

TORONTO'S BILL WAS AMENDED

Private Bills Committee Confines Purchase to Street Railway Co.

MUST TAKE BOTH, SAYS MACKENZIE

Beck's Colleague in Cabinet Voted for Purchase of the Two Concerns.

[Canadian Press.] Toronto, April 23.—By a vote of 22 to 9 the private bills committee of the Ontario Legislature this morning decided to confine the legislation with regard to the proposed purchase of the Toronto Railway and the Toronto Electric Light to the Toronto Railway Company alone.

"It will be easy," said Chairman Lucas, after the hour's discussion was over, "for the legal department to strike out any reference to the Toronto Electric Light Company."

Hon. W. G. Hanna voted for the original proposal—the combining of the two companies in the question to be submitted to the ratepayers—and W. K. McNaught alone of the six Toronto members voted with the minority.

Mayor Hocken, who was in attendance, said Sir William Mackenzie's ultimatum was: "You can take both or neither."

Hocken's View. Mayor Hocken urged that the purchase of the railway company which presumably can be acquired only by also taking over the Electric Light Company, would save the city a projected expenditure of \$2,000,000 this year for civic car lines.

"You will save two million by incurring a liability of \$5,000,000 in the purchase of the Electric Light Company, whose acquisition will be no good to us," said George Gooderman, member for St. Lawrence.

The consensus of opinion among the Toronto members was that the railway company would be a valuable acquisition in itself, but if its purchase had to be accompanied by that of the Electric Light Company the city would better wait till the expiration of the franchise of the railway company eight years hence.

Hon. Thomas Crawford, former speaker of the Legislature, suggested to the committee that care should be taken, as some of the same gentlemen were interested in this deal as were interested in Toronto. When members of the Toronto city council had to fly the country, and some went to jail.

Aldermen Clash. Immediately after the committee had put the boots to the bill, accused Hon. Mr. Crawford of casting imputations on the aldermen, and in return called an ex-speaker a "bull-charger." Mr. Crawford retorted the remark, and Mr. McNaught, continuing his imputations, was abruptly stopped by Mr. Crawford, who shook his fist in the alderman's face and shouted: "You are a liar, and if you repeat that again you are a liar."

Family Gets Shock When Bolt Strikes Chimney of Home

Between 12 and 1 o'clock this morning the house occupied by Mr. H. W. Ashley, 515 Hamilton road, was struck by lightning. Mr. Ashley and his wife and several children received a shock, the rear chimney on the house was torn to pieces, and shingles ripped off the roof for a distance of ten feet.

The bolt played some queer pranks on the house. Mr. Ashley, who is an employee of the Bell Telephone Company, says he thinks that it split when it struck the chimney, and was going down the chimney, while the other tore its way along the roof and across the road connecting with an electric light wire.

The family was asleep at the time. Mr. Ashley says that every member distinctly felt the electricity, and that when the bolt struck it caused a roar like the firing of several large cannon simultaneously.

Mr. Chris. Butterworth, who lives two houses west of Mr. Ashley, was awake at the time, and says that his house was illuminated with a bright blue light a second after the crash.

The chimney down which part of the bolt is thought to have passed, comes to a dead end in the dining-room, and although the paper is torn from the wall near the stovepipe hole, the flue at that point is not damaged.

A large ole is torn in the front gable of the house. The bolt must have run along the electric light wire, for 300 feet from the house in a diagonal position, it dropped from the wire and tore a hole between the crossing bricks and the sidewalk at Chesley avenue about two feet long and six inches wide, and five feet deep.

THE WEATHER.

Table with weather forecasts for various locations including Toronto, London, and other cities.

MONTENEGRINS CAPTURE THE FORTRESS OF SCUTARI AFTER TWENTY HOURS OF FIGHTING

Carried at Point of the Bayonet, Despite Splendid Defence—Victory Seriously Complicates the Situation With the Great Powers.

[Canadian Press.] Cetinje, April 23.—It is officially announced here that the Montenegrin forces have entered Scutari.

After a final desperate attack lasting incessantly for almost 24 hours, during which they brought all their forces to bear to overcome the heroic Turkish resistance, the Montenegrin troops forced their way into the fortress of Scutari, which for just over six months, since the middle of October, 1912, had offered such a stubborn defence.

The assault which gave the Montenegrins possession of the city, which has been the sole object of their war against Turkey, began on Monday night. The Montenegrin army then took the offensive along the entire front. They completely surprised the Ottoman defenders by pushing right up to the Turkish positions, where they engaged in close bayonet fighting against the Turkish garrison.

Turks Fought Well. The Ottoman soldiers made a number of counter attacks and tried with their utmost energy to drive the attacking force out of their works, but they were finally compelled to fall back and leave their positions in the hands of the besiegers who received constant reinforcements.

It was midnight last night when the Montenegrins obtained their footing in the fortress and detachments of the besiegers entered the city at four o'clock this morning.

According to one report Essaad Pasha, the Turkish commander-in-chief, recognized the uselessness of further resistance after the outlying key position of Tarakosch had fallen before the Montenegrin and Serbian guns. He is said then to have ordered his troops to cease their defence of the fortress.

Another report says that the Montenegrin commander-in-chief had been negotiating since Monday with Essaad Pasha for the surrender of the place.

Still another account says that the Turkish troops defended the city until the last.

Although the Serbian troops did not participate in the final attack their artillery was used by the Montenegrin gunners, and it is said that to this fact their success was largely due.

The act of capitulation was signed by the Turkish commander shortly after the capture of Scutari in the future state of Albania, the opposite view is held in Balkan circles.

There opinion prevails that the Montenegrins having accomplished the object they have aimed at since the beginning of the war, will find it more easy to accept the decision of the great powers.

Complicated Situation. London, April 23.—While the capture of Scutari by the Montenegrin troops is believed in European capitals to have complicated the situation created by the decision of the great powers to include Scutari in the future state of Albania, the opposite view is held in Balkan circles.

There opinion prevails that the Montenegrins having accomplished the object they have aimed at since the beginning of the war, will find it more easy to accept the decision of the great powers.

Small Families in Ward 4 Says Assessment Commissioner

Assessment Commissioner Grant is looking forward to a substantial increase in the city's population this year. No. 4 ward will show only a small increase. Fine residences are going up in this ward, but small families are much commoner than large ones. In No. 3 ward, in the southeastern section of the city, there will be a very large increase, due chiefly to the number of English families who are settling in this district.

HIGHER WAGES IN UNION SHOP BOLT HURLED MAN FROM BED

Cigar Makers Behind McNeer Company in Suit Brought by Detroit Firm. W. Hayball and Little Son Both Unconscious For Some Time.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Thamesford, April 23.—Last night's heavy electrical storm did great damage in and around Thamesford. When the electrical display was heaviest a bolt struck the home of Mr. W. Hayball, entering a room, in which he and his 4-year-old son were sleeping. The furniture was pulled about the room and Mr. Hayball was hurled from bed.

He does not know how long he was unconscious, but when he came to he heard his little girl in an adjoining room crying. This brought him to rapidly, and he recollected the child who was in the room with him. The boy was found unconscious from the effects of the bolt and it was many hours before he was brought to. Today, however, he is around as usual and apparently none the worse.

At the farm of Duncan Hassock, a short distance from Thamesford, the lightning ripped the top off a big cement silo. Another bolt struck the big barn of Hassock Bros., across the road and set them on fire. The blaze was fought from the start, and was under control, the heavy shower helping the fire fighters. Mr. Pearson, of Kintore, had three fine cows killed. They were out in a field and were struck by a bolt.

Telephones all through the district are out of commission, and it will take several days to repair the damage.

Lightning Strikes Fire Hall Tower in City of Woodstock

Woodstock, April 23.—During the electric storm in this district last night a fine barn belonging to Henry Sealy, of Swearby, was struck by lightning and destroyed with nearly all its contents. Seven head of cattle and a valuable colt were burned, but six horses were saved.

Loss was heavy in some, but there is some insurance. The fire alarm system of the city was put out of business by the lightning, which struck the tower of the fire hall. No damage was done to the building, but wires and boxes were burned out. All are now in working order again except the tower bell.

Near Swearby, on the Lime Kiln road, it seems as if a cloud burst had occurred. Many tons of soil and huge stones have been washed out of lands across the road and on to the fields. Culvert banks have been washed away.

LONDON MAN DIES RESULT OF FALL OFF SMOKESTACK

William Rodgers Fatally Injured at Tavistock After Long Career.

Drops Like Plummet After He Was Seen to Adjust Rope That Held Him.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Tavistock, April 23.—William Rodgers, of London, a steeplejack for 8 or 9 years, received injuries that caused his death at 4:45 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, when he fell 60 feet to a tin roof and had his skull fractured. He died at Stratford Hospital this morning.

Painting Three Stacks. Rodgers came to Tavistock Tuesday morning with an assistant to paint three smokestacks on Zimmerman Bros. box factory. He had finished one and was more than half through the other. He had affixed a hook to the top rim of the stack and fixed his seat. When about 60 feet up the stack he started to pull himself up or to lower himself, and he suddenly dropped like a plummet.

His assistant and several others saw Rodgers fall to the roof of the boiler house. He was unconscious when they reached him, and when a physician arrived it was found that his skull had been crushed.

Wife Notified. His wife, who resides on Ottawa avenue, London, was reached by Messrs. Zimmerman with some difficulty, and her husband was removed to Stratford.

Rodgers had been employed in the work of painting smokestacks for a long time, and the only serious fall he had was the one that ended his life.

Mrs. William Rodgers went to Stratford this morning. She resides at 431 Ottawa avenue, city.

BELGIUM'S STRIKE TO BE CALLED OFF

Brussels, Belgium, April 23.—A decision to recommend the general resumption of work throughout Belgium has been reached by the strike committee and will be presented at tomorrow's socialist congress. Strikers in many parts of the country returned to work today.

Father Minehan Asks Whether Hydro-Electric Has Become a Moloch

Toronto Priest Against Efforts of the Hydro-Electric Forces to Block Purchase of Toronto Street Railway and Electric Light Plants.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Toronto, April 23.—Rev. Father Minehan, the well-known Catholic priest, writes to the Telegram protesting against the movement to block the city's purchase of the Toronto Electric Light Company and the Toronto Railway Company, and asking whether hydro-electric has become a Moloch to which the city's interests must be sacrificed. The letter is as follows:

"Sir—Not even when I expressed myself very forcibly on the doing of a certain theatre in this city did I feel greater indignation than when I read of the action of a majority of the board of control of the Toronto Electric Light Company in carrying a resolution to withdraw the bill empowering the city of Toronto to purchase the Toronto Street Railway and Electric Light plants.

"There may be occasions when it is advisable to obstruct and make a right-about-turn, though such occasions argue anything but good judgment on the part of the lightning-change artists.

"But if ever there was a time when the self-swallowing trick ought to be evoked an outburst of indignation is present in, in my opinion, pre-eminently such in his negotiations leading up to the proposal now before council and the Legislature, the mayor, in my judgment, has taken the most progressive move in the history of Toronto—a move which will be the commencement of equally epoch-making advances.

"The board of control and council seemed to be pretty unanimous on that point a day ago. What has brought about the volte face?

"The only suggested reason for it is a fear that the hydro-electric system will be prejudiced. Let me say that if this proposal be blocked by the hydro-electric forces, these latter will be prejudiced far more. Will taking over the Electric Light Company's business put the hydro-electric in a worse position than it now occupies?"

"The city of Toronto and thousands of its citizens have been good friends of the hydro-electric, but if this latter is to become a Moloch to which we must sacrifice the city's interests, I say, as one citizen, that I shall have no further use for the hydro. Yours, etc., L. MINEHAN."

WANTS BRYAN TO TALK WITH CALIFORNIANS

Wilson Making Great Efforts to Avoid Insult to the Japanese Govt.

[Canadian Press.] Washington, D. C., April 23.—President Wilson today telegraphed Governor Hiram Johnson, of California, asking him whether the anti-alien legislation could be held up until Secretary of State Bryan could go to California, personally explain the position of the Federal Government, and urge an adjustment of the entire situation.

Japanese Aroused. Tokio, Japan, April 23.—A resolution to telegraph to President Wilson and other influential persons in the United States begging them in the cause of the good relationship between Japan and the United States, to oppose the passage of the Californian alien land ownership bill and other measures of a similar nature, was passed today at a meeting of the representatives of forty-five chambers of commerce of Japan.

The speeches delivered during the meeting were of a pacific character.

Fire at Storage Plant.—Some rubbish in the rear of Silverwood's col storage plant on Bathurst street, caught fire about 8 o'clock on Tuesday evening. The fire brigade succeeded in extinguishing the blaze without any damage being done.

ALVERSTONE IS NEAR DEATH

Is Practically a Living Skeleton, But Refuses to Retire From Office.

ISAACS TO SUCCEED HIM

[Canadian Press.] New York, April 23.—A cable to the Tribune from London says: Although Lord Chief Justice Alverstone is lying close to death at his Kensington residence that he is merely the shadow of his former self, and is practically a living skeleton, he persistently refuses to retire from office, and due to his weakened mental condition, stoutly insists he will be at his old place in the courts in a few days.

Of course Lord Alverstone will never be able to occupy his seat on the bench again, but the peculiar attitude he has adopted, despite strong pressure, in high quarters, renders it extremely difficult for the authorities to make any move. Their desire is to avoid hurting Lord Alverstone's feelings by forcing his retirement, but it is clear that his negotiations will be necessary shortly in the interest of public business in the courts.

Sir Rufus Isaacs, the attorney-general, is chafing over the delay in stepping into Lord Alverstone's shoes.

When the vote is taken it will be found that Mr. Borden's Nationalist allies remain faithful to him. They voted for it when the previous question was moved by Hon. Mr. Hazen to take the floor away from Sir Wilfrid Laurier. After the indignation which was expressed over this step some of them stated that when closure was put to the vote they would not follow the Government. However, pressure has since been put upon them by Hon. Mr. Rogers, and this morning they state that they will congregate vote with the Government through thick and thin.

Election Talk Rife. There is still considerable talk of an election, and the indications are growing that the Government will be forced to the polls before the summer is over.

Premier Borden is said to be still standing out for an election, but is being bitterly opposed in this by Hon. Mr. Rogers.

With the application of closure in sight, the eyes of both parties in the House are being turned upon the Senate, where there is still a considerable Liberal majority, which might be inclined to throw out any bill passed by the Commons through the application of closure.

It is generally conceded that the Government would wobble in disposing the naval bill by Senate rejection. It is becoming more evident that the three Drednought measure is becoming less popular with the Commons following in the House, and the Prime Minister continues to receive letters of protest from all parts of the country against both the naval bill and against closure. The feeling that the measure should be settled by an appeal to the people continues to grow.

Londoner Wins Scholarship at Queen's University

Kingston, April 23.—In the Queen's University theory results announced today, N. M. Omond, M.A., of London, Ont., won the Hugh Waddell travelling scholarship to the value of \$400, and M. McDonald, of Ailsa Craig, the James Anderson Bursary scholarship valued at \$25.

Mr. Omond secured his B. D. degree, and is one of the testamurs in theology.

Mr. Malcolm Omond is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Omond, of 215 Oxford street, and a brother of Mr. Alex. Omond, druggist, Dundas street. He was formerly an ardent worker in New St. James' Church, and has won many honors during his university career.

Duchess' Condition Not So Promising

[Canadian Press.] London, April 23.—The Duchess of Connaught, wife of the Governor-General of Canada, has not been so well during the past twenty-four hours, according to a bulletin issued by the surgeon in attendance.

The Duchess had been reported as progressing favorably toward recovery after an operation for the removal of the vermiform appendix performed April 10.

POPE PIUS WALKS

New Able to Move About His Bedroom.

[Canadian Press.] Rome, April 23.—Pope Pius continues to make satisfactory progress in his convalescence. He rose from bed at half-past 10 this morning, and was allowed by the physicians to walk a few steps in his bedroom.

His temperature was 97. He suffered less from prostration, and his strength had improved, although his bronchial condition still exists, with cough and abundant expectoration.

OCEAN STEAMSHIPS

Reported as From King Wilhelm II. New York. Bremen, Devonian. Liverpool. Boston, Campania. Liverpool. New York, Kronland. Antwerp. New York, Royal Edward. Avonmouth. Halifax, Princess Irene. Gibraltar. New York.

NATIONALISTS ARE FAITHFUL

Rogers Compels Them to Vote Through Thick and Thin for Govt.

CLOSURE DEBATE MAY END TODAY

The Indications Are That There Will Be An Election in the Summer.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Ottawa, April 23.—The Government is hoping that the closure debate will be finished today with a vote which will put the gag rule into force. It is not certain, however, that the debate will be terminated so soon. The Liberal Opposition still has a good deal to say upon the subject, and desires more assurances from the Government as to what will be done by the Administration when once the closure is on the rules of the House. Yesterday an effort was made by the Opposition to obtain this information, but the Liberals are not satisfied with the answers which were given to them by Premier Borden and Hon. Mr. White. They still feel that the closure rule will be largely automatic in its operation, and that the Speaker will be compelled to apply it against the Opposition without suggestion from the Government.

Faithful Nationalists. When the vote is taken it will be found that Mr. Borden's Nationalist allies remain faithful to him. They voted for it when the previous question was moved by Hon. Mr. Hazen to take the floor away from Sir Wilfrid Laurier. After the indignation which was expressed over this step some of them stated that when closure was put to the vote they would not follow the Government. However, pressure has since been put upon them by Hon. Mr. Rogers, and this morning they state that they will congregate vote with the Government through thick and thin.

Election Talk Rife. There is still considerable talk of an election, and the indications are growing that the Government will be forced to the polls before the summer is over.

Premier Borden is said to be still standing out for an election, but is being bitterly opposed in this by Hon. Mr. Rogers.

With the application of closure in sight, the eyes of both parties in the House are being turned upon the Senate, where there is still a considerable Liberal majority, which might be inclined to throw out any bill passed by the Commons through the application of closure.

It is generally conceded that the Government would wobble in disposing the naval bill by Senate rejection. It is becoming more evident that the three Drednought measure is becoming less popular with the Commons following in the House, and the Prime Minister continues to receive letters of protest from all parts of the country against both the naval bill and against closure. The feeling that the measure should be settled by an appeal to the people continues to grow.

Londoner Wins Scholarship at Queen's University

Kingston, April 23.—In the Queen's University theory results announced today, N. M. Omond, M.A., of London, Ont., won the Hugh Waddell travelling scholarship to the value of \$400, and M. McDonald, of Ailsa Craig, the James Anderson Bursary scholarship valued at \$25.

Mr. Omond secured his B. D. degree, and is one of the testamurs in theology.

Duchess' Condition Not So Promising

[Canadian Press.] London, April 23.—The Duchess of Connaught, wife of the Governor-General of Canada, has not been so well during the past twenty-four hours, according to a bulletin issued by the surgeon in attendance.

The Duchess had been reported as progressing favorably toward recovery after an operation for the removal of the vermiform appendix performed April 10.

POPE PIUS WALKS

New Able to Move About His Bedroom.

[Canadian Press.] Rome, April 23.—Pope Pius continues to make satisfactory progress in his convalescence. He rose from bed at half-past 10 this morning, and was allowed by the physicians to walk a few steps in his bedroom.

His temperature was 97. He suffered less from prostration, and his strength had improved, although his bronchial condition still exists, with cough and abundant expectoration.

OCEAN STEAMSHIPS

Reported as From King Wilhelm II. New York. Bremen, Devonian. Liverpool. Boston, Campania. Liverpool. New York, Kronland. Antwerp. New York, Royal Edward. Avonmouth. Halifax, Princess Irene. Gibraltar. New York.