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Policyholders' Association Has Been Formed. Join It.

HELLMUTH AND GEARY FOR ONTARIO GOVT. G. F. SHEPLEY, K.C., MAY BE OTTAWA CHOICE ARE TO REPRESENT THE POLICYHOLDERS

Begin With Passage of Bill in Ohio, Other States Take It Up and in Indiana 'Tis the Campaign Issue — Many New York Bills in.

Chicago, Ill., March 5.—The railroads of every state east of the Mississippi River are face to face with threatened reductions in passenger fares to a two-cent-a-mile basis. That it will come in the near future seems almost beyond question. It is recognized by the railroads that nothing can be done to stop the progress of the agitation.

The example of Ohio is becoming contagious, and quick action is demanded and is expected in several States as soon as their new legislatures shall convene. In Indiana, the two-cent fare is almost a campaign issue, for the legislators who will be elected next fall will, as a rule, be tacitly, if not openly, committed to a two-cent measure.

The action of Charles S. Meilen, president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford R. R., in reducing fares on several divisions, and in announcing that he proposes speedily to make similar reductions over the entire system, is expected to do more to advance the two-cent fare cause than any other one thing.

Still another important factor in the electric line. Almost everywhere the trolley invaded the territory of the steam road, and fares on electric lines have exceeded two cents. Motors and motor cars have been compelled to confine themselves to thru business, leaving the local traffic to the competing trolley.

Not an Unsettled Evil.

Serious the tremendous stimulus that has been given to travel by the low fares of the trolley and by the special season road rates, many passenger lines do not view the two-cent fare with an unmixed evil. They honestly believe that a reduction would have two effects: to diminish trolley line competition and creating a tremendous flow of new business. This accounts for the failure of the railroads of Ohio to attack the legality of the new law in the courts. They wish first to see what effect it will have on their earnings, and many of them do not expect the trial to prove disastrous.

Michigan took the initiative in the reduction of passenger fares, but the law there is a graded one, depending upon the earnings of the railroads. The fare on the railroads of Ohio is to be reduced from four cents on some roads in the Upper Peninsula, to two cents on the main lines in the lower part of the State.

Graded Law Satisfies.

This law has resulted in giving the fare on the railroads of Ohio an average of seven hundred miles of main line and two and one-half cent rate on four hundred miles of road. The operation of the law has proved very satisfactory to the people of the State, and so far as can be learned, has not caused adversely the revenues of the railroads.

In the State of New York fully ten billion dollars worth of business is done in reduction from three to two cents in passenger fares. One of the bills introduced provides for the reduction of one cent, and the provisions of all the pending bills are generally applicable to the entire State.

In Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island, it is likely that the legislation will take no action in view of the voluntary reductions by President Meilen of the New Haven Road. The reductions now give the people of Western Massachusetts a flat rate of two cents a mile.

New York-Boston Rate.

Mr. Meilen has also notified his directors that he proposes to make a similar reduction on the entire Old Colony division, which covers the eastern and southwestern portions of Massachusetts and part of Rhode Island. At present the rates of the New Haven main line between Boston and New York are slightly in excess of two cents a mile, but it is Mr. Meilen's expressed purpose to have a uniform two-cent rate on all lines run by the company. The Boston and Albany main line between Boston and New York will undoubtedly be compelled by the force of competition to follow Mr. Meilen's lead.

Governor Hylan of Indiana has determined that his next legislature, whether it be a special or a regular session, shall pass a two-cent law that shall apply uniformly to all lines within the State. The sentiment in the State is strong, because of the fact that a great deal of the thru business is done on a two-cent basis, whereas the majority of the State are compelled to pay three cents.

The State of Iowa is also moving rapidly toward a two-cent fare action. Governor Cummins recommended compulsory legislation for a two-cent fare book to be sold at two cents flat. In connection with this there is a bill pending for the abolition of passes to all candidates for office, delegates to conventions, members of political committees and public officials, except notaries.

Wisconsin's "Strong Commission."

In Wisconsin the secretary of state has presented a complaint to the railroad commission that it is compelled to pay three cents a mile when riding on Wisconsin railroads, and that this is an excessive fare. The commission is what is termed a "strong commission," having power over rates, and, as the temper of the people of the State is toward rate reduction, there is little doubt that the railroads there are facing a two-cent fare.

Had the governor called permitted it, a two-cent bill would have been rushed through the Pennsylvania legislature during the last session. There is no doubt that such a measure will be introduced at the next session next January.

In Virginia a bill has been introduced requiring a two-cent fare, and it will probably be passed.

In Illinois the state committee recently reported in favor of a reduction to two cents, but action was postponed pending further investigation by the commission.

A FINE SMOKE.

Tuckey's Club Special, 8c to 26c, five Holland sells them.

London Guarantee and Accident, the premier institution in Canada to develop the guarantee system. Bonds issued for officials in positions of trust. Absolute responsibility as to liability. Office Canada Life Building, Phone Main 1642.

CONCEALS BOMB IN HER HAIR IN ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE

Life of Doubassoff, Governor-General of Moscow, Protected by a Vigilant Guard.

Moscow, March 5.—A boldy planned attempt on the life of Vice-Admiral Doubassoff, Governor-General of Moscow, and member of the council of the empire, was frustrated to-day.

The would-be assassin was a woman, and her method was practically the same as that of the woman who attempted the life of Vice-Admiral Choukoun on Feb. 9. Representing that she came from personal friends of the governor-general, she gained admittance to the chancellery, but her agitation attracted the attention of an aide who noticed particularly the appearance of the woman's hair, which was coiled high upon her head. When she was interrogated she attempted to flee, but was seized and searched, and a small bomb was discovered concealed in her tresses. The identity of the woman has not been established.

RANSACKS ENTIRE SHOP THEN FIRES THE BUILDING

Charge Registered Against George Fletcher of Huron Tp.—Stolen Goods Recovered.

Leaving a barber shop of its contents—chairs, mirrors and all—then setting fire to the place to conceal the theft; this is the offence charged against George Fletcher of Huron township. He was locked up on Saturday, following an investigation by Inspector Murray.

Early on the morning of Feb. 1, fire destroyed a business block in Ripley, the sufferers being Angus McLean, barber; John Smith, butcher; Dr. McLaren and Angus McMartin, magistrates. Suspicion that he was the perpetrator of the crime was maintained vigorously by his father and neighbors.

Fletcher is about 30 years of age and until three months or so ago owned the barber shop. His claim with his father was a farm six or seven acres in size. He is regarded as a bad man and his father has been charged with the murder of a woman. Fletcher's father and others say also on the farm.

Inspector Murray thinks Fletcher's record in the States, where he lived for some time, is not good. He has a record for his demeanor being that of a confirmed criminal.

After the fire, it is related that he was out an hour and a half in Dr. McLaren's office, where he was seen by Mr. Jones. He has, it is said, a bank account of \$1500.

McMartin was taken before Magistrate McLaren and returned to his father at the meantime he is in Warkenton jail.

GOODY TO BRITISH TROOPS

Last Detachment at Halifax Has Sailed for Home.

Halifax, N. S., March 5.—(Special.)—The sailing of the C. P. R. steamer Lake Champlain from this port to-day marks the departure of the last detachment of British troops from the city. The steamer carried a full complement of one hundred and thirty officers and men, marked the passing of the last British garrison at Halifax.

British troops have garrisoned Halifax for over 157 years. The departing soldiers were under command of Major Cartwright, of Canadian birth, and were played on board by the band of the Royal Canadian Regiment.

The steamer carried a full complement of saloon, second and third-class passengers, and as she moved out from the dock, there was an unmitigated cheer, such as is seldom witnessed at a Canadian port, the band accompanying the troops rendering the "Auld Lang Syne" and "The Maple Leaf."

SIXTEEN LIVES ARE LOST IN PANIC AT DANCO

Florence, March 5.—At the Village of Danco, 23 miles west of Florence, a house where a dance was in progress to-night took fire.

In the panic which ensued the floor gave way and 16 persons perished, while many others were injured.

TAILORS TO CONFER

The journeymen tailors will accept a five percent increase and a cent an hour overtime rate for a three years' contract. A conference will be held to-day.

Drink All You Want

It is very seldom that a man going to find a first-class restaurant that is absolutely non-alcoholic. The other day a man walked into a downtown hotel and said to the bartender: "I want a stimulant that does not leave the odor of alcohol on the breath." The bartender replied: "The only such drink is made up from the extract of the colanin, and is called 'Tona-Cola.' The customer tried it, and liked it so well he said he wanted another. The fact is Tona-Cola has no harmful effect, if one drinks all he wants of it. Less harmful than tea or coffee, and twice as good a bracer.

For Lent—York Springs Ginger Ale, finer than old wine.

Eight Pages—Tuesday Morning March 6 1906—Eight Pages

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HALF MILLION INCREASE IN PROVINCE ESTIMATES

LARGER SALARIES FOR OFFICIALS

Col. Matheson Asks for \$5,625,543 But Explains Apparent Swelling of Expenses is Flatter of Bookkeeping.

The estimates for 1906 were laid on the table of the legislature yesterday by the provincial treasurer. He said that on Tuesday he would move the house into committee of supply. He explained that the increase in this year's estimates over last year's was not so large as might appear on the surface. It was a mere matter of bookkeeping. Last year's prospective receipts from the land had been deducted from the estimates. This applied a difference of \$82,000. This applied also to Central Prison, where the \$67,000 set aside for disbursements would be offset by receipts. To this was added \$50,000 taken for clearing the land adjoining the Temiskaming Railway. The amount would be fully covered by the proceeds of timber, when cut.

"This makes a reduction in the nominal increase of \$150,000," said Mr. Speaker, who went on to intimate that the province would be asked to contribute an unusually large sum for its schools.

"The ordinary vote has been taken," he said, "but the minister of education proposes bringing down the estimate for a very large increase for public school education, which will be included in the supplementary estimates."

Hon. Mr. Ross expressed satisfaction that the government was going back to the custom, given up several years ago, as regarded the agricultural estimates. As to the Central Prison, he stated that he intended to exhibit the entire receipts.

"We are remedying the condition of affairs we have found," retorted the premier. Mr. Ross replied that this had not been the case with regard to the Ontario Agricultural College.

Bigger Salaries.

Salaries built very largely in the increase. The new government has taken the bottle by the horns, and given civil servants what, from sheer timidity, the old government withheld for fear of unflinching availing the provincial expenditures.

The estimates for civil government in all departments show increase. The attorney-general's secretary, Mr. Curry, gets an increase of \$50, his salary being \$1850. The deputy minister of education, Mr. Colquhoun, will receive \$3000, the former salary being \$2700, and the minister's secretary gets an increase of \$100, to \$1900. Several clerks are advanced on the payroll. There is provision for a secretary to the minister of lands and mines, \$1600, not in the department. Mr. Yates, gets an increase from \$1850 to \$1900. The chief clerk of woods and forests gets \$200 added to his salary, and every other clerk in the branch is similarly favored.

The deputy minister of mines, Mr. Gibson, gets \$500 over last year. The deputy minister of public works is changed from \$2400 to \$2900, and \$1500 is included for a consulting engineer and architect, and \$1300 for an assistant architect. The deputy commissioner of fisheries, Mr. Bastedo, and the chief clerk, Mr. Webster, who are being "investigated," stay at the old salary, \$2300 and \$1400, respectively. The game warden gets \$100 more. There are no changes in the labor bureau. The assistant treasurer is boosted to the \$3000 class, and the minister's secretary gets \$1000. The provincial auditor, James Clancy, figures in the increase, receiving \$3000 in place of the former \$2500. There are two new clerks in this department at \$700 each. Mr. Mulvey, assistant provincial secretary, gets an increase of \$200. A hundred dollar bill

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GREAT WEST AND MUTUAL LIFE.

Expenses and Investment Contracts Between Shareholders' Company and Policyholders' Company.

The Great West Life is one of the younger companies which has made great play with the public.

It does an increasing business, especially in the west, and its premiums are about 5 per cent. less than the other companies. It uses its loan capacity as a special inducement to farmers to insure. Many men have found it necessary to insure in the Great West in order to obtain loans.

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Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 10 below—8; Victoria, 44—54; Vancouver, 41—48; Edmonton, 15—20; Calgary, 16—22; Winnipeg, 2—20; Port Arthur, 5—20; Fanny Bay, 6—26; Toronto, 23—28; Montreal, 25—32; St. John's, 18—24; Quebec, 6—22; Halifax, 24—34.

Prescriptions.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Fine, not much change in temperature to-day. Wednesday a little milder.

STRAITHON'S GIFT.

Said to Have Presented Montreal With His Residence There.

In a personal letter received in this city yesterday it was said that Lord Strathcona has decided to donate to the City of Montreal, as an art gallery, or for a similar purpose, his palatial residence in Montreal.

The furnishings, which are of a most elaborate character, are said to be included in the gift.

New Styles in Men's Hats.

The season of 1906 has ushered in a new feature of styles in men's hats. There is more variety in height of crowns and breadth and sweep of rims than there was last season. The styles have the brim in endless variety, the full range, priced between two and three dollars. Dinesen's, cor. Yonge and Temperance-streets.

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