

ONLY USE OF THIRD DEGREE SAVED THE BORDEN GOVERNMENT

Bolters Over the Lancaster Marriage Bill Threw
Bad Scare Into the Conservative
Leaders.

A DRAMATIC NIGHT AT OTTAWA

Ministers Had to Use Strenuous Measures to Bring the Rebels
to Time—Majority That Should Have Been Fifty
Was But Twenty-Five.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, Jan. 23.—A young Government was never nearer death than the Borden Administration was in Parliament last night.

If Sir Wilfrid Laurier had declared flatly for the Lancaster bill the House almost certainly would have voted against the Government by a small majority. However, Quebec, would have been antagonized on the measure, and as Sir Wilfrid believes the constitutional question should be decided by cold impartial decision of the courts, he sacrificed a just chance of overthrowing his conquerors for the sake of keeping faith with his belief and for the sake of keeping religion out of the political arena of Canada.

Borden in a Panic.
The Government in the evening recognized the danger it was in, and frantic efforts were made to bring followers into line.

The Lancaster bill on the measure was dropped. The Premier was not well received by his own side. One after another Conservatives got up and declared that Mr. Lancaster was right, that a marriage was a marriage, and wherever performed by an authorized person should have legal status.

The Bolters.
Thomas Wallace, of Centre York; William Northrup, W. P. Maclean, Col. Hugh Clarke got up, one after another, and declared for Lancaster and against Borden.

Sir Wilfrid's Suggestion.
Then Sir Wilfrid said the question should not be shelved by an adjournment, should not be referred to the privy council as a hypothetical question, but should be sent there as a practical case from the action now in the Quebec courts.

BANK MAN TALKS OF AMALGAMATION

Has Heard Story of the Joining
of Montreal and Royal
Banks.

FEWER BANKS SHORTLY

It is the tendency, the Advertiser was told, to get together and reduce the number of institutions.

The rumored amalgamation of the Bank of Montreal and the Royal Bank of Canada created some excitement in financial circles it is stated that the union will take place very shortly. Negotiations are under way, it is stated, and in a short time, the whole matter will be settled.

In conversation with a number of prominent financial men in the city today, the universal opinion was expressed that such a thing was liable to happen at any time.

There was a tendency to bring strong financial institutions together, for mutual protection and profit. The opinion was expressed that in a very few years, the number of banks doing business in Canada will be reduced greatly, and this will be accomplished by amalgamation.

Has Heard the Story.
"I do not know the details, but I am quite convinced that such is very likely to happen," said a prominent financial man to The Advertiser. "I have heard rumors of a change for some time past, and knowing certain things, I am quite convinced that such will take place, although as I said before, I am not in a position to give details of anything like that, but these will shortly become known. The tendency in modern business, such as banking, is to form strong organizations, and reduce competition as much as possible. During the past couple of years, there have been many such, and at the present time, other banks are considering such a step. For instance, the Canadian Bank of Commerce has recently promulgated a union with the Eastern Townships Bank, a strong institution in Quebec, and I am credibly informed other banks will follow the lead. It looks like good business all round."

Nothing To Say.
Mr. F. E. Kern, manager of the Royal Bank here, declined to discuss the matter. He had heard nothing, and did not wish to offer any opinion whatever.

Mr. A. H. Biddome, manager of the Bank of Montreal, could not be communicated with.

Speculation is rife as to the effect the amalgamation would have in the city. Both banks now have branches here, and the Royal Bank has purchased the city hall to extend its sphere of influence.

It is understood that the new institution would take both branches to the city hall. Branches would also be established in various quarters of the city.

BAIL IS ALLOWED TO DR. MACGREGOR

Not a Scintilla of Evidence
Against Him, Says Attorney
Walsh.

THE DOCTOR CONFIDENT

Local Sentiment Entirely Favorable to Him—"Suspicious Circumstances" Exploded.

[By Staff Correspondent.]

Bad Axe, Mich., Jan. 23.—The Sparling poisoning case came before the circuit court here today. Dr. Robt. Macgregor, formerly of London, today expressed his appreciation of the loyalty shown him by his friends in London.

"I certainly feel grateful to London people," said Dr. Macgregor, "for the many kind letters and assurances of sympathy I have received, and for the active interest my old friends are taking in my present trouble. I am in good physical health, and have nothing to complain of as to my treatment. In fact, the authorities have shown me every possible consideration, and I have nothing but the kindest feeling toward any of them. I know that I am innocent as a baby, and have no fear as to the outcome."

It was hoped that the case might be tried at the present term of the circuit court. The state prosecution, however, has asked for more time in which to complete its case, and the probability is that the case will not be tried until March or April.

Dr. Macgregor refused to plead to the charge of murder, and his attorney, Joseph Walsh, of Port Huron, and George Clark, of Bad Axe, at once began a determined fight to secure bail for their client.

Not a Scintilla of Evidence.
"If your honor please," said Attorney Walsh, "there is not a single scintilla of evidence on which this man can rightfully be held. At the examination there were three so-called 'suspicious circumstances' brought out by the prosecution. First, it was shown that Cyril Sparling died suddenly of illness, and that Dr. Macgregor was the attending physician, and that Cyril and his brothers were insured in the Sun Life Insurance Company of Canada by the doctor's father. Also Dr. Macgregor got all or part of a policy of \$1,000 in payment for his bill as family physician. Now it appears from the evidence that the boys took out their insurance with Dr. Macgregor's father after they had consulted with the agents of other companies, and found that Dr. Macgregor's father's fee was a better price than any of the others. Suspicious circumstance No. 1 exploded."

"Then, it is claimed that the boys were insured in the Gleasons, and that Dr. Macgregor was the examiner who passed them. On investigation, it appears that the boys first went to two ladies in Uxley who took their applications, and then sent them to Dr. Barlow to be examined before admission to the order. Suspicious circumstance No. 2 exploded."

"Then a young man, a graduate of the medical department of the University of Michigan, testified that he had found a little more than a trace of arsenic in the liver of the dead boy. Sparling. Whether or not there was enough to cause death he did not say. A fine combination, I submit, your honor, on the strength of which to hold a man for the crime of murder."

"We think the defendant should not be punished any more until it is decided whether he is guilty or innocent, and ask for reasonable bail."

Bail Allowed.
Prosecuting Attorney N. A. Boomhauer took exception to "the way in which Mr. Walsh had construed the evidence taken at the examination."

"I would suggest, your honor," he said, "that you review the evidence in question for yourself before deciding this point."

After hearing the argument for both sides, Judge Reed announced that he would grant bail in the sum of \$15,000. Much interest is manifested all over the state in the approaching trial, which promises to be one of the most exciting legal battles ever fought in a Michigan court. The counsel for the accused are two of the ablest criminal lawyers in Michigan. It is expected that the case will occupy at least two and one-half weeks of the court calendar.

The local sentiment is greatly in favor of Dr. Macgregor and as a result some difficulty is anticipated in obtaining a jury.

When seen by The Advertiser, Dr. Macgregor seemed to have suffered but little from his long confinement. He appeared perfectly at ease, and nothing about the matter seemed to give him any anxiety to the outcome of his case. He is treated almost as a guest in the sheriff's home.

Both Trials in April.
Dr. Macgregor's case will go over till April.

Mrs. Carrie B. Sparling, also charged with poisoning her son Cyril, and mother of Peter and Albert, and the wife of John Wesley Sparling, all of whom died mysteriously, has been held without bail, and an effort will be made to have the judge allow her to furnish a recognizance. Her case will likely go over till April also.

BRANTFORD DOGS TO BE SHOT ON SIGHT

Police Given Unlimited Powers
In Attempt to Eradicate the
Canine Nuisance.

[Canadian Press.]

Brantford, Ont., Jan. 23.—The city council last night, owing to the threatened rabies outbreak in this city, gave the police almost unlimited powers to eradicate the dog nuisance. Dogs found at large, unless accompanied by owners, are to be shot on sight by police. The minority of the council held that unless the police had discretion in enforcing the by-law the city might become involved in litigation.

Over twenty dogs have already been exterminated.

Other work for the new council to deal with will be the striking of committees, including finance, board of road directors, petition and dog licensing, education, house of refuge, agriculture, and equalization committees.

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AGED LADY WAS FOUND DEAD CORONER INVESTIGATING CASE

Neighbors Broke Into Home of
Mrs. Ryan in the North
End.

Mrs. Bridget Ryan, an old lady living alone in her residence at the corner of Waterloo and Cheapside streets, was found dead this afternoon shortly after 1 o'clock. Coroner MacLaren is investigating.

Yesterday Mrs. McMullen, a neighbor who was attentive to Mrs. Ryan's needs, called to see how she was. There was no sign of illness, and the woman appeared to be in her usual health.

House Broken Open.
This morning she called again, and Mrs. Ryan did not respond.

At noon she returned, and as there was no response, she informed the neighbors, who broke into the house.

Mrs. Ryan was found in the kitchen, lying beside the stove, dead. There was no sign of violence. Mrs. Ryan had evidently sat on a chair, and expired, falling off on the floor. Rigor mortis had set in, showing the woman to have been dead many hours before.

A Similar Case.
In the same house about a year ago, Mrs. Devan, a sister, was found dead under almost similar circumstances. The latter had considerable money, which she left to the Catholic Church, and to some relatives in Michigan. Mrs. Ryan was somewhat eccentric in her ways, and had not spoken to many of her neighbors for years. This happened after robbers had broken into the residence and robbed her and her father.

There was a rumor that the appointee would act as medical health officer for the city. Dr. Hutchinson is to be replaced or act as an assistant.

In conversation with The Advertiser, Dr. Williams, chairman of the board of health, stated that this was not the intention.

UNIONISTS TO GRAB HALL AND BLOCK NATIONALISTS

[Canadian Press.]

Belfast, Ireland, Jan. 23.—The corporation of the city has agreed to let the Unionists for the purpose of a demonstration on Feb. 7, the day preceding the meeting at which Winston Spencer Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, and John E. Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalists in the House of Commons, are announced to speak there in favor of home rule. The Unionist meeting is believed to be a scheme by which the Unionists will retain possession of the hall, and thus keep the Nationalists from holding their demonstration on the next day.

PAY CITY TAXES INTO THE BANKS INSTEAD OF AT THE CITY HALL

Mayor Graham Thinks Scheme
Would Benefit the People
of London.

It is now proposed by Mayor Graham to pay the city taxes into the various branches of the chartered banks throughout the city, instead of at the city hall as at present.

For some time the water commissioners have been collecting their water and electrical rates in this way. The results have been highly satisfactory. Chairman Pocock states, and Mayor Graham is of the opinion that as good, if not better results, could be obtained by having the banks receive the taxes.

"I am going to bring the matter up at the next meeting of the council," his worship stated. "The council has been very satisfactory in the water works department, and I am positive even better results can be obtained in regards to taxes. It would relieve the congestion at the city hall at certain times, and considerably assist the tax collector in his duties. As a convenience to the citizens, it would be very great, as it would obviate the necessity of coming down town. There would be a little more work in connection with the collection of taxes than with water rates, but I think that everything could be arranged satisfactorily. I am taking the matter up with the banks, and when the question is raised in the council I will be able to report what can be done."

Some of the aldermen thought that there would be too much difficulty in the way, owing to the intricacies of the discount, but Mayor Graham pointed out that this was merely a matter of bookkeeping and expert bank clerks could handle it as well as others.

The next session of the council will deal with the matter, and it is probable that Mayor Graham's suggestion will be accepted.

STREET RAILWAY EXTENSION WILL SOON BE CONSIDERED!

The City Engineer Has Almost
Completed His Survey of
Railway Crossings.

The question of street railway track extension will be considered by a special committee of the city council in a short time.

City Engineer Wright has practically completed his survey of the William and Adelaide street crossings of the C. P. R., and will report on the feasibility and cost of constructing a viaduct and a level crossing at these points.

His report will inform the council that a bridge at either of these points is not feasible, and will recommend either a viaduct or a level crossing.

The whole matter will be referred to a special committee composed in all probability of the members of the board of works, together with Ald. Spittal, Ald. Moore and Ald. Wright.

North End Loop.

Then the whole matter will be gone into more thoroughly. The north end residents will insist upon a loop line up Colborne to Victoria, across Victoria to William, down William to Oxford, along Oxford to Adelaide, and the forming a Belt Line.

This is the original plan of the residents in that district, and it will be adhered to strictly. The claim is made that a majority of the aldermen elected were on the slate favorable to the proposed extension.

"The matter will be taken up as soon as we can," said Mayor Graham. "We have much to do, but that will not be neglected."

charged with not having returned his rifle to the militia authorities.

He claimed that on the day of his return he went to the armory, accompanied by a friend, and left the rifle in the store room as there was no person in charge there at the time. He said that he knew nothing of the rifle since. The magistrate adjourned to case, and in the meantime Mr. Russell will endeavor to have the mistake straightened out.

**CITY HALL APPEAL
OVER TILL WEDNESDAY**

Case Was to Have Been Heard
in Toronto But Is Far
Down On List.

Parsons vs. the City of London, an appeal in the action entered to prevent the sale of the city hall, is listed to come up in Toronto today, but owing to other cases which preceded it being prolonged, The Advertiser's correspondent at 2:30 that the case would not likely be considered until Wednesday morning.

INDIAN KILLED AT LAMBETH BY LAKE ERIE TRACTION CAR

Kahazi Doxtator, of the
Oneida Reserve, Cut to
Pieces Last Night.

HORSE WANDERED ONTO THE TRACKS

Investigation Is Being Conducted
By Dr. Routledge, Who Was
Called to the Scene.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Sarnia, Jan. 23.—No new cases of typhoid fever have been reported for several weeks, and it is believed that the epidemic which has been raging in Sarnia for many months has been checked completely.

Another death in connection with the outbreak occurred yesterday, when Robert Simcock, a G. T. R. brakeman, died after an illness of about three weeks. He was 37 years old.

There are a number of patients still in a very serious condition.

The work of repairing the intake pipe will be gone on with as soon as possible.

SIR JAMES PEEVED AT MR. JOSEPH FELS

Says Tax Reformer Is an Extra-
ordinary Creature and His
Story Grotesque.

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Toronto, Jan. 23.—Brief and very much to the point was the comment of Sir James Whitney this morning on the interview of Joseph Fels given out at Ottawa, in which he described his meeting with Sir James.

"I went out of my way to see this man, who is certainly an extraordinary creature," said Sir James. "I don't care to enter into details, but the story is grotesque, and there is a falsehood in every sentence. I should have sent him away as soon as I saw the drift of his talk."

The steep grade caused the powerful searchlight on the car to be directed toward the sky, and the plight of the Indian was therefore not known until the car was almost upon him.

Applied the Brakes.
Motorman William Beal, of St. Thomas, who was in charge, applied the emergency brakes with such force that the motor car was derailed, and the car therefore coasted along for some distance before coming to a stop. Anson Lewis was the conductor of the car.

The horse was first struck, the force of the collision hurling the animal up on the roadway. It, however, slid back on to the tracks as the car passed, and was again rammed by the car, so that it was hurled from the car, and reached the scene.

Portions of the cutter, smashed to kindling, were strewn along the highway for a hundred yards.

It is said that the victim of the accident had been drinking, and it is possible that he did not know that the horse had carried him back on to the tracks before the car.

TO FIX SALARIES OF CITY OFFICIALS

Special Committee Will Hold a Meet-
ing Shortly For the Purpose.

The special committee regarding the fixing of salaries of the city officials will hold a session during the week.

It would have been held this week, had it not been for the desire to get the local improvement question out of the way. That committee will meet tonight, and the whole matter will be thrashed out in all its various phases. With this out of the way for good, then the other matters in case other cases. Mr. Bennett is anxious to have the work completed before the estimates are struck some time in March.

PERISHED IN BLIZZARD ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Body of a Little Girl Found under a
Snowdrift Near Moose Jaw.

[Canadian Press.]

Moose Jaw, Sask., Jan. 23.—While other children were rejoicing in all that Christmas means, little Carrie Smith, the 3-year-old daughter of a farmer, perished in a blizzard on Christmas day. She was found under a snowdrift near Moose Jaw.

She was putting forth all her strength against a blinding blizzard on her way home from a neighbor's a mile and a half away. The child perished, and it was not until yesterday that news was received of the discovery of the body under a snowdrift ten miles from her home.

ARE LOOKING AHEAD

Isolation Hospital at the Coves Will
Be Put Into Shape.

Dr. E. L. Williams, chairman of the board of health, had an interview today with Dr. Hutchinson, M. H. O., regarding the case of smelter reported in Dorchester Township, and it was decided to open the Coves Hospital, thoroughly air it, and have everything ready in case other cases follow. It is nearly sixteen months since there has been a case in the city of London, and during that time the hospital has been closed.

"We are not anxious to have an outbreak," Dr. Williams declared. "We can get along very well without any such cases, but it is just as well to be properly prepared for it in case it does come."

PEACE ARTICLES SIGNED

Washington, Jan. 23.—Articles of peace, bringing to an end the revolution in Ecuador have been signed by the leaders of the federal troops and the revolutionists at Guayaquil. It was officially reported to the state department today from the United States consul there.

BRAKEMAN SIMCOCK DIES AT SARNIA

Had Been Ill With Typhoid
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