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PUBLIC CONTROL OF TELEGRAPHS AND PHONES

East Lambton Member Suggests That Commission Should Also Investigate the Cables and Postal System—Government Should Own Trunk Lines of Telephones.

OTTAWA, Jan. 31.—(Special)—J. E. Armstrong (E. Lambton) brought up in parliament this afternoon the question of nationalization of telephones, telegraphs, wireless telegraphy and cables. He urged that the commercial telegraph system of Canada could be purchased for \$10,000,000. The government should own the trunk lines of telephones.

In both telegraphs and telephones we get "the lean end of it," the monopolies reaping the big profit. It was the same with the parcel post and the express companies.

Mr. Armstrong moved the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this house, a commission should be appointed to investigate the systems of national telegraphs and cables, also postal conditions, laws and regulations, parcel post, means of collecting and distributing such data and information to the postoffice department as would help to improve existing conditions in all the above, and to further enquire into postal facilities in rural districts in other countries in order that a better system of rural free mail delivery may be inaugurated."

Premier's Halifax Platform.
The premier had declared on his Halifax platform of 1907 that he did not see why the nationalization of telegraphs and telephones, which had been demonstrated a success in Great Britain, should not be equally so in Canada.

"If Canada went about acquiring these great public utilities under common sense business methods," declared Mr. Armstrong, "they would become a source, not only of revenue, but of great advantage to the people."

"There were five great means of transmitting intelligence of vital importance to every man, woman and child in the country, the telegraph, telephone, wireless telegraphy, cables and postoffice. They should all be part of the postoffice system."

"To-day the Dominion operated 3000 miles of telegraph at a loss of \$270,000. The C.P.R. operated over 12,000 miles of pole lines, and over 70,000 miles of wire, and their net profit last year was \$1,700,000. The G.N.W., with 11,000 miles of pole line, and 50,000 miles of wire had been able to cover up their earnings to a great extent, because they were controlled from the U. S. The purchase of the entire telegraph system of Canada, however, would not exceed \$13,000,000 or \$14,000,000 or probably \$10,000,000 after deducting the lines necessary to operate the railways."

Bell Co. the Dictator.
As to telephones, there were 460 independent companies in Ontario, and in the Dominion about 1000. These were practically on their knees to the Bell Telephone Co.

"The proposal that I have to make to parliament," said Mr. Armstrong, "is that we should own the trunk lines of telephones, that these trunk lines should go to the independent companies and let the municipalities or the independent companies own, control and operate these lines and make them local concerns."

Telegraph and telephone should go hand and hand as the same wires could be used for both.

In telegraph and telephone we owned the "lean end of it," the productive end was left to the great monopolies.

Wireless telegraphy was in much the same position. Of the 25 stations, costing Canada \$10,000 to \$25,000 each, were controlled by the Marconi people, the unprofitable end being operated by the government, at a very great loss. The whole system should be nationalized.

As to parcel post, the postoffice again did the unprofitable end of it. The remunerative end was done by the express companies, who were able to pay 100 and 200 per cent. dividends.

Rural Parcel Post.
He urged on the government the establishment of a rural parcel post system. Rural delivery should be made a separate branch of the postoffice, with a competent man in charge.

Mr. Armstrong made the claim that "good round return" could be made

GETTING READY FOR BELEAST



MR. CHURCHILL: Maybe it'll be too warm, John?
MR. REDMOND: Not if you have any Irish blood in ye.

TORONTO CAN GET PROPER TRACTION SYSTEM ONLY BY BUILDING THE TUBES

Excessive Overcrowding is Both Intolerable and Detrimental to Health, and the Situation Can Be Remedied in No Other Way.

After a lapse of three weeks during which time the books of the Toronto Street Railway Company were audited by City Solicitor Drayton and the Ontario Railway Board, the application of the city for a more adequate service was resumed in the city hall yesterday afternoon.

The city filed still more statistics showing that the service is far from what it should be. The case will now be continued from day to day until all the charges have been laid before the board.

Robert Russell, a Scotshman, who has been traveling on the streets of Toronto for the past twelve months, declared that the excessive overcrowding was not only intolerable but detrimental to health. He compared the service of this city with that of cities in Scotland and tried to show that the accommodation was much inferior and believed that the only way Toronto could obtain a proper traction system would be to build tubes and compete with the street railway.

Mr. Russell had called on Manager Fleming several times, but each time was turned away by a young man who informed him that Mr. Fleming was either out or busy. On one occasion he waited for over an hour and

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INTOLERANT ULSTER CAN'T STOP HOME RULE

So Says Sir John Simon, Who Waxes Sarcastic at Carson's Expense.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—(C.A.P.)—Sir John Simon, solicitor-general, dealing with Sir Henry Carson's recent speeches, said Sir Henry Carson bitterly complained that no minister came forward to explain home rule, yet all the time he was doing his utmost to prevent Churchill explaining it. Sir Edward referred to the tragic circumstances in which he stood, but if any tragedy were to occur, if there were any riot or bloodshed, did anybody suppose Carson would get hurt? Not at all. He would be directing operations in secret conclave. (Laughter.) Lord Londonderry and Sir Henry Carson wouldn't get hurt.

Why did Ulstermen make a ridiculous exhibition of themselves? It was because they couldn't bear to let the world see Ulster was divided on home rule. Sixteen of the thirty-three members for the province were home rulers, yet the people of England were invited to believe Ulster was united in opposition to home rule. If the people wanted to see Ireland, it was to Belfast and the Orange men they must go. The government intended to carry home rule, and they were not going to be thwarted, way-laid or side-tracked by carefully organized demonstrations of Orangemen in Ulster. (Cheers.)

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YOUNG WIVES WERE DESERTED



MR. CHURCHILL: Maybe it'll be too warm, John?
MR. REDMOND: Not if you have any Irish blood in ye.

YOUNG WIVES WERE DESERTED

Eighteen-Year-Old Girl Worked Until Prevented by the Near Approach of Motherhood.

Working until prevented by the near approach of motherhood, Gertrude Stockdale, the 18-year-old wife of Arthur Stockdale, of 62 Bleeker street, yesterday had him arrested charged with non-support. Seeing him on the street with another woman, while she was absolutely destitute and unable to earn food, led her to swear out the warrant. The man was arrested by Acting-Detective McConnell.

Her husband is only 18 years of age also. His young wife, to whom he was married a year ago, claims he has not supported her for four months.

Detective Cronin yesterday morning went to St. Catharines to bring back Edwin J. Perry, who once lived at 43 Wyatt avenue, and for whom a warrant has been out for a month, charging him with wife desertion.

By special request, Perry was locked up yesterday night. The next morning a woman came over to the lock-up with his breakfast. The keeper, knowing the man was charged with desertion, was surprised.

"Who is that woman?" he queried.
"My wife," was the reply.
At that the records in the county building across the way were looked up. Perry had married the St. Catharines woman last November.

The warrant charging him with deserting his Toronto wife was sworn out last September. Perry was only located by a friend telling of his address.

Advice to Leap Year Girls Mayor Gaynor Offers It

"Look Pretty," "Write Gossipy Letters," "Make Your Own Dresses and Hats," Among Gems of Counsel to Public School Damsels.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—(Can. Press.)—Leap year possibilities and the proper time to boil eggs were among (topical) gems of counsel offered by Mayor Gaynor in an address to-day before 128 girls of the senior class in a public school.

"The tidy woman who knows how to sing a little, and dance a little, and jump thru the hoop a little, if necessary, and knows how to cook—the is the woman worth having," said the mayor.

Other excerpts from his advice to the girls:
"Look as pretty as you can."
"Be able to write a nice gossipy letter."
"Don't trouble yourself about the future. You will come out all right."
"Learn how to make your own dresses and your own hats."
"Some women would rather go to work in a cigar factory than do housework. That is not right."
The mayor was shown an exhibition of cooking that some of the fourteen-year-old girls had done, and he asked them how long it would take them to cook him an egg.
"Six minutes," one girl answered, and the mayor fled in dismay.

CITIZENS PROTEST AGAINST CITY COUNCIL'S PROPOSAL TO STOP SUNDAY SLIDING

Gentlemen, Make Answer!

Is the city hall equal to the job? The city hall—and by that we include the board of control, the aldermen, the mayor, the officials—are up against the duty of governing this great and growing city. The duty never stops, the problems never cease. The city will increase its population this year by forty thousand, rather fifty thousand souls.

What are the controllers and aldermen doing? You can't put off these problems. If you avoid them or delay them you increase the congestion. You must deal with each one now, and deal with it in a big way and for years ahead.

Now, let us take the first one, the one that underlies all the others, that of territory. Should we start to plan for municipal street cars, for tunnels, for radial entrances, for increased water supply, for trunk sewers, for commutation of franchisees, for electric energy distribution, and all the other things without settling what is to be the territory for which we are to plan?

That's the first question. What is the policy of the mayor and board of control on that question? Have they faith in Toronto and are they for a big policy? They can afford to sit down a few days on that. In Toronto to be a city of homes, stretching out, or is it to be a city of tenement houses? The Globe of yesterday made a plea for a city of homes. So do we. But then we must take in the necessary space.

It is easier to plan big and finance big and to get big men to do the work than on little and local lines.

Is this to be a big city on big lines or a medium town on little lines and little methods? Answer this question first, gentlemen.

MARKS ON STERLING'S FACE CANNOT BE ACCOUNTED FOR

One of His Arms Was Bound Behind His Back and Mrs. Sterling Wants to Know Why—Physicians and Nurses Will Give Evidence at Inquest.

When the body of John Sterling, who died Saturday night at the Weston Consumptive Hospital, was brought home Sunday evening, his widow, Annie Sterling, noticed that his right arm was so tightly bound behind him that for a moment she thought he had lost that member. In lifting the arm into proper position she discovered it bathed in blood, which had spread over his shoulder. At the inquest opened at the morgue, at the request of the chief coroner, by Coroner Hopkins of West Toronto, last night, she was firmly convinced that her husband's body had been opened without permission after death, which gives a new phase to the already peculiar circumstances surrounding Sterling's death.

"My husband has been sickly a long time," said Mrs. Sterling, "but he grew worse ten months ago. He went to the sanitarium for the first time last May, but came out some time after, as he had an aversion to hospitals. During the summer he was first made on a ferryboat and worked at this occupation last summer. He was a man of good disposition, had a kind and noble heart and was well liked by all his fellow-workmen. I don't believe he had an enemy in the world. He was not of a quarrelsome nature. New Year's week was the last I saw him, but our daughter visited him weekly at the hospital. She saw him either the Friday or Saturday before he died. He seemed in a fair condition then, and the news of his death came as a big surprise, Sunday morning. I heard nothing of his falling out of bed till I went to the hospital to see the doctor about it Monday afternoon. I could not know how the marks came to be on his face. The man in the same room with my husband at the time of his death said he struck a lock and later Sterling's body must have been reaching for the commode in the dark and fell out of bed."

Mrs. Sterling, the widow, and Andrew Phney, 285 Sumach street, were the only witnesses to give evidence last night. Phney's evidence was immaterial.

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Hull May Have Graft Inquiry

Rumor Says Aldermen Will Be Accused of Accepting Bribes Money.

OTTAWA, Jan. 31.—(Can. Press.)—Notice has been given by Ald. Thibault of the Hull city council, that at the meeting of that body on Monday he will move for a commission to be appointed by the superior court to investigate charges of corruption against members of the council for the year 1911.

This sensational announcement is said to involve the question as to whether certain aldermen whose names are not yet mentioned, were paid sums of money by certain contractors, and as the enquiry, which will undoubtedly be granted, covers the transactions of the whole year and the expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars, little else is likely to be talked of in the neighboring city for many weeks to come.

THE CONDUCTORS' BALL

This week's Sunday World has a fine flashlight photograph of the Conductors' Ball in the Temple Building. The picture is a striking example of the photographer's art, every face being clearly recognizable.

Germany Being Slighted by U.S.

Kreuz Zeitung Bitterly Condemns Alleged Hostility—Leaning Towards Britain.

BERLIN, Jan. 31.—(Can. Press.)—The Kreuz Zeitung couples with a despatch giving the substance of the speech of Secretary Knox and the German Ambassador Count von Bernstorff, at the National Press Club in Washington last night, a half column attack upon the American secretary of state as one of the bitterest enemies of Germany in the United States, "as shown in his recent attempt to inaugurate anti-German tariff reprisals."

"Those well informed on American conditions," says the paper, "assert that Mr. Knox is chiefly responsible for the strong anti-German trend which is now and then manifested in the official American policy."

The Kreuz Zeitung says that the very manner of taking up the arbitration treaties indicates that President Taft and Secretary Knox are interested, first and foremost, in concluding the French and British treaties, to hold French and Germany. American comment on the visit of the Duke of Connaught, it adds, shows that American statesmen are more inclined to an alliance with Great Britain than to a friendship with Germany.

Resolution Carried by 4000 People at Massey Hall Demands that Bylaw Be Not Passed.

Speakers Did Not Favor Sunday Labor or Wide Open Sabbath, But Want No Conscience-Keepers.

"Britons never shall be slaves" was the music played by the Grand Opera band at the opening of the citizens' meeting in Massey Hall last night. And "Britons never shall be slaves" was the sentiment of the 4000 people who crowded there to make their protest against the proposal of the city council to close the slides on Sunday. It was no assemblage of juveniles or people particularly interested in sports. It was essentially a representative gathering of the citizens of Toronto, of the fathers and mothers of Toronto and of the whole people generally. Scores of men well advanced in years were seen in the audience. Rich and poor vied with each other in enthusiastic applause of the speakers, and the presence of 100 Y.M.C.A. boys showed that there was no ill-feeling intended on the part of either of the factions in the fight for the liberty of the individual. Ladies were there, too, in great numbers. The same, sensible tone of the meeting was in evidence all the way thru, even up till the time the crowds were filing out of the hall, with the band playing the national anthem. There was no cheap ridicule of any section of the community, no hot-blooded language, no enmity. The meeting was in fact a tribunal—a court of last resort adopted by the citizens of Toronto to pass censure on a proposal which appears to be directly opposed to the wishes of the great majority of the people.

Entirely in keeping with the tenor of the whole proceedings was the simple, straightforward wording of the resolution that was carried unanimously at the close. With uplifted hand, practically every individual in the big assemblage gave his endorsement to the following:

"That in the opinion of this meeting the bylaw which has received its first reading providing for the closing of all park slides be not passed. And that the opinion of this meeting be conveyed to the mayor and city council by the chairman and secretary of this meeting."

In addition to J. S. Willison, who presided, the speakers were J. W. Curry, K.C., James Simpson, R. Home Smith, Dr. Stowe-Gullen, Mrs. Horn McD. Denison, C. H. Ashley, Harold Gagner and Eric Armour, K.C., were also among those on the platform. The rush which usually has to be contended with at mass meetings was absent owing to admission being gained only by ticket. There was no undue excitement at all, but on the

Continued on Page 7, Column 5.

PERSIAN LAMB JACKETS.

In Dineen's big stock taking sale there are some exclusive bargains in Persian Lamb Jackets, which should appeal to the careful shopper. All the fur used was carefully selected by Dineen agents in Leipzig and made into garments in the Dineen workrooms.

A Distinguished Prima Donna.
Miss Vera Michels, who is this season appearing in the title role in the musical play, "Alma, Where Do You Live?" is regarded as the real musical find of the theatrical season. Miss Michels' voice is of grand opera calibre, and her bewitching stage presence makes her a most distinguished prima donna.

THE HOLD-BACK MEN.



Jaff: This tool's growing too fast, John. Amputation and tubes! Fatna next!
John: It is my opinion that we ought to nail Wee York down good and tight at Mount Pleasant Cemetery! No towns should grow past the burying ground or disturb the dead!

PERSON



Pre-

in the Men's business men, able furs and say that will clothes for accommodate ve, and these gains.

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TEA, 25c. Rich Full-bodied uniform quality A 25c Tea any- per lb. .38

Rich Room
AY AFTER- TO 5:30 p.m. with fresh fruit sorted Cake. CENTS.