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WEST MIDDLESEX LIBERALS UNANIMOUSLY SELECT DUNCAN C. ROSS AS CANDIDATE

Choice Made at Enthusiastic
Convention Held at
Mount Brydges.

Only One Ballot Necessary
—The Blundering School
Legislation Attacked.

[By Our Own Reporter.]

Mount Brydges, Jan. 31.—Mr. Duncan C. Ross, barrister, of Strathroy, and son of the ex-Premier of Ontario, was today nominated by the Liberals of West Middlesex to carry their standard in the constituency, so long and ably filled by his illustrious father. The nomination was a unanimous one and was made by one of the largest gatherings of Liberals ever held in the historic old town hall of Mount Brydges.

The building was filled to overflowing and it was necessary at times to throw the doors open for the purpose of facilitating the breathing of those within, and upon such occasions it was not infrequently the case that certain over-zealous Conservatives made their way to the hall door and shouted at the speakers. But the Liberals paid no attention to the interruptions, good naturedly going on with the business before them.

Making a Choice.

Though the convention opened at 11 o'clock, it was not until after 4 o'clock that a choice was made. The delay arose principally because the Liberals of West Middlesex have not been called upon for many years to ballot for a candidate for the Legislature, and they were new to the work. In the past there was only one name to be considered, and that was the name of George W. Ross, the "little teacher," who worked his way up from the bottom to the highest honor in the gift of the people of his native province.

When the credentials of delegates from the different subdivisions had been carefully gone over, and the vote had been taken and the result announced, the Liberal candidate was given an ovation which astonished even the old-time Liberals who were used to warm receptions for the idol of West Middlesex, the former Premier.

A Popular Candidate.

Cheer after cheer filled the hall, and then a rush was made by the enthusiastic Liberals to shake the candidate's hand. The first to reach Mr. Ross was Mr. J. A. Elliott, and he was followed by Mr. A. P. McDougall, both of whom had, with the successful nominee, been balloted for by the delegates. It was evident to all that the Liberals mean business, and that they intend to maintain West Middlesex in the ranks of the Liberal constituencies.

The contest for the honor of standard-bearer was brought to a close the minute the votes were counted, and as one man the meeting pledged itself to support Mr. Ross.

During the convention a communication from Hon. George W. Ross was read. In the ex-Premier's sincere style, it informed the Liberals of West Middlesex that the man who had represented them since March, 1872, had been compelled to drop out owing to physical disability. In the old hall were many who in the vigor of early manhood had brought out George W. Ross as a candidate, and there were tears in the eyes of many of the stalwarts as they listened to the farewell epistle. But when the son of his father was nominated, these same old Liberals cheered as heartily as they cheered for the father 35 years ago.

The Ex-Leader.

Every speaker at the convention had a good word for the ex-Premier, and such interruptions as "He'd beat them out of their boots if he came back again," were frequently heard, and showed the feeling of his old constituents towards Mr. Ross.

At the conclusion of the reading of the letter, a vote of confidence in Senator Ross was passed by the convention. (Continued on Page Two.)

SMALLPOX AT ONEIDA

Dr. Leitch Finds Well-Developed Cases
Amongst the Indians.

St. Thomas, Feb. 1.—In response to the request of the Southwestern Board of Health, Dr. Leitch, smallpox expert, went to Oneida to examine smallpox suspects. He found a squaw, Mrs. Anderson, and Willie White with well-defined cases, and is satisfied that the Indian lad at Middlemarch is affected, as he was exposed.

William Doherty, father of W. B. Doherty, city solicitor of St. Thomas, died at the Amasa Wood Hospital here this morning, aged 84 years. He was a native of Ireland, and a much-esteemed citizen.

Hon. G. W. Ross' Farewell

To the West Middlesex Liberal Association:

Gentlemen,—Owing to my appointment to the Senate of Canada, my place in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as your representative becomes vacant. I deeply regret that I am unable to continue the full term to which you elected me two years ago, and were it not for the disability to serve you to the full measure of the strength of former years, no consideration on my part would have moved me to accept the appointment which severs our relations.

You have honored me as few men in Canada have been honored. It is now nearly 35 years since I was first chosen as your representative. Again and again, through eleven different elections you have repeated that early expression of confidence and good will, and although my course may have called for much forbearance on your part, you never wavered in your loyalty and devotion to the candidate of your choice. Under these circumstances and with the recollections which they naturally recall, you will in some measure understand my feelings in severing my connection with you. There is scarcely a home in West Middlesex which at one time or another I have not entered, and in which, irrespective of political differences, I have not been kindly received. And although many of those to whom I owed so much and who were most active in my early campaigns have passed away, I have found their successors equally devoted to myself and to the principles I represent.

My career as your representative has not been one of leisure or repose. Although I may not have accomplished all that you had a right to expect, and left undone some things which might have been fairly expected of me, kindly assume that it has been owing to the limitation of human effort rather than to indifference on my part. Should a generous public ever regard my course in Parliament as one of any value, to the people of Canada, I desire that to you, more than to myself, should be given the honor of my humble services.

May I hope that in parting with you, West Middlesex will for many years feel that the interests of the country can be best served through the Liberal party and the principles it represents.

I have the honor to be yours sincerely,

GEORGE W. ROSS.

NOT IN SYMPATHY WITH MOVE TO INCREASE DUTY ON TOBACCO

Local Cigar Manufacturers Say
It Would Seriously Injure
Canadian Trade.

Local cigar manufacturers are not in sympathy with the action of the Quebec deputation which yesterday waited on Hon. Mr. Brodeur and other cabinet ministers at Ottawa and asked for an increase in the duty on imported tobacco from 10 to 15 cents a pound.

The deputation asked for the abolition of the green stamp which now designates goods manufactured from Canadian tobacco.

"The fact of the matter is, it is the growers of tobacco who are seeking the changes noted," a local manufacturer said to The Advertiser today. "There are a few manufacturers with them, but such manufacturers have also large interests as growers."

The same gentleman stated that to increase the duty on imported tobacco would be to add greatly to the present heavy burdens of the manufacturers. He said that tobacco which two years ago could be bought for 40 cents a pound, now brings 80 cents, and yet there has been no increase in the price of the manufactured goods.

"Some manufacturers have been driven to the unwise course of making the cigar to fit the price, instead of the price to fit the cigar," the manufacturer said. "This is a very bad principle to follow, but the high price of tobacco and the duty exacted have driven the manufacturers to it."

"To abolish the green stamp which now designates the cigar made from Canadian goods would be to double the sale of imported cigars in Canada," he continued. "At present we have in addition to this stamp a stamp which designates the cigar which is made in Canada, from imported tobacco, and another stamp which designates the cigar which is made also of imported tobacco, but is manufactured abroad. If there was but one stamp for all cigars made in Canada, there would be no protection for the consumer. He might be given a cigar made from Canadian tobacco entirely, which no manufacturer has as yet been able to say is as good as the imported tobacco, and he might be charged the same price that he is now charged for an imported tobacco cigar. What would be the result? The cigar made outside of Canada from imported tobacco would bear such a stamp, and to protect himself the smoker would buy it."

"To abolish the green stamp and substitute one stamp for all cigars made in Canada would be simply to put a premium on foreign labor," the manufacturer declared. "As I have stated, it would simply result in the doubling of the sale of foreign-made cigars in Canada, to the prejudice of the home-made articles. I say, leave the stamps as they are. The duty is already plenty high enough, too."

REVOLT AGAINST MISSIONS.

Brussels, Feb. 1.—The officials of the Congo Administration announced today that the uprising in the Manyanga district had been suppressed, and that the native chief, who instigated it, had been apprehended. The latter asserted that the revolt was not against the Administration, but against the Swedish missionaries at Kinzoia.

DAY LABOR WILL BE GIVEN TRIAL

Reconstruction of Dundas Street
Sewer To Be Done by
That Plan.

The board of works last night decided to recommend to the council that the reconstruction of the Dundas street sewer, between Wellington and Adelaide streets, be done by day labor, instead of by contract. The committee was unanimous in the matter.

Three tenders were received—one from Mr. Chris Leatherone, one from Mr. Fred Harding, and one from the city engineer. The figures were \$5,350, \$4,199 and \$4,989, respectively, with extras for any new pipe that may be required.

The work will be done under the direction of the engineer, who will have the power of appointing his foreman and pipe-layers. "I don't want to have any of the aldermen come to me to have this man or that man put on the job," said Mr. Graydon. "I want to have full control."

The aldermen agreed that this would only be right, and that it would give a good opportunity to prove the superiority of the day labor over the contract system. Mr. Graydon pointed out that the reconstruction of the sewer was done by contract last year, where he had to appoint an inspector, whereas with day labor the foreman would have the general oversight. In a letter to the committee the engineer stated that a first-class foreman would have been secured.

Continued on Page Eight.

BRITISH CABINET MEETS

Arranges Throne Speech and Discusses
Governor Swettenham.

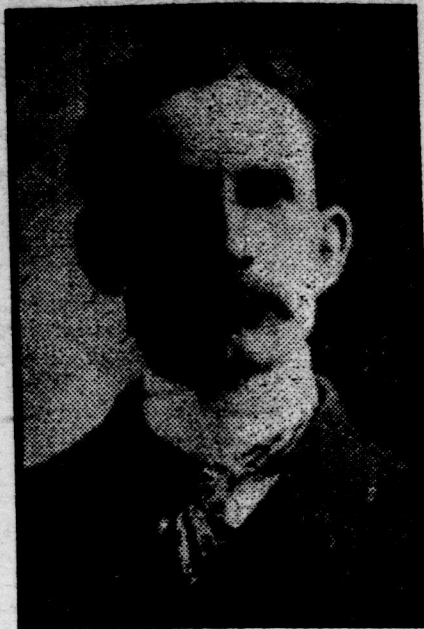
London, Feb. 1.—The cabinet today held its first session since the prorogation of Parliament. Premier Campbell-Bannerman presided. The minutes, besides framing the outlines of the speech from the throne to be delivered at the reopening of Parliament on Feb. 12, will, it is understood, finally dispose of the incident involving Governor Swettenham, of Jamaica.

ROOSEVELT SCORES AGAIN

Said to Have Successfully Engineered
Settlement of 'Frisco Trouble.

Tokio, Feb. 1.—The report that a satisfactory solution of the San Francisco controversy is in sight is welcomed on all sides, though it was believed from the outset that there was no cause for alarm. The reassuring news is fresh cause for profound satisfaction, as proving the firmness of the friendship between Japan and the United States.

The efforts of President Roosevelt to find a solution of the question are highly appreciated.



MR. DUNCAN C. ROSS,
Liberal Candidate in West
Middlesex

TWO LOCAL MEMBERS FOR LONDON IS THE REDISTRIBUTION RUMOR

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Toronto, Feb. 1.—Members of the Local House are beginning to discuss the redistribution bill. Cities are mostly interested in redistribution, as under it Toronto is to have eight, Ottawa three, Hamilton three, and London two members. Ottawa is to be divided into districts under the new bill and the prospect is that Monck, which is made up of a portion of three counties, and for which Hon. Richard Harcourt sits, will be wiped out altogether. The riding of George P. Graham will be considerably curtailed. Hon. Frank Cockburn will be given one of the Toronto constituencies.

GREAT STORM TIES UP THE WEST

Worst Blizzard in Years Now
Raging Throughout Manitoba
and Alberta.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 1.—Reports received last evening indicate that the worst storm in years is raging between Swift Current and Medicine Hat. Moosejaw reports a heavy storm, but no worse than others earlier in the season. At Regina the wind reached a velocity of 30 miles, accompanied by a heavy fall of fine snow, but lasted only a few hours, and the mercury rose to several degrees above zero. McLean, Alberta, reports that the thermometer rose from 18 below on Wednesday night to 32 above on Thursday morning, when it started to storm, and the mercury fell to 8 below within a few hours. Calgary reports the storm which was raging all day covers all that division of the C. P. R., and the company finds it impossible to keep trains moving.

FORCING THE ISSUE

French Parish Priests Give Mayors
Four Days to Sign Leases.

Paris, Feb. 1.—The parish priests are submitting to the mayors of 18-year contracts for the lease of the churches, and are giving the officials four days in which to reply. The mayors of some of the Catholic communes immediately signed the documents, but the latter refused to be counter-signed by the prefects, who are awaiting the Government's decision.

THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—MILD.

The weather has been moderate to-day throughout the Western Provinces, and light snow is falling in most districts. In Ontario and Western Quebec light snow is also falling. Milder conditions are indicated from the great lakes to the Atlantic. Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 40 below—36 below; Atlin, 28 below—2 below; Port Simpson, 4—22; Victoria, 36—44; Vancouver, 34—37; Kamloops, 4—14; Edmonton, 18 below—8 below; Calgary, 18 below—4 below; Qu'Appelle, 15 below—24; Winnipeg, 28 below—4; Port Arthur, 8 below—6; Parry Sound, 12 below—18; Toronto, 2—28; Ottawa, 14 below—6; Montreal, 6 below—6; Quebec, 14 below—6; Halifax, 8—20.

FORECASTS.

Friday, Feb. 1—8 a.m. Today—Fresh easterly winds; cloudy, with occasional snow or rain. Saturday—Unsettled and comparatively mild.

Detroit, Jan. 31.—Lower Michigan: Snow on Friday and probably on Saturday; variable winds, becoming southeast and fresh.

Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Weather. Calgary -10 -10 Snow Winnipeg -10 -4 Snow Port Arthur 18 -6 Cloudy Parry Sound 26 24 Cloudy Toronto 28 24 Cloudy Ottawa 10 0 Cloudy Montreal 8 2 Cloudy Quebec 0 0 Clear Father Point 6 0 Cloudy

The sign—indicates below zero. The above readings of the thermometer are taken between the hours of 8 p.m. yesterday and 8 a.m. today, "minimum" being the lowest recorded during that time.

WEATHER NOTES.

The weather is milder this morning in both Ontario and Quebec, with light snow falling in some few localities.

Another pronounced cold wave is setting in over the Western Provinces, with high northwesterly winds.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Thursday were: Highest, 27° above; lowest, 2° below zero.

McGill Pleads Guilty; Five Years at Kingston

RIOT AT IRISH PLAY;
EGGS FOR PERFORMERS

Audience Resent Anti-Hibernian Tone of
Brooklyn Production.

New York, Feb. 1.—Twenty-two arrests were made last night at the Orpheum Theater in Brooklyn, owing to a riot during the performance by "The Irish Servant Girl." A number of Irishmen who resented the alleged anti-Irish tone of the play began to pelt the performers with eggs. They were with some difficulty hustled out of the theater by the police. No one was seriously injured.

The Ex-Manager Confesses to
Making False Returns to
the Government.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Toronto, Feb. 1.—Charles McGill, late manager of the wrecked Ontario Bank, pleaded guilty to two counts of signing and making false returns to the Government this morning before Justice Clute. On the charge of making a false statement with intent to deceive, he pleaded not guilty. On various theft charges he pleaded not guilty and these cases were traversed to another court.

Judge Clute imposed a sentence of five years in Kingston Penitentiary. In passing sentence Judge Clute commented on the serious nature of the offense, which he regarded not as technical in any sense of the word, but a crime calculated to do inestimable harm by deceiving the investing public. McGill may be kept here for a few days, as the Bankers' Association may desire to call him as witness in the case against Cockburn.

JONES TELLS OF JAMAICAN FUSS

Denies Reported Ill-Treatment of
Americans and Says Swettenham
Worked Well.

London, Feb. 1.—Sir Alfred Jones, president of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, John Henniker Heaton, M. P., and other prominent men arrived at Bristol today on board the steamer Port Kingston from Kingston, Jamaica, by way of Barbados. They gave vivid details of the earthquake, and protested against the charges widely circulated that Sir Alfred Jones had inhumanly treated Americans at Kingston.

In an interview Sir Alfred said it was a "monstrous" statement, adding: "The ship was crowded from end to end with dead and dying. In order to provide for these we had to keep all our own passengers ashore at a hotel for two days. Several Americans who were hurt were treated on board the Port Kingston and we provided other Americans who sought shelter under the shed of our wharves, with mattresses and supplies from the ship, and an armed guard to insure their security. Several Americans came and asked us what they had to pay, but they were welcome to what we could do."

Sir Alfred said he considered Governor Swettenham did everything possible in the extraordinary conditions incident to the earthquake. "I do not think the correspondence with Admiral Davis was one of the governor's thought would ever be governed by the American admiral, who, of course, was anxious to help, and did his duty in offering aid, and when it was not wanted went away."

WRECK ON ENGLISH COAST
London, Feb. 1.—Lifeboats from Hartlepool this morning rescued 24 of the crew of the steamer Clavering, ashore at the mouth of the Tees, including Captain Scott. The bodies of nine Lascars, who died of exposure during the night, were thrown overboard, making the total number of deaths 12. The vessel is breaking up.

A TERRIFIC QUAKE
SPLITS PACIFIC ISLES
Shock That Rocked World Changes
Form of Solomon Group.

San Francisco, Jan. 1.—The Solomon Islands in the South Seas were visited by a fearful earthquake several months ago, in which the earth was opened and deep gorges created. The entire appearance of the islands was changed. There was no loss of life. The news was brought here by Governor C. B. L. Moore, who arrived yesterday from Samoa. He stated that a trading schooner came into Apia, with the news shortly before he sailed. It is deemed probable that the earthquake was the one recorded then on the seismographs in various parts of the world. According to the instrument at Apia it lasted for several minutes, and was said to be the heaviest ever recorded. It was figured that it occurred somewhere in the South Seas, but as no report came from any civilized island, it was believed it occurred at sea.

BELL OPERATORS GO TO TORONTO

Will Work There on the Long
Distance Lines Crippled
by the Strike.

Eight young ladies from the local exchange of the Bell Telephone Company left last night via the G. T. R. for Toronto, where they will act as operators for the company. The ladies are all experienced.

Manager Baird stated to The Advertiser today that none of them were compelled to go to Toronto to take the place of the strikers. They were asked by the company as a favor to go to the Queen City and keep open the long distance lines, and when the trouble is settled they can resume their former positions here, just as they choose.

Mr. Baird also stated that two more of the young ladies volunteered to go to Toronto today, if their services were necessary. "It is not alone the Toronto office that has been tied up by the strike," Mr. Baird said. "The long distance lines are also out of business, and we are making every effort to open these lines, so that places which have no part in Toronto's troubles will not be inconvenienced."

CITY TO MAKE A PROPOSITION

G. T. R. Track Elevation To
Be Taken Up Immediately.

MUCH SHUNTING TO GO EAST

Which May Mean Vast Changes at
Rectory Street—The Level
Tracks Question.

Mayor Judd, Chairman Booth of the railway committee and City Engineer Graydon yesterday afternoon had a long conference with Manager McGulgan of the Grand Trunk Railway, relative to the elevation of the company's lines in London from Ridout street east to William street.

The result of the conference was that a meeting of the railway committee is to be called at once for the purpose of drafting a proposition to lay before the company.

Manager McGulgan stated that he will be in the east until the 15th of February, but that at any time after that date he will be ready to meet the city, and discuss the negotiations on the basis of the proposition which is to be submitted by the city to the company.

The proposition will be forwarded to the manager as soon as it is possible for the committee to get together and decide upon what the city wants.

All the gentlemen who were present at the conference were very reticent as to what occurred at the meeting. The mayor said that if he talked the members of the railway committee might feel slighted, as they have the right to have a report made to them before anything is given out for publication.

Chairman Booth stated that there will be nothing to give out until after the meeting of the committee, which will be within a few days.

The Level Tracks

If it is understood, however, that one of the most important matters touched upon was the shunting of level tracks by the company, after the main tracks have been elevated, for the purpose of accommodating shippers who may be located on the Grand Trunk lines west of Wellington street.

It is hinted that Mr. McGulgan is prepared to give the city a guarantee that the shunting of cars on such level tracks will be done at such hours as will not interfere with street cars and other traffic, which means that the shunting would be done after midnight.

The city is very anxious, however, Continued on page eight.

LESS THAN \$700

London's Share of the Ontario Government's Railway Tax.

Mayor Judd stated to The Advertiser today that he has been informed by Hon. Mr. Hanna, provincial secretary, that after the sum of 10 cents per day, for all poor patients from London now in the asylums of the Province has been deducted, there will be a balance of \$690 or \$690 coming to the city from its share of the tax levied on the railroads of Ontario.

Mr. Hanna didn't state, however, that the Liberal Government, which the Whitney Government succeeded did not charge the municipalities anything for the care of the insane, and that if the Whitney Government had followed a similar course the city's share of the railway tax would be nearer \$3,000 than a paltry \$690.

No Change, Says Whitney In Local Option Clause

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Distance Lines Crippled
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Government Will Not Amend the Liquor Act in Any Respect.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Toronto, Feb. 1.—Fifteen minutes sufficed to slake the thirst of Ontario's legislators for labor yesterday afternoon. Most of the time was taken up with purely routine business, such as the reading of committee reports, and the presentation of petitions.

Mr. Graham sounded the Government upon its intention regarding the liquor license act and received from the Premier a statement which puts a quietus upon reports that the act was to be amended. Mr. Graham asked whether, in view of the results of the local option contests, the Government had decided to do away with the three-fifths majority provision.

Mr. Whitney replied: "I cannot understand the object of the honorable gentleman's question. Within the last 24 hours I have noticed quite casually in the newspapers the results of the contests, which, I think, prove how efficient is the working of the act as it now stands."

Mr. Graham asked when the public accounts would be ready. Mr. Matheson replied that he had not been able to close the fiscal year until Jan. 20. The accounts would be down about the middle of February.