Whitney had retained counsel, it was not thought necessary to secure counsel on behalf of them.

S. A. Armstrong, assistant provincial secretary, was the first witness called by Mr. Dewar. As assistant

provincial secretary he was asked if he had the papers in connection with the original contract with Taylor, Scott and Company and the government. Mr. Armstrong said the paper could not be found and a number of other papers were also missing. They had been handed over to Mr. Stewart, counsel for the government at the time of the dispute with the company.

Mr. Dewar ran over a long list of letters all of which the witness said were missing.

Witnesses have asked Mr. Stewart for the papers, but he thinks he gave them to Mr. Thorne and Mr. Thorne thinks they were returned, but in the previous transfer they have been lost.

Witness produced the file of the Central Prison showing correspondence with the warden in reference to the contract which was put in as an exhibit. All of the department's correspondence, tenders, etc., relating to coal contracts and underfed stokers, but some letters were missing.

J. R. Cartwright, D.A.A., put in the papers in connection with the granting of the petition of right. His report was in favor of a fiat. He thought the complainant was entitled to something, but the amount claimed, some \$50,000, was very exaggerated.

Mr. Dewar read the report in a Toronto paper quoting Sir James Whitney as saying that Mr. Cartwright had carefully gone over the figures in the award made by Mr. Thorne. Witness said he could not remember that.

Mr. Nesbitt asked Mr. Cartwright to explain the meaning of a fiat for the benefit of Mr. Dewar (laughter). Witness carefully explained that a fiat was permission from the crown to sue the crown. When a fiat was issued it was an assumption that the complainant had some just claim against the crown.

Mr. Nesbitt challenged the Liberal newspaper's report to Sir James' speech in the House referred to by Mr. Dewar and endeavored to get Mr. Cartwright to affirm that in his experience legal cases were reported by the newspapers 90 times out of 100 in a way that would not be recognized by counsel, but witness would not go that far, though he admitted reports were often inaccurate.

Witness denied categorically that any influence had been brought to bear on him in reference to issuing the fiat.

"It might term such a statement as an infamous lie" exclaimed counsel. (Continued on Page 3)

INVITE HIS MAJESTY, KING GEORGE, TO BRANTFORD 1914

Not particularly following the lead made a few years ago by J. W. Bowby, who when Mayor, decided to invite His Majesty the King to visit Brantford, Ald. Spence last night put one over on his colleagues when he suggested that inasmuch as King George was to come to Canada next year, and the year 1914 was to be made a memorable one for Brantford by an Old Home Week and the unveiling of Bell Memorial the Telephone City would do well in inviting His Majesty to unveil the memorial to one of the greatest inventors of the age. The Council sat back and smiled incredulously, that Ald. Spence, who is known as a bold man, could have imagined such a daring scheme, while others had not thought of it. The Council was so entirely amazed that the usual procedure of "me-to" for that suggestion was strange to say eliminated.

Ald. Ward, who has developed a truly remarkable power of starting things around the board gave Ald. Spence his cue.

Ald. Ward said it was time that Brantford people showed some enterprise. He urged the holding of a made-in-Brantford exhibition. He thought it would be a good trade getter and a good advertisement. Financially it would be a great benefit to business men. Ald. Ward moved that the Board of Trade and the Manufacturers' Committee discuss the proposition.

Ald. Ryerson endorsed what Ald. Ward said but Ald. Ryerson did not believe that the Manufacturers would take it up this year because next year there would be an Old Boys' reunion and the unveiling of the Bell Memorial.

Ald. Ward insisted that his idea was business. Ald. Ryerson's was largely boost and sentiment. He thought the matter should be discussed, and Ald. Ryerson agreed to second the resolution.

Ald. Spence did not think that too soon a start could be made, and he thought an effort should be made if at all possible to secure His Majesty King George to unveil the Bell Memorial Monument.

The sonorous way in which the finance chairman rolled those words out, "His Majesty King George," would have done credit to a Mantell. It was truly impressive.

Ald. Minshall and Suddaby were in accord with the resolution, but the latter doubted the advisability of pulling anything off this year.

The resolution was adopted. It merely calls for a Board of Trade conference.

GRAND TRUNK AGREEMENT REPUDIATED BY COUNCIL

COMPROMISE EXPECTED IN JAPANESE ALIEN BILL.



GOVERNOR HIRAM W. JOHNSON.



COUNT OKUMA.

The announcement that President Woodrow Wilson and Secretary of State Bryan are making efforts to bring about a compromise in the proposed California legislation with respect to the Alien Land Ownership bill and that Governor Hiram Johnson is opposing the bill has softened Japanese ire, and public opinion has now become more optimistic.

Count Okuma, former Minister of Foreign Affairs and leader of the progressive party at home, ironically said recently that Japan owed its first lessons in foreign humanitarian principles to the United States. "Now the duty has devolved upon Japan," he added, "to teach the Californians the same principles."

DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT AGAIN QUITE SERIOUSLY ILL

Her Royal Highness Was Forced to Undergo Another Serious Operation To-day--Bulletin Issued, "Doing as Well as Can Be Expected."

(Canadian Press Despatch)

LONDON, April 29.—Another operation was performed this morning on the Duchess of Connaught. The surgeons in attendance report that the operation was successful. The last attempt to remove the intestinal trouble from which the Duchess has been suffering for some months was on April 10. The operation was a serious one, but was borne well by the Duchess, who afterwards made rapid progress toward recovery, but on April 26, suffered a relapse owing to

the abdominal obstruction returning. It was then decided by the surgeons to have recourse to another operation which was performed this morning.

A bulletin was issued later in the day which said: "The operation performed on the Duchess of Connaught was severe in character. It was carried out to relieve intestinal obstruction due to widespread adhesions of an inflammatory nature. The Duchess is doing as well as can be expected."

STRIKE IN CITY IS POSSIBLE

Carpenters and Bricklayers Said to Have Demands to Make.

(Canadian Press Despatch)

Considerable unrest is reported in local labor circles and it is said May 1st may witness a couple of strikes. No decision has been arrived at as yet, but it is understood that both carpenters and bricklayers are formulating demands which will be accompanied with an intention to strike unless favorable consideration is shown. Both unions are reported to be thoroughly organized and if such a strike ensued there might be a serious tie up in the building trade during the coming summer. On the other hand it is hoped that matters will be satisfactorily settled between employers and employees.

SOME CHANGES IN THE CABINET

Le Devoir Says That Three of Mr. Borden's Ministers Will Retire.

(Canadian Press Despatch)

MONTREAL, April 29.—Le Devoir, the newspaper owned and edited by Henri Bourassa, the Nationalist leader, and which is singularly well informed on political affairs, to-day states that Hon. Bruno Nantel, Minister of Inland Revenue, Hon. Frank Cochrane, Minister of Railways, and Hon. Dr. Roche, Minister of the Interior, will resign their portfolios in the Borden Cabinet at the end of the session to assume other "important positions."

Le Devoir says that Mr. Nantel will become judge, L. T. Marchal, Montreal, may succeed Mr. Nantel as Minister of Inland Revenue.

Mr. Cochrane, who though he has administered his department well, is not popular in the House, will be sent to Washington as the agent of the Canadian Government. He is likely to be succeeded by Major Currie, member for Simcoe.

Mr. Roche will resign because of ill-health and will be sent to the Senate. His successor may be Arthur Meighen, member for Portage la Prairie. Albert Sevigny, member for Dorchester, Que., aspires to the office of Solicitor-General, a position also being sought by A. G. Boyce of Algoma.

Mr. Borden has not decided on an appointment to this office yet.

The Prime Minister would also like to secure Hon. W. J. Hanna of the Ontario Government, but is opposed in this by Sir James Whitney.

Le Devoir yesterday stated that when Winston Churchill went to Germany with the King and Queen to attend the marriage of the Kaiser's daughter he would arrive at some scheme to reduce armaments, which would make the Canadian contribution of three dreadnoughts unnecessary and allow of that measure being withdrawn from the House.

(Continued on Page 7.)

Unauthorized Deal of Ex-Mayor Wood Gets a Slap.

Where the G. T. R. Put One Over on City in 1910.

The City of Brantford will repudiate all liability to be bound to the agreement made by W. B. Wood, Mayor of Brantford, 1910, in regard to the Holmedale switch. This decision was arrived at last night at the meeting of the City Council when Ald. Hollinrake, chairman of the Railway committee introduced a resolution to such effect. The report of the committee also recommended that matters in reference to the Lake Erie and Northern be left with the members. The report of the committee stirred up considerable discussion but it was finally carried.

The result of the adoption by the Council of the report was that if the Grand Trunk builds a switch in the Holmedale it will be under the agreement of 1902, which means that the city will not have to pay the Wilkes award, the cost of subways, etc. Certain aldermen gave the city's liability as \$30,000 under the agreement of Mayor Wood, and this feature the Council of 1913 didn't like. Holmedale will have the L. E. and N. Railway with C.P.R. connections and the aldermen who favored the repudiation of the Wood agreement did not think any injustice was being done the Holmedale for the above reason. In fact it was thought better to relieve Holmedale of the onus of a twenty foot railway embankment such as the G.T.R. proposes to construct.

The Discussion.
Ald. Hollinrake in explaining the report said there were two reasons for the report. He understood the G. T. R. had already started work at the Alton street end, and the advice of a special solicitor, the Wilkes award was repudiated. Inasmuch as the G. T. R. had started work on the switch, it was felt desirable to repudiate the agreement right away. One railway would go through the Holmedale and that would serve all purposes. If the Grand Trunk went through the district the switch would mean a 25 foot embankment, spoiling a fine residential district.

Ald. Suddaby asked if any provision had been made to keep open Oxford or Colborne street during the progress of the work.

Ald. Hollinrake said that the rights of the city would be guarded. It was an important matter.

Mayor Hartman—"Engineer Kellett has assured me that there would not be one hour during which the bridge or street is blocked. That is in the company's agreement, and it will be a good piece of work."

Ald. Ryerson thought it was giving the committee a lot of liberty. He believed that there would be certain matters which might well be referred to the council.

Ald. Spence as a member of the Railway committee said that the committee did not intend to assume responsibility for any large matter. It was only a matter of detail which should be pushed.

Mayor Hartman assured the council that property rights would be considered at a regular meeting.

Ald. McEwen spoke strongly against the city repudiating the Holmedale contract which was made in good faith by the city. The people of Holmedale wanted G. T. R. connection and had been promised it. It was true the new railway had C.P.R. connection but this connection might not last. The big embankment would only be along the river on land which would probably never be used for residences.

Ald. Hollinrake averred that as far as repudiation was concerned it might be well to go back somewhat. The G. T. R. agreed to pay, in the first agreement, half the cost of a subway. A conference was held in Montreal when it was arranged, Mayor Wood put the matter through on his own initiative, and had gone far beyond what he was authorized.

The City Solicitor refused to approve of the wisdom of his agreement. People in the northern section did not want any G. T. R. line from the O. & B. down over Dufferin Avenue.

Ald. McEwen asked if Ald. Hollinrake would recommend paying Holmedale people back the money they paid for the G. T. R. main line.

Ald. Hollinrake said that it took the G. T. R. ten years to get busy on their switch, and would never have started if an opposition railway were not going through there.

Ald. Suddaby thought Holmedale people deserved sympathy. He would not vote for the report.

Ald. Spence in a clear headed speech said that the original 1902 agreement

(Continued on Page 7.)