

The Evening Times-Star

Do You Know

First sod was turned on Western Extension Railway on Nov. 9, 1865?

In St. John EVERYBODY Reads The Evening Times-Star. That's Why EVERY Merchant Should Advertise in Its Columns.

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PAGES ONE TO EIGHT

ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1923

SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT

New Brunswicker Faces Serious Charge In Railway Probe

FRENCH OFFER WITH GERMANS

COMMISSION WILL PROBE RAILWAYS

Hon. W. J. Bowser, Former New Brunswicker, Included in Charges.

NAME COMMISSION

Wrongdoing Hinted at in Pacific Great Eastern Railway Affairs.

(By Canadian Press.)

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 14.—A royal commission will be appointed immediately to investigate a very serious charge of wrongdoing in Pacific Great Eastern Railway affairs, Premier Oliver has announced.

Premier Oliver will table the provincial party's petition in favor of the royal commission and charging that Hon. William Sloan, the minister of mines, and W. J. Bowser, opposition leader, each received fifty thousand dollars from the Pacific Great Eastern Railway promoters in return for a promise of protection after the elections.

This charge and many others made by the provincial party will be investigated by the royal commission, it is understood.

Was Former Premier.

Hon. W. J. Bowser, mentioned in the foregoing despatch from British Columbia, was formerly Premier of that province. He was associated first in political life with Hon. Richard McBride, the dashing British Columbia Premier who was in power up to 1916 and then went to the Old Country to become the provincial representative of British Columbia. Hon. Mr. Bowser succeeded Mr. McBride in the premiership, but his party was defeated by the opposition leaders, Hon. Mr. Brewster and the present Hon. J. H. King, Minister of Public Works at Ottawa.

Brewster then became Premier and Bowser Leader of the Opposition. Since that time he has held his position, and about a year ago there was a large provincial convention at Vancouver which was attended by the Federal Leader, Hon. Arthur Meighen, and Hon. H. H. Stevens. The names of both Stevens and Bowser were placed in nomination for the position of leader, and after an exciting struggle Bowser was chosen.

The scandals arising out of the administration of the McBride-Bowser Government, drove many Conservative supporters within the party and only a short time ago a new provincial party was formed which has insistently demanded an investigation into the expenditures on the Pacific and Great Eastern Railway. Hon. William Sloan, who is also charged with receiving money from the railway promoters, is a Liberal and a member of the Oliver Government.

Is a New Brunswicker.

Hon. Mr. Bowser was born in Rexton, N. B., in 1867. He is a Bachelor of Laws of Dalhousie University. He has been living in the west for a good many years.

Hon. Mr. Sloan is a native of Ontario and was born in 1867. He has been a member of the Canadian House of Commons.

Claims Fluid That Fortifies Body

New York, Dec. 14.—Discovery of a fluid for injection into the arteries, which white corpuscles are strengthened and multiplied for the battle against disease or infection, is claimed by Dr. Buff Ferguson, of the U. S. health department, in service at Southampton, on his arrival on the Majestic.

The fluid, he said, is based on a solution of salicylate of urengury, and has been perfected by him after years of experimentation.

Western Newspaper Publisher Dead

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 14.—Arthur Lineham of Victoria, former newspaper publisher in Vancouver and Victoria, died suddenly last week in Los Angeles.

PLEASE, SANTA!



This little fellow has as much right to a happy Christmas as anybody. But he is one of the many unfortunate youngsters in St. John who will go without being visited by Santa Claus unless it is through The Evening Times-Star Christmas Empty Stocking Fund. Surely someone in St. John will look after this little chap. You can do it by sending your subscription to The Times-Star Stocking Fund.

UNIVERSITY GETS MILLION DOLLARS

Toronto Institution to Receive Principal From Rockefeller Foundation.

Toronto, Dec. 14.—At a meeting of the University of Toronto board of governors yesterday it was announced that the Rockefeller Foundation had decided to hand over to the university \$1,000,000 as an endowment for the maintenance of the faculty of medicine. In recognition of the magnificent work done by the faculty for the advancement of medical science and which culminated in Dr. Banting's discovery of insulin. For the last three years the Rockefeller trustees have been paying to the university the annual interest derived from this sum and now they are handing over the principal.

Auto Hits Sled; 4 Students Killed

Boulder, Col., Dec. 14.—Four University of Colorado students were killed and two perhaps fatally injured last night when an automobile was crashed into a toboggan they were riding.

Wire Briefs

St. Martin, Que., Dec. 14.—One house was completely destroyed by fire here yesterday and two badly damaged when fire broke out in the residence of A. Turcotte, a local butcher.

Three Rivers, Que., Dec. 14.—Two children of Adelard Pepin, Germain, 9 years, and Henri, 4 years, were burned to death yesterday during a fire which destroyed their home in the parish of Nicolet, near Ste. Monique.

Philadelphia, Dec. 14.—Two bandits today bound and gagged the paymaster of Michael Melody & Son, builders, in the office of the concern, and fled with \$15,786, which he was placing in envelopes to pay the employees.

New York, Dec. 14.—A light blanket of snow, the first definite indication of the approach of winter, dropped on New York during the early hours of the morning. Winter weather has not been so in visiting New York in many years.

Quebec, Dec. 14.—Gustave Dube was hanged at eight a. m. at Montmagny for the murder of his wife in 1920, whom he was found to have killed shot, while he claimed he was killing hens on his farm in St. Adalbert. Until last night he had expected that he might obtain a delay or a commutation of the sentence.

ROBINOVITCH IS SENT UP BY MAGISTRATE

Is Refused Bail in the Police Court in a Liquor Case.

LAWYERS ARGUE

Bench Thinks Evidence Justifies Matter Going to Higher Court.

Harry Robinovitch, charged with conspiring with Benjamin Friedman to defraud Leon Chechik of between \$75,000 and \$80,000 by deceit, was committed for trial this morning by Magistrate Henderson in the police court. Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, K. C., counsel for the accused, contended that the evidence of the prosecution was absolutely no basis for the charge of conspiracy to defraud. W. M. Ryan, for the prosecution, based the charge on section 144 of the Criminal Code, contending that the monies in question were to be paid over to Chechik in trust, that this was not done but to the contrary Smith and Friedman in conjunction with Robinovitch had drawn the money from the bank and had refused to hand it over to Chechik and now Friedman had slipped out.

The magistrate said he thought there was sufficient evidence to send the accused up for trial and that in view of the nature of the alleged offence and the penalty laid down by law, he had no power to grant bail as requested by Dr. Baxter.

The case is a very complicated one and it was said involves liquor transactions amounting in all to some \$250,000. Robinovitch spent last night in jail as the sureties for bail to the amount of \$20,000 which had been granted earlier by the magistrate were not forthcoming.

One Witness

The only witness this morning was C. M. Spence, assistant manager of the Royal Bank of Canada, who gave evidence of checks for various sums which had been drawn on the accounts of Smith and Friedman, one in particular for \$20,000 and one for \$50,000. This evidence, according to the prosecution, should have gone to Chechik, but did not reach him. The witness also testified that Mr. Knoll, superintendent of the defendant's mail works in this city, met his dead last week in his grocery store in Little Rock, Arkansas, according to a letter received by Mr. Knoll this morning from his brother Raymond in Milwaukee. It appears that Mr. Knoll surprised burglars who were attempting to break into his store and one of the criminals fired three shots at him. One passed through his head, another hit him in the arm, while the third, passing through his heart, caused almost instant death.

The letter received this morning was written on Monday and at the time another son of the murdered man, Gus Knoll, was in Little Rock looking after the bringing of the body back to Milwaukee, where burial took place on Wednesday. News of the details of the murder were conveyed by wire from that Rock to Raymond in Milwaukee. He said that the Little Rock police were investigating the case and believed they had a clue to Mr. Knoll's assailants.

W. M. Ryan for the prosecution, contended that under section 144 of the Criminal Code, the evidence was sufficient to show a conspiracy to defraud. He thought it was quite evident that Robinovitch and Friedman had conspired against Chechik and the basis of the conspiracy was laid at the time the agreement was made in Montreal. Dr. Baxter objected that this was not mentioned in the information laid.

The magistrate then gave his decision and refused bail, saying that it would have to be granted by a County or Circuit Court Judge.

Will Take Up Bail Matter.

Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, when asked if he would take up the matter of bail for Robinovitch, said that he would take it up tomorrow with either a County or Circuit Court Judge.

Court Is Startled as Evidence Blows Up

Pittsfield, Dec. 14.—When a cork popped to the ceiling from a bottle of moonshine reposing on a table in front of Judge Walter B. Sanford in Great Barrington district court, attaches and witnesses jumped to their feet.

Chief of Police William J. Ockman had taken the liquor to court as evidence against Andrew Storti. Judge Sanford found him guilty and fined him \$100.

Cement Association Ordered Dissolved

New York, Dec. 14.—Federal Judge Knox signed a decree yesterday dissolving the Cement Manufacturing Protective Association. He also ordered the association to discontinue the practice of interchanging statistics regarding production and granted all other decrees sought by the Government.

Says Dry Critic Is Bootleggers' Friend

Springfield, Dec. 14.—William M. Forgrave, district superintendent of the Massachusetts Anti-Saloon League, a severe critic of the police department in connection with prohibition enforcement, is called 'the bootleggers' and gamblers' best friend by Col. L. D. Hubbell, chairman of the police commission. Mr. Forgrave answered by asking the public whether police officials who know of law breaking and do nothing to stop it, are better friends of the law breakers than mere citizens, who only call attention to the lawlessness.

ENGINE HITS GAS SPEEDER; THREE DIE

Western Union Lineman Victim of Collision—Seven Others Injured.

Laporte, Ind., Dec. 14.—Three men were killed and seven injured, three seriously, when a New York Central switch engine and a gasoline speeder collided near here last night. All the victims were linemen employed by the Western Union Telegraph Co., and were riding on the speeder.

MR. KNOLL WAS SHOT BY BURGLAR

Son Here Receives Further Word of Tragedy in South.

It was under circumstances similar to those surrounding an incident which occurred two years ago that F. E. Knoll, father of W. F. Knoll, superintendent of the defendant's mail works in this city, met his dead last week in his grocery store in Little Rock, Arkansas, according to a letter received by Mr. Knoll this morning from his brother Raymond in Milwaukee. It appears that Mr. Knoll surprised burglars who were attempting to break into his store and one of the criminals fired three shots at him. One passed through his head, another hit him in the arm, while the third, passing through his heart, caused almost instant death.

Coast League Pitchers To Cubs

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Elmer Jacobs, right hand pitcher of the Pacific Coast league, after defeating the forces of the Seattle club, has been traded by the Seattle club to the Chicago Cubs, of the National League, for Percy Jones, left hand pitcher, George Stenland, right hand pitcher, Cliff Brandy, second baseman obtained from the Rochester club and a catcher to be named later. His addition to the Chicago Club, will hand over a cash consideration.

Mother With Five Children, Her Husband Out of Work, Asks Aid of Santa Claus

Many Sad Cases Reported to Manager of the Empty Stocking Fund.

"I have five children, and don't see much chance to give them a happy Christmas, as my husband is not working and has no work in sight."

"I would thank you very much if you would help them have a happy Christmas. Their ages range from four months to eight years. I would like a pair of stockings for each from Santa Claus."

Who can resist an appeal of this nature? It is one of the hundreds of letters that The Times-Star Christmas Empty Stocking Fund manager is receiving daily.

There is no more worthy object than this. Think of what a dandy, merry Christmas your little children are looking forward to then think of the many unhappy, disappointed children there are going to be in the poor homes of this city unless you GIVE SOMETHING to the Empty Stocking Fund.

Among the many stories of hard times which have been brought to the attention of The Times-Star since the Empty Christmas Stocking Fund was started, perhaps the most appealing

BIG BATTLE IN MEXICO IS EXPECTED

President is Said to Have Abandoned the Defence of Mexico City.

STROKE OF GENIUS

Press Despatches From War Scenes are Delayed Four Days.

British United Press

Monterey, Dec. 1.—President Alvaro Obregon seems definitely to have abandoned the defence of Mexico City and to have withdrawn to the mountains and plateaus of Guanajuato and Queretaco to take up with his assembling armies Adolfo De La Huerta's challenge to his power.

This move is not considered particularly an evidence of Obregon's weakness, but rather as a stroke of the military genius which General Obregon has shown in Mexico's previous wars. A spectacular battle is in prospect.

Press despatches from Mexico city are delayed two to three days in transmission due to censorship and to congestion on the Lerdo route.

Messages from Vera Cruz are controlled absolutely by the Rebels under De La Huerta, who is reported by cable companies to be censoring all messages from that city.

(By Canadian Press)

Vera Cruz, Dec. 14.—A communication issued by the insurgent leaders says that "General Estrada, with three battalions, four regiments and ten airplanes, touched enemy forces from Mexico City."

(This may refer to the clash between federal forces and those of General Estrada which according to advices received in Vera Cruz yesterday resulted in a victory for the federals. The engagement is said to have taken place at Coatlán, Jalisco, northwest of Mexico City.)

The statement asserts that the troops of Gen. Pedro Gonzalez were able to enter San Andres and Chalchicomula after defeating the forces of Gen. Topete. An advance toward Tehuacan, where a concentration of about 1,000 federal troops has been reported, is now being organized, the announcement says.

The same statement asserts that the capture of San Marcos, although defended by an Obregon force, is expected momentarily.

THREE DIE IN CHAIR AS CONVICTS SING

Are Executed in Prison Near Where Musical Show is Given.

Ossining, N. Y., Dec. 14.—Three men walked to the electric chair in Sing Sing prison last night with the laughter and songs of a musical show staged by other convicts ringing in their ears.

The death cells in which they passed their last hours were but a few feet away from the auditorium in which the musical comedy was given and they could plainly hear the applause of the audience and the voices of the performers.

The men were Abraham Becker, New York wife slayer, and George Hacker and Harry Santolano, Birmingham murderers.

TRAVELERS ELECT C. E. PATTERSON

St. John Men Attend Annual Meeting in Halifax—Membership 1,656.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 14.—The forty-second annual meeting of the Maritime Commercial Travelers' Association was held here last night. In forty-two years the association has grown from 103 to 1,656 members, with financial resources increasing from \$291.83 to \$228,515.44. Several New Brunswickers were present, including W. H. Smith, W. J. Wetmore and M. H. Dunlop of St. John. Norman Hutchinson and W. J. Wetmore were appointed as follows: President, C. E. Patterson; vice-president for Nova Scotia, G. A. Faulkner; vice-president for New Brunswick, L. M. Owens; vice-president for P. E. I., M. P. Titus; directors for Nova Scotia, G. W. Graham, G. MacDougall, G. S. Wright, F. H. Keating, E. Y. Rowland and C. W. Smith; directors for New Brunswick, Geo. D. Ellis, J. W. Dibbin, M. H. Dunlop, J. H. Fritchard; past president, F. W. Budd.

Speaking of Luxury



A novelty recently appeared in London streets in the form of a "spark-plug" side-car for motorcycles. This shows one in use by a young woman's pup. Class, we say.

Mary's Thumb and Nose Get Her Into Trouble; Cost Her Brother \$15

Boston, Dec. 14.—For thumbing her nose at her sister in the probate court room, Judge Dolan fined Mary T. Bowen \$15 for contempt. A few minutes before the thumbing incident Mary had pulled her sister's ear, for which the judge forced her to apologize to the sister.

Frances M. Carroll, the sister, as trustee of the estate of John McCallister, had petitioned for right to sell a part of the estate. Mary objected, so they took the case before Judge Dolan, who allowed the petition.

As the parties to the litigation were leaving the courtroom Mary grabbed the lobe of Frances's ear and yanked it. The court saw it and called her back. He offered to dismiss the incident if she would apologize to her sister. This she did.

Then the parties moved toward the door again. As they were leaving the room Mary thumbed her nose at her sister. Again the judge called them back and adjudged Mary in contempt of court and fined her \$15.

Mary said she would not pay it. Her brother said he would. She said she would not let her brother pay. So her lawyer asked for a continuance. She said she didn't want that.

In the end the brother slipped \$15 to a court officer and all went home.

MRS. SEXTON DIES

Prominent Red Cross and Relief Worker Succumbs at Home in Halifax.

Halifax, Dec. 14.—Mrs. F. H. Sexton, wife of F. H. Sexton, principal of the Nova Scotia Technical College, died at her residence here today. Mrs. Sexton was formerly Miss Edna May Best, of Shelburne, N. B., from which place she moved as a girl with her parents to Massachusetts. There she graduated with honors from the Massachusetts College of Technology, and took up research work with the General Electric Company at Schenectady, N. Y.

While engaged in research work, she met Prof. F. H. Sexton, then a student at a technical college, and came to Halifax in 1905 as his bride. Mrs. Sexton was a prominent worker of the Red Cross Society during the war, and figured in relief work following the Halifax disaster in 1917.

Quebec House Will Meet Monday

Quebec, Dec. 14.—(Canadian Press)—The sixteenth legislature of the Province of Quebec will meet here on Monday afternoon next at 3 o'clock.

Weather Report

Toronto, Dec. 14.—The disturbance which was near James Bay yesterday has moved eastward to Labrador. Pressure is high from the Great Lakes southward and is falling again over the northwest. The weather has been colder in Ontario and Quebec and is somewhat milder in the west.

Forecasts: Fair; Moderately Cold

Maritime—Strong southwest to northwest winds, turning colder with snow flurries. Saturday westerly winds, fair and moderately cold. Gulf and North Shore—Decreasing westerly winds, fair and colder tonight and Saturday. New England—Fair tonight and Saturday; colder tonight and rising temperature; diminishing northwest winds, becoming southerly Saturday.

Table with 3 columns: Stations, 8 a.m. Yesterd night, Highest during