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FOURTEEN PAGES—TUESDAY MORNING OCTOBER 1 1912—FOURTEEN PAGES

VOL. XXXII—No. 11,748

## MERCHANTS ASK ASSESSMENTS REDUCED

### Yonge Street Retailers Will Circulate Petition for Presentation to Board of Control and Legislature, Asking for Lower Business Tax and Reductions in Assessment.

A double campaign for the reduction of assessment levied on the retail merchants of Toronto was launched at a meeting of the Toronto Retail Merchants Association, held at their headquarters last night. As a result of this meeting a great protest is to be made to the board of control against the tremendous increase on the property on Yonge street retail merchants this year. The city is also to be asked to cooperate with the Retail Merchants' Association in an effort to be put forth by this body before the Ontario Legislature to have the Assessment Act so changed as to allow a reduction of from 15 to 25 per cent. on the business tax at present imposed on retail merchants.

A committee consisting of Messrs. W. Dineen, furrier; A. E. Renfrew, furrier; F. C. Higgins, grocer; J. Coombs, manager Oak Hill Clothing Co.; Ed. Mack, Yonge street; A. M. Hoberlin and E. M. Trower, secretary of the association, was appointed to secure the signatures of the retail merchants on both sides of Yonge street, from King street to Davenport road, protesting against the great increase in the assessment on the Yonge street property. This petition is to be presented to the board of control.

### Appeal to Legislature

The same committee will also appear before the board of control to ask the board to secure the city's endorsement of the stand to be taken by the Retail Merchants' Association when they appear to the Ontario Legislature for the change in the act allowing a 15 to 25 per cent. reduction in the retail merchants' business tax.

It is claimed by the merchants that under the present act they are paying 50 per cent. higher business tax in proportion than that which is levied on the manufacturers and wholesalers. They declare that the present act, passed about six years ago, was to take the place of the old personal tax and was in the nature of an experiment. They state that it has now proven to be entirely unfair to the interests of the retail merchants, and the change in the act is to be demanded by the retail merchants throughout the whole of Ontario.

## WHOLE FAMILY BURIED TODAY

### Many Toronto Friends Will Attend Funeral of the McCaffrey Family at Omemee.

In the Village of Omemee, seven miles from Peterboro, the remains of five people who were drowned in "Huron Creek" on Saturday will be buried this afternoon. Rev. F. Wilkinson, rector of St. Peter's Church, Carlton and Blecker streets, where the McCaffrey family worshipped, will assist in the funeral service. A number of friends and members of the church will leave for Omemee in the morning.

Mrs. Seagar, mother of Mrs. Wm. McCaffrey, was reported at 16 Southville last night as progressing favorably under the circumstances. Mrs. Seagar has been suffering from heart trouble for several months, and it was on this account that Mr. McCaffrey did not take his family to his former home during the summer. When Mrs. Seagar, a trained nurse, and daughter Mrs. Seagar, who is now in attendance upon her mother, was able to come to Toronto, the McCaffrey family were able to go to Omemee.

## Hamilton City Council Favors The Exemption of Improvements With Land Taxed on Sale Value

HAMILTON, Sept. 30.—(Special.)—The city council by a vote of 11 to 10 tonight decided to join with other municipalities in petitioning the Ontario Government to give them power to exempt improvement to a certain extent from taxation, and to assess land at its full market value. The vote at first was a tie, and the deadlock was broken by Ald. Bird, who joined the progressives. There was a long argument on the single tax idea.

## CHURCH FAVORS LAND TAXATION

### After Investigating Single Tax System in West, Controller Recommends Partially Exempting Improvements

After a trip to Western Canada for the purpose of investigating the working of the single tax system Controller Church returned to the city yesterday and stated that both he and Commissioner Forman were of the opinion that a modified form of the single tax principle would greatly benefit Toronto. A report will be submitted to the city council in the near future urging that a system be inaugurated of partially exempting the tax on improvements.

## OTTAWA MAYOR DENIES GRAFT

OTTAWA, Sept. 30.—(Can. Press.)—Mayor Hopwood tonight denied emphatically the insinuations that he had been concerned in illegal real estate deals. He asked Judge Gunn to make most searching inquiries and would at any time be prepared to give a full statement of his affairs in court.

City Solicitor McVitty, who is conducting the enquiry for the city, has imputed many cases of doubtful dealings as between the mayor and City Engineer Kerr. The enquiry has become a most acrimonious one, and the city solicitor seems to have a big fight on his hands.

## TEDDY SILENCED NOISY HECKLERS

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 30.—(Can. Press.)—A tumultuous crowd gave Col. Roosevelt what he describes as a "mildly lively time" here today. Men scattered thru the crowd heckled him as he in Atlanta last Saturday and succeeded in raising an uproar which for a time drowned out any attempt on Col. Roosevelt's part to go on with one speech. He stood his ground and matched one retort with another until he had silenced the dissenters.

On the way to Knoxville Col. Roosevelt made a number of speeches from his train. He assailed Gov. Hooper and Senator Sanders of Tennessee. He also characterized Gov. Thomas R. Marshall of Indiana, Democratic candidate for vice-president, as a representative of the Taggart machine.

When the first cheers which greeted Col. Roosevelt in the auditorium here had died away, a man with a bandana handkerchief leaped from his seat on the stage, waved his hand and shouted in megaphone tones: "Glory Hallelujah." The cheering began. Then the people sang "Onward Christian Soldiers."

Friends of Gov. Hooper created an uproar, but finally Col. Roosevelt was given a good hearing.

### Men's Fur-Lined Coats

The Dibleen Company, 40 Yonge street, put into stock Saturday three hundred fur-lined coats for men. These represent the first new arrivals and have been made carefully during the summer months. Lined with selected mink and with the seal's trapping. The coats are being offered at very low prices, considering the excellence of the fur and the workmanship. Prices start at forty-five dollars.

## RICHMOND GOES TO PENITENTIARY

### "Well-Known Race Track Shark" Blamed for Fall of Arthur Richmond, Who Got Four Years.

Arthur R. Richmond pleaded guilty in the sessions yesterday to the theft of \$28,687.73 from the Bank of Toronto, and was sentenced to four years in Kingston Penitentiary by Judge Denton.

"This young man is the victim of a well-known race track shark," declared Mr. T. C. Robinette, in pleading for mercy on Richmond's behalf. "This man is well known to track followers in all the large cities. He got this young man out to dinner, and by the aid of two fake jockeys, and some fake telegrams from supposed horse owners, inveigled him into stealing this money to play on 'sure things.' Of course, he lost, and he now pleads guilty to the theft."

Richmond is 27 years of age, and the son of a Gaspe clergyman. He is a well-educated young man having spent five years in Bishop's College at Lennoxville, Que. His first job was in the Bank of Toronto's office in Montreal, later at Hastings, Ont., and finally came to the Elm street branch in Toronto, where the theft occurred.

All the money appropriated by Richmond was taken inside of a period covering two weeks, and it all went "on the ponies." "He hasn't one cent of money left at the present time. He hasn't a dollar in the world," declared his counsel. "He has told me that after serving sentence, he will go west and make a new name for himself."

## SHIPS TO CARRY MENTO-ULSTER

F. E. Smith, M.P., Tells Big Gathering at Liverpool That Owners Proffer Free Service.

LIVERPOOL, Sept. 30.—(Can. Press.)—A great gathering took place at Shiel Park this afternoon to protest against home rule. The assembly numbered not less than 100,000, who arrived in three processions. The enthusiasm was unbounded and rockets and fireworks of all kinds were discharged.

Sir Edward Carson and Frederick E. Smith, the Unionist leaders in the movement, made speeches. The latter said that three Liverpool shipowners had promised him the use of free ships to carry 10,000 men from Liverpool to Belfast to help Ulster if "it came to a fight."

ULSTER WOMEN IN REVOLT.

BELFAST, Sept. 30.—(Can. Press.)—The Marchioness of Dufferin presided at a meeting of women in Ulster Hall tonight in opposition to the home rule bill. The hall was crowded, and fiery protests were voiced against the measure.

## ACCUSE MOTHER AND DAUGHTERS

### Police Arrested Mrs. Fifield on Shoplifting Charge, and Found 193 Articles in Her Home.

Following the arrest of Mrs. Louise Fifield, 45 Prescott street, for shoplifting in Eaton's yesterday afternoon by Acting Detective Wickett, the woman's home was searched. Wickett and Plainclothesman Hess found over 193 articles, said to have been stolen by Mrs. Fifield and her daughters, Ivy and Gwendolyn. When searched after her arrest the police found six bouquets and an umbrella in the mother's possession.

Ivy, aged 15, has been working at 121 Prescott street. From there she is alleged to have stolen 11 neck scarves, 107 neckties, 4 spoons of silk and a spoon of brass wire. The family have been out from the old country nine months.

## ST. KITTS A GROWING CITY

ST. CATHARINES, Sept. 30.—(Special.)—A growth of 153 in the population of St. Catharines and an increase of \$2,583,82 in the assessment during the past year, was disclosed by the report of the assessors, presented tonight to the city council. The population now totals 10,742, while the new assessment roll shows a total of \$10,222,700. Over two-thirds of the increase in assessment was made in land values.

A Brilliant Spectacle

The galaxy and sponsor of "The Enchantress," the musical comedy which is at the Princess this week, certainly forms a brilliant spectacle, and Sculptor Rodin was not far astray when he pronounced Klitty Gordon the stage's most beautiful woman.

## THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS IS NEEDED

### Methodist Temperance and Moral Reform Board Need an Additional \$12,000 a Year to Carry on Extensive Work — Field Secretaries Are Given Locations.

Thirty thousand dollars a year is the amount of the campaign fund required by the Methodist Temperance and Moral Reform Board, with its full staff of a general secretary, three field secretaries and office staff. This is equivalent to \$100 for six days every week of the year. The Moral Reform Board considers that the money will be easily forthcoming, as the responses have been spontaneous wherever the present general committee or field secretary has placed the matter before the Methodist congregations. The sum named will mean an increase of \$12,000. This it is expected will be raised without difficulty by the two new field secretaries.

Three New Centres

At present the board works thru a central bureau conducted by Rev. Dr. Moore in the Confederation Life Building. The new field secretaries will have their divisional bureaus. The western may be located at Winnipeg or Vancouver; it is not decided definitely at which city.

Another will be at a city in the maritime provinces, and one at St. John's, Newfoundland.

## BALKAN STATES MAY DECLARE WAR ON TURKEY IN 48 HOURS EUROPE FEELS GRAVE ALARM

### Greek Forces Mobilizing

ATHENS, Sept. 30.—(Can. Press.)—The Greek Government, in agreement with other Balkan states tonight, ordered the mobilization of her forces by sea and by land. The reason given for this step is apprehension on the part of the Balkan states that the mobilization of the Turkish army and the disquieting internal condition of Turkey might induce the Porte to seek a way out of the difficulty in war.

ALEXANDRIA, Sept. 30.—(Can. Press.)—The officers of the Greek army reserves here have received telegraphic orders to join the colors immediately.

### Servia, Backed by Greece, Bulgaria and Montenegro, Demands Quick Settlement of Difficulty Over Passage of Serbian Ammunition Thru Turkish Lines—States Are Feverishly Mobilizing Forces in Expectation of Sudden Outbreak of Hostilities—European Powers See Crisis at Hand.

The Porte has received a communication from Dr. Nenadovitch, Serbian minister, asking that Turkey adopt a definite attitude within 48 hours on the question of whether Serbian ammunition will be allowed to pass thru Turkish lines. If the conditions are not complied with war seems inevitable, as Servian, Bulgarian, Greek and Montenegrin forces have been hastily mobilized in readiness for instant action, despite the threat of European intervention.

LONDON, Sept. 30.—(Can. Press.)—The Balkan difficulties have developed with alarming rapidity to a point where only a spark is needed to set the whole of Southeastern Europe aflame. Three of the Balkan states by common consent have ordered the simultaneous mobilization of their armies and are making every preparation for immediate hostilities.

Two possible explanations are offered, the first, that a coalition of the Balkan states exists for the purpose of demanding from Turkey, before she has time to conclude peace with Italy, the grant of complete autonomy to the Macedonian provinces; the second that, fearing Turkey will seek an issue from her difficulties at home and abroad in war, they are preparing themselves for a possible attack.

Four-Cornered Compact

Everything now seems to depend on whether the great powers will be able to bring sufficient pressure to bear to prevent the outbreak of hostilities and preserve the status quo in the Balkans. Today's developments appear fully to confirm the existence of a military understanding between Bulgaria, Servia, Greece and Montenegro, directed against Turkey.

The approach of winter is held to be a factor in favor of peace, and in the European capitals the hope is still cherished in diplomatic quarters that the efforts of the powers will be successful. The Russian and British representatives at Constantinople are energetically urging upon the Porte the necessity of carrying into execution the promised reforms in Macedonia and are applying pressure to induce Turkey to modify her provocative military preparations in the Adrianople district.

## RUSSIA BLAMES BRITAIN FOR CRISIS

### Failure to Commit Herself to Definite Program for Adjusting Balkan Difficulties Said to Have Lit Fires in Balkans — Austria and Roumania Main Join in Impending Strife

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 30.—(Can. Press.)—The mobilization of the armies of Bulgaria, Servia and Greece will probably mean immediate war, according to the belief held in political circles here. The nature of Turkey's military activity the last few days is taken to mean that she intends to make war in that case the Balkan coalition has naturally forestalled her in her endeavor to profit by the rapid concentration of troops.

The opinion held here is that the action of the Balkan states has resulted from the inability of the powers to deal with the situation. The conversations with the Russian foreign minister, M. Sazonoff, has had in London, apparently have been barren. It is understood that Russia has taken an adequate view of the crisis in the Balkans and has proposed the radical remedy of putting into effect article 23 of the Treaty of Berlin, providing for the introduction in the European provinces of Turkey of a statute giving a measure of self-government under a provincial governor-general, controlled by the powers.

British Non-Commitment

Russia's proposal was communicated to Turkey by M. De Giers, the ambassador to Austria-Hungary. Great Britain showed herself willing to talk reforms in Macedonia in a general way without committing herself to anything definite. France's answer is due tomorrow and her attitude is expected to be still more conservative, being dictated mainly by considerations of finance.

More was expected of Great Britain, where for years sympathetic interest was accorded the Macedonian cause. The principal task of the powers, in case hostilities actually break out, will be to localize their scope, as Italy was forced to localize hers to a limited area. The immediate danger depends upon the possible action of Roumania, insisted by Austria-Hungary. It is worth noting that the king of Roumania was today named as a field marshal of the Russian army, an honor now held only by king Nicholas of Montenegro. The emperor's ukase making this appointment was printed in a special issue of the war office organ, Kuskoy Invalid.

Watching Austria and Roumania

Upon Russia virtually devolves the burden of keeping Austria and Roumania outside the ropes. Confidence prevails that the condition of the Russian armaments is now such that Russia will be able to fulfill her mission. Upon this belief the action of the Balkan states is doubtless based. It is further expected that Russia will neutralize the Black Sea basin, thereby preventing the Turks from carrying out landing operations on the Bulgarian coast, or from cutting its communication with Russia by sea.

The crisis finds the emperor and empress at Bielowitzh, near the Austrian frontier. The minister of war, Gen. Soukhomlinoff, is passing the season in Crimea, while Premier Kokovloff will leave the capital tomorrow for a fortnight's absence.

## POINDRON ENDS LIFE IN PARIS

### Former Commercial Agent of Government Was Financial Foe of Hon. Rodolphe Forget.

MONTREAL, Sept. 30.—(Special.)—The news today from Paris saying that Anatole Poindron, formerly commercial agent of the Canadian Government in France, had committed suicide by blowing out his brains, following the death of his wife, was all the more interesting because Poindron was alleged to be the moving spirit in the opposition which has been waged against Sir Rodolphe Forget in Paris during the last few months.

Mons. Poindron could be seen here during the months of July and August standing on Notre Dame street, opposite Forget's office, for hours at a time.

TIGHTEN GRIP ON STACEY.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 30.—(Can. Press.)—To prevent the possible release of Jas. W. Stacey, alias Frank West, alias "Doc" Danzell, on a writ of habeas corpus, the police here today applied for a fugitive warrant charging the man wanted in connection with the \$271,900 Canadian bank robbery case with attacking Police Lieut. B. J. Burns in Chicago two weeks ago.

The discovery of a memorandum book in the room formerly occupied by the suspect, and Jeanette Little, the woman arrested at Edwardsville, Ill., will, it is believed, in capturing other members of the gang.

## "BIG CHARLIE" ROBBER CHIEF

### Chicago Police Hope Soon to Arrest Leader of Safe-Blowers' Gang.

"Big Charlie," described by James Sidlas and by Jeanette Little as the leading figure in the negotiations for the exchange of the stolen bills, is now believed by the police to be the real leader of the gang of safeblowers, and the police also believe he soon will be in custody.

At Montreal

MONTREAL, Sept. 30.—(Special.)—The customs returns for the month of September reached the sum of \$2,218,168, against \$1,735,915 for the same month last year, or an increase of \$482,253.

## BATTLE OF "WITS" NEAR AT HAND

### Army of Readers Eager for Opening of Big \$5000 Proverb Contest Thursday.

Thousands are ready for the great battle of "wits" that begins on Thursday, Oct. 3, in The Toronto World's Popular Proverb Contest, and as the time for the start approaches, the interest in the unique and novel plan continues to grow greater.

Thousands are going to compete, and if you have not already placed an order to have The Toronto Daily and Sunday World delivered to you regularly.

Continued on Page 2, Column 1.

# \$5000 in Prizes for Readers of THE TORONTO WORLD—See Page 9