

BECK DECLARES MAYOR NOT FIT FOR POSITION

CHAIRMAN DEFINES TITLE OF 'PINHEAD' APPLIED TO MAYOR

Beck Is Re-elected Chairman of Port Stanley Railway Commission—States Mayor Wenige Totally Incompetent To Preside As Chief Magistrate of City—Fears Publication of Statement Was Unwise.

CITY CLERK REJECTED AS SECRETARY

Sir Adam Beck doesn't consider that Mayor Wenige is "big enough for the position he fills."

At least, he made it quite clear at today's inaugural session of the London & Port Stanley Railway Commission that he did not mean that the mayor's head resembled a "pinhead" physically, but that he probably had in mind that the mayor was totally incompetent to preside as the chief magistrate of this city.

Members of the city council, three of them, who attended this morning's gathering in the role of interested spectators, voiced keen surprise afterwards. They had no idea, they stated, that the feud between the mayor and the member for London had assumed such magnitude.

During the session Sir Adam added that he would never "get accustomed to the mayor" and vouchsafed the further opinion that during his 25 years of public life he had never encountered such "humbug."

Sir Adam was re-elected chairman and Frank Harley vice-chairman.

Today's gathering was merely a repetition of several sessions of 1922. Time after time Mayor Wenige was voted down by Sir Adam Beck and his two supporters, Commissioner Frank Harley and Commissioner Percy Moore. Sir Adam and the mayor practically monopolized the time of the meeting, their opinions conflicting throughout. Both made it quite clear and emphatic to one another and the board in general, that they would air their opinions whenever and however they saw fit.

When the session opened Mayor Wenige asked Sir Adam if he had referred to him as a "pinhead." He did not believe the report, as he thought that Sir Adam was too much of a gentleman for that.

Sir Adam reviewed the circumstances. A representative of the Free Press had called him, and suggested that the mayor's attitude toward the L. & P. S. was similar to that of the city hall and toward the police and fire departments.

Not Referring to Size.
"I said that I didn't know what the pin head might have in view," Sir Adam stated. "I didn't mean to say that your head was the size of a pin in contrast to the rest of the body, but the thought in my mind was perhaps that you weren't big enough for the job you are filling. I feel that what was in my mind and what you thought was in your mind, that now that you've been in office for 18 months, you've used some pretty strong language yourself."

Mayor Wenige insisted that Sir Adam's remarks were not justified, and a direct reflection upon the city council and the people who elected the mayor.

As the debate warmed up and rivalled last year's spectacular meetings, Sir Adam warned that there "would be no city council proceedings there." "One of the things I escaped," he stated, "was that I was not a member of the council during your regime."

Later on the member for London stated "it is a free country, and I have a right to my opinion, although in this instance the Free Press was very unwise in publishing it."

Commissioner Harley moved that Sir Adam Beck be chairman for 1924. Mayor Wenige moved in amendment that Frank Harley be chairman. He found no support on either side.

The mayor's proposal that City Clerk Sam Baker be appointed recording secretary was again downed by Sir Adam Beck and his supporters, Donald Wright, the Labor member of the commission, being the mayor's only support. Sir Adam branded the suggestion as "most unusual," and went on to explain that the system would hamper the work of the city clerk who is not familiar with railway regulations, etc.

Closer Co-operation.
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SIR ADAM BECK, who claims today that Mayor Wenige is a "pin head" only in his administration of civic affairs. He declares that he otherwise has no fault to find with the weight on the chief magistrate's shoulders.

RUSSIA TO SIGN GUARANTEE PACT

Belgium, Finland and Estonia the Only Other Nations To Come Into Agreement.

Associated Press Despatch.
Geneva, March 24.—Soviet Russia has just notified the secretariat of the League of Nations that she will sign the mutual guarantee pact and disarmament treaty recommended to all the powers by the last assembly of the league. The only other nations that have replied this far are Belgium, Finland, and Estonia, all of which accepted.

PROF. TAMBLYN TELLS OF JOURNEY ABROAD

Y.M.C.A. Fireside Session Hears Fine Address by "U" Official.

Prof. W. F. Tamblyn of the department of English, University of Western Ontario, was the speaker at a well-attended fireside meeting at the Y. M. C. A. Sunday afternoon.

Professor Tamblyn gave reminiscences of his last summer's trip to England and Scotland, and spoke in detail concerning the various churches in England.

The work of the students' Christian movement in the colleges of the British Isles was also referred to, and in conclusion the work of the Y. M. C. A. in English-speaking countries was touched on.

Mr. William Latchford sang, and following the meeting tea was served.

Only One Week Remains Before Contest Is Ended

\$100 Worth New Subscriptions Within Next Week To Count 2,000,000 Votes.

ENERGY REQUIRED
Three Hundred Candidates Start On Final Lap Today.

This morning 300 candidates for the \$20,000 in prizes started on the final lap of the great Advertiser contest. All are inspired with the spirit that triumphs, for all understand that what is accomplished this week will decide the leaders in the three groups.

Just eight more days to go and the contest will be over, but each day is vital to every candidate. More than 50 are so close to one another that a single subscription may, in the final count, be all that separates the candidate from the \$20,000 grand award.

With the situation as tense as it is, the necessity of working triple time and devoting every ounce of energy to subscription-getting need not be emphasized.

Totals in the rural districts average substantially higher than those in the city. This means that any city contestant may start a whirlwind campaign this week and clean up one of the best prizes.

There are still thousands of good prospects in every street and road in Western Ontario who have not yet been approached. Before the close of the campaign, however, it is hoped that all possible subscribers will be canvassed.

In justice to themselves candidates cannot afford to overlook subscriptions sent in before the close anyone.

One hundred dollars worth of new subscriptions sent in before the close of the campaign will count 2,000,000 votes.

All free vote coupons and guesses on the \$500 cash prize must be sent in by next Thursday night.

HOME BANK DISCUSSION IN COMMONS POSTPONED

Resolution Submitted by T. L. Church of Toronto Is Withdrawn.

DATE LEFT OPEN

Irvine Motion Provides For the Appointment of Special Committee.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Ottawa, March 24.—The discussion on the Home Bank, which was scheduled for today in the House of Commons, has been postponed, and there appears to be some uncertainty as to when it will come up or what form it will take.

When the subject was broached last Thursday, there were two resolutions on the order paper, both of which dealt directly with the collapse of this bank, but in the meantime one of these has been dropped. The two resolutions stood in the names of William Irvine (Labor, Calgary East) and T. L. Church (Conservative, Toronto North). Mr. Church has now dropped his motion.

The Church resolution, which has been dropped, declared for consideration by the government of "some form of immediate and direct relief" to the Home Bank depositors. That of Mr. Irvine, which still remains, provides for the appointment of a committee to devise methods of preventing similar failures in future and to "make a recommendation as to the possibility of having the Home Bank depositors protected from loss."

FARMER TO FACE CHARGE OF CRUELTY TO HORSE

Stopped at the corner of York and Talbot streets Saturday afternoon by George Tustin, Humane Society Inspector, a farmer will appear in the county court to answer a charge of cruelty to animals.

Mr. Tustin found the horse hauling a load of grain, unshod, lame and suffering from an old standing fistula.

Seven calls of a varied nature were received by the inspector over the week-end.

JUGO-SLAV MINISTRY TENDERS RESIGNATION

Belgrade, March 24.—The Jugo-Slav cabinet, headed by Premier Pachitch, handed its resignation to the king today. All the ministers belong to the radical party.

GERMANY HAS REMITTED BIG REPARATIONS SUM

Billions in Gold Marks Have Been Paid Over to Allied Powers.

Associated Press Despatch.
Paris, March 24.—Germany's reparation payments up to Dec. 31, 1923, as officially announced today, amount to \$411,000,000 gold marks. Of this sum 1,993,000,000 gold marks was in cash, the remainder being made up of deliveries in kind or ceded property.

The unpaid costs of the armies of occupation and the commissions of control now amount to 2,614,000,000 gold marks, not including the U. S. army costs of \$1,071,000,000.

The reparation commission figures show that Belgium, both in cash and deliveries in kind received the equivalent of 1,445,000,000 gold marks net, after deducting the cost of maintaining her army of occupation and reimbursement for coal advances to Germany. The larger part of the payments to Belgium were in cash, amounting to more than 1,000,000,000 gold marks.

France has received 1,800,000,000 gold marks, mostly in deliveries in kind, but the net balance remaining after the costs of the occupation troops and reimbursement for coal advances to Germany is only 183,000,000 marks.

LOSS OF HORSE BLAMED ON ROADS, \$150 ASKED

Sherman Tummonds Blames the County For Accident to Animal.

Sherman Tummonds, R. R. No. 4, Komoka, thinks the County of Middlesex should pay him \$150 for the loss of his horse, which broke a leg while being driven along the Hyde Park side road, between concessions five and six, on March 20.

Mr. Tummonds blames the condition of the road for the accident, and states that the horse was shod three days before the accident.

The letter written by T. W. Seddett, local barrister, has been turned over to the accident insurance company for action by County Clerk John Stuart.

AGE LIMIT IN SENATE URGED BY TURRIFF

Movement For Reform in the Upper Chamber Launched by Westerner.

REDUCE MEMBERSHIP

Would Have But Sixty-Four Instead of Present Number.

Special to The Advertiser.
Ottawa, March 24.—The movement for Senate reform has extended to the senate itself. Hon. J. G. Turriff, Senator for Assiniboia, intends to move a resolution in his own House of Parliament which will call for a change in the constitution to this end. The proposal of Senator Turriff is as follows:

1. That in the interest of economy and good government the membership of the Senate should be reduced by one third, from a total of 96 members to a total of 64, by not filling vacancies as they occur until each province has been reduced to its quota of senators as above prescribed.

2. That in all appointments to the Senate, after the change has been effected, it shall be provided that when a senator reaches the age of say 75 years, he shall automatically cease to be a senator.

3.—That provision be made that all senators so retired shall receive a superannuation commensurate to the length of their service in the senate.

4.—That when a new government comes into power the prime minister shall make all appointments to the senate until there is a majority in the senate of his supporters, and afterward the premier shall appoint as vacancies occur from each province, and the leader of the Opposition shall nominate every third member from each province, and the premier shall appoint such nominee.

5.—That it be made compulsory that all private legislation shall be introduced through the senate.

WILL YOU BE CHAMPION AT MARBLES OR JACKS?

First Entries in The Advertiser's Contests Have Been Received—Winners Will Compete For the Championship of Canada—See Rules and Entry Form On Inside Page.

The first entries have already reached The Advertiser for the contests in marbles and jacks.

Have you sent in yours yet? On an inside page you will find the complete rules of play for both marbles and jacks, and entry forms. Clip out the rules and keep them for reference, and send in your entry form right away.

The Advertiser's contests in marbles and jacks are open to all London boys and girls of eligible age. There are no entry fees or expenses, and The Advertiser will give prizes at various stages of both contests.

In seven other Canadian cities similar contests are being conducted—Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Edmonton and Calgary.

The winners of marbles and jacks in London will be sent to Toronto by The Advertiser to meet the winners of these other seven cities in a grand final tournament to choose the champions of all Canada.

Start practicing today, and send your entry form to The Advertiser as quickly as possible so that details of the schedule may be arranged.

MABER CLAIMS NO NEED FOR WINDING UP ORDER

Former Treasurer of Manitoba Insurance Company Hopes To Save Concern.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Winnipeg, March 24.—The Northwestern Life Assurance Company need not have gone into liquidation according to a statement by F. O. Mabier, its former secretary-treasurer and one of its founders. Mr. Mabier said that not only could the company have been saved, but that probably it yet would be saved, and he intimated that he was considering action intended to remove it from the jurisdiction of the courts under the winding up order.

Mr. Mabier declared that had he been allowed to speak at the annual meeting last week the result would have been different. He said he would welcome any investigation of his activities, and claimed that it would tend to stem the extravagance which had "crept into the office." He did not agree that the company was bankrupt.

According to a statement by H. W. Brown, international representative of the United Mine Workers of America, the international executive board will meet at Indianapolis on April 5, when one of the most important questions to be discussed will be the possible withdrawal of the U. M. A. from Nova Scotia.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD WILL MEET ON APRIL 3

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ALBERTA COAL WORKERS TO AGAIN MEET HEADS

Calgary, Alta., March 24.—Coal operators in Alberta will again meet the officials of District 18, United Mine Workers of America, in an endeavor to come to a settlement for a new contract, and the meeting will probably take place during the present week.

ROBERT POLK SUICIDES.
Associated Press Despatch.
Memphis, Tenn., March 24.—Robert S. Polk, former senior vice-president of the Union and Planters' National Bank and Trust Company, shot and killed himself at his home today.

They Will Look To You Next Week



IN THE ARMY'S MOTHERING CARE.

These little babies would be alone in the world if it weren't for the Salvation Army Home and the Welfare Fund. As it is, they are given the best of care and will grow into healthy children and useful citizens. The Welfare drive next week will give you your chance to invest in citizenship.

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WILLIAMS' PETITION IS BEING GIVEN SUPPORT

Seven Hundred Names Have Already Been Attached to List.

BRIEFLY WORDED

Two Men Out of Work Take Up Cause of the Prisoner.

The petition asking the minister of justice at Ottawa to grant a reprieve to Henry Jack "Slim" Williams is meeting with a whole-hearted response from the citizens of London, according to J. R. Vincent, 790 Grey street, and A. R. Munnings, 816 Van street, who have the matter in hand.

Although the petition has only been in circulation since Saturday, over 700 people have already signed it.

Mr. Vincent and Mr. Munnings have never even seen Williams or the other condemned men who are sentenced to be hanged on April 10 for murder. Neither attended the trials last month, but felt that some clemency should be shown Williams, who, evidence at the trial showed, made no attempt to use his revolver during the robbery at the Home Bank, Melbourne, on April 11, 1921.

The men responsible for the petition are both out of work at the present time and considered that should their efforts be responsible for granting the young Australian a reprieve, it would be time well spent.

Copies of the petition have been placed at the Salvation Army and Rectory street, the Hardy book store on Dundas near the Rectory, and two tobacco shops on Richmond, near Carleton place.

The petition, which is a to the point, is as follows: "We, the undersigned, request that the death penalty be inflicted on H. J. Williams."

ROADS NEED GOOD RAIN, SAYS COUNTY ENGINEER

Highways to North Are Still Almost Impassable to Auto Traffic.

County roads need a good rain before much improvement will be noted in their condition, County Engineer Charles Talbot states. The engineer, who is in constant touch with his road foremen, reports that highways east, south and west of the city are fairly well clear of snow, but that roads to the north still remain for the most part impassable for automobiles.

Early this morning an irate individual who attempted to drive along the second concession of Nissouri Township yesterday, phoned Mr. Talbot stating both steps of his buggy had been torn off in the huge drifts. After passing a few remarks, the man wanted to know what the council was going to do, and if he would be paid for damages done. Although asked to give his name, he refused to do so.

PRESBYTERIANS TO AID IN SASKATCHEWAN CASE

Regina, Sask., March 24.—Special collections were taken in Regina Presbyterian churches yesterday to help defray the expenses, estimated at some \$10,000, of the appeal which the Lord's Day Alliance is carrying to the privy council against a judgment by the appeal court of Manitoba.

The appeal arises out of a legal action which had for its aim the discontinuance of the running of Sunday excursions to pleasure resorts near Winnipeg.

WEAK FROM ACCIDENT.

Mrs. J. McNamara, wife of the sergeant-at-arms at the city hall, who inflicted a deep cut in her left thumb on Friday night requiring several stitches to close the wound, is still weak from loss of blood, and will be confined to her home for a number of weeks.

Newsy Bits From Today's Classified Ads.

General maid wanted.
Flour and chopping mill for sale.
200-acre farm for sale.
Unfurnished rooms to let.
Fancy washing done.

The Weather

FORECASTS.
Today—Moderate northwest winds; fair.
Tuesday—Stationary or a little lower temperature.

Pressure is high over the Great Lakes and middle west and relatively low near the Atlantic Coast and toward the Pacific. The weather is fair and mild from Manitoba eastward, while in Saskatchewan and Alberta it is unsettled with light snowfalls.

Stations. High Low Weather
Victoria 58 49 Fair
Calgary 32 20 Cloudy
Winnipeg 42 22 Fair
Port Arthur 36 18 Clear
S. S. Marie 30 6 Clear
Cochrane 20 6 Clear
Toronto 51 36 Cloudy
Kingston 52 32 Fair
Ottawa 54 30 Fair
Montreal 46 34 Cloudy
Quebec 46 28 Cloudy
St. John 48 26 Clear
Halifax 48 24 Fair

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 52; lowest, 32.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 38; lowest, 29.

Barometric Readings.
Sunday—2 p.m.—29.32.
Today—3 a.m.—29.36.