

SMITH MADE LARGE BANK DEPOSITS IN 1919

Unionists Withdraw Church Bill From Ont. Legislature

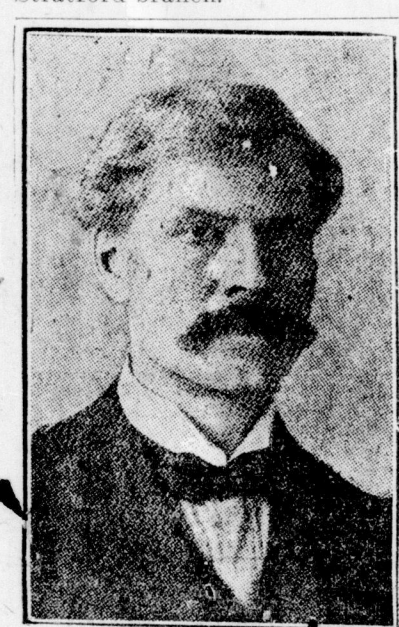
FORMER BANK TELLER STATES PETER SMITH MADE BIG DEPOSITS

Edwin H. McMillan, Testifying Before the Public Accounts Committee Today, Declares He Remembers Former Treasurer Passing In at Least \$1,000 Bill.

BONDS FIRM EMPLOYEE TELLS OF CHECK

Special to The Advertiser.

Toronto, April 9.—"Large deposits" of legal tender, including one or more thousand-dollar bills, placed to the credit of Hon. Peter Smith in the Stratford branch of the Bank of Toronto, in December of 1919, were related to the public accounts committee of the legislature today by Edwin H. McMillan, former teller of the Stratford branch.



RANSAY MACDONALD, prime minister of Great Britain, who urges the people of the empire to seek greater friendship with the United States.

KITCHEN INSTALLATION TO TAKE SIX WEEKS

Department at Victoria Will Equal the Best, Says Superintendent Clegg.

Dr. Clegg, superintendent of Victoria Hospital, stated that it would take about six weeks to purchase and install the new kitchen equipment for that institution, which was approved by the hospital trustees at their meeting last night.

When this is completed, Victoria Hospital will have a diet kitchen that will rank with the best in America, and in the opinion of Dr. Clegg a decided saving will result in the installation of the new machines, consisting of a mixer, a steam kettle and steam cooker.

The Weather

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 56; lowest, 26. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 41; lowest, 37. Barometric readings, Tuesday—8 p.m.—29.17. Today—8 a.m.—28.99.

FORECASTS.

Today—Fresh.

To strong winds, with showers.

Thursday—Strong northwest winds, mostly fair and cold, probably local snow flurries.

A moderate depression is moving eastward across the Great Lakes, and pressure is high over the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the western half of the continent.

The weather is cool and rather unsettled over the greater part of the Dominion.

Snow and rain have fallen in Manitoba, Northern Ontario and the Maritime Provinces.

Temperatures.

The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Vancouver	58	44	Cloudy
Calgary	44	20	Fair
Winnipeg	35	18	Cloudy
Port Arthur	35	20	Cloudy
Sault Ste. Marie	44	30	Snow
Cochrane	40	26	Cloudy
Toronto	52	34	Cloudy
Hamilton	50	34	Fair
London	50	30	Cloudy
Windsor	54	32	Cloudy
St. Catharines	52	32	Cloudy
Shelburne	48	32	Cloudy
Brantford	48	32	Cloudy
St. Mary's	48	32	Cloudy

The deposits in question, to the exact amount of which the witness was unable to swear, had been handed to him by the manager of the bank after Hon. Mr. Smith had visited his office the same day.

The earlier hours of today's session were devoted to another "missing check" incident. The check in this case, however, was produced as evidence. It was for \$12,500, drawn in March of 1920 on the firm of Aemilius Jarvis & Co., and payable to Alfred Victor Young, who at that time was an 18-year-old employee of the firm. Mr. Young himself, the first witness called before the committee, told of having made out the check to himself at the instructions of Mr. Harry Peppall, of having cashed it, receiving the money in legal tender of thousands and five hundred dollar denominations, and of turning the amount over to Peppall, after which he knew nothing of its disposal.

Charged To Commission. The \$12,500 check was charged to the Jarvis "commission account," some six or seven months after the transaction, Young stated. He did not know how it had been charged in the meantime, unless to the "special account" of Mr. Aemilius Jarvis, senior.

Through "curiosity" that a check for such a large sum having been drawn in his name, Young stated, he had later removed it until yesterday, when he turned it over to Deputy Commissioner Alfred Cuddy of the Ontario provincial police. Today, Commissioner Cuddy produced it for the committee.

Reference was made at this morning's session to a \$500,000 note to the amount \$12,500 would have been one-quarter of one per cent, the rate of commission which was paid to Andrew Peppall in December of 1919 for business obtained from the province for Jarvis and Company.

Young Closely Questioned. Young was closely questioned by Liberal and Progressive members of the committee as to his motive for removing the check from the Jarvis office. The witness maintained, however, that his sole motive had been curiosity, and that no one had instigated or suggested his action.

A resolution summoning Hon. Peter Smith, Hon. T. W. McGarry, C. A. Mathews, L. C. Mason and C. D. Spence, former deputy treasurer of the province, to testify before the committee, was passed on motion of S. W. S. M. Sinclair, Liberal leader. Although the motion calls for their appearance, please see page 4, column 4.

AUTHOR OF NOTED PLAY DIVORCES HUSBAND

Anne Nichols of "Abie's Irish Rose" Fame, Gets Decree—Play Visited London.

Special to The Advertiser.

New York, April 9.—Anne Nichols, author of the play, "Abie's Irish Rose," which was enthusiastically greeted by audiences this season, has secured a divorce from her husband, Henry Duffy, it was learned today. This announcement brings back the remembrance of the play, which was acted by a rather unique assembly. The actor taking the part of Abie was, in real life, engaged to his "Irish Rose." Two other pairs of actors, who were "married" on the stage, were in real life husband and wife.

Abie's Irish Rose played at a local theatre recently.

WORK NEARING END.

Superintendent Charles Forster of the London division of the C. N. R. stated today that the work of installing the block signal system on this division between London and Komoka would be completed within a week's time.

Work cars are being loaded at the stores department today. The signals are placed at intervals of one and a half to two miles and are the means of preventing rear-end collisions.



REGINALD MCKENNA,

chairman of the second committee of experts on German reparations, whose report has been filed simultaneously with that of the committee under Gen. Charles Dawes. Mr. McKenna was formerly chancellor of the British exchequer. See story on page 3.

KINGSTON PETITION SENT TO OTTAWA

Last-Minute Attempt Made To Save Murrell and Topping.

Special to The Advertiser.

Ottawa, April 9.—A last minute attempt to save Sidney E. Murrell and Clarence Topping from the death sentence was made in Ottawa this morning. A petition, which was circulated in Kingston, Ont., by W. H. Compton, a retired police magistrate, a strong opponent of capital punishment, was presented to the minister of justice, Hon. Ernest Lapointe. The petition begged that the sentence of death be commuted to life imprisonment.

It is not expected the petition will be of any value in averting the death sentence. As Murrell and Topping are to meet their sentence tomorrow it is believed here that nothing will interfere with the execution.

MOVING VAN OWNERS SUMMONED TO COURT

County Engineer Finds Drivers Were Breaking Loaded Vehicles Law.

Two moving van owners, The Goddard Storage Company of Toronto, and Hill of London, will be summoned to court for infraction of the loaded vehicle act committed on the Hamilton road near Dorchester this morning.

Both trucks were loaded with furniture weighing two tons and were stopped by County Engineer Charles Talbot and High Constable Wharton. The Dymont-Baker Lumber Company was fined \$10 and costs by the court this morning for allowing a heavy load of lumber to be carted to Byron.

The county engineer has pointed out through the press on numerous occasions that it is against the law to load trucks or other vehicles at more than half their capacity during the months of March and April. The engineer states that thousands of dollars damage can be done to county roads at this time if trucks are heavily laden.

STUDENTS WILL ELECT CLASS OFFICERS TODAY

Professor and Mrs. Meras Are Honorary Presidents of Arts '26.

Fifty-nine students of the Faculty of Arts, University of Western Ontario vote today for the officers of Arts '26.

Professor and Mrs. Meras were elected honorary presidents by acclamation. The boys' sport representative, Malcolm Crawford, was elected by acclamation, as was the girls' sport representative, Constance Strothers. The candidates are: for president, J. J. McManus, Frank Owens; vice-president, Erna L. Berry, Ruth Murray; secretary, Pauline McManus, Grace Gibberd; treasurer, Frank Kennedy, Allan Grant, J. Elliott, E. Durant; literary society, Dorothy Barnby, H. A. Stewart, Louise Gault; students' council, Harold Fox, Jim Dean.

TWO BANDITS ARE HELD AS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEATHS

Coroner's Jury Investigates the Deaths of Two in Montreal Hold-Up.

ELEVEN BROUGHT IN

Nine Others Are Held by the Police as Material Witnesses.

Associated Press Despatch.

Montreal, April 9.—Giuseppe Seragini and Coro Neigro were held criminally responsible for the deaths of Henri Cleroux, bank chauffeur, and "Big Paul" Stone, drug peddler and bandit, by the coroner's jury, which today investigated their deaths from wounds received during the battle in connection with the \$142,000 robbery of the collection car of the Bank of Hochelaga on April 1.

Nine men and two women, handcuffed to detectives, appeared before the coroner.

At the opening of the case, Coroner McMahon said two of the suspects—whom he did not name—were held on his order, the rest being held by the police as material witnesses.

Both men are under arrest, and were present in the coroner's court this morning with the other men and women detained by the police as suspects. Seragini is known to the police of Toronto, having been arrested there some time ago for being in possession of arms and released on condition that he left town.

Three British Airmen Killed

Crashes Occur During the Manoeuvres Over English Flying Fields.

Canadian Press Despatch.

London, April 9.—Air crashes involving the death of three British airmen occurred this morning. Pilot Officer Wray, a practicing fighter, at Farnborough, crashed from a height of 400 feet after a nose dive and was killed instantly. The second accident occurred on Salisbury Plain when a biplane, piloted by Pilot Officer Goldsmith with a mechanic as a passenger crashed, killing both.

VETERANS' BAND ROW IS DECLARED FALSE

Harry Wray, G.W.V.A. Head, Denies Misunderstanding Ever Existed.

Harry Wray, president of the G. W. V. A., announces that at a meeting held yesterday of a committee of the association and representatives of the G. W. V. A. band, it was discovered that no misunderstanding existed between the band and the association as was asserted a few days ago. An entirely amicable arrangement was arrived at as to the cooperation of the band with the association and complete harmony exists between the two organizations.

"We regard our band as one of the best in the province and we are going to do all we can to get them engaged during the coming season," said Mr. Wray. "As a matter of fact we have had several inquiries from various branches of the American Legion asking about our band and saying that they have heard of them. It is possible that the G. W. V. A. band will some day tour the nearby states. Captain Irwin is generally regarded, I think, as one of the best bandmasters in Ontario, and I know that every member of the association regards the band as a credit not only to the association but to the city."

NEAR HALF MILLION.

London's building expenditures for 1924 are rapidly reaching the half million dollar mark, according to a report from the building inspector's department, showing that construction and alteration permits have been granted since Jan. 1 for work estimated at a cost of \$453,820.

SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT.

A slight improvement in the condition of J. W. McCallum, city relief inspector, who has been seriously ill at his home, was reported today by members of the family.



KING GEORGE OF GREECE,

who has issued a proclamation from Brasho, Transylvania, in which he claims the right to reign in accordance with his country's constitution.

HOME BANK CASE UP IN COMMONS

L. J. Lodner Will Move Resolution Asking Guarantee on Deposits.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, April 9.—The Home Bank issue will again occupy the House of Commons at today's sitting when L. J. Lodner is expected to move his proposal for guarantee of deposits. The resolution calls for a guarantee of a deposit account up to \$3,000, and two methods to accomplish this are suggested. The first of these is the establishment of a fund similar to that now operating to guarantee bank notes, while the alternative proposition is a guarantee by means of insurance.

ATTENDANCE NOT HIT BY VACCINATION RULE

Students Comply With Order at Victoria and South High Schools.

Neither in Victoria public school nor in London South Collegiate is the vaccination order of the board of health making any serious inroads into the attendance.

The majority of the students are complying with the order, and the school papers are well filled. In fact, the attendance today is as large as it was on Friday, the last day before the order became effective.

There are perhaps a few sore arms, there is a mass of certificates, and that is about all the difference that the threat of smallpox has made as far as London's school children and collegiate students are concerned.

WOMAN POLICE OFFICER IS PROPOSED BY WENIGE

Commission Will Likely Be Asked To Name New Official For London.

DREADED BY MASHERS

The police commission will probably be asked to appoint a woman police officer for London, if the suggestion of Mayor Wenige is acted upon at the next meeting. His worship is very much in favor of a female constable, to whom girls pestered by mashers on the street could go to for protection.

"Some of these young fellows who annoy women on the street should be locked up," his worship said. "I'm 100 per cent for a woman officer. A young girl does not man officer. A young girl does not man officer. A young girl does not man officer."

The mayor points out that in Detroit, New York and small cities of the United States a regular police-woman squad is maintained. They are the bane of the mashers' life, and thousands of girls are afforded the utmost in protection through their activities.

"The practice of young men coming out at night and making remarks to passersby on the main streets is not to be condoned," his worship continued. "Some of them prowl about specifically for that purpose. Many take out their fathers' motor cars and stop girls. An energetic woman constable would shortly put a stop to this."

In New York a system has been worked out with gratifying results, by which pretty girls, actually in the employ of the police department, report all men who make advances. These girls walk the streets. If any man passes a rude remark in their

Williams Quietly Hears News of Reprieve Today Following Official Word

Glad Word Brought to Cell of Condemned Man by Spiritual Adviser.

STUNNED AT FIRST

Cable Sent to Mother Advising Her of Government's Decision.

Henry Jack "Slim" Williams has been told that his life is spared and that he will not walk to the gallows tomorrow morning with Sidney Murrell and Clarence Topping.

Official word from Ottawa was received by Sheriff Donald Graham at 10:50 this morning of the commutation of the death sentence to life imprisonment in Kingston penitentiary and 10 minutes later Williams heard the glad tidings from the lips of his spiritual adviser, Rev. G. Quintin Warner, rector of Cronyn Memorial Anglican Church.

Sheriff Graham and Governor Byron Dawson of the county jail accompanied Mr. Warner to the death cell and stood by the door as the rector approached Williams. Overcome by emotion, it was some seconds before Mr. Warner was able to talk. In a few short sentences he told Williams he had been granted a reprieve.

Pale and trembling in every limb, Williams watched the three bearers of good news as they entered the cell. As Mr. Warner advanced to the long table, the Melbourne bandit tried to read the story in his eyes. At first he could not realize the full portent of the news. Stunned and trembling, he sat on his cell bench for a minute without uttering a word. Then, in broken accents, he haltingly spoke his thanks, telling the rector that he was immensely grateful for what he had done for him.

His Life To Live.

"You have your life ahead of you," Mr. Warner told the reprieved young man. "You still have your place in the world."

Williams flew into no transports of joy. He was still too stunned to more than realize his good fortune, when the trio of officials walked quietly away, leaving him alone with his thoughts and the watchful guard stationed just outside his cell door. For some time past, Williams has seemed to feel his position more keenly than Topping and Murrell. He has read his Bible frequently, and was doing more worrying than the other two men.

Sheriff Graham has sent word to Ottawa, advising of the receipt of the telegram. "He hardly realizes what has happened," stated Mr. Warner to The Advertiser as he left the jail at noon. "I am calling his mother and sister in London, England, that the death sentence has been commuted to life imprisonment."

"I also told Williams that I would please see page 4, column 3.



BENITO MUSSOLINI,

Italian premier and leader of the Fascist government group, who is conceded a victory in the present elections.

FIRST OF ROBINS MAY BRING LUCK

Superstition Says It's Better To Hear First the Warbling of the Red-Breast.

Where did you meet the robin this year? A member of that sect who risks the price of a shoe shine by walking out into the muddy road rather than pass under a ladder has dug up some interesting superstitions about the first robin, which may not be generally known. They can be added to that painful list of trouble-makers, black cats crossing the path, or seeing the new moon through glass, or to a happier list of four-leaf clovers and horseshoes.

It is said the luckiest omen of all for the spring is to hear rather than see the first robin. If the first red-breasted harbinger of spring days is heard warbling on a high bough, well out of sight, this is taken to mean that prosperity lies in wait, a June wedding is in sight, or any one of a number of other lucky things. If the bough is lower, then the luck decreases in proportion.

And if you see the first robin on the ground, then it is supposed to be a sure sign that fortune is not in a smiling mood, and the superstitions regard this as a warning to depend upon themselves rather than on favors of chance.

DISTRICT FARM HELP STILL BADLY NEEDED

Twenty-Six From Britain Arrive Yesterday—Finns Expected Today.

Twenty-six immigrants from the British Isles arrived in London last night and were directed to their respective farm employers this morning by John Farrell of the Ontario government immigration department.

The party, which included a family of four, were allotted to places on Western Ontario farms before they left Great Britain, so that the work of Mr. Farrell in connection with this particular party was greatly simplified. Mr. Farrell expects a dozen or more immigrants from Finland later in the day. He will have no trouble in securing positions for them on district farms, as hundreds of farmers are still without adequate farm help for the spring work.

PINE LAWN BUSINESS SHOWS BIG IMPETUS

Manager Cunliffe Reports Number of House Prospects Increasing.

General Manager John Cunliffe of the housing commission reports even added impetus in the campaign to sell all the remaining building lots and houses at Pine Lawn. Several more prospective purchasers were shown over the ground yesterday.

Probably the quickest transaction on record at Pine Lawn was reported recently. The lot was sold Monday afternoon. The building permit was secured, and the stakes driven Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning cement blocks were taken to the ground and the excavation started.

CHURCH BILL WITHDRAWN BY ORDER OF UNIONISTS

C. R. McKeown, Sponsor of Measure, Reads Letter Outlining Position.

NICKLE ADMITS RIGHT

Action Means No Church Legislation Now Possible at This Session.

Special to The Advertiser.

Toronto, April 9.—The church union enabling bill in Ontario is dead for this year. It was withdrawn before the private bills committee this morning by C. R. McKeown, M.P.P., its sponsor, after an eloquent speech, in which he voiced the hope that in the not distant future there would be unity in purpose if not in organic form between even the Roman Catholics and the Protestant denominations.

Hon. W. E. Nickle, chairman of the committee, made an important pronouncement, in which he pleaded for the warring elements in the Presbyterian Church to come together and try to arrange a basis of agreement on which union might be brought about. He regretted that the amended bill was not considered. One notable feature of the union debate finale was Mr. Nickle's statement that in addition to the amendment which had been prepared there were other suggestions advanced which deserved consideration. Those related to the Methodist and Congregational Churches, he said, because they were practically united in favor of entering the union, it was suggested that special provisions be made in regard to them, and that they enter the union as organizations with provision for non-concurring congregations to vote themselves out. This is precisely what is asked for the Presbyterian Church, but on account of the divergence in the Presbyterian view, the view was taken that Presbyterian congregation should vote themselves into the union if they desired to join it.

Col. Currie's Stand.

Col. J. A. Currie could not let Chairman Nickle's ruling, permitting withdrawal of the bill, to pass without some show of opposition, and the committee listened to him rather impatiently while he tried to dig up certain legal authorities. In fact, there was some talk of tabling that bill, but it was not taken up.

As soon as the private bills committee was called to order C. R. McKeown, sponsor of the church union bill, read a letter from John Young, K.C., on behalf of the church union committee, directing that the bill be withdrawn from the present session. The letter read as follows:

"At the conference held at the parliament buildings on Friday last to consider a resolution passed by the private bills committee, directing certain amendments to the church union bill, it was suggested that the petitioners should consider the advisability of withdrawing the bill now before the legislature until legislation had been passed by the Dominion government, which have taken the bill to the Dominion government. Please see page 4, column 1.

ANNEXED SCHOOL TAX ISSUE STILL MYSTERY

No Word Received From Mr. Justice Kelly on the Question.

Six months have elapsed since Mr. Justice Kelly of Toronto heard the famous "annexed school tax" issue, the city versus the McCormick Manufacturing Company, and all city officials report that not even a hint of what his judgment will be has emanated from any official source in Toronto.

Conflicting rumors have come from Toronto from time to time, but not to the city hall, none of which could be verified. In the meanwhile, the city is acting as though the municipality had won, and the additional assessment for schools is being levied upon the various industries in the annexed district of East London.

News Bits From Classified

Where to find... Corner grocery... Walter... Set of... Sped...