

WORST IS OVER AT PT. BURWELL CREW SENT MESSAGE IN BOTTLE SAYING THEY WERE SAFE NOW

Signals From the Ashtabula Were Misunderstood
—Big Car Ferry Is Holding Her Own and It Is Expected That the Crew Will Be Taken Off and That the Steamer Will Be Righted Shortly.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Port Burwell, Dec. 15, 2:30 p.m.—Conditions are unchanged so far as the Ashtabula is concerned. She is lying exactly as she was this morning, and is in better position.

The wind is dying down, and there is much less sea running.

A tug will venture out this afternoon with provisions for the men. It is now considered safe to make the trip, and there is every possibility that the men will be got in touch with before 4 o'clock.

Some of the crew may be brought ashore, leaving only one man to take charge in case of emergency.

No attempt will be made by the tug to pull the vessel off, as the appliances at hand are not sufficient for the task.

The Reid Wrecking Company's tug is now on the way here, and when it arrives, the Ashtabula will be lightered and towed off the bar.

There is now no fear of accident, and it is expected that the Ashtabula will be taken off within the next few days.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Port Burwell, Dec. 15.—The coal ferry Ashtabula lies in approximately the same position as yesterday.

The men are still aboard, and are not worrying apparently over their position.

A bottle was washed ashore, in which the men claimed that they were all right, but they needed a wrecker to make repairs.

It seems that the watchers on the shore misunderstood the Ashtabula's signals. The ship asked for a wrecker, and the people thought she was going to pieces, and rushed the life-saving crew to the scene.

The Port Stanley life-saving crew will call in Port, but will probably leave for home at night.

All night watchers were on duty, on the hills near here, waiting for any signs of the ship breaking up.

They would not retire for fear something might happen in the night.

A Heavy Sea.

The sea continued running high all night. It abated somewhat towards morning, but there is still a heavy wash. The water is pouring through the vessel as usual, and the cars are away.

The ship is perhaps in a better position than for some days on account of the ground and the sand is piling around her, keeping her from pounding so much.

There is every sign that the wind will shift, and the waves will subside. If this happens the crew will be taken off and the wreckers will proceed to pull the ferry off the bar.

Other Tugs Coming.

The tug sent here from Ashtabula is not heavy enough to do the work and last evening the Reid Wrecking Company of Sarnia dispatched their strongest tug, the J. C. Reid, with a complete outfit for this work to Port Burwell.

Still another tug is on the way from Detroit, and the three tugs are thought to be sufficient to pull the vessel off.

They are expected in Port tonight, and early Thursday if the weather is favorable, they will commence the work of lifting the Ashtabula.

According to the stories current here there will be many repairs necessary before the ship is able to again take her run.

Those Aboard.

From present reports there are two Port Burwell boys aboard. They are Ed Elliott, and R. Parker. Elliott lives about a mile from the village on a farm. He is a young fellow about 25 years of age and has lived here for some years. He usually works in a mine on the farm, sailing on the Ashtabula in the fall and winter.

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Election Dates

London, Dec. 15.—The British election dates are:
Issue of writs, Saturday, Jan. 8.

First borough pollings, Thursday, Jan. 13.

Other borough pollings, Friday, Jan. 14.

Other borough pollings, Saturday, Jan. 15.

First county pollings, Wednesday, Jan. 19.

Other county pollings, Thursday, Jan. 20.

Other county pollings, Friday, Jan. 21.

Other county pollings, Saturday, Jan. 22.

Other county pollings, Monday, Jan. 24.

The results of the election in the remote portions of Orkney, and Shetlands will not be known until the end of the month.

COMMONS RECEIVE COUNTRY'S BILL

Mr. Fielding's Budget Shows a Surplus of Sixteen and a Half Millions.

REVENUE MAKING RECORD

Expected to Reach the Hundred Million Mark by End of the Year.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—A revenue of a hundred millions of dollars for the fiscal year, and a surplus of sixteen and a half millions, were the features of Hon. Mr. Fielding's budget, presented to Parliament today.

The Finance Minister was able to record a fine season of prosperity for the Dominion. Other features were the proposed adoption of a gold coinage, and an action against illegal combines.

A Nice Surplus.

During the past year, 1908-9, the total revenue was \$55,500,000, a decline of nearly \$1,000,000, compared with \$56,500,000, and the addition to the public debt \$45,000,000.

For the eight months of the current year the revenue was \$45,500,000, an increase of \$2,541,250, and it is expected that the four months still to run will bring it up to at least \$57,500,000.

Last year the expenditures on the consolidated fund were \$44,000,000. For the current year the expenditures chargeable to income will not exceed \$2,000,000, a reduction of \$2,000,000.

There will thus be a surplus for the current year of \$16,500,000, capital expenditure will be reduced to the extent of \$1,500,000, and the public debt added to the public debt \$17,500,000, or \$22,500,000 less than the appropriation for the Transcontinental Railway.

The outlook for the coming year is even brighter, the Finance Minister being confident that the receipts will pass the \$100,000,000 mark.

The duties on imports and steel expire on Dec. 31, 1910, and those that remain will be charged against income, instead of as in the past to the consolidated fund. The expenditure on naval construction will also be met out of revenue.

The Liberal Government had spent \$21,500,000 during the past thirteen years on capital and special account, and had added and had provided \$147,000,000 out of revenue, or 69 per cent.

The Conservative government during the last thirteen years were in office spent \$167,166,252 on capital and special account, and provided only \$150,000,000 out of revenue, or 29 per cent.

The per capita debt on an estimated population of 7,450,000 is \$15.55. In 1896 it was \$50.82.

For the current year the total trade of Canada is expected to amount to \$1,000,000,000.

Mr. Fielding, in introducing the budget, said that last session the budget was not in all respects a very cheerful one, however, matters of finance everywhere had had strenuous work to do, and the government had to come back to the old familiar story of general employment and prosperous trade, increasing revenues, liberal surplus, and generous appropriations for the public service.

The last fiscal year, 1908-9, which ended on March 31 last, was certainly a very good year for Canada. The worldwide depression in 1907 had its effect on this country, though to a much less extent than in the case of the United States. It began to show its effect upon the Canadian revenues in the closing period of the fiscal year, but the earlier part of the year was one of such great prosperity that on the whole the revenue proved to be a very excellent one. It was found, however, that the revenues of the fiscal year, beginning on the first of April, 1908, were very seriously affected, and while in 1907-08 the gross revenue was (Continued on Page Six.)

**BELGIAN MONARCH
SUFFERS A RELAPSE**

The Aged King Leopold Takes a Turn for the Worse.

Brussels, Dec. 15.—The condition of King Leopold, who was operated upon yesterday for the removal of an obstruction in the intestine, took a turn for the worse this afternoon. The morning bulletin gave a rather encouraging description of the patient's state as "satisfactory." During the night he had held his own apparently. In the middle of the afternoon word came from the sick chamber that his majesty had suffered a relapse.

HIS EYESIGHT BAD.

Hamilton, Dec. 15.—For passing a 50-cent counterfeit coin on a local newsdealer, Thomas Henneberry was this morning committed for trial. His excuse was that his eyesight was bad, and that he did not know the coin was a counterfeit.



REV. FATHER M. J. FALLON,
Eloquent Priest of the Oblate Order, Who Has Been Appointed Bishop of London.

NIAGARA POWER RATES

The matter of domestic lighting rates was settled at the last meeting of the Niagara power engineers' council. It was placed at 5 cents per 100 square feet for floor space, and 10 cents a kilowatt hour. This latter price will be reduced by discounts, and it is not thought probable that light will cost more than 3 cents per kilowatt hour net after the percentage has been taken. The London Electric's only price is 3 cents per kilowatt hour.

Power rates were figured on the basis of \$50 per horse power per 24 hours. If a user takes power during peak load hours, or off peak load hours, there will be a reduction in the cost of his power. These figures will be gone into and a regular schedule issued very shortly.

MAY DEFER REORGANIZATION OF THE LOCAL KINDERGARTENS

Teachers Are Not in Demand Now and It Is Felt That in All Fairness the Matter Should Be Shelved Until the Summer Holidays of 1910.

There is a possibility that the reorganization of the kindergartens in London, which has caused so much discussion of late will be deferred until next summer.

The board of education will hold a special meeting tonight at 8 o'clock, and it is the consensus of opinion that the matter will be laid over until the summer holidays of 1910.

Many Dismissals.

The reasons given for that action refer to the dismissal of seven or nine kindergarten teachers. Some of the trustees who have been changing their positions away from the young ladies at the Christmas season, when few opportunities for obtaining similar situations present themselves.

DISINFECTING THE PUBLIC TELEPHONES

Businessmen and Physicians of London Are in Favor of the Suggestion.

MANAGER BAIRD SPEAKS

Says His Employees Now Disinfect the 'Phones With a Special Preparation—Some Interest in the Matter.

The recommendation of Medical Health Officer Hutchings, made at a meeting of the board of health yesterday, that all mouthpieces of public telephones be disinfected frequently, met with the unanimous approval of the London medical men. A large number of physicians were interviewed by The Advertiser, and all speak strongly in favor of the measure.

Physicians' Opinions.

"There is no question about it that telephones, particularly those in public places, are a frequent source of infection," said one physician. "I consider that the danger from the receiver, coming in contact with the hair, head or face is almost equally as great as the danger of contamination from a mouthpiece. There is the greatest danger of both the parts of a telephone becoming polluted, particularly in telephones that are in constant use by masses of people in public places."

Easily Transmitted.

"Infectious diseases of the skin would be very easily transmitted by means of a telephone receiver or mouthpiece," another physician told The Advertiser. "These germs ought to be cleaned very frequently, and more especially so if they are used by all classes of people, as many of the public telephones are. I would consider them a source of tuberculosis, and a breeding-ground for all kinds of germs. The present system of cleaning them occasionally is, in my opinion, entirely inadequate, and not infrequently one goes to use a 'phone and finds the mouthpiece in anything but a cleanly condition."

Manager Baird.

Manager Baird, of the Bell Telephone Company, continued on Page Nine.

TRACTION COMPANY PASSES INTO HANDS OF NEW OWNERS

Formal Transfer Took Place Today—\$150,000 Will Be Spent on the Line—Manager Mower Has Been Retained—Committee of Management Named.

The formal transfer of the South-western Traction Company to the purchasers was made today by Master-in-Chancery R. K. Cowan.

Yesterday the balance of the purchase money was paid into court, and today the road was formally given into the hands of the new owners.

The line will be managed by a committee of directors composed of Messrs. Murray N. Verner, of Pittsburgh, and Brantford, W. S. Dimick, W. K. George, Geo. B. Wood, S. C. Smoke, Toronto, T. H. Parson, K. C., and John Milne, London.

No Changes as Yet.

There will be no change in the active management, Mr. S. B. Mower, who has had charge of the road for some time, being retained in the same position by the new management.

The rest of the staff will continue, no changes being contemplated at the present time.

Will Spend \$150,000.

The sum of \$150,000 will be spent on the traction line within the next six months. The most of this money will be used in correction of grades, and the improvements of curves. The road contains many very bad curves at the present time, and the new owners will make the road as nearly straight as it is possible to get it. It is also understood that a number of new cars will be purchased and placed in service.

The Charter.

No amendment was made as to the extent of improvements projected in the new charter.

The charter of the new company will be considered in January by the Senate, and when that matter is settled an amendment will be made with reference to the plans for future extension.

Mr. T. H. Parson, K. C., represented the purchasers at the transfer.

Coupled in an Auto
Plunged 100 Feet

Son of a Michigan Millionaire
Injured and His Fiance Killed.

Pasadena, Cal., Dec. 15.—Miss Agnes Clayton, 19 years old, daughter of a wealthy resident of Pasadena, was killed and Harvey Bissell, 24 years old, son of a Grand Rapids, Mich., millionaire manufacturer, was fatally injured last night in an automobile accident.

Miss Clayton's body was found in the machine. A broken rib had punctured her lungs. Bissell was lying near by, still conscious. His collarbone and right leg were broken and his spine was injured.

It is said that Bissell and Miss Clayton were to be married this winter.

TWO MORE MONSTERS FOR JOHN BULL'S NAVY

Will Be 27,500 Gross Tonnage and Combination of Battleship and Cruiser.

New York, Dec. 15.—The following cable dispatches from Birmingham, England, was received here today. The Post says the admiralty is making arrangements for laying down before the end of the financial year two vessels which will establish a record in warship building. They will be of at least 27,500 gross tonnage. Their guns will number less than those on the latest dreadnought, but the muzzle velocity and firing range will be very much greater.

The ships will be of an entirely new composite class, combining features of battleships and cruisers.

**DANIEL MINTYRE
WINS HIS CASE**

Action of Sovereign Bank Fails in Court of Appeal.

The court of appeal at Toronto has allowed the appeal and dismissed with costs throughout the action of the Sovereign Bank vs. McIntyre. The appeal was by Daniel McIntyre from a divisional court judgment on Feb. 12 last, affirming with some variation Mr. Justice Macgill's judgment on Nov. 11, 1908, whereby the defendant was held to be liable for a certain promissory note and to be liable to pay therefor \$12,800, with interest and costs. The action was tried at London non-jury sittings, Nov. 10, 1908. Defendant denied causation. Judgment was given at the trial for the \$12,800 and interest, and this was affirmed by the divisional court. Mr. Justice Macgill would dismiss the appeal, but the majority of the judges in appeal held that the defence of want of consideration was fully made out by J. M. McIntyre, for Mr. McIntyre.

ELECTIONS AT WINNIPEG

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—With the joke opposition to Mayor Evans and with no contentious matters to arouse the voters, the civic elections yesterday were the quietest in many years. Practically no interest was manifested in the greatest officially was expected in getting the vote out at all. There are over 38,000 names on the list of electors, and of these only 22,000 polled their votes. The results were as follows:

Mayor—W. Sanford Evans.
Controllers—R. D. Waugh, J. H. J. McArthur, and J. D. Cockburn.
Aldermen—Wallace, Midwinter, Willoughby and Shore.
The aldermen in wards one, two and four were elected by a plurality of one vote. Mrs. Coughlin was 75 years of age and came to Canada from the county Wexford, Ireland. She lived in St. Thomas for many years and then came to London. She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Roney, with whom she lived. The funeral will take place from the residence of her sister-in-law, Mrs. I. Pierce, 71 Kearns street, St. Thomas.

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