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ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1920.

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Firemen's Difficulties Settled Up With Quickness and Despatch By The City Council Last Evening

Council Changes Its Mind About Union Affiliations—Special Committee's Re- port Passes With Only One Dissenting Voice—Other Reports Presented.

The City Council last night settled the firemen's union question. There was only one dissenting voice, that of Ald. McLean, who when he found the firemen were to retain their affiliation with the International Firefighters Association thought they should be allowed to be connected with the local Trades and Labor Council as well.

The special committee appointed regarding the firemen reported:

"In view of an understanding arrived at as between the city council and members of the St. Catharines Fire Brigade whereby the latter have made it clear to the former that they are jointly and severally agreed that under no circumstances or in any manner will they, the firemen, be a party to or participate in a strike of any nature whatsoever and

"In view of the fact that the firemen have met the wishes of the council in regard to affiliation with the local trades and labor organizations and in view of the fact that the firemen from the local Trades and Labor Council. And

"That it is agreed and understood that the City Council will not recognize any Union whatsoever of the members of the Fire Brigade or of any other department of the civic service.

It is therefore recommended that the resolution of this Council of January 26, 1920, moved by Ald. Veale and seconded by Ald. McLean be rescinded.

Ald. McLean asked if the firemen were still affiliated with the American Labor Union—the International Firefighters Association.

"This is a report agreed on at the conference held the other night," said the Mayor.

Ald. Avery moved the adoption of the report.

Ald. Dakers said he was a member of the special committee but had not been consulted with reference to the report. He thought it was a committee of the whole Council should have been called in for consultation as to the report to be brought in.

The Mayor explained that it was understood the report was to be prepared at his own dictation. Everything possible had been done to bring about a settlement satisfactory to every member of the Council.

Ald. McLean said he would have to oppose the report. His and Ald. Veale's resolution had called on the firemen to withdraw from their affiliations with the Firefighters Union. They had not done so.

Ald. Murphy seconded Ald. Avery's resolution for adoption of the report and that threw it open to discussion.

Ald. Veale had a few observations to make. He said nothing authentic had been offered by the firemen until the conference. At that conference the firemen present had agreed to an agreement not to strike or participate in a strike. He considered this absolutely binding. He saw no reason to keep them from Canadian affiliations as the Council did not wish any further humiliate the men of the fire brigade. He felt quite satisfied to support the report.

On the suggestion of Ald. Graves, Ald. Avery withdrew his resolution and allowed Ald. Veale to move it. Ald. Murphy continued as seconder. Ald. McLean thought if the firemen were to be allowed to belong to the



ALD. F. H. AVERY, Chairman of the Fire and Light Committee, who has strongly supported the local firemen in their efforts to retain membership in the Fire Fighters' Union.

American affiliation they might as well be allowed to belong to the local Trades and Labor Council.

Ald. Veale read a ruling of four eminent Judges of the Supreme Court of Canada, as follows:

"In our opinion the Police of any Municipality should not be at liberty to form an Association of its members, for their mutual benefit and protection, or why such an Association should not affiliate with other like Associations in the Province.

"It is, however, in our opinion improper, that the members of a Police Force or an Association, if its members should be affiliated with any Labor Organization or other outside body."

He also read the pledge of the firemen:

"It shall be deemed inadvisable to strike or take active part in strikes, as our position is peculiar to most organized workers, as our position to protect the lives and property of communities in which we live in case of fire or other serious hazards."

Ald. Graves said the firemen had met the Council in every fairness and he would like to see the report passed unanimously.

Ald. McLean on the report asked for the yeas and nays and all voted for the report but Ald. McLean, who struck by his guns.

The Board of Works through Ald. Dakers reported recommending that the request of the Bell Telephone Co. to erect 5 poles on Manning Street between Niagara and East Streets be granted without prejudice to the City's interests and that the City Engineer be and is hereby instructed to supervise the location of same.

"Your Committee further recommend that the team, harness and two waggon belonging to the Park and Cemetery Committee and used at Elmwood Cemetery be transferred to the Works Department and that the sum of \$450 be paid the Park and Cemetery for same.

"Your Committee further recommend that the application of McSween and Company to transfer the electric sign from 305 St. Paul street to 45 Geneva Street be granted provided

Supreme Council to Tackle Rate of Exchange Question

LONDON, Feb. 24.—High prices, necessities and the rate of exchange will be taken up soon by the Supreme Council in conference with the financial experts. Today's decision is separate from the earlier London decision to call the Finance Ministers of the Powers together for a discussion of the financial situation of the world.

It is believed that the members of the Council have not determined what the Council might do toward stabilizing exchange and reducing the high prices, and will not reach a decision until they hear what the experts have to say.

The proposition to take up the financial matter came after Russia had occupied most of the day's discussion in this connection it is considered not unlikely that the members took under advisement the demand of most of the British newspapers that some settlement with Russia is necessary in order to reduce prices. It has been pointed out that if Europe could get food and raw materials from Russia it would cut down purchases in the United States against the adverse exchange.

In dealing with the Russian question today, the members of the Council are represented as recognizing an entirely different state of affairs than when the question was last discussed at the Paris meetings.

Dr. Kister is Suing the N. S. & T. R. For Damages of \$5,000 As a Result Of His Accident Last November at Falls

At the Supreme Court which opens next Monday before Mr. Justice O'Grady there is a large docket of civil cases to try.

Dr. Earl Kister of this city asks \$5,000 from the Niagara St. Catharines and Toronto Railway Company for injuries received last November when his auto was struck by an electric car, at a crossing near Niagara Falls. The car was practically ruined and he himself received severe injuries.

Annie Bird, widow of the late W. G. Bird, sues the New York Life Insurance Company for \$1,000, the

value of a policy on her late husband's life, taken out in August, 1916. The Company claimed that the policy lapsed and when he applied for reinstatement Mr. Bird did not correctly answer the questions put to him as to his health. He died a year ago this month.

Two suits are being brought against John Clarkson, a farmer living near Brantford. It is claimed that his auto on the 4th of last September collided with a truck in which Harriet Hennings of Winona; Daniel Miller and wife and Marjorie Lee of Stoney Creek were driving. All were more or less injured. Mrs. Hennings asks for \$5,000 damages; Miller \$3,000; his wife \$2,000, and Mrs. Lee \$5,000.

Giuseppe Pellegrini sues Gracinto Canassi for performance of a certain land transaction or payment of \$1,000 damages.

Murray King of St. Catharines asks Hedley Phipps also of this city to pay him \$5,000 damages for injuries received when Phipps' auto collided with King's motor cycle on St. Paul St. last September.

Mrs. Eliza Whitten brings suit against A. F. Burtwell asking \$3,000 for injuries her daughter Louise received last May when on crossing Chaplin avenue the little girl was run down by Burtwell's auto.

It is understood several more cases may be entered for trial.

GIRLS SPORTS CLUB RIFLE TEAM HAS A SUCCESSFUL SHOOT

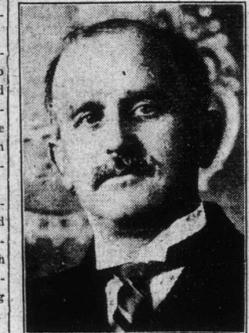
The rifle team of the Girls Sports Club met at the Armories last night for a shooting match. The three highest scores were made by Miss Jenner, Mrs. Bramah and Miss McBeth. Collegiate rifles are being used but it is hoped to get military rifles soon.

The Girls Sports Club has about 75 members and various pastimes are indulged in such as snowshoeing, rifle shooting, etc.

THE WEATHER

TORONTO, Feb. 24.—Pressure is relatively low along the United States Atlantic coast and in the Ottawa Valley and highest in British Columbia and the north Pacific States. Light snow falls have occurred from Ontario to New Brunswick. The weather in Canada on the whole has been moderately cold.

FORECASTS—Moderate to fresh west to northwest winds, local snow flurries, but generally fair and moderately cold today.



ALD. JAMES DAKERS, who has resigned as a member of the Fire and Light Committee of the City Council.



FRANK GREENLAW, M.P.P. for St. Catharines, who is attending the conference of Labor members of the Legislature in Toronto.

Was Trying to Carry Wine Home Without the Jug

James Riley pleaded not guilty today in police court to having liquor other than in a private house. A stone jar of wine and a tin cup were the court exhibits.

Policeman Shannon stated that he and Chief Greene found the evidence in the store where Riley works.

Riley explained that he had intended to take the wine home, but unfortunately he had sampled it first. He had gone into the store to feed a kitten.

"He evidently intended to take the wine home without the jug," suggested Chief Greene. "He had an awful load on."

Riley said he hadn't bought the wine.

"You come back Thursday morning," ruled the Magistrate.

The Retailers Must Lower Meat Prices

U. S. Attorney General Says Wholesale Prices Have Been Falling. But Retail Prices Have Been Kept Up.

CHICAGO, Feb. 24.—Retail meat dealers throughout the U.S. must reduce their prices as the wholesale price of meat declines or else submit their books to Federal agents for investigation of their profits.

This definition of the Government's attitude was announced yesterday by Attorney General Palmer. Instruction to serve the notice on all retail meat dealers have been sent to every United States District Attorney, he said.

Claimed Old Stock
"For three months the price of meat has been falling," said Mr. Palmer. "The retail dealers have claimed that their supplies were old stock purchased at the higher prices. The old stocks should be exhausted by this time and unless the price to the consumer comes down we will have to look into the question of the dealers' profits."

Mr. Palmer's pronouncement on the meat price situation followed the publication by the Institute of American Meat Packers of a bulletin announcing the practical cessation of foreign trade as a result of the adverse exchange situation. Wholesale meat prices at the Chicago yards dropped—to pre-war levels for some grades—following the publication.

CARD OF THANKS.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pierson of 47 Chaplin Avenue desire to express their gratefulness to their many friends for the kind evidences of sympathy shown during the bereavement occasioned by the loss of their son.

Peter Biggar was seized with a stroke on James Street last evening and was removed to the Hospital.

BIG ENTENTE POWERS TO CONCLUDE PEACE WITH SOVIET RUSSIA

General Discussions Will Take Place in March, Germany Believes—Poland to Be Put Forward in Whole Matter as Intermediary—Britain Behind Polish Government's Programme.

BERLIN, Feb. 24.—The Nationalist Deutsche Zeitung declares on authoritative information that general peace discussions by all the European great Powers with Soviet Russia will take place in March, and that Germany will associate herself with these negotiations. The foregoing is said to be admitted by the German Foreign Office.

It is positively asserted that the conclusion of preliminary peace terms is impending. Poland is to be put forward in the whole matter as a peace intermediary. The Polish Government will propose a general discussion with all the powers concerning the establishment of peace, and also will make a proposal in matters of principle.

The Deutsche Zeitung adds it is certain that the British Government is behind the Polish Government's already completed peace program.

NO MORE INFLUENZA LIKE LAST SCOURGE

CHICAGO, Feb. 24.—The opinion that America will never experience another influenza epidemic as serious as the last was expressed by many physicians from all parts of the continent who gathered in Chicago yesterday for the American Congress of Internal Medicine. Reports on the progress made by medical science in treating influenza and data on the isolation of the germ, will be presented during the six day session.

CALGARY BEATS TORONTO IN PRICE OF HAIR CUT

CALGARY, Alta., Feb. 24.—Calgary hair cuts will cost 75 cents on and after March 1. Plain shaves will cost 25 cents, but if the neck is given the edge of the blade, ten cents will be added.

NEWS BRIEFS

Bowmanville business men have organized a Chamber of Commerce.

R. B. Morden of Belleville died of pneumonia after a week's illness at the age of 74.

Kincardine ratepayers carried by 204 to 6 a bylaw to expend \$40,000 on Hydro electric power.

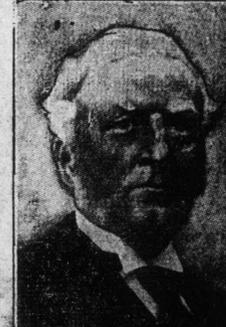
A school of women voters has been opened at Chicago at which lectures will be given on "citizenship."

The Prince of Wales presided at the annual dinner of Cornishmen in London. The Prince is Duke of Cornwall.

Kitchener Council will finance \$350,000 of the cost of the new Collegiate and Technical Institute, to cost \$565,000.

Council Decides Not to Send Delegates to the Waterway Convention at Buffalo March 1

Mayor Lovelace has received from L. Burpee, secretary of the International Joint Waterways Commission, a notice that the commission will hold a public hearing in connection with the St. Lawrence Deep Waterway Investigation, at Buffalo, on March 1st. This will be merely a preliminary hearing to give the commission a general view of the problem. At a later date further hearings will be held at different points east and west, on both sides of the boundary.



Ex-Premier Asquith who is seeking re-election in the constituency of Paisley, Scotland.

Will Not Be Ready For Some Time to Come

There is little prospect of the two new public schools being ready for use for some time to come, Secretary McBride of the Board of Education stated this morning, as the two buildings are still in a very unfinished state.

The contractors are working hard with every available means, but there is much work yet to be done before the two schools can be opened.

FORTY MORE CASES OF THE "FLU" WERE RE- PORTED YESTERDAY

The visitation of Spanish Flu is not on the wane in St. Catharines as yet apparently. Yesterday no less than forty new cases were reported by the doctors in the city. The disease does not seem to be of a very serious form.