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SEVERAL DAYS YET OF INQUIRY Telephone Probe Occupies Public Utilities Commission Here Again

H. P. Robinson Says More Than 12,000,000 Were Received in St. John Exchange—Experts to Testify for Company When Their Case is Opened

The Public Utilities Commission resumed its inquiry this morning into the complaints against the New Brunswick Telephone Co. The entire morning was taken up with an examination of Howard P. Robinson, a director of the company, the examination being conducted by Mr. G. Teed, K. C., on behalf of the telephone company. It will probably be several days before the evidence to be introduced by the telephone company is all in, as they have several witnesses to call, including experts from the United States.

Mr. Robinson on the Stand It was 10:30 o'clock when the inquiry opened. Mr. Teed, for the telephone company, called Howard P. Robinson to the stand. Mr. Robinson said he became a shareholder in the company in April, 1904. Later in the same year he became a director and then secretary-treasurer and general manager of the Central merger. After the merger, he was managing director for a time. At present he is one of the directors. There were fifteen directors and an executive council of five members.

Mr. Teed questioned the witness as to the conditions of the merger, especially the south eastern division, in Westmorland county. The witness told of the exchange and territory in the five sections. The exchanges taken over were revenue producers and in taking them over the company secured subscription lists, good will, etc.

Asked as to what percentage of value the subscription lists and good-will would be, the witness said, about 20 per cent. Asked as to why some of the plants were to be rebuilt, he said there was a big increase in demand for phones and this entailed an almost immediate expense in providing better and more up-to-date service. In some cases heavier poles and wires had to be put in.

Increase in Use of Phones In Campbellton there was a big increase and later the switch board had to be removed and a larger one installed. At the start there were only 150 phones there while at the time of the fire there were about 225 phones. In Sackville there were about 100 phones when they took it over. Today the system was divided in two and there was a very large increase in the number. Another wire was put in between Sackville and Port Elgin. Between 8000 was spent on the line from Sackville to Cape Bauld and this was paid out of revenue. About 84,000 was spent in carrying between Sackville and Cape Bauld. The same course was being pursued in other parts of the province, improvements were made for the purpose of operating them and not for selling out again. Competition between two telephone companies, he considered, was bad for the companies, and also for the people. In instances, if there were two companies in St. John, people would have to have two telephones, and there would be double the cost.

HE RATHER BELIEVES WAR IS GOOD Sir Thos. Shaughnessy of The C. P. R. Expresses Himself in Paris—He Hits at Andrew Carnegie

(Canadian Press) Paris, April 4—Some curious views on the question of arbitration were expressed by Sir Thomas Shaughnessy yesterday, here on his way to London. "One is inclined," he said, "to question whether the suppression of war is good for the world. A war now and then acts after all, as a sort of clearance of the surplus population. But what I think most amusing in the matter is the attitude taken by an American society magnate who has given enormous sums to bring about universal peace. He evidently forgets that he acquired his riches only through a life long struggle or commercial war, during which he never suffered not only a rival but not even a competitor."

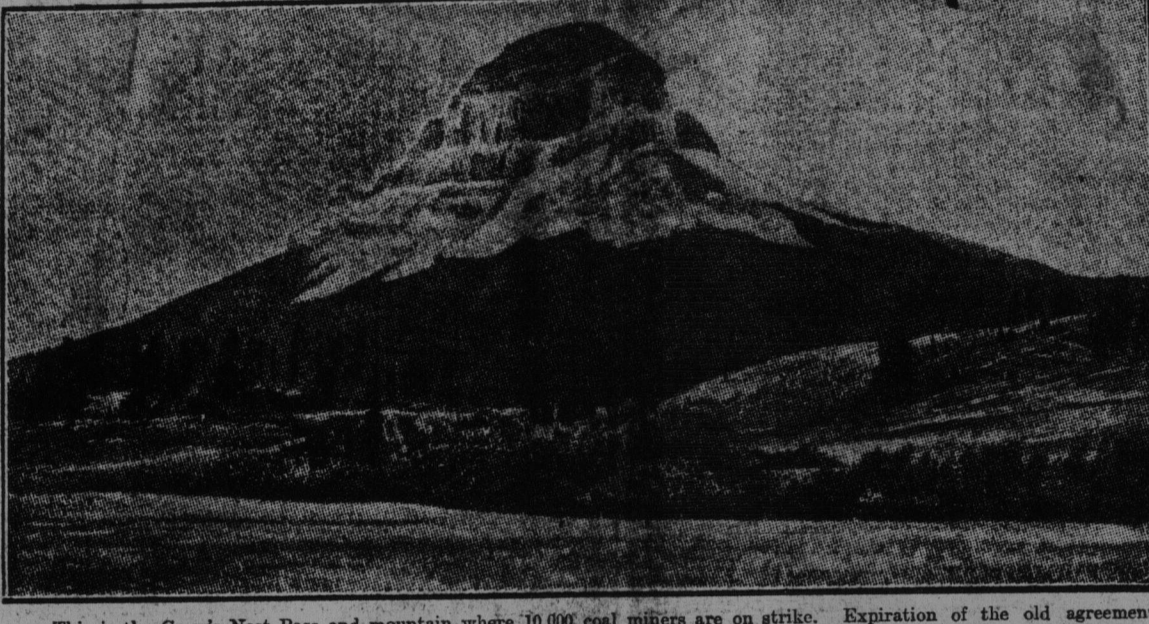
other parts of the province, improvements were made for the purpose of operating them and not for selling out again. Competition between two telephone companies, he considered, was bad for the companies, and also for the people. In instances, if there were two companies in St. John, people would have to have two telephones, and there would be double the cost. Mr. Powell interjected that if there were two companies competing this rate would be lower. The witness went on to speak of the conditions in Portland (Me.), where there had been two competing companies and where, he said, conditions were far from satisfactory. There was considerable discussion on this point, Mr. Powell contending that the competitors had had a much better success, while the witness contended to the contrary. In the course of the discussion, the witness asked Mr. Powell, if he had not been satisfied with the amount for which he had sold his stock.

Continuing his examination, Mr. Teed questioned the witness about the sale of stock of the Central Company. Mr. Robinson said he had a recollection of some of the things being asked by Mr. Teed regarding the physical valuation of the Central Company. Mr. Robinson submitted in evidence a copy of a report made previous to the merger for Mr. Estabrook, by the witness, showing the value of the plant as valued by the Central Company in detail. This report had been made in response to the questions asked by Mr. Powell.

Mr. Powell examined the document and it was accepted in evidence by the commission. Mr. Teed read the document and questioned the witness upon it. He asked how it was that the plant was valued at \$300,000 at the time this statement was made, while a year later it was put in the merger at \$441,000. The increase, Mr. Robinson said, was due to new work being done all the time, and the value of the plant naturally increased right along.

Asked as to rates, the witness said the rates had been increased since he entered the New Brunswick Telephone Company at the time of the merger. The rates were increased to give a fair return. They were still insufficient to provide for depreciation. The company had paid a six per cent dividend with the exception of one year when two per cent was paid. Asked why the old companies had been able to pay good dividends at the old rates and the new company had to raise the rates, the witness said that under the old conditions, the companies would not extend their lines beyond a certain distance. They had the cream of the business. Today they were extending their lines everywhere, no matter what the distance and the cost of operating, construction and maintenance was much greater. The old companies had adhered to the policy of compact exchanges, where the expense was small. Now their policy was to extend the system wherever it was asked for in real estate. They had had requests from members of parliament, boards of trade and others. Mr. Powell—"I don't think that this evidence, what boards of trade ask for—so on."

WHERE TEN THOUSAND CANADIAN COAL MINERS ARE OUT ON STRIKE



This is the Crow's Nest Pass and mountain where 10,000 coal miners are on strike. Expiration of the old agreement and refusal of operators to agree to the closed shop is the cause of the strike. The tie-up is nearly complete, industries may be seriously affected and many towns in British Columbia and Alberta are involved.

CITIZENS WHO MAY VOTE THIS YEAR NUMBER 8,101 Largest Number in City's History Will Have Right to Demand Commission Government—The Figures in the Wards

According to the lists prepared by the chamberlain, there are 8,101 citizens of St. John entitled to vote at the civic elections to be held on Tuesday, April 18, next. The total number of taxpayers on the list is 11,882, and of this number 3,881 neglected to pay their taxes within the time required in order to exercise their franchise. The number of qualified voters, as far as the list is concerned, is the largest on record, and with the interest that is being manifested in the province on commission form of government, it is expected that the vote polled at the coming election will be the largest in the city's history. Last year there were 6,312 qualified voters, but only 4,976 cast their ballots for mayor. This year there are 1,288 more voters qualified to go to the polls, and it is anticipated that the percentage of those not voting will be less than usual, owing to the greater interest that attaches to the polling by reason of the commission plan.

LIVE NEWS OF TODAY IN ST. JOHN

BIRTHDAY PARTY. There was held on April 3, in honor of Violet Ingram, 24 Marsh Road, a pleasant birthday party. Tea was served and many friends presented to her pretty gifts. It was a very enjoyable time.

IN FOUR TRAINS. The passengers from the C. P. R. line Montreal, 2189 in number, went west in four trains. The first left at 10 o'clock, the third at 8:40 this morning and the last this afternoon.

REV. MR. BOND TAKEN ILL. A telegram received this morning states that Rev. Mr. Bond, who was to have lectured tonight in Centenary church, is seriously ill. Ticket holders are asked to postpone until Mr. Bond recovers. Further notice will be given.

MARITIME HORSE SHOW. Amherst schoolmaster, Montgomery Campbell, president of the Maritime Stock Breeders' Association, arrived in Colchester on Saturday. He will remain until the close of the horse show, Colonel Montgomery-Campbell is always sure of a welcome to this town.

FOOTBALL MATCH TOMORROW. Football enthusiasts are assured of a real hard game tomorrow, Wednesday, when the "boys" of the "Empress of Ireland" and "Cowardin" will meet in friendly rivalry for the steamship championship of the north Atlantic. The match will be played on the Shamrock grounds. The kick-off is fixed for 2:30.

PASTOR'S RESIGNATION. Rev. H. C. Fraser, M. A., of the First Presbyterian church, Grand Falls, has resigned to his congregation notice of his resignation to take effect after April 1. Mr. Fraser has been in this church five years—three years as student and two as ordained missionary. It is understood that he will remain a few weeks during April and attend to the organizing of the church and the election of elders, when they will call a man from Halifax Presbytery, thus avoiding any break in the services. It is Mr. Fraser's intention to visit his deceased wife's relatives in Vancouver before again taking up active work. The congregation regret very much the peculiar and circumstance which has brought about the young pastor's resignation, but wish him Godspeed wherever his lot is cast.

CARLETON BOYS' DEATH. The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hall of 21 Guilford street, West, will sympathize with them in the death of their son, "Ralph" St. Clair. He was fourteen years of age and had been ill for about three weeks. Besides his father and mother he is survived by three brothers and three sisters, all at home.

LOYAL TEMPERANCE LEGION. The organization of a Loyal Temperance Legion has been completed by the W. C. T. U. superintendents in the Temperance Hall, North End. Forty-five members have been enrolled and the following officers elected:—President, Mrs. H. K. Little; 1st vice-president, Mrs. Fredericka Thompson; 2nd vice-president, Miss Jessie Corbett; secretary, Master Lawrence Ferris; librarian, Master John Campbell; organist, Miss Vera Corbett; chorister, Miss Mayme Kirkpatrick; treasurer, Miss Agnes Havelock. The legion will meet in Temple Hall every Saturday afternoon.

PEOPLE OF NOTE Times' Gallery of Men and Women of Prominence

J. C. Walsh Editor of the Montreal Herald who has been appointed to the United Shoe Machine Co. of Canada as one of the commission to test Canada's anti-trust law.

THE NEW CONGRESS Washington, April 4—The political complexion of the 62nd Congress, convened in extraordinary session today, is as follows: Senate—Democrats, 59; Republicans, 41; Vacancies, 1. House—Democrats, 228; Republicans, 169; Socialists, 1; Vacancies, 2. The House members were:—Republicans 157; Democrats, 22; Vacancies, 17. The House members are:—The senate vacancies are in Colorado the legislature being Democratic, Iowa is expected soon to elect a successor to the late Senator Dooliver, whose seat now is occupied by Lafayette Young. The house vacancies are from the Ninth Iowa and the Second Pennsylvania Districts.

CANADIAN COLONY IN PALESTINE Russian Jews to be Established in Holy Land Within a Year—Plan for Sixty Families to be Placed

Toronto, April 4—(Canadian Press)—A Canadian colony of Russian Jews will be established in Palestine within one year, interest in this subject was aroused at the late Zionist convention in Toronto, and since that time between \$5,000 and \$8,000 has been subscribed. It has been decided to raise \$20,000 before the land is purchased, as this would be sufficient to accommodate sixty large families upon farms of their own. The colony will be under the control of a Canadian representative of Zionists and a Union Jack will fly above the central office. Among the societies that are collecting for this purpose is the Bnai Zion Association of which Dr. John Shyne is president.

EX-COMMUNICATION FOR WOMEN WHO WEAR THE HAREM SKIRT

Havana, April 4—(Canadian Press)—The Right Rev. Gonzalez Estrada, Bishop of Havana, has issued a pastoral letter condemning the so-called harem skirt as immoral and unchristian. He warns women that persistence in its use will result in excommunication.

BORN IN ST. JOHN, IS DEAD IN WOODSTOCK (Special to Times)

Woodstock, N. B., April 4—This morning, after a few days' illness of pneumonia, R. B. Welch, a resident of this town for more than fifty years, passed away. He was born in St. John in 1829 and came to Woodstock where for many years he was connected with the New Brunswick Railway and later with the C. P. R. He was a member of St. Luke's Episcopal church. He is survived by his wife, a daughter of the late W. S. Bailey of St. John, one son Robert and one daughter, Hester, both at home. The funeral will take place Thursday afternoon at 2:30.

WILL DIVIDES HER PROPERTY IN CARLETON

In the probate court today, the will of Miss Zita Wellwood, niece of South Bay, was proved. She gives her house and land in Prince street, St. John, West, to her daughter, Nancy, her land on the corner of Tower and Watson streets, to her daughter, Emily M. Appleby; her lot of land, north of the corner of St. John and Watson streets, St. John, West, to her daughter, Edith Eliza Kaines, of Halifax, and the rest of her property to these two daughters and her daughter, Ella Maria Bull, of San Mateo, California, in equal shares. The executor is Mr. J. J. O'Donovan. Mr. Appleby executed and she was accordingly sworn in. Real estate, \$5,300; personal estate, \$1,800. E. G. Kaye, K. C., is probator.

FUNERALS The funeral of Mrs. Margaret Quilty took place this morning at 8:30 o'clock from her late residence, St. John street. The body was taken to the Church of the Assumption where requiem high mass was celebrated by Rev. J. J. O'Donovan. Interment was in the Sand Cove cemetery.

The funeral of Miss Helen took place at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon from her late home, 231 City Lane, Rev. R. A. Armstrong conducted the funeral services and interment was in Fernhill.

The funeral of Mrs. Charles M. Hood took place this morning at 9 o'clock from her late residence, 111 Elliott Row. Interment was in Fernhill.

The funeral of Mildred D. Hicks took place this afternoon from her parents' residence, 16 St. Andrews street to Fernhill. Funeral services were conducted at the house and grave by Rev. J. Deinstadt.

The funeral of Mrs. Catherine Kirk took place this morning at 9 o'clock from her late residence, Queen street, to St. John the Baptist church. Requiem high mass was celebrated by Rev. H. Holland and interment was in the new Catholic cemetery.

To Great Britain on School Matters (Quebec, Que., April 4—(Canadian Press)—Dr. George W. Parmalee, secretary of the Protestant committee of the council of public instruction, will leave on Thursday for Great Britain, where he will investigate technical instruction. Mr. Parmalee will visit Glasgow and Edinburgh in addition to several English cities.

PRICELESS TIARAS ON EXHIBITION To be Worn at Coronation By Royal Family And Peersesses

FUNDS FOR HOSPITAL It Costs a Guinea to See Them—Saxon Coins and Ornaments Cast up by Sea Yesterday—Eton Abolishes Birch in Upper Forms

(Canadian Press) London, April 4—An exhibition of the wonderful collection of tiaras to be worn by members of the royal family and peeresses at the coronation is opened today. The object of the exhibition is to benefit the Prince Francis of Teck memorial fund for the endowment of Middlesex hospital. The value of the fifty tiaras shown is roughly estimated at \$1,000,000, but historic tiaras worn on great occasions like those of the Duchess of Sutherland and Duchess of Westminster, may prove priceless.

It is a curious show, confined to the week. A strong force of detectives is guarding the jewels night and day. The extraordinary high tide along the Suffolk coast yesterday washed up hundreds of gold, silver and bronze coins of early Saxon times in the neighborhood of Aldeburgh. Large quantities of antique bronze rings and ornaments, supposed to be relics of the submerged city of Dunwich, also were cast up by the sea.

The birch has been abolished at Eton College so far as the upper form boys are concerned. A cane may be used instead over the clothing.

The lower form boys, however, still may be birched on the bare flesh. The use of the switching block at Eton dates back to 1878.

The Book Lover says that Mr. Asquith has conferred a civil pension of £130 a year on W. R. Yeats, the Irish poet.

WILL ARBITRATE Ownership of Millions of New Zealand Acres is in Dispute (Canadian Press)

Vancouver, B. C., April 4—Great Britain and the United States have agreed to arbitrate the Webster claim, which involves ownership of millions of acres of land in New Zealand. This is announced by Dr. T. G. Findlay, attorney-general of New Zealand, who, with Sir Joseph Ward, premier of the commonwealth, arrived yesterday from the antipodes enroute to London.

The claimants are descendants of Capt. J. Webster, a New Bedford, Mass., whaler, who in 1791 discovered the claim. They demand compensation for lands which is maintained, were given Captain Webster by various Maori chiefs. These fertile lands after the captain's death, reverted to the crown and were subsequently occupied by settlers. Webster, dying in the United States, left a will bequeathing his New Zealand estate to his heirs, whose claim has been recognized by the United States for many years.

ATTELL MAY BE YEAR OUT OF RING; NEW YORK MATCH OFF (New York, April 4—(Canadian Press)—The Times says that Attell, the featherweight champion, who suffered another injury to his left shoulder in his bout with Frankie Burns here last Friday night has been ordered by his physician not to fight again for at least six months and probably not for a year. There is a possibility that the arm is so badly injured that he will never be his former self in the ring.

Los Angeles, April 4—According to Tom Jones, Ad Wolgast's manager, the match between Wolgast and Paddy McFarland for New York April 28, has been declared off. Jones says he has received warnings against allowing Wolgast to meet McFarland, who Jones declares is a waterweight.

MANN TO LEAD MINORITY (Washington, April 4—(Canadian Press)—Representative Mann, of Illinois, was unanimously chosen republican candidate for speaker at the republican caucus last evening after a vigorous nominating speech by "Uncle Joe" Cannon, the former speaker. This complimentary nomination carries with it the leadership of the minority in the house of representatives.

Mr. Mann was elected to the rostrum by ex-speaker Cannon, representative Madison, the Kansas insurgent and representative Catlin of Missouri.

ENGLISH GIRLS WOULD LIKE TO GET CANADIAN HUSBANDS (Canadian Press)

Toronto, April 4—The Canadian Northern S. S. Company is receiving many applications from English girls, who, as one puts it, would like to come to Canada to be a prospective bride. From a batch of letters, is one taken at random, and it is much like the rest of them: "I am an English girl, and would like to go to Canada, and I would like a young man for my husband, and my age is twenty on the third of May. Please let me know if you advance the passage fare. I would like to go to Canada, and I would like to see you, because I am a poor girl, and I would like to go somewhere from home because we are thirteen in family with father and mother, and we have six sisters, if you would like more than one from the same family."

WEATHER BULLETIN Issued by authority of the department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, Director of meteorological Service.

9 A. M. WEATHER REPORTS Temperatures Past 24 Hours. Max Min Dir Vel. Toronto... 32 28 E 39 Cloudy Montreal... 38 19 12 Clear Quebec... 10 4 W 4 Clear Chatham... 22 16 NW 8 Clear Cape Town... 28 20 W 12 Fair Sydney... 26 18 N 12 Clear Sable Island... 28 24 NW 29 Fair Halifax... 31 29 N 14 Clear Yarmouth... 30 26 N 14 Clear St. John... 32 29 NW 18 Clear Boston... 34 26 NE 8 Clear New York... 38 34 E 12 Cloudy Forenoon Bulletin from Toronto. Forecasts—North to east winds, fine and cold; Wednesday, stationary or a little higher temperature. Synopsis—A disturbance attended by a widespread rain area is gradually spreading over the continent. To Banks and American ports, moderate to fresh north shifting to east winds. Saint John Observatory. The Time Ball on Customs Building is hoisted half at elevation at 12:45, full elevation at 12:59, and drops at 1 p. m. Standard time of the 60th Meridian, equivalent to 5 hours Greenwich mean time. Local Weather Report at Noon. Tuesday, April 4, 1911. Highest temperature during last 24 hrs 32. Lowest temperature during last 24 hrs 20. Temperature at noon... 32. Humidity at noon... 70. Barometer readings at noon... 30.1. Wind at noon... 30.3 direction southwest, velocity fourteen miles per hour. Clear. Same date last year—Highest temperature 44, lowest 32. Fine and clear.

D. L. HUTCHINSON, Director.