

## DEMANDS AUDIT INTO TELEPHONE EXPENDITURES

Norfolk County Council Refuses To Accept Present Statement.

WATERFORD, June 24.—Refusing to accept the audited statement of the Norfolk County Telephone Co. as to 1920 expenditures, W. E. Kelly, K.C., acting for the Norfolk County Council, asked that the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board sitting here today adjourn until a later date until the telephone company's expenditures could be audited by an auditor appointed by the county council. Chairman McIntyre of the board granted the adjournment, which will be held in Toronto on a date set by the board.

The Norfolk County Telephone Co. is asking for increased rates that average \$4 each for their 2,104 subscribers, and today's session before more than 50 farmers showed the railway board generally sympathetic towards the company's application for increases.

**Funds Badly Needed.**  
General manager James Forbes of the telephone company alleged that the company would go to the wall unless the increased rates were granted. The estimated loss for 1921 is \$9,000 which would be lessened to the extent of \$6,000 if increased rates were granted, he said. The remaining deficiency of \$3,000 may be wiped out by the downward trend of the market in telephone materials including copper wire, which is now less than one-half of war costs.

Crown Attorney Kelly contested the statement of Mr. Forbes and alleged that the telephone company's stock is selling on the market for several hundred dollars above par. He also stated that the public is under the impression that the telephone company has a surplus of approximately \$30,000.

**Farmers Objecting.**  
Mr. Forbes denied this and said that the book came entirely from the farmers who did not view increased phone rates with favor because they were getting less for their products than during the war.

"We carried a tremendous load during the war, and now the people are protesting against our service," he said. "If there is to be better service with more trunk lines we must have increased rates, and also toll charges, which go through more than one exchange. At the present time the telephone company makes no charge on calls going to any section of their system. There is 1,337 miles of wire in the system."

Chairman McIntyre stated that eight per cent dividends on the \$45,000 stock of the company was not excessive and the company were entitled to that amount. The total capitalization of the company is \$115,000 the difference being built up from bank loans borrowed on anticipated profits which he said turned into large deficits.

## \$300,000 IN NOTES STOLEN IN WALL ST.

Lincoln Consolidated Oil Certificates Taken From a Broker's Safe.

NEW YORK, June 24.—Wall Street was notified today that \$300,000 worth of notes of the Lincoln Consolidated Oil Corporation had been "lost," and through the sending out of the list of the missing securities it became known that the financial district had suffered another loss by theft. The notes were taken from a locked safe in the office of a large brokerage firm and the detectives are working on the theory that it was an "inside job."

The theft was discovered this morning when the firm opened for the business of the day. While half an hour after the notes were missed the Pinkerton National Detective Agency had half a dozen operatives on the case and the work of questioning the employees of the firm was under way. The police were not notified and the name of the brokerage firm was not made public.

The missing securities had been deposited with the firm some days ago and were to have been placed on the market today. The bundle was put for safe keeping in an inner locked compartment of the office safe. This safe, it was said, stood behind the railing in the financial district of the firm. Who ever touched the notes opened the safe by the use of the combination and then entered the inner compartment, using another combination.

It was said that there was nothing to lead the money out of the department to suppose that the safe had been tampered with until the small compartment was opened. It was said that in addition to the oil notes the strong box contained other valuable securities. These, it was said, had not been touched.

Reports from the detectives working on the case had not all been received at the Pinkerton office late yesterday. It was said that there were still missing details that would be disclosed when the reports came in. So far as could be learned, the inner safe had not been forced, and the safe outer door had been closed.

Investigation of the office showed, it was reported, that a jimmy had been used on several drawers and desks, and marks such as have been made in other offices that have been robbed by burglars seeking the written combination of the safe. Whether the combination was kept in any of the desks in the department was not disclosed.

Those at work on the case were not prepared to say whether the scratches on the office furniture were made by a jimmy or by some one seeking to throw suspicion in another direction. The door of the office was said to have been found locked, and showed no evidence of an attempt to force it.

## FRECKLES

Now is the Time To Get Rid of These Ugly Spots.

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles. Double strength is guaranteed to get these homely spots.

Simply get an ounce of Othine—double strength—from any drugstore and apply a little of it night and morning, and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely.

It is seldom that more than an ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful clear complexion. Be sure to ask for the double-strength Othine, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.

## REFUGEE DEBTS IS ASSAILED BY SENATORS

Foolish To Swap Good Credits For Worthless Bonds, Says McKellar.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 24.—Criticism of the administration bill for refunding the ten billion dollar Allied debt was voiced today in the Senate. Senator Ashurst, Democrat, Arizona, protested against giving the secretary of the treasury authority to extend payments of interest. Senator McKellar, Democrat, Tennessee, assailed provisions which he said would permit the secretary to "swap" the United States' good credits for "worthless German, Austrian or Turkish reparations bonds," and Senator Smoot, Republican, Utah, said, "Frankly, that the bill would confer too much power on Secretary Mellon."

**Would Strike It Out.**  
The principal attack was made by Senator McKellar, who said the bill violated authorizing the acceptance from debtor nations of their bonds or those of any other nation, in the refunding process, would strike it. The bill, in reply, Senator Smoot said that "nobody but an insane man" would swap United States credits for reparations bonds of Germany and her allies. If such an attempt were made, he added, the remaining deficiency of \$3,000 may be wiped out by the downward trend of the market in telephone materials including copper wire, which is now less than one-half of war costs.

**May Be Changed.**  
Introduction of the bill as drafted by the treasury department does not mean that it will be reported unchanged to the Senate, Senator Smoot, who is a member of the finance committee, he added, will not report the bill until after thorough inquiry.

Interest payments, Senator Ashurst declared, should not be deferred. "It is time to let Europe know we are not going to let them off," he said. "The interest is owed us and then proceed to liquidate her obligations."

Senator Hoffman, Democrat, Alabama, also protested against deferring interest payments. The interest charged, he contended, was far below what the United States people have to pay.

## INQUEST ORDERED INTO GALT DEATH

Body of Alex. Buchan Is Found in Bush.

GALT, June 24.—Leaving his home last evening to go out and gather elms, Alex. Buchan, of 12 St. Andrew's street, who conducts a pressing shop on Ansley street, fell, a pressing shop on Ansley street, falling from a tree and his wife becoming suspicious this morning made inquiries and finally the police instituted a search. Chieftain Gordon, knowing the surrounding country well led a party to a small bush at the west end of Samson street, where there was a tree. Buchan's body near an elderly bush with a few blossoms in the sack he carried. He was lying on his face. It was noon when the discovery was made. Deceased had been troubled with his heart. Coronary J. H. Redford communicated with the crown attorney, who ordered that an inquest be held. The inquiry was opened this evening and adjourned until next week. Deceased was a native of Scotland and came here twelve years ago. He was an enthusiastic member of the Galt Burns Club, and very well-known. A widow, two daughters and one son survive. Burial will take place on Sunday.

## FINLAND GETS ALAND ISLAND

Award Is Made by the League of Nations.

GENEVA, June 24.—The council of the League of Nations today awarded the Aland Islands, in the Baltic Sea, to Finland.

The council decided that the islands should be neutralized from the military standpoint and the population given the guarantees recommended in the report of the commission, of which Abraham Lincoln was a member.

Hjalmar Branting of Sweden protested against the decision of the council, but agreed to recognize it.

**INTERIM INJUNCTIONS  
REMAIN IN FORCE**

WINDFEG, June 24.—Argument on the final phases of the case having been concluded Mr. Justice Curran at noon today adjourned sine die further hearing of the case to determine the status of the Royal Grain Inquiry Commission and the Canada grain act. The interim injunctions restraining the commission from continuing its investigation are continued in the meantime.

At the conclusion of the arguments, Mr. Justice Curran announced that he would not be able to hear at this time the arguments as to the facts or whether the commissioners did or did not exceed their authority it legally appointed. He was not in a position to make an immediate decision on the point of the law argued, therefore, the hearings would be adjourned until the end of the month, and in the meantime the injunctions would continue. It is likely to be at least ten days before any further hearings take place.

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## SET LEECH OF COAL STRIKE IS EXPECTED SOON

Executive Committee of British Miners Is Considering Question.

LONDON, June 24.—Further indications of the possibility of a speedy settlement of the coal crisis appeared today. In the House of Commons, Sir Robert Horne, president of the board of trade, said the situation was at a most critical point when the coal appears to be a real chance of getting a settlement. Because of the delicacy of the situation he declined to discuss the question further.

Earlier in the day it was rumored at the Labor party conference in Brighton that the miners' executive committee, which will meet in London tonight, was about to make "an unexpected decision."

## KIWANIS TO HOLD NEXT MEETING IN CITY OF TORONTO

CLEVELAND, June 24.—The fifth international convention of the Kiwanis Club of America today with the election of Harry E. Karr of Baltimore as international president, and the selection of Toronto as the convention city for next year. The trustees will name the date later.

Toronto emerged victorious over Atlanta, Ga., and Fort Worth, Texas, in a three-cornered fight that had been decided by delegates from these cities all week. The vote was: Toronto, 32; Atlanta, 15; Fort Worth, 45.

Karr received 90 votes against 138 for Colonel J. L. McCulloch of Marion, Indiana, in the race for the presidency. Other officers elected include three vice-presidents, four trustees and a chairman, H. A. Mansfield Hobbs of New York.

In outlining his policies, Mr. Karr said he conceived a future for Kiwanis as a truly representative organization of business men. He said while he was interested in extending the international scope of the organization he was principally interested in upholding the dignity of Kiwanis and its constructive civic affairs.

United States Senator E. Watson of Indiana, in addressing the delegates declared that he was a "radical and government ownership."

"I regret to see the American Federation of Labor has gone on record in favor of government ownership of railroads," said Senator Watson. "The federation's action is a serious blunder carried to its logical conclusion the course suggested will revolutionize American government."

The Muskogee, Oklahoma Club, won first prize in the national efficiency contest, Scranton, Pa., second; Saginaw, Mich., third; and Montreal, fourth. Several hundred delegates and visitors left here tonight for Niagara.

## PLANNED TO SELL WOOD ALCOHOL AS FINEST WHISKEY

DETROIT, June 24.—A concoction of almost pure wood alcohol, which was prepared to be sold to Detroiters under counterfeit labels as fine whiskey, brandy and gin; counterfeit labels and revenue stamps, and a still, were seized by United States agents. One of the men arrested offered a policeman a \$500 bribe to permit him to escape.

The men arrested were Sam Caplan, Joe Hothman and Joe Palmere. The last two are on \$1,000 bond for alleged violation of car seal act.

The seizures consisted of many bottles and several bath tubs full of a dangerous mixture, counterfeit American and Canadian revenue stamps, counterfeit labels for Imperial and Gordon gin, and three star Hennessy brandy, and a still, as well as hundreds of empty bottles.

Warrants under counterfeiting act have been asked for the men.

## FOCH AND HAIG MAY COME SOON

OTTAWA, June 24.—With the strong possibility of having Field Marshal Earl Haig and Marshal Foch present for a unity conference and a pact of ex-servicemen in Canada next September, the annual convention of the Great War Veterans' Association will likely be postponed until that time. The convention was to have opened at Port Arthur, Ont., on July 4, but this, coupled with other important developments, has prompted the proposal for a postponement, with the hope that the September gathering will bring together a more representative gathering, including delegates from other veteran organizations.

## MARINE NEWS

SARNIA, June 24.—Steamship passages:

Up—Mayham 9:30; Shenango 10:30; Michigan 11; Perkins 12; Red 12:10; Muller 12:30; Hutchinson 1; Laughlin 1:40; Mitchell 3; C. Ross Hubbard 5; Midvale 6:20; Truesdale 6:30; Octagon and Consort 8; Bessemer 8:10; Jones 12:10 a.m.; Erickson 6:20; Elmore 6:30.

Down—Davock 11 a.m.; Garrettton 12:30; Ford 1; Davidson, New Ireland 2:30; Canopus 3; P. Stackhouse 8:40; Amazon 9; White 9:30; Hazard 9:40; Bik Mather 10; Townsend 11; Livingston 3 a.m.; Walters 3:30; Mataffa 3:30; Shiloh 3:30; Pargney 5:40; Sonoma 6:20; Elmore 6:30.

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## STATISTICS SHOW APPRECIABLE DROP IN COST OF LIVING

Reductions Mainly in Produce of the Farms and Easily Marketed.

## CLOTHING STILL HIGH

Cotton and Leather Goods Are Still Very Costly—Rents Unchanged.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

OTTAWA, June 24.—Just to what extent the cost of living generally is decreasing it is hard to ascertain from the statistics of the labor department. Housewives will admit that in the matter of necessities of life which can be purchased direct from the producer, or even semi-direct, there has been a fairly marked decrease in costs. These include seasonal fruits and vegetables, eggs, butter, and to some extent, meats. In this regard it is to be noted that the prices to come down are those of commodities more directly emanating from the soil and requiring little additional effort to render them marketable.

**Shoes Are High.**  
It is, however, contended that whereas a shoe during the war sold at 50 cents a pound, and now sells at something over one cent, boots and shoes have shown little decrease in price. It is also pointed out that although the price of wool has dropped in proportion so far as the producer is concerned, the cost of a good suit of clothes is still very high. The same holds good in connection with cotton fabrics.

Costs prices always lag behind when it comes to a question of decreasing costs. In the present case it would appear that the retailers (and indirectly wholesalers) are unwilling generally to sustain any loss and have determined to keep their prices as high as a practically war price, before giving the public the advantage of the tremendous decrease in the cost of the raw products.

**Cannot Be Imported.**  
However, a new factor must be taken into consideration, and that is the recent amendments to the customs act, contained in the last budget of the minister of finance. Shoe merchants admit that under these amendments it is practically impossible to import and sell an American shoe, inasmuch as the cost of bringing it in totals about 54 per cent of its value. There is first of all a duty of 10 per cent, then there is an adverse exchange of about 12 per cent, on which again the 30 per cent duty is computed. And on top of that there is a 4 per cent import sales tax. And there are indications that the Canadian manufacturer of shoes is taking full advantage of the position and is not worrying his head about giving the Canadian consumer the advantage of the tremendous decrease in the cost of the raw materials.

**A Big Decrease.**  
Nevertheless, the department of labor reports a very considerable decrease in the cost of living, as compared with the cost in 1914. Figures have been compiled to compare war and post-war prices with pre-war prices, and the results are interesting. In December of 1914 the price of food was 8 per cent higher than in 1913; of fuel 2 per cent lower; of rents, 8 per cent lower; of clothing, 10 per cent higher; and of all combined, 2 per cent higher. In the same month, 1915, the comparison was: Food, 11 per cent higher; fuel, 3 per cent lower; rent, 16 per cent higher; sundries, 15 per cent higher; all costs, 6 per cent higher. In December, 1917, food, 67 per cent higher; fuel, 34 per cent higher; rent, 6 per cent lower; clothing, 67 per cent higher; all costs, 45 per cent higher. In December, 1918, food, 101 per cent higher; fuel, 66 per cent higher; rent, 17 per cent higher; sundries, 80 per cent higher; all costs, 79 per cent higher. In July, 1920, food, 139 per cent higher; fuel, 91 per cent higher; rent, 24 per cent higher; sundries, 90 per cent higher; all costs, 101 per cent higher. In May, 1921, food, 139 per cent higher; fuel, 91 per cent higher; rent, 24 per cent higher; sundries, 90 per cent higher; all costs, 101 per cent higher.

The peak in all costs was reached here. Since then there has been a steady decline. In May, 1921, the cost of food was 102 per cent higher than in 1913; of fuel, 118 per cent higher; of rent, 39 per cent higher; of clothing, 132 per cent higher; and all prices, 92 per cent higher. In May, 1921, the cost of food was 102 per cent higher than in 1913; of fuel, 118 per cent higher; of rent, 39 per cent higher; of clothing, 132 per cent higher; and all prices, 92 per cent higher. In May, 1921, the cost of food was 102 per cent higher than in 1913; of fuel, 118 per cent higher; of rent, 39 per cent higher; of clothing, 132 per cent higher; and all prices, 92 per cent higher.

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