

CITY OFFERS REWARD FOR CAPTURE OF FIREBUG

REWARD OFFERED FOR THE CAPTURE OF CITY FIREBUG

Mayor Aroused to Action Following Attempt to Burn St. Matthew's Church.

THREATEN JOURNAL
Letter From Toronto Warns Free Press It Will Be Next to Suffer.

The firebug is still busy in London. A second deliberate attempt was made last night to burn down the St. Matthew's Church, Dundas street east, according to Fire Chief John Aitken, who conducted a thorough investigation this morning.

Thoroughly aroused to action, Mayor Wenige, following a conference at noon today with the chief and Ald. Albert Judd, chairman of the finance committee, directed City Clerk Baker that a reward of \$500 be offered for the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for this and similar confagurations. There have been about 25 blazes of this nature the chief reports, the majority of which the district fire marshal has already attributed to the firebug activities.

Adding further mystery to the proceedings, has come a letter addressed to the fire chief, post-marked Toronto, purporting to be from the man who has been responsible for the fires in question.

Foreigner Writes.
From the writing, if not assumed, it would appear that the sender is a person of foreign extraction and not too well versed in the English language.

"Go ahead and offer reward," he writes. "You no catch me, anyhow. Me work last year on sewer there, three day a week. Me be there next week too to set fire to Free Press." Signed (the signature is withheld at the instigation of the mayor, Ald. Judd and the fire chief).

The latter do not seem to regard the communication itself of particular significance at this moment, although they fully realize that it is time for some definite concentrated action in an effort to intercept the "bug."

Chief Aitken points out that it cost him six cents to receive the letter, as it came without postage.

Reporting his finding this afternoon in connection with St. Matthew's Church, he states that there is no doubt whatever in his mind that this was a deliberate attempt to set this building ablaze.

Ample Evidence.
"There is ample evidence in this case alone," he states, "I found, as in several other instances, that a large quantity of waste, used as packing in railroad cars, had been placed in the church and saturated with wood alcohol, a bottle of which remained standing on the floor. Several burnt matches were strewn about, giving undoubted proof that the fire had been started deliberately."

"Whoever was responsible did not hesitate, naturally, to watch the effects, as the fire burnt itself out, creating small damage to several pews and Bibles and prayer-books in the vicinity."

The chief, submitted to Mayor Wenige and Ald. Judd that it was time some inducement was offered by the city authorities in an effort to check the outbreak, which is becoming quite a common occurrence.

City Treasurer Bell reported this morning that the damage to the church, claiming that damage to the extent of \$750 had resulted from the recent fire in the machinery hall at the fair grounds, attributed to the same source.

THINKS WHEAT BOARD WILL OPEN THIS YEAR

Premier Greenfield Is Optimistic Over Prospects During Coming Summer.

Special to The Advertiser.
Edmonton, Alta., Feb. 2.—"I think we can get a wheat board this year," stated Premier Greenfield today, when asked as to the prospects in this regard, "and though James Stewart is much too busy a man these days to be a likely person for us to ask to form a board, it must be remembered that we have a lot more time this year in which to look about to make our selection of a good man."

The premier is of the opinion that Manitoba will pass the required legislation, and press despatches from Ottawa, he added, indicated the possibility of its strengthening the legislation passed last year. Though the existing legislation now on the Dominion statute books might be extended by order-in-council, the Progressives in the Dominion house, are understood to have such a move under consideration.

NIPISSING MAN IS KILLED IN LEVEL CROSSING CRASH

Canadian Press Despatch.
Sudbury, Ont., Feb. 2.—Patrick Tremblay, one of the settlers of Nipissing district, was instantly killed when a Canadian National train crashed into his sleigh on the level crossing near his home at Garson, Ont.

SIGN AGREEMENT BEFORE NEW CARS CAN BE OPERATED

Must Autograph Contract Satisfactory to Employees, Says Union.

THREATEN JOURNAL
Letter From Toronto Warns Free Press It Will Be Next to Suffer.

No one-man street cars will be operated in London until an agreement has been signed with the London Street Railway Company satisfactory to the employees.

This was the flat announcement to The Advertiser today from Ald. John Colbert, president of the Street Railwaymen's Union. Whether the failure of all negotiations in this connection between that corporation and the men would precipitate an immediate strike cannot be determined, however, from any official source.

"What would happen in that event?" the president was asked.

"Well, that would be a question for earnest after-consideration," was Ald. Colbert's guarded reply.

Apologies of the same situation, C. B. King, general manager of the company, gave assurances that a certain additional sum per hour would be paid the operators of the one-man cars, but upon his request the precise figure is being temporarily withheld until such time as actual negotiations between the two parties have opened.

Attitude Unknown.
The president of the union did not care to state for publication what the attitude of his organization would be toward this increase, but pointed out, however, that as far as they were concerned, it was not so much the money as the fact that the one-man cars, but upon his request the precise figure is being temporarily withheld until such time as actual negotiations between the two parties have opened.

Manager King explained that it would be likely two weeks or more before the cars, five in number, are placed in operation. It is not decided definitely as to what routes they will be assigned, but it is understood that the Ridout street line is considered the most favorable.

President Colbert stated that no meeting of the union or the executive had been called for Saturday last to discuss one-man cars in particular, and he was not sure when a session would be called. It will be before the cars are in actual operation, however.

Council Interested.
That the scheduled introduction of this type of car will claim the attention of the city council, is a foregone conclusion, according to the general impression in municipal circles, although Ald. Colbert declines to shed any further light upon the subject, despite the fact that he has already directed the notice of his associates in this respect at a recent session.

President Colbert stated that the London Street Railway company has stated that he is convinced the operation of the cars will be perfectly legal as full permission is being granted by ex-Mayor Wilson and his associates.

That such sanction was illegal, according to the provisions of bylaw 114, is the claim in certain quarters, but the proposition will no doubt be debated when Mayor Wenige calls for a preliminary consideration of London's transportation problems.

Will Open Grave To Find Treasure

U.S. Customs Department May Seize Smuggled Goods.

Special to The Advertiser.
Washington, Feb. 2.—A formal order was issued by the treasury department today for the opening of the grave of Seaman John Jones, in the Brooklyn Naval Cemetery, said to contain Russian crown jewels valued at \$4,000,000.

The permission of the war department, as the supervisory power over the service cemetery, having been obtained, the treasury department authorized the customs to proceed to open the grave, on the grounds that if the coffin contains smuggled jewels as alleged, the customs service is empowered to seize them for failure to pay customs duty.

STATE CANADIAN'S DEATH WAS NOT POLITICAL CRIME

Special Cable to The Advertiser.
Luxor, Egypt, Feb. 2.—The Egyptian government announced today that the murder of the Canadian, Travers Auld, the result of robbery and not connected in any way with the recent Egyptian political crimes.

DR. F. W. BABB REPORTED COMPLETELY RECOVERED

Special to The Advertiser.
Dr. F. W. Babb is reported to have completely recovered from his recent attack of influenza, and it is expected that he will resume his practice in a few days.

PRINCE RECEIVES LARKIN.

Associated Press Despatch.
London, Feb. 2.—The Prince of Wales received Canadian High Commissioner Larkin today at St. James Palace.



SCENE OF FIREBUG'S ACTIVITY.

Fire Chief John Aitken reports that a deliberate attempt was made last night to burn St. Matthew's Church, Dundas street east. This makes the second recent attempt by firebugs to dispose of this building.

CITY ENGINEER BRAZIER DENIES HE WILL RESIGN

Declares Announcement Recently Made Is Entirely Without Foundation.

City Engineer H. A. Brazier takes the Toronto Globe to task this morning in a few brief words. He referred to an announcement in that journal recently that he "might resign within a few days."

"There was absolutely no foundation for such a report," he stated. "It's true enough that I might resign within a few days, but then again I might not. Then further any person in the city hall might resign within a few days or they might not. The same is true with any private corporation."

"Of course, I appreciate what prompts the remark. I have heard many things myself recently about myself, many of which are highly amusing in nature."

EXPECT NO CHANGES IN RAILWAY CIRCLES

Officials Do Not Believe London Will Be Affected by Decision.

No great changes are expected to result locally over the moving of the Canadian National Railway offices from Toronto to Montreal. Officials in this city, while expressing the opinion that certain changes were almost sure to follow, intimated that routine in this section would go on as before.

J. C. Andrews of the Canadian National Express Company pointed out that the change was distinctly for the better as far as their company was concerned. With the express company's executive offices already situated in Montreal, business would be facilitated somewhat, he said.

URGES PRAYERS OF PEOPLE TO PREVENT FURTHER WAR

Associated Press Despatch.
Rome, Feb. 2.—Pope Pius has written Cardinal Poppo, vicar of Rome, expressing anxiety over the present international situation and requesting him to "urge the faithful to beseech God to save humanity from fresh tribulations and lead the peoples and governments back to feelings of fraternity and equity."

FORM PLAN TO DEVELOP OIL FIELD ON BLACK SEA

Associated Press Despatch.
Moscow, Feb. 2.—A preliminary agreement for the concession, development and exploitation of 1,100 square miles of oil land in Gouira, along the Black Sea has been reached between D. O. Robertson, representing a petroleum company, and the concession department of the Soviet government. The field is located between the ports of Batumi and Poti and centers around Ouzourghy.

PROVE FRANCE PLANNING INTERVENTION IN UKRAINE

Associated Press Despatch.
Moscow, Feb. 2.—Proof that the French, together with General Simon Petlura, the Ukrainian leader, and the Rumanian army, still contemplate military intervention in the Ukraine is alleged to have been unearthed in Odessa in the discovery by the state political police of a new espionage organization.

BUSY CITY OFFICIALS TREATED TO HOLIDAY

Mayor Wenige States He Attended 61 Meetings in 32 Days.

Members of the city council are on their feet cheering lustily. There is no meeting of any description scheduled for today—not yet at least. "I have been at 61 meetings in 32 days," remarked Mayor Wenige. "It's an open date today." The councillors were visibly relieved.

The board of health will meet tomorrow afternoon or on Monday afternoon, at a call from the chairman, Ald. Leonard Douglass. Delay is occasioned by the fact that the new milk by-law has not yet been passed by the council. It is hoped that it will be at hand in time for sanction by the board before the regular meeting of the council Monday night.

NO TRACE YET FOUND OF SOLITARY ROBBER

Man Who Held Up Express Train Single-Handed, Escapes.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Regina, Sask., Feb. 2.—No trace has been found of the lone masked robber who held up Paul Venzke, express messenger on the Canadian National Railway train No. 6 early last evening near Regina and escaped with the contents of the express car safe. The bandit got away with the proceeds of practically all points between Edmonton and Regina, but the amount was not large.

D. McMILLAN WILLS \$12,000 TO CHARITY

Six Local Institutions Benefit to Extent of \$2,000 Each.

The will of the late Donald McMILLAN of this city, who died on January 15, recently filed for probate, bequeaths the sum of \$12,000 to charity.

The Salvation Army, Home for Incurables, Byron Sanatorium, Agnes People's Home, Protestant Orphan's Home and the Children's Aid Society each receive \$2,000.

VICTIM INTOXICATED WHEN HE WAS SLAIN

Canadian Press Despatch.
Winnipeg, Feb. 2.—A verdict that Efron Polykove, stabbed to death following a drunken orgy last Monday night, was murdered by a person unknown, "while all parties concerned were under the influence of liquor," was brought in by a coroner's jury here last night.

SEVERE EARTH TREMORS NOTED AT WASHINGTON

Associated Press Despatch.
Washington, Feb. 2.—Earth tremors, described as "rather severe," were recorded early today on the Georgetown University seismograph. The disturbance began at 2:19 a.m. and continued until about 2:30 a.m., reaching a maximum intensity between 12:52 and 12:57.

Father Tondorf, director of the observatory, estimated the distance at 5,200 miles from Washington.

HUGHES, THE LAST WAR-TIME LEADER, QUITS HIS OFFICE

Believe Strength of Country Party Caused Australian Premier to Resign.

STORMY SLEDDING
Political Observers Predicted an Early Downfall Following Elections Month Ago.

Special to The Advertiser.
Melbourne, Feb. 2.—Premier Hughes of Australia has resigned. He was the last of the "war time premiers," had stormy sledding in the Australian elections a month ago, and at the time political observers predicted his early downfall.

Melbourne cables do not as yet indicate the exact reason for the premier's resignation, but it is believed the Country party, which fought Hughes and his associates at the polls with considerable bitterness over the question of financial policy, finally became too strong for the weakened coalition.

INVITED TO FORM CABINET

Associated Press Despatch.
Melbourne, Feb. 2.—Stanley M. Bruce, Nationalist, has been invited to form a ministry. It was announced today.

Mr. Bruce is federal treasurer in the present ministry, and is director of a big drapery firm. He was born in Melbourne, and was graduated from Cambridge University. He was twice wounded in the Great War, and won the Military Cross and the Croix du Guerre.

Bishop Criticizes Letter of Pastor

Many Regard Church Controversy as Still Unsettled.

Special to The Advertiser.
New York, Feb. 2.—The controversy between Bishop Manning and Dr. Grant as a result of the latter's assertions that Jesus did not have power of God, was regarded by many as still open today. In an answer to the bishop's letter, the bishop started the Episcopal Church, the bishop rebuked the pastor, but the controversy is still unsettled.

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DECIDE LOCATION OF C. N. R. OFFICE TO BE MONREAL

Board of Directors Will Make This Recommendation to Government.

NAME 3 DIVISIONS
Central District at Toronto Represents Most Important Section of System.

Special to The Advertiser.
Toronto, Feb. 2.—The board of directors of the Canadian National Railways has decided to recommend to the government that the general offices of the system be placed at Montreal. There will be three divisional districts—eastern, central and western—with headquarters at Montreal, N. B., Toronto and Winnipeg, respectively. The central district, of which Toronto will be the headquarters, extends from Riviere du Loup and Monk, in the east, to Port Arthur and Fort William in the west. The district includes all of the former Grand Trunk lines in the United States.

The western district extends from Port Arthur and Fort William to the Pacific coast. The eastern district includes all the lines in the Maritime Provinces, and extends as far as Riviere du Loup and Monk, in the Province of Quebec.

R. P. Gough of Toronto, one of the directors of the Canadian National Railways, made this announcement on his return to this city last night. He stated that the decision to have the general offices in Montreal was made after the fullest discussion and consideration, and that Toronto's claims were pressed as earnestly as possible. He added it was decided that the proposed administrative center of the National Railways system must be divided into a certain number of districts, sufficient to admit of efficient and economical management, but not so numerous as to create unnecessary expense.

Compromises All Lines.
"It will at once be seen that the maintenance of a district involves office quarters, salaries of officers, and all of the administrative expenses which accompany a large organization," he remarked. "The eastern district comprises substantially all of the lines of what was known formerly as the Intercolonial Railway."

The central district represents the most important section of the system, both from the point of view of mileage, density of traffic and the control of the system, as it is the United States. It represents that densely-populated section of Quebec and Ontario, which contains the largest part of the population, and industry. The selection of Toronto as the administrative centre of this section is of the greatest importance to the City of Toronto.

"The western district includes a larger mileage than either of the other districts, but on some parts the traffic is exceedingly sparse. Here originates the crop, which constitutes the greatest single traffic in the country. It is the only one which is called upon to take place a great agricultural and mineral development. Winnipeg has for some years been the headquarters of the western district, and its selection is hardly open to argument."

Three General Managers.
"To give a proper perspective of the character of the administration, which is proposed to develop for the operations of the system, it is the intention that each of the three districts will be presided over by a general manager and traffic manager, assisted by general superintendents, inspectors, engineers, general freight agents, freight agents, etc., and with due regard for economy, each district may be made self-contained."

"The general manager will be charged with the responsibility of maintaining the property and moving the business of the system. The traffic manager will have charge of all matters relating to passenger fares, freight claims, and generally speaking, all matters which properly fall within the functions of the traffic department."

"The general manager, in addition to the duties outlined above will, of course, command the distribution of cars, supply of power, construction work, etc."

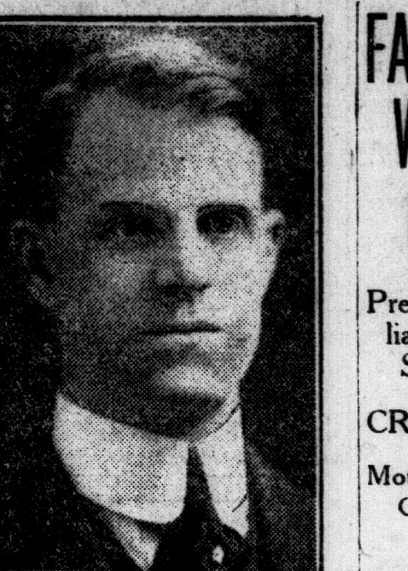
Wide Powers.
"Each of these officers will have to the widest possible powers, consistent with efficient and co-operative management. All details in their respective departments and territory will be left to them entirely. Consequently, it will be seen that not only are the functions of these officers themselves a matter of great responsibility, but the location of their headquarters is a matter of more than ordinary moment to the community."

"It is the intention that the executive officers located at general head offices will deal largely, if not entirely, with matters of policy and general administration. The functions of the property, co-ordinate the work of the different districts and departments to create in the organization the spirit of team-work which is so essential to success; and what is equally important, to develop as necessary may require projects to meet the constantly increasing demands upon the transportation machinery of the Dominion."

"Lastly, but by no means least, in their several capacities, the executive officers will have to devote much time to assisting in the commercial, agricultural and mineral development of the country."

RESERVES DECISION.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Edmonton, Feb. 2.—Decision was reserved by the appellate division of the supreme court of Alberta here in the appeal against the conviction of Emil Piccarillo and Florence Lasandra, under sentence of death for the murder of Provincial Constable S. O. Lawson at Coleman, Alta., last October.



T. J. SHAW.

Progressive M. P. for West Calgary, is believed to have read himself out of the party. He will probably sit as an independent this session.

FIRE CHIEF READY FOR ANY PROBE OF HIS DEPARTMENT

Wenige Insists That Chief or Deputy Should Be First man at Fire.

MUST BE FREE TO ACT
to Consult the Statute Books.

Fire Chief John Aitken stated to The Advertiser today that he was quite ready for any investigation of his department that was fair, square and conducted in a proper manner.

Commenting upon the same issue, Mayor Wenige drew attention to a flaring headline in a local contemporary to the effect that he urged that "the fire chief or his deputy must go."

"His worship did not mean this," he said, but reasons that "the fire chief must be the first man to arrive at any fire, and in event that he is unavoidably absent, his deputy, or the next in command must assume full charge and direct operations, using his own discretion."

"He must not be bound down," stated the mayor, "by old bylaws and regulations. It should not be necessary to consult the statutes whenever a fire breaks out to see how many trucks and ladders to take."

It is the fire chief's contention that the larger part of the fire department is in the city of Toronto, and that upon such occasions as he sees fit, he can go ahead and fight the fire as he sees fit. He does not have to be hampered in any way. He has all the authority to act as he sees fit. As a matter of fact, when we are both at the same fire, he can go ahead and employ his own discretion. He does not necessarily have to come from one section of the building to another to ask questions."

RECOMMEND WORKSHOP FOR VETERANS OF WAR

Royal Commission Makes Suggestions for Soldiers' Re-establishment.

Canadian Press Despatch.
St. John, N. B., Feb. 2.—The St. John sitting of the royal commission on pensions and re-establishment was finished yesterday. D. H. Davidson, representing Northumberland County, called at this session, cited some cases of men with grievances.

Major Herbert Priestman, provincial president of the G. W. V. A., spoke on the matter of re-establishment, recommending the establishment of sheltered workshops, where possible, and of home industries, where possible. He also recommended the organization by the federal government of a system by which the returned men could obtain homes under the same conditions as they now could obtain farms.

"OFF" DAY FOR DEFENDANTS AS WELL AS POLICE COURT

The amount of fines paid into Police Court Clerk Moulie this morning was negligible. It was an off day in more ways than one. W. I. McDonald, charged with a breach of the motor vehicles act, was off to Windsor or some other place on business, and Nelson Poole failed to answer to a charge of assault because he was sick. In other words, he was sick.

James Birchall was found guilty of assault and fined five dollars and costs.

The first two cases were adjourned for a week.

LEAGUE RENEWS MANDATE.

Associated Press Despatch.
Paris, Feb. 2.—The council of the League of Nations has renewed for one year the mandate of the Canadian member of the government commission of the Saar Basin.

FATHER CHARGED WITH ABDUCTION OF TWO CHILDREN

Preliminary Hearing of William McClarty Opens at Stratford This Afternoon.

CREATES SENSATION
Mother Superior of St. Joseph's Convent, Hamilton, Called as Witness.

Special to The Advertiser
Stratford, Feb. 2.—With the mother superior of the St. Joseph's Convent, Hamilton, and sisters in charge of Loretto Academy, Hamilton, subpoenaed to appear as witnesses, the preliminary hearing of William McClarty, charged with the abduction of his two children, will be held here this afternoon before Magistrate J. A. Makins.

This is a most peculiar case. It began with a Protestant wife laying a charge of abduction, an unusual charge, against her husband when he and their two children had been absent from home for a few hours.

It involves an application to the attorney-general's department to over-rule local crown attorney's refusal of bail and an appeal to appellate court that the case be not tried before county magistrate, and that it be changed from a criminal charge to a civil action.

Religious differences between the husband and wife, which affected the question of the education of the children, are responsible for what promises to be a sensation as great as the Grace Link case.

Young Couple.
The McClartys are a young couple. They have two children—John, aged 7, and Dena, aged 6. But Mrs. McClarty being a Protestant, and her husband a Catholic, the question of religion has influenced the life of this home for several years. Formerly the family lived united in Owen Sound, where Mr. McClarty had an executive position with a firm of wholesale grocers. A year and a half ago, Mrs. McClarty and the children came to Stratford, where they took up residence in a private home. It is stated that the husband and wife had separated then in religious disagreement, but a few months after her arrival in Stratford, the husband returned to Owen Sound, where she nursed her espoused through a serious illness. She again returned to her children and husband, and as a result, December she was joined by her husband.

The family remained thus united until last Friday. On the morning of that day, Mr. McClarty and the two children disappeared.

Visits Lawyer.
That afternoon the wife, in a state of evident excitement, visited J. C. Makins, K.C., a local lawyer and declared that she believed her husband had taken the children away, and placed them in a Catholic institution. She was directed to Crown Attorney, G. G. McPherson. To him she made the same statement, and as a result, a charge of abduction was laid against McClarty.

Police J. L. Broadley endeavored to trace the accused, but found that he had taken the Grand Trunk train to Hamilton, but no man answering to the description of the children had left the train there. Information was received which stated that McClarty and his children had got off at Woodstock and as a result, a charge of abduction was laid against McClarty.

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