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**Evening Telegram**

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Monday, January 14, 1924.

### Nfld. Get Into Line.

The United States proposes making a considerable reduction in taxes this year.

Premier Massey of New Zealand recently stated in Toronto that the income tax in that country had been cut in two, and last year there was a surplus in revenue of over \$6,000,000.

Britain has reduced her Civil Service to within ten per cent. of the number employed in pre-war days. In spite of her very heavy expenditures, she produced a surplus last year of \$450,000,000, and managed to reduce taxation.

Australia last year balanced her budget, and this year proposes to reduce taxation considerably.

Newfoundland—but that is another story which will be told later.

### Where Extremes Appear to Meet.

The enormous success of Italian Fascism and of Government by decree in Spain leads one to ask if southern peoples are not more inclined towards the rule of a dictator than to the democratic institutions so popular among the countries of the north—"Saturday Review."

Meanwhile the countries in which democracy holds sway are faced with difficulties which puzzle the wisest heads. Has the limit been passed and is a reversion in order?

### A Hole in the Bucket.

Since 1919 Germany has purchased 641,844,616 pounds of copper at a total cost of \$84,000,000. The Financial Post asks where is the money coming from? and suggests that this purchase, together with other heavy purchases of raw material add weight to the justification of the demands for an enquiry into Germany's ability to pay reparations.

### On Recognizing Obligations

European countries are in America's debt to the amount of \$7,000,000,000. Britain is working overtime to meet her obligations. Of this total France owes about \$4,000,000,000, and has so far made no repayments. The fact that she has loaned Poland in the meantime 4,000,000,000 francs and Roumania 300,000,000 francs is naturally giving the United States cause "furiously to think."

Italy with a debt of \$2,000,000,000 awaits a lead from France. She continues to set her house in order with no fear apparently that the bill will enter in and take possession.

In the case of Russia, refusal to pay her debts was termed repudiation.

### The Report of Proceedings at the Enquiry.

In order to enable the public to follow the proceedings at the

Enquiry as they actually occur, we are publishing the reports verbatim. It is a practical impossibility to produce in this way the proceedings of the sessions immediately previous to our issue, and consequently we give a synopsis of them. This we attempt to keep as colourless and as unprejudiced as it is possible, and we are of the opinion that so far our reporters have carried out this policy to the letter.

### G.W.V.A. Holds General Meeting To-Night

The G.W.V.A. is holding its annual general meeting in the C.C.C. Hall to-night. The order of business is an important one and a large attendance is expected. Addresses will be delivered by the various members of the Dominion Executive of that Organization regarding the future work of the G.W.V.A. Also its preparations for the welcome, by the ex-Servicemen, to Field Marshal Earl Haig in June next.

### The Bryant Fire

In connection with the fire which occurred on Friday night, we are informed that although \$2,500 worth of insurance was carried on the property, the policy belonged to the original owner from whom the occupant was in course of purchasing the property. In a consequence the loss to Mr. Bryant is a serious one as he had made considerable payments towards the purchase. We further learn that the statement made that the stove was carried upstairs by the child Winnie Shano, is incorrect. Mrs. Bryant herself had placed the oil heater on the first landing, and it is presumed that it exploded in some unaccountable way with the result that the unfortunate victim was unable to escape. At the time, she was supposed to be on the way to the Post Office. Mr. Bryant himself was severely burnt about the face and hands, and is deeply affected by the whole occurrence.

### Canon Earp Decides to Accept the Call to Saskatoon

At the end of the morning service in St. Thomas's Church yesterday, the Rector informed the congregation of his decision to accept the invitation to become Residentiary Canon of St. John's Cathedral, in Saskatoon. Canon Earp expressed his deep regret at having to sever his connections with the people of St. Thomas's, who, from the day when he was first warmly welcomed into the Parish, until the present time, had most loyally cooperated with him in every way in all Church concerns, and by their hospitality to himself and his family, had made their stay in the city most congenial. In considering the invitation, the Canon stated that it was not because he would be engaged in a wider sphere of work, nor that Saskatoon offered greater educational facilities for his children, that he had finally decided to leave here. Formerly he had spent several years in the Prairie Province, and had found the climate suitable to his health which had been seriously affected since his arrival in St. John's. It was only after having taken the advice of several doctors that a change was necessary. In closing his remarks which had visibly affected the beloved pastor himself, as well as his congregation, he exhorted them to continue the work of the church with the unity of purpose and spirit which they had shown during the period of his ministrations. Canon Earp will be leaving for his new sphere of activities in about three months time.

St. John's Cathedral, Saskatoon, where Canon Earp goes as Residentiary Canon, is a modern building, completed in 1912. The city of Saskatoon is one of the newest western towns. Twenty-five years ago it was all virgin prairie. To-day it is the seat of the Provincial University, the centre of a large Diocese, and three trans-continental railways pass through it.

### Coastal Boats.

**GOVERNMENT**  
Argyle left Flat Island 1.40 p.m. Saturday, outward.  
Kyle is at Port au Basques, awaiting arrival Sunday's express.  
Meigs arrived at Argentia 5 o'clock this morning. A special train left there this morning with mails and passengers for St. John's.  
Prospero sails for the northward 10 a.m. Wednesday.  
Susie in port.  
Portia not reported.  
Dec 24, 11.

**TRAIN NOTES**—The incoming express left Spruce Brook 6.30 a.m. Yesterday's west bound express was fifty minutes late arriving at Bishop's Falls. The special train with the Meigs passengers is due at 3.30. There is no train from Heart's Content to-day.

## This Morning's Proceedings at Enquiry

### Mr. Donald Fraser Takes The Stand—Mr. Merton Lewis Is Introduced by Howley, K.C.

An exceptionally large gathering, fully 80 per cent. of which were ladies, was present when the enquiry opened.

The Commissioner, on taking his seat, intimated that the next move was with Mr. Howley. The latter then presented Mr. Merton T. Lewis of the New York Bar, who is associated with him on behalf of Sir Richard Squires. Mr. Lewis expressed his appreciation of the courtesy shown in a few words, after which Mr. Howley drew attention to what he regarded as an erroneous newspaper report of Thursday's proceedings.

COMMISSIONER—What authority have I over the newspapers?  
MR. HOWLEY—in reply said he did not propose to suggest that he had, whereupon the Commissioner, advised Mr. Howley to address himself to the newspapers. Mr. Howley then took up a copy of the morning paper and explained that he was under the impression according to a previous statement of the Attorney General, that the newspapers were to be furnished daily with an official report of the proceedings.

The Commissioner intimated that he was under the impression that the newspapers had their own reporters present. He then asked Mr. Howley to proceed with the matters of the enquiry, and call his witness, Mr. Howley then called Mr. Donald Fraser, Business Manager of the firm of Squires & Curtis. Being sworn, the witness stated he has been with the firm since April 1921, and previous to that, as far back as 1912 he had been a clerk with the Bank of Nova Scotia.

In reply to the Commissioner, he stated that when he entered the firm he had no legal experience, and to Mr. Howley he said his duties were in connection with the financial end of the business.

MR. HOWLEY—When you entered the firm in 1921 was there anyone in charge of the finances?

A—Yes, Miss Miller was there to the end of July 1921.

To the Commissioner the witness said he never saw her there after that date. The witness informed Mr. Howley that he did not take over the cash account until June 1921. He had been told by Sir Richard that his duties were to look to certain accounts, and that he was to be in charge of the firm's cash account.

MR. HOWLEY—How did you find the accounts?  
A—They were in an appalling condition. Describing the desk which he took to be that of the accountant, the witness said it was piled a foot high with all sorts of memoranda.

COMMISSIONER—How was the ledger? Was it six months behind?

A—1920 was incomplete.

Questioned by Mr. Howley as to how he got his data for writing up the accounts, the witness replied that he obtained it from the various memoranda, and that the books kept by Miss Miller had been brought up to date as far as he could bring them, but there were some outstanding items not yet accounted for. During the course of his investigation for data he said he came across some cheque stubs, some without names and some with marks which he asked Miss Miller about, but received no satisfaction.

COMMISSIONER—What did Miss Miller say? "No satisfaction" does not help me.

WITNESS—That I don't remember. Continuing the witness said he told Sir Richard that there were entries which he (witness) did not understand, and Sir Richard replied that Miss Miller was the only person who knew about them. This, the witness said, would be after June, 1921. To Mr. Howley the witness said he had sometimes to refer back to a period beyond 1920 to assist him to straighten up his books.

MR. HOWLEY then produced a cash book of the firm of Squires and Winter for 1919 to 1921 and offered it to the Commissioner for examination.

COMMISSIONER—Do you want me to read it through? It looks like a formidable volume.

MR. HOWLEY—I want to illustrate that the books were kept in good condition up to that time.

MR. HOWLEY then referred to the ledger previously put in evidence and asked the witness if he had to refer to it in conjunction with Miss Miller, to which the witness replied "Yes."

To a further question he said there was a sheet in the ledger marked "J. T. Meaney."

COMMISSIONER—Have you the sheet, Mr. Howley?

A—Yes.

COMMISSIONER—Put it in, as I don't like secondary evidence.

MR. HOWLEY complied, and on perusal, the Commissioner remarked that it was not numbered, and that on it were references to folios 224, 225.

MR. FRASER explained that these had reference to pages in the cash book.

COMMISSIONER—There is no such sheet appearing there to-day.

MR. HOWLEY—There was the blank sheet marked J.T.M.

COMMISSIONER—What was the sheet for?

MR. HOWLEY—in reply said it was a page of the ledger setting forth the transactions with Mr. Meaney.

THE COMMISSIONER then questioned the witness as to his knowledge of stubs marked J.T., after which MR. HOWLEY referred to the statement he understood was made by Miss Miller, viz., that there was a page of the ledger setting forth the transactions with Mr. Meaney.

MR. HOWLEY—Some of these entries have reference to promissory notes?

A—Yes.

A package was then handed the witness who said the first was a note dated Dec. 31st, 1919, for \$400 endorsed by Squires & Winter, and in favor of J. T. Meaney. The next note was dated June 5th, 1920, signed for \$400. Another was a debit note returned to R. A. Squires' account, and the last one dated Sept. 8th, 1920, for renewal in full made to the order of R. A. Squires, and signed by J. T. Meaney. The body of the note was in Miss Miller's handwriting.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—I don't know why these notes are being put in.

COMMISSIONER—Why were they not put in during the cross-examination of Mr. Meaney? We will probably have to recall him.

MR. HOWLEY—I have no objection.

COMMISSIONER—Oh, no, you could not have.

THE COMMISSIONER then asked: What was the last note shown, was it the same promissory note as issued Dec. 31st, and were the others only renewals? To which Mr. Howley replied "Yes, they were renewals and Nov. 15th was the final of that \$400, but there was another note July 14th, 1920 for \$100 endorsed by Sir R. A. Squires and it went through only one renewal in Oct. 1920."

MR. HOWLEY next questioned the witness about the stubs marked J.T., to which he said Miss Miller when asked about them referred him to Sir Richard.

In answer to the Commissioner, the witness said he never specifically asked Sir Richard what they referred to.

COMMISSIONER—And you were really anxious to find out what they meant?

A—I never asked him.

Q—Then why didn't you?

A—They were on the outstanding list and Sir Richard could see for himself.

## AT THE POPULAR STAR MOVIE TO-DAY!

A Distinguished Production with a Distinguished Cast

## YOUR FRIEND AND MINE

with Willard Mack, Huntley Gordon, Enid Bennett and Rosemary Theby. A Metro Production in 6 Parts

## "TOUCH YOUR BASE"

A Comedy Riot in Two Parts.

EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! Added Attraction—MR. "SANDY" LAWRENCE in Selected Ballads.  
SOON—PEARL WHITE, in "PLUNDER," her greatest and latest.

The COMMISSIONER then examined the witness as to his knowledge of Miss Miller procuring money from Mr. Meaney to finance the business. To his questions the witness said he had no knowledge that Miss Miller was procuring money for the business nor had he any knowledge of where it was procuring from.

In reply to the Commissioner, witness said the Daily Star account had been removed from the ledger by him at Sir Richard Squires' request, at the beginning of the Enquiry. It had been given to Sir Richard.

COMMISSIONER—It is a great pity that sheets should be taken out, which are obviously of such great importance to this enquiry.

MR. WINTER, cross-examining, was told by witness that he was assistant accountant on the Bank of Nova Scotia when he watered Squires' office as business manager and law student. He had full control of the books. When he entered the office no journal was kept. The cash book served its own purpose and as a journal also. From June, 1921, said witness, he had kept proper books. He had gone back to June 1st, 1920, in trying to set things right. All items had been posted but no balances had been made. He had a bank statement, but no pass book could be found. For all he knew, there might have been deposits made, which were not accounted for in the cash book.

Several technical questions in connection with the books, were asked by Counsel. He had no knowledge of Miss Miller doing any work for the office after she had left. He knew nothing of an account with the Bank of Commerce.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—I understand that 90 p.c. of payments out had been entered from memos provided by Sir R. Squires?

WITNESS—Yes.

The Attorney General continued to question witness, along similar lines, and elicited the information that Sir Richard had made the payments himself.

After witness had made the list of outstanding matters, which could not be traced, he had conveyed the fact to Sir Richard and had mentioned one particular matter, which had nothing to do with the case. He had not mentioned J.T. stubs. He had not added what the J.T. stubs amounted to. He knew, however, the total was in the thousands. So far as he could remember there were about 9 or 10 cheques without any particulars. He had never suspected to whom that J.T. cheque had been made out. To get the cheques witness had gone to the bank and asked for them. There he had been told the cheques had already been given out. At that time, he did not know they had not been presented for payment. He had started to try and trace these cheques since he entered the office. He had gone to the Bank before July 1923, to get the cheques. It was not until 1923 that he had got a statement from the Bank. He had only kept the cash because he knew the longer he left the cash book, the worse it would get. He was absolutely in the dark concerning transactions which occurred before he entered the office.

After he had come to the office, witness said he had opened an account called the Squires & Curtis Trust Account. The private account of Sir Richard Squires was also run, but only Sir Richard could draw cheques upon it.

Questioned about a cheque paid over by Mr. L. R. Curtis, and for which the latter had stated he had been reimbursed, witness said this was not so. Asked if he knew how the business at that time was financed, witness said he had never had to do any thing, and did not know whether Miss Miller was doing it. She had told him, however, that she had financed the business. When she had said this, witness did not know. He had never kept the Daily Star account. He did not know of any cheques paid on Daily Star account. The sheets containing the account had been removed since, and not before the enquiry had opened.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—Did you make, at any time, any deposits into Mr. Curtis' account?

WITNESS—No, but Curtis have been repaid from Mr. Howley on behalf of him accounts.

Witness further stated he had kept Curtis' account.

### Sir Patrick McGrath Returns

By Sunday night's express the Hon. Sir P. T. McGrath returned to the city after an absence of more than five months. During that time he first visited Ottawa and Toronto, where he was engaged in research work in connection with the Labrador Boundary Question, and then he proceeded to London to further advance the case, and to attend the Imperial Economic Conference as the Newfoundland adviser. The work was of a strenuous nature, and it was only after a long and arduous journey that he was able to return to the city.

On his return, Sir Patrick was met by a large number of friends, and he was warmly welcomed to the city.

He is expected to remain in the city for some time, and will be seen at various public functions.

He is also expected to attend the annual meeting of the Newfoundland Poultry Association, which will be held in the city on Friday, January 18th.

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### COURTING OF MARY DOYLE

THREE-ACT IRISH COMEDY  
(Under direction of Capt. J. J. O'Grady)  
IN ST. PATRICK'S OLD CONVENT SCHOOL

JANUARY 21, 22, 23.

Reserved Tickets ..... 50c.

General Admission ..... 30c.

CANDY FOR SALE.

NO COUPONS

ALL QUALITY

20 cents a cut

John Rossiter

DISTRIBUTOR

Shipping

Injured in Railway

Floral Tributes

to the Departed

Personal

Given Six Months' Sentence

From Cape Race

Special Evening Telegram

CAPE RACE, To-day.

Wind North light, weather dull.

The steamer Sachem passed in at 10.15 a.m. Bur. 30.02; Ther. 32.

Under Mr. J. J. O'Grady's personal direction a number of young ladies and gentlemen are busy preparing a show to be presented on January 21st, 22nd and 23rd in the Old Convent Schools in aid of the St. Patrick's Convent. Included in the cast are such well known players as Miss Gertrude Ryan whose success in the different B.L.S. plays was so marked. Mr. Max Colton who gained fresh laurels in the recent production of Lighthouse Nan at St. Mary's, Miss Pauline Vaughan, Miss Kathleen Hayes and Mr. Jack Callahan. Mr. O'Grady is also taking a part, and this would ensure success even if the play were not meritorious.

The title of the play is "The Courtship of Mary Doyle" and it is a comedy in three acts. The scenes are enacted in the little town of Lisabogue and the typical Irish characters will be well portrayed.

Tickets were placed on sale recently and already over 300 have been disposed of. Those who desire to purchase tickets may obtain them from any member of the committee or at Byrne's Bookstore.

The list of the series of Card Tournaments of which the Star B.L.S. & B. Committees are holding, will be held in the Star Hall on Monday night, January 14th, at 8.30. Special Prizes in gold or \$20.00, \$15.00, \$10.00 and \$5.00 to the persons getting the highest number of games at the close of the series. 3 Prizes as usual on each night. Admission 50c. Men only. Jan 12, 21.

Whist Brakesman Morgan was gaged coupling up the cars for regular Carboner train in the way yards on Saturday afternoon. He got caught between two cars, suffered a compound fracture of right shoulder. Dr. Peterson attended the man's injuries, and had him conveyed to his home, Hylton's Street. This morning patient was removed to Sudbury hospital to undergo an X Ray examination.

Sable I. leaves Halifax for this port on Thursday.

Spinnaker has arrived from Nassau to A. S. Randall & Co's, with 410 cases whiskey on board.

Highly left Liverpool for this port on Saturday.

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