

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1922

INDS 6,888 AUTOS STOLEN IN NEW YORK

City Loss in 1922 was \$7,000,000, Prosecutor Says, Denying Crime Wave—Out to License Brokers.

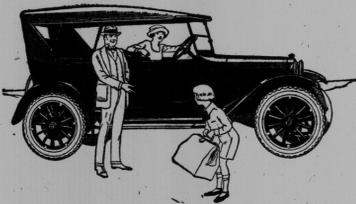
(New York Times.)
Denying again the existence of a "crime wave" in this city, District Attorney Jacob H. Banton, in a speech at a City Club last night, asserted that 88 automobiles, valued at approximately \$7,000,000, were stolen in this city last year. He also told of his efforts to clear the criminal calendars, so that a man committing a crime this week would be on his way to prison next week.
Telling of his efforts to have the legislature pass a law requiring stock brokers to show their books on demand, he said: "Bucketing is common stealing. We attempt to pass a bill giving these under the same supervision as we give over bankers and insurance men, president of the Stock Exchange; master's voice. But we'll get that through, or one better, and put the skiers under the same supervision as law has over banks and insurance companies."
"They say that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of constipation; will therefore license these brokers that their books can be examined more than sixty failures involved \$18,000. One house with \$8,000,000 in slutties had \$300,000 in assets. Is there a reason for making these men red?"
Dr. Banton declared that last week the lowest number of crimes of

violence in the city, of any week since January.
"There were 700 more major crimes in January, February and March, 1917, than during the same months in 1922, but these figures did not feature the first pages of the newspapers. I am glad of the recent newspaper hysteria because it enabled me to get prosecution machinery. The time will come when a man arrested this week will be convicted next week."
"This week fewer persons were accused of murder than any other time you can remember. One man went on trial today for a crime committed in April and another for a crime in May."
"Telling of his efforts to co-operate with the police department to get quick indictments and trials in crimes, District Attorney Banton said in a side remark: "If fathers took their sons to church on Sundays, played less golf or saw that their children received some religious instruction, there would be less crime in the city."
This remark linked up with the assertion of a previous speaker, Supreme Court Justice James C. Crosey, former district attorney of King's county, that crime prevention should begin with the children. He said he believed that printing of crime news had a bad effect, but that a sure deterrent to crime was swift justice. As a way to dispose of crime cases speedily, he suggested that supreme court justices should forego part of their summer vacations and rotate in the criminal branch during the summer.
Raymond Fosdick, an authority on police systems, said he agreed with Mr. Banton and Justice Crosey that there had been no crime wave, but pointed out that many citizens believed that there had been "a superabundance of crime."
"The 700 crimes mentioned by Mr. Banton," Mr. Fosdick said, "depend on the way statistics are kept. I don't know what a crime wave is. Mr. Enright tells us we are wrong, but we have no way to know. The newspapers cite crimes committed, the police talk in terms of arrests, and the district attorney tells of convictions. We ought never to allow ourselves to get into any dispute as to whether there was a crime wave. We ought to have an accurate system of statistics."

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AGAINST HYDRO AND STRONG FOR ROSS

All the Big Interests in Montreal Approve Chippawa Enquiry but are Told Some Plain Facts.

(Toronto Telegram.)
Montreal, May 15 (Staff Special)—Montreal's big interests heartily applauded the appointment of the Chippawa investigating commission by the Drury government. They say that "Beck has Ontario hypnotized" and that "public ownership won't work."
Representatives of the big power companies and allied financial and other interests decline to talk for publication. That is, they will not consent to be quoted. But they are willing to give their views and do not hesitate to say that they expect public ownership to be

"shown up" by the probe now under way.
Drury Admitted.
One of these men, whose interests are all bound up in private ownership, said he looked upon Premier Drury as a man of great courage. "Someone

should have taken hold of the Hydro long ago," he declared. "Sir Adam Beck has the people of Ontario hypnotized and they don't get the facts. The trouble with public ownership is that you can't keep out patronage. Take the National Railways, for instance. I know of a case where there was a position open for a switchman. The local M. P. had a candidate for the job, the parish priest had another and the Federal M. P. had another. The result was that all three were put on."
When told by The Telegram that there was no patronage in the Hydro and that Sir Adam Beck had persistently refused to allow patronage to enter into it in even the smallest form, even risking the loss of friends by refusing to give employment on any other qualification except absolute merit, he said: "That's the trouble with Beck. He doesn't consider his friends and he's too ready to tell them to go to the devil."
This man admitted that the municipal plant at Westmount, where he resides, had been a success. "But," he said,

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"that's different. You can make a success of public ownership under conditions like that where all the residents are big business men and the system is efficiently operated. But where you are serving all classes, as in Ontario, you have a clamor for service at less than cost and because there are enough who can vote to turn out a government that doesn't give it to them you have a serious situation."
When told that every part of the Hydro system was paying all maintenance and interest and sinking fund and depreciation and renewal charges and operating with a surplus and that there was no demand for power at less than cost, he shook his head doubtfully, smiled a superior sort of smile and declared that such was not the case.
Must Control Beck.
Another man deeply interested in a big private power company stated to The Telegram that in his view Sir Adam Beck was a very strong man, but that he needed to be kept in control. He did not see how the Chippawa development could ever be made a success. It had cost too much and would increase power prices in Ontario, and there was no market for all the power that would have to be produced if it was to be operated on anything like a paying basis. He felt sure that the investigation would reveal this situation. Those appointed to investigate were, in his view, very capable men, especially Lloyd Harris of Brantford and R. A. Ross of Montreal. Mr. Ross was particularly well qualified, he stated, being, perhaps, the most outstanding engineer in all Canada. His record as a construction engineer was unparalleled. In the various offices of big companies having to do with engineering and electrical development, The Telegram found unanimous praise of Mr. Ross and his qualifications.

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