

BECK RECEIVED NO PURCHASE PRICE FROM RAILWAY

FULL PAYMENT REFUSED BY RAILWAY OFFICIAL

Ivey Gives Reply at a Special Meeting With Mayor and Chairmen.

TWO COURSES OPEN

Could Seek Permission From Government or Take Legal Action.

During his negotiations with the street railway company prior to the last municipal election, Sir Adam Beck received no purchase price from that corporation to take back to the city council.

This was the interesting declaration at noon today from Sir Adam Beck, vice-president of the company, to Mayor Wenig and the chairmen of the city council committees, at their special meeting at noon.

As expected the company declines to pay in full the \$51,000, its share of the cost of the Richmond street and other pavements. This will be the report to the members of the city council who assemble again this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Two courses are open. The council may follow the advice of City Solicitor T. G. Meredith, and seek permission from the Ontario Legislature to allow the company to pay its bill in ten annual instalments, in accordance with last year's resolution.

Or they may enter legal action in the supreme court to secure this money without further parley. It was the opinion of the vice-president today, however, that the courts would uphold the railway corporation and force the city to adhere to its resolution of 1923.

"We did our part, according to the agreement made with our president," Mr. Ivey told the city council today. "We expect the city to do likewise. We proceeded in good faith. If it had been the intention of the city council not to undertake its part we should have been notified."

"We are not disputing the claim that the work was done under the provision of the penalty clause of Bylaw 916. But it is the ex-Ald. Judd who suggested, as the city solicitor had given a contrary opinion, that the best result could be obtained in a legal manner by doing the work under the bylaw subject to a subsequent agreement. He took more over as his precedent for this, the fact that the city and company had entered into a similar arrangement previously."

Onus on Engineer. Ald. Greer contended that the onus rested upon the city engineer, under Bylaw 916, and that he had notified the company in the usual manner that they were acting under the clause of the original agreement.

Vice-President Ivey maintains, however, that the engineer was evidently obeying the instructions of the council. He submitted that the council could legally carry out its agreement despite the opinion to the contrary from the city solicitor.

"Are you in a position to pay us," asked Mayor Wenig. "I can best refer you to our bankers," replied Mr. Ivey humorously. "I think we owe them more than we do."

"You have a good line of credit," observed Ald. Douglass. Ald. Greer wanted to know how the company could arrange to give security for a bond for the city but could not pay the city. Mr. Ivey declared that it all depended upon the source of the bond. In his experience it had been necessary to pay a premium only.

"If the city had no intention of carrying out its agreement," he continued, "we would not have made any commitments on our capital account. We made certain other improvements to our equipment when the city agreed to assist us with the paving work. We would not have made these improvements, however, but would have used the money for the track work only."

"If you receive no notice from the city that the people will purchase in 1925, will you lay plans for an immediate refinancing?" asked Ald. Greer.

"We are considering it," replied Mr. Ivey. "But we do not want to lay out any plan of expense until we see what the city is going to do."

"Would you sell the road today?" asked Mayor Wenig. "Yes, for a fair amount," replied the vice-president.

"Nine hundred thousand dollars," suggested the mayor. "I couldn't say as to that, as I am not a practical man," explained Mr. Ivey. "I can't say if \$900,000 is a fair price."

Fair Price? "Would \$2,000,000 be a fair price?" persisted the mayor. "I can't say as to that, either," said Mr. Ivey.

"Somewhere between \$900,000 and \$2,000,000 then," suggested the mayor. "Sir Adam had a price to that effect, I understand."

"He never received it from us then," assured Mr. Ivey. "We gave him no price."

"If you were sure of a five years' extension of the franchise would you consider an immediate payment of this bill?" asked Ald. Douglass. The vice-president did not care to speak as to that, but suggested a co-operative conference between the company, authorities and city representatives if it was intended to negotiate again for a purchase price.

It was his further opinion that by-law 916, now of 25 years' standing, could be revised to better suit present conditions.

"What is the company's attitude respecting our 1924 paving program?" asked Ald. Douglass. "I could tell you better after the outcome of this," responded Mr. Ivey. He added that there had been considerable legislation of late years affecting the company in a general way, unforeseen at the inception of by-law 916, as for instance the Ontario Railway Board's ruling a few years ago, whereby wages were elevated.

Mother Dies To Save Son

Canadian Press Despatch. Dartmouth, N. S., Jan. 22.—Mrs. Maude Colter was electrocuted, dying almost instantly when she went to the aid of her 19-year-old son who had become entangled with a live wire in the cellar of their home here last evening. The family were at supper when the boy went to the cellar for fuel. Hearing his cries, Mrs. Colter went to his aid and found he had grasped the wire of a portable electric lamp at a spot where the insulation had been worn off. She snatched it out of his hands, only to become helpless herself in the grip of the electric current, and in her effort to free herself, the wires became entangled about her ankles. She died almost instantly. The boy was not seriously injured.

HEAT BILLS CAUSE MANY COLD CHILLS

Electric Warmth in the Registry Office Costs County \$63 a Month.

Heating a four-room office by electricity is a rather costly proposition for the county of Middlesex. The county registry office is the coldest spot in the city during summer months, but it costs about \$63 per month to heat the building when the winter storm king reigns supreme.

One base-burner occupies a prominent position in the hall of the registry office, but it doesn't thaw out the cold hands of the clerks. Electric heaters have been used and the clerks keep the rooms warm, but the bills have sent cold chills down the spines of county officials. Last month the bill for electricity was \$45.38, while a ton of coal was used up in the stove.

County officials consider it would be cheaper to heat the place by steam and let the condensation run into the sewer. The matter will be brought before the county council which opened its January session at the county buildings this afternoon.

POCOCK SCORES MAYOR'S ATTACK

Declares the Chief Magistrate Always Opposed to Public Ownership.

Mayor George Wenig was today branded as a persistent enemy of public ownership by Philip Pocock, member of the public utilities commission and for many years a member of the Port Stanley Railway Commission. "The mayor has my sympathy," Commissioner Pocock stated. "You've heard about the 'bull in the china shop.' Well, the mayor has him beat. From bad to worse to hear him talk. Everything is going to the dogs. I am not surprised, of course, to hear the mayor break out in this manner. He has always been opposed to public ownership. He has always been against us, but I did hope that he would show a change of heart when he became more conversant with the true conditions. "He is certainly on the wrong side of the fence in this instance. And he is the hopeless minority. He will certainly have a hard and impossible job ahead of him if he sets out in a hopeless attempt to carry out his policy that they are not receiving economical service from the three departments that he has mentioned. "I don't think he will get much out of this, and that looks good to me."

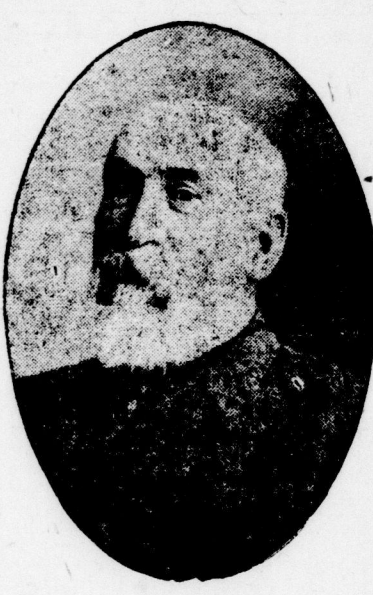
Obituary

FUNERAL OF MRS. M. HOWE. The funeral of Mrs. Margaret Howe, who died in St. Joseph's Hospital on Sunday, was held this morning from the residence of John Hately, 39 Platon street. Requiem high mass was sung at St. Peter's Cathedral at 9 o'clock by Father McKeon. Interment was made at St. Peter's Cemetery.

MRS. MATILDA WALSH. Mrs. Matilda Maud May Walsh, 38 Elgin street died last night at Victoria Hospital following a brief illness. She was 42 years old.

Besides her husband, she is survived by one son, Harold, and three daughters, Alison, Nola and Betty, all at home.

Ivey, the mayor and his associates realized that the best the company had to offer was a strict application of last year's resolution, they adjourned.



SQUIRE FRANCIS HUNT.



MRS. M. HUNT.

CELEBRATE DIAMOND WEDDING

Special to The Advertiser.

St. Thomas, Jan. 21.—County Police Magistrate Francis Hunt and Mrs. Hunt celebrated their diamond wedding at their home, 52 William street, on Saturday afternoon and evening. Earlier in the day, sitting in his office at county court house, where he is still able to do a day's work in spite of his 83 years "of youth" (as he puts it), the squire became reminiscent.

"While I was employed as blacksmith in Norwich, Mary and I decided to get married. Mrs. Mary Hunt, who will be up here today, was bridesmaid, and Henry Greig, who died in Ingersoll three years ago, was best man. Accompanied by a lot of the young people we went to the Baptist Church at Mount Elgin, where we were married by Isaac Elliott. That night we had a big dance at my wife's home, people coming from miles around to attend. I went back to work next day."

"I always had a leaning for newspaper writing, so when William Westlake and Ed Shepherd asked me to join with them in the old Journal, I jumped at the opportunity. It was while with the Journal that I published a weekly serial called, 'The Pioneer History of Elgin County.' I interviewed Col. Munroe, John McKay and many others."

"Early in the 90's I suffered a hemorrhage of the lungs, so I went back-raising on the farm owned by F. C. Poole, south of the city, later taking a farm on Talbot street near the House of Industry. "I was appointed to the honorary position of police magistrate in 1902 at a salary of \$300, but my expenses were over \$500."

"This was not my first experience as justice of peace. In those days a councillor was qualified to try cases, and I did my share. "As a member of the city council, in the 90's, I suppose I was partly responsible for placing the collegiate street sewer system. Here the squire paused to discuss these two important questions; later telling of his family."

"We have three sons and two daughters. Edward is in Detroit. Fred in Cleveland, Arthur in this city. My daughters live in Southwold. Mrs. S. Curtis and Mrs. G. King. We have 16 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren," he added proudly.

Only 25 Per Cent of Women Cast Votes In Last Election

Fewer Ratepayers Exercised Franchise Than in Any Time in Ten Years.

FEW VOTED EARLY

Official Figures on Civic Contest Are Presented by Clerk Baker.

Fewer ratepayers voted in London at the last municipal election than at any time during the past years; but 41 per cent of those qualified to cast a ballot. It is necessary to turn the pages of municipal history back to 1913 to have this low level.

Many more of the electors, both men and women, voted in 1923 than in 1922 but when the 33 per cent increased voters' list is considered, the increase becomes a decrease. But 25 per cent of the women entitled to vote, exercised their franchise as compared with 57 per cent of the men. The same proportions was shown in 1921.

The number of men voting . . . 9,782—57% The number of women voting . . . 3,905—25%

Totals . . . 13,687—41% No. of freeholders . . . 7,668—54% Votes cast before 10 a.m. . . . 1% Votes cast between 10 a.m. and 12 noon . . . 15% Votes cast between 12 noon and 2 p.m. . . . 25% Votes cast between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. . . . 29% Votes cast between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. . . . 30%

CHARGE PICTON PHYSICIAN WITH ASSAULTING GIRL

Canadian Press Despatch. Picton, N.S., Jan. 22.—Dr. Duncan Murray, Picton, has been charged with assault upon the 19-year-old daughter of Chief of Police Morrison of Picton. The alleged assault took place Thursday evening, when it is charged, the doctor struck the girl with a stick and knocked her down as she was walking on the street with two other girls.

Dr. Murray is at liberty on bail of \$1,000, pending preliminary hearing.

FRENCH MINISTRY PLANS FOREIGN CLEARING HOUSE

Associated Press Despatch. Paris, Jan. 22.—The ministry of finance is working on plans for the creation of a foreign exchange clearing house, according to the newspaper L'Ouvreur. The object of the proposed institution, the newspaper says, is to guarantee the French manufacturer and trader, doing business abroad the greatest stability and security by enabling them to obtain whatever foreign currency they need at prices that will not be affected by speculation.

AGED MAN SUFFOCATED. Associated Press Despatch. New York, Jan. 22.—James Cramer, 50 years old, and his unmarried sister, whose first name was not learned, died of suffocation last night when smoke from a fire that destroyed their Brooklyn home crept into their sleeping rooms.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF DISTILLERIES URGED BY M'KAY

Labor Alderman Would Have More Severe Punishments Enforced.

WOULD CONTROL LIQUOR

Public ownership of distilleries and breweries as a solution for many of the prohibition-problems of the day is recommended by Ald. Frank McKay, Labor's only representative in the city council.

It would not be Ald. McKay's desire, however, that the government would operate these establishments for more profit or as a means whereby any surplus accrued should be appropriated, he reasons, to educate the people against the folly of branches against the country's prohibition laws, whatever they might be at the time.

"If the people owned the distilleries and breweries," Ald. McKay ventures, "the government would be able to keep a closer check upon the situation and would be better able to insure that liquor would be diverted only through such legitimate channels as intended by the law. Private distilling, and so forth, would call for a most severe punishment if Ald. McKay's suggestion became effective. Bootlegging, rum-running, moonshining, hi-jacking and kindred occupations would then be listed as offenses against the government, in the same category as robbery of the mails, etc. Ald. McKay believes that the number now employed in the latter vocations would thereby be reduced to an appreciable minimum."

THREE MENTIONED FOR WARDENSHIP

G. Lewis, A. McPherson and C. C. Henry Given Best Chance—Council Opens.

George Lewis, Strathroy; Allen MacPherson, Glencoe, and C. C. Henry, Metcalfe, are the three county councillors generally conceded to have the best chances for the wardenship for 1924 at the Middlesex county council meeting this afternoon.

Mr. Lewis is being well supported by the Tories, while the Liberals are lined up behind Councillor MacPherson. Mr. Henry has the vote and influence of the U. F. O. County councillors interviewed seem to think that all have an equal chance, but the race is likely to be a Liberal-Conservative one.

Eighteen men have applied for the highly contestable, and the man to head the county constituency will be chosen sometime during the week.

Warden Ross called the council together shortly after 2 p.m.

SEVEN FIRE CALLS IN TWELVE HOURS

Is Considered a Record in This City—Several Hundred Dollars Loss.

The fire department received seven calls yesterday from various sections of the city where fire had broken out from overheated stoves and furnaces. The damage caused was estimated by Fire Chief Aitken at several hundred dollars. Seven calls in 12 hours is considered a record in the city department.

Fire starting in a chicken coop yesterday afternoon at the rear of Bland's restaurant, 201 Dundas street, spread to a nearby garage and caused damage of \$100 to an automobile.

At 9:50 p.m. the department responded to a call sent in from 99 Central avenue where a coil in the furnace started a small fire. The blaze was extinguished with no loss.

At 10:15 this morning a call was sent in from the home of A. E. Burhour, 355 Piccadilly street, where the hot water heating system had exploded. Slight damage was caused from water flooding the house.

Chief Aitken warns against overheating furnaces during the cold weather. "To date we have not had any serious fires from this cause," said the chief, "but it is a dangerous practice. A number of fires have been caused through an attempt to thaw out a frozen pipe with flame. This practice should cease. Invariably, inflammable material such as cob webs and sawdust surround old pipes."

BRANTFORD INSPECTOR'S APPEAL DISMISSED

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Jan. 22.—James Chapman, who was suspended as a Brantford police inspector on Nov. 4, 1921, and discharged on May 1, sued the Brantford police commission and the municipality for \$500, his salary between the time of his suspension and his dismissal; and the second divisional court has dismissed with costs, his appeal from the trial judge. Mr. Justice Mowat, who disallowed his claim with costs.

At the trial the police commission was struck out as a co-defendant, the judge holding that it was not a corporation. The hearing of the action then proceeded as against the city.

Forest City Will Be Treated With More Severe Weather, Local Seers Predict Today

Much Inconvenience Felt in the City Last Night as Cold Continues.

FROST-BITTEN EARS

Plumbers, Coal Merchants and Garage Men Do Rushing Business.

When the mercury crept down to the hitherto unknown depths last night there were few citizens but felt inconvenience and a number were actually subjected to a certain amount of physical suffering. The severe cold snap will continue, probabilities indicate.

Among the cold weather casualties reported this morning are several thousand cracked and broken pipes, hundreds of burst pipes, furnaces which refuse to give heat, and hundreds of frost-bitten ears.

Beginning at six o'clock this morning, the thermometer jumped from 5 below to 13 above, and was still climbing at noon. Fortunately no body was frozen in the city, but four lost their lives in various parts of the United States.

The number of patients suffering from mastoid abscesses in local hospitals is fast increasing. Two were rushed to Victoria yesterday to be operated on. Disapproval of the earmuff and the tendency of brave men to wash their heads without drying them sufficiently before going out into the cold are said to be reasons for prevailing ear trouble.

In several houses pipes burst yesterday and water dribbled into the furnaces. Plumbers are doing a rushing business. One plumbing concern asked for assistance today, declaring they could send out no more men until the latter part of the week.

Orders for coal are swamping local merchants, but fortunately all these are being filled within three days of receiving the orders. No necessity for burning soft coal has arisen. Cannel coal is in big demand, but little use is found for wood, except for starting furnaces.

Big Hydro Strain.

Public utilities officials report a big strain on hydro owing to the demands made on it by heating appliances which were kept operating in many instances throughout the night. Lights in all parts of the city were very dim in consequence of this extra load.

Aside from the general and widespread discomfort, there was little inconvenience because of the cold. No cases of exposure or suffering were reported to hospitals and welfare societies. Telegraph companies reported they had experienced no difficulties.

Traffic during the rush hours was congested slightly because of automobiles made balky and recalcitrant by the cold. Except at six o'clock, when workers were returning to their homes, the streets were virtually clear of traffic, both pedestrian and motor.

Calls for garage men and mechanics were frequent during the night. Frozen radiators and run-down batteries were numerous, and

GAUDY APPAREL FOR MEN FAILS TO COME BACK

Comfort Will Be Slogan of the Style Dictators During Spring.

SILKS FOR WOMEN

Sheiks who adorn themselves in piated trousers, Valentino sashes and gaudy waistcoats, will be very much out of it this spring. The International Association of Clothing Designers officially sat upon all and sundry varieties of "showy" wearing apparel, and the conservative styles of ten years ago threaten to come again into being.

This is the word S. P. Cole, of the Greene-Swift Company, chief designer and member of the style committee of the International Association of Clothing Designers, brings with him from New York. Mr. Cole returned from New York last week, where he attended the annual convention of the association of men's fashion dictators, of which he is a member.

Gone is the green and scarlet shoe; gone the pretty pleats; gone the red shirt, and gone also are the skin-tight trousers. So far as men are concerned everything is strictly reactionary and conservative. Women, however, still crave for variety, color, artistry and the naive. Underthings are all silk. Mr. Cole says, and anyone who wears the conventional wool or cotton will simply horrify her up-to-date sisters. Flesh-colored stockings, for instance, are these are so flesh-colored, in fact, that Mr. Cole claims the average observer cannot tell whether a woman is wearing stockings or not.

"We've done away with all jazz styles," Mr. Cole said. "Skin-tight suits for men are taboo, and have been supplanted by loose clothing. Freak fashion has given way to comfort. The English influence predominates. Blue overcoats will be worn for the remainder of the winter in the States."

Haberdashery fashions include the bow tie. This must be hand-made, and is said to have almost completely taken the place of the straight necktie. A return to shirt styles of 1913 has been decided on and patterns will henceforth have a cross-front run instead of being up and down.

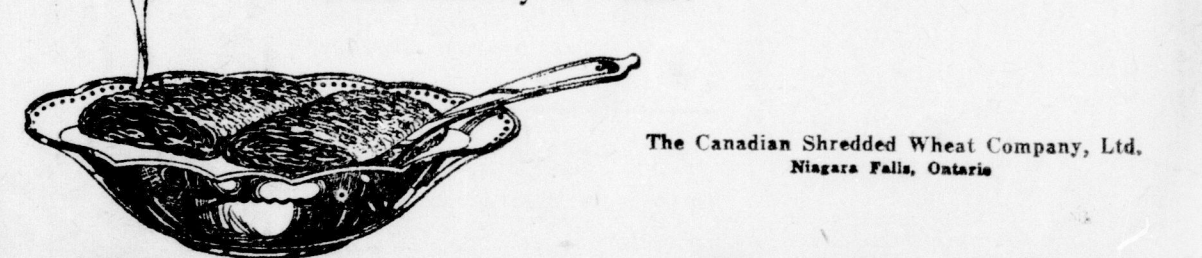
"It was believed that a restrained treatment in overcoats and suits would be more interesting than arresting departures into the field of fancy," Mr. Cole said. "We, therefore, adopted a conservative policy. The whole tendency is to return to the styles of 1913 or thereabouts, with the exception that comfort will not be sacrificed to fashion."

LIQUIDATORS' ISSUE WRIT.

G. T. Clarkson and I. E. Weldon, liquidators of the Home Bank of Canada, have issued a county court writ through Murphy, Gunn & Murphy against E. Schweitzer for \$458.32, which the plaintiffs hold.

Serve it hot

Of course you can serve it hot—and it makes a satisfying, strengthening meal on which to start the day's work. Heat two Shredded Wheat Biscuits in the oven to restore crispness and then pour hot milk over them, adding a little cream and salt. Nothing so delicious and satisfying as these crisp, flavory shreds of baked whole wheat. They are ready-cooked and ready-to-eat.



The Canadian Shredded Wheat Company, Ltd. Niagara Falls, Ontario

Shredded Wheat