

LONDON ELECTRIC CO. TO SELL OUT AT 50 CENTS ON DOLLAR; NOTICE RECEIVED IN LONDON

Circular Is Sent Out Stating That Offer Had Been Made and Toronto Stockholders Had Decided to Sell the Plant In This City.

IDENTITY OF THE PURCHASER IS A MYSTERY AT PRESENT

Mackenzie & Mann Are Said To Be Behind the Deal—Rumor Also Declares Hydro People To Be In the Move, But This Is Unlikely.

The London Electric Company have received and will accept an offer of \$50 for each \$100 share held by the stockholders, or 50 cents on the dollar. Who the purchasers are cannot be learned, but it is thought that some Montreal or Toronto capitalists are behind the proposition. It is the opinion here that it is the Electrical Development Company, which means the Mackenzie-Mann interests.

The announcement that the London Electric would sell out was received today, when a circular letter signed by Mr. W. D. Matthews, president, and Mr. Frederick Nicholls, honorary secretary, stating to the individual stockholders in London and elsewhere that they had received and had advised the acceptance of an offer to sell out at 50 cents on the dollar. It stated that the directors had come to the conclusion that this would be the best policy, and took this method of notifying all stockholders of the offer, so that they might avail themselves of the proposition.

TO DISPOSE OF STOCK.

Mr. Matthews and Mr. Nicholls ask for power of attorney to dispose of the stock held by individuals. The National Trust Company, of Toronto, are the go-betweens, no inkling being given in the circular as to who the purchasers might be. The money is to be paid in three installments for the stock—\$10 on May 27th, \$20 on Nov. 15th, and \$20 on May 15th, 1913.

"We will probably accept," one shareholder informed the Advertiser. "It looks to me as if it is the best we possibly can get, and so far as I am concerned I will send my stock to Toronto at once. In a way this is the only course left open to us, as the big fellows have decided to sell out, and we who have but a small portion of the stock must follow suit. I have not been able to discuss the proposition with any other stockholders, but I presume they will do likewise."

WHERE DOES C. N. R. COME IN?

This announcement, coming on the heels of the activities of the Canadian Northern Railway in London, has created a great sensation, and developments of great importance are expected daily.

If the surmise is correct that the Mackenzie & Mann interests are securing control of the London Electric Company, the great fight for the supremacy of the electrical market will be commenced, and London will furnish the battle ground.

With the control of the London Electric, the Electrical Development Company could engage at once in the lighting business, and the plant would be of great value in feeding the electrical lines that Mackenzie & Mann undoubtedly intend to build in this vicinity. With many radicals as customers, the C. N. R. could sell power for lighting purposes at a very low rate, and the competition with hydro-electric will be very keen. The C. N. R. would not stop in London, but would branch out in all directions, sending electricity to compete with the Beck scheme.

WHO IS THE PURCHASER?

There are some who profess to know that the Provincial Government is behind the sale of the London Electric. They claim that the hydro-electric commission are worried over the activity of Mackenzie & Mann in the vicinity of London, and propose to get control of the whole electrical market of the city by purchasing the London Electric. This is not thought to be true, as the city of London had an opportunity of buying out the London Electric some time ago at a reasonable figure and refused.

However, anything is likely to happen in these days, and the outcome is being watched with a great deal of interest.

The deal, according to the circular, will be closed before the end of the month, and then announcement will be made as to the purchaser.

Hon. Adam Beck is in Ottawa, and could not be located to give his views on the question.

TAFT AND ROOSEVELT DIVIDE DELEGATES

Agree To Split Even on Maryland's Representation at Republican Convention.

[Canadian Press.] Baltimore, Md., May 14.—An agreement was reached early this morning at a conference between the leaders of the Taft and Roosevelt forces to split even on Maryland's delegation to the Republican national convention. Each side will have two delegates at large and six district delegates, sixteen in all. The delegation will be instructed to vote for Col. Roosevelt for president as long as he has any possible chance of receiving the nomination. At the state convention today a Roosevelt man will be chosen temporary chairman, and a Taft man permanent chairman.

BODY PULVERIZED. Montreal, May 14.—Robert John Smallwood fell into a stone crusher in the plant of the Canada Cement Company at Pointe Aux Tremblais this morning and his body was pulverized.

BRONNER IS MANAGER OF MICHIGAN CENTRAL

He Succeeds Mr. L'Hommedieu Who Recently Resigned the Position.

[Canadian Press.] Detroit, May 14.—Edmund D. Bronner has been appointed general manager of the Michigan Central Railway, succeeding R. H. L'Hommedieu, who resigned the position recently. Mr. Bronner entered the service of the Michigan Central as draughtsman in 1880.

SEN NOT COMING. Ottawa, May 14.—The Chinese consulate here knows nothing of the Moose Jaw dispatch stating that Dr. Sun Yat Sen is coming to Canada in regard to the Sasan act prohibiting the employment of white women by Chinamen. Consul General Wong denies that he is going to Moose Jaw or that a new consul-general is to be named.



MR. HUGH McELROY.

BERNARD SHAW LASHES PUBLIC

Says the Titanic Wreck Caused Explosion of Romantic Lying.

CRITICIZES THE CAPTAIN

Declares That the Desire To Make of Him a Hero Is All Wrong.

[Canadian Press.] New York, May 14.—A London cable says: "George Bernard Shaw, in an article in the Daily News, entitled, 'Some Unmentioned Morals of the Titanic Disaster,' asks:

"Why is it that the effect of a sensational catastrophe on a modern nation is to cast into transports, not of weeping, not of prayer, nor of sympathy with the bereaved, nor of congratulation of the rescued, nor of poetic expression of soul purified by pity and terror, but of wild defiance of inexorable fate and of undeniable fact by an explosion of outrageous, romantic lying?"

Mr. Shaw criticizes the stories in regard to "women and children first," and the tributes to Captain Smith, who, he says, is written of in the newspapers "as if he were a Nelson," whereas "the one thing positively known about Captain Smith is that he lost the ship by deliberately and knowingly steaming into an ice field at the highest speed he had for."

Mr. Shaw concludes: "What is the use of all this ghastly, blasphemous, inhuman, brazenly lying?" Here is a calamity which might well make the proudest man humble, and the wildest joker serious. It makes us vain-glorious, insolent, mendacious. The effect on me was one of profound disgust, almost of national dishonor. Am I mad?"

"It seems to me that when deeply moved, men should speak the truth. The English nation appears to take precisely the contrary view. Again, am I in a minority?"

MAY STOP TRAINS.

Ottawa, May 14.—Unless the companies can immediately show cause why such action should not be taken the railway commission will issue a mandatory order forbidding the Midland or Great Northern Railway from operating its trains from the border to Winnipeg with American crews.

Chinese Famine Fund

Arrangements have been made by the committee in charge of the collection of the China Famine Fund, whereby donations may be handed in to Mr. E. R. Ruse, agent at the city ticket office of the Grand Trunk. The funds will in turn be handed over to Mr. J. K. H. Pope, the treasurer, who will cable the money to China without delay. The famine is now at its worst in the stricken country, and millions are starving, according to the reports received from the missionaries on the scene. Within a few weeks there will be some return from the lands for the maintenance of the people, but in the meantime only the help from western countries is keeping many alive.

TITANIC VICTIM A NEPHEW OF A PIPE LINE ROAD MAN

Hugh McElroy Went Down In the Atlantic With White Star Line Ship.

Word has been received by Mr. Nicholas D. Ennis, 17 Pipe Line road, that his nephew, Mr. Hugh McElroy, chief purser on the Titanic, was one of the victims when the ship went down. A letter from Mr. Ennis's sister in England, received on Friday, conveyed the sad news. Mr. Ennis and the family had hoped that Mr. McElroy was not on the ship, the information received in the press dispatches being very incomplete. However, the letter from Mr. Ennis's sister confirms the sad news.

Hugh McElroy was 31 years of age, and had been married to Miss Barbara, daughter of Mr. J. Ennis, J. P. Wexford, Ireland, a year ago. He had followed the sea ever since he was a boy, rising from one position of importance

to another until he was made chief purser of the Allen Line, running to Montreal, and Portland. Later he joined the White Star Line, and a day before the Titanic sailed he was chosen for the position of chief purser on the boat. He went down with the steamer and his body has not been found.

A Victim of the Titanic. "We had hoped until Friday that he had not sailed," said Mr. Ennis to the Advertiser. "Then a letter came from my sister, and it proved that he had been one of the victims. He was chosen but a day before the Titanic sailed."

"McElroy was a fine big man, strong, manly and truthful. He had held many responsible positions on various fine ships, and was chosen out of a large number as chief purser of the Titanic. It is too bad, and I am sorry that he had to die like that."

McElroy never visited London, although he made frequent calls at Quebec and Montreal.

WIRELESS PHONES

London, May 14.—A dispatch to the Times from Rome says that for about a year the Italian naval and military authorities have been carrying on experiments in wireless telephony. A month ago a message was sent from the wireless station on Monte Mario to the island of Ponza, a distance of about 65 miles. Further experiments produced an improved method of transmission, and last week communication was established between Monte Mario and the wireless station at Becco di Vela on Magdalen Island, a distance of about 160 miles.

A long extract from a newspaper was read at Rome and heard and repeated at Magdalen. The voices were distinct, so much so that a listener declared immediately the substitution of a different speaker halfway through the message. Further developments may be expected soon.

LONDON BASEBALL SEASON OPENS BAND ESCORTS TEAMS TO PARK

Tecumsehs and Maple Leafs, of Guelph, Face Each Other For the First League Contest—A Big Crowd in the Stands.

GUELPH—Swartzmier, c. f. Needham, 2b. Fryer, r. f. Brady, 1b. Forch, 1. f. Isaacs, 3b. O'Connor, s. s. Daniels, c. Hemlock, c. Mason, or Nehr, p.

LONDON—Lindeburn, 3b. Bernbauer, r. f. Neale, 1. f. Rudolph, c. f. Powell, 1b. Brant, s. s. Nichols, 2b. Reske, c. Hagerty, c. Fursedon, Hynes, or Silcox, p.

This is the way the Maple Leafs and Tecumsehs lined up at Tecumseh Park this afternoon in the initial game of the 1912 Canadian League season. It will be seen that only the best players of last year's Guelph team have been retained, and with the rest making up to the standard set by these, the Maple Leafs will be much stronger than on their last appearance here. The same applies to the locals. To the local fans who have seen the exhibition games at Tecumseh Park there is little doubt but what Manager Bowlerman has a far better team than the one Jo-Jo Keenan had last season. The old players are showing up better than ever, and the new ones have demonstrated that they have a right to a place on the salary sheet.

Guelph Team Arrives. Manager Needham and his Guelph team arrived in London at noon today. They are a clean-looking lot of players. Manager Needham looks like a real live ballplayer, and gives the impression that he is full of ginger. He is a little fellow, built upon the same lines as Jo-Jo Keenan, but he is a much younger man than Keenan. Umpire Billy Pearson, of Toronto, also arrived at noon. He is a big fellow, and should become popular with the fans. There are many Londoners who know Pearson, and he was busy shaking hands and renewing old acquaintances shortly after his arrival.

TRAVERS' ABSENCE HOLDS UP PROBE INTO FARMERS' BANK

Jail Governor Failed To Have the Star Witness In Court.

[Canadian Press.] Toronto, May 14.—When the inquiry into the affairs of the defunct Farmers' Bank was resumed this morning at 10 o'clock, the absence of the star witness, William Ralph Meredith, the crown witness in the case, held up the proceedings. Meredith, who had been in the hospital since he was taken to the Toronto jail and could not be secured in time for the morning's sitting. The witness in question was W. B. Travers, former manager of the defunct institution, who has transferred his residence from Kingston to his home in Toronto for the past few weeks, pending the proceedings against Dr. Beattie Nesbitt.

No Travers.

Frank Hodgins, K.C., representing the

THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—WARMER. Forecasts. Toronto, May 14—8 a.m.

Moderate westerly to southwesterly winds; fine today and on Wednesday, with rising temperature.

Temperatures. The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

Stations. High. Low. Weather. LONDON.....56.3 30 Fair. Calgary.....78 44 Clear. Winnipeg.....56 42 Fair. Port Arthur.....46 26 Clear. Parry Sound.....46 28 Fair. Toronto.....44 24 Cloudy. Montreal.....56 34 Fair. Father Point.....70 44 Rain.

THIRTEEN PERISH IN MICHIGAN DISASTER

Miners Caught By Cave-In at Ironwood Crushed to Death.

Ironwood, Mich., May 14.—Thirteen men were killed in a cave-in at the Norrie mine here at 11:30 o'clock last night. While working in a pit, the ground started to crumble. Rushing into another drift, which they believed would be safer, the men were buried. The drift in which the men lost their lives had just been re-timbered. One of the racks worked loose and the timbers gave way, releasing an avalanche of earth and ore.

BRITISH CAPITALISTS WILL MAKE OFFER FOR THE L. AND P. S. RY.

A Representative Will Wait on the Mayor on Wednesday and Lay a Proposition Before Him—Harold Richardson Is a Member of the Firm Interested.

A representative of a firm of British capitalists will call on Mayor Graham on Wednesday, and make a proposition to him for the purchase or lease of the London and Port Stanley Railway. The gentleman in question is on his way to the city, and will arrive here some time tonight. He will see the mayor at noon Wednesday.

He will submit a proposition either to electrify the road, or operate it as a steam road. He is backed by large amounts of capital, and means business. This is the same firm that Mr. Harold Richardson, formerly of London, was coming here to represent. The latter had to alter his plans somewhat, and as a result, another representative will come.

Lake Erie Man Here.

The position of the Lake Erie Coal Company is creating the deepest interest, and the fate of this company in the negotiations is being considered. Mr. A. Leslie, Windsor, manager of the company for Canada, was a visitor in the city today. He would not dis-

cuss the situation as it affected his company, merely stating that their offer was in the hands of the city council, and it was up to them to deal with it.

For the City to Say. "It is for the representatives of the city to say," said Mr. Leslie. "We do not care to discuss the proposition, the London and Port Stanley board know our offer, and they will have to deal with it."

There is no question but that a proposition to operate the road by steam, if the city so desire, will be made by the company. It is known that they are not taking any chances as to being left without a port of entrance. The Lake Erie Coal Company own a dock at Port Dover, and another at the Rondeau. Arrangements could be made to enter the Port Burwell harbor, also if necessary. They have several strings to their bow. The removal of half a million tons of freight from the city's road would seriously cripple the London and Port Stanley.

FROST NIPPED TOMATO PLANTS; TWO DEGREES WERE REGISTERED

Not Much Damage Done on the Whole to Crops of the District.

The frost Monday night, although it was heavy, did not do as much damage as was first thought. Farmers and gardeners on the market today were pleased that the damage was not greater, and are now hopeful that the worst is over. Last night the mercury registered 2 degrees of frost at the local observatory.

Tomato plants suffered the most severely. A large number of plants, all from the hot houses, were set out during the past week, and when the frost came, it burned them up in large numbers. Many took the precaution to cover the plants up, and so escaped with a minimum of loss, while others not so careful will have to replant their whole acreage.

Damage Slight.

"The frost did little damage, save to the tomato plants," a market gardener informed the Advertiser. "It was quite severe in some parts of the county, a quarter of an inch of ice forming on the water at my place. All the vegetables and fruits escaped well, with the exception of the tomatoes, which were burned somewhat. They are a tender plant at the best, and the frost cut the vines down. However, it is early enough to replace the plants, and in the final analysis, the damage will not be excessive. If that is all we get, we will be in good shape. With warm weather now, the crops should grow exceedingly fast."

At the local observatory two degrees of frost were noted.

CATHOLIC KNIGHTS ARE IN SESSION

First Business Session Opened In Hall On Richmond St. This Afternoon.

GIVEN CIVIC RECEPTION

Freedom of the City Extended to the Delegates by the Mayor—Names of the Visitors.

The first business session of the convention of the Knights of Columbus of the state jurisdiction of Ontario is in progress this afternoon at the K. of C. Hall, Richmond street.

This morning sixty or more delegates, together with a couple of hundred visitors attended solemn pontifical high mass at St. Peter's Cathedral, the ceremony being performed by His Lordship Bishop Fallon, assisted by Rev. Father Canning, of Toronto, and Rev. Father French, of Pembroke Diocese.

Rev. Father Van Antwerp, of Detroit, a brother of Mother Van Antwerp, of the convent of the Sacred Heart, in this city, preached the sermon, in which he urged upon the members of the Knights of Columbus their duties as good citizens, in moral, religious and civic matters.

A Civic Reception.

Later a civic reception was tendered to the visitors by His Worship Mayor Graham, who extended the freedom of the city to the knights. Mr. John Bromberg, first responder on behalf of the K. of C., while Bishop Fallon also spoke at such length on the advantages of the Forest City that the mayor promised to present his name as a candidate for the publicity commission.

It is expected that the greater portion of the business of the session will be cleared up this afternoon, and that the election of officers will be proceeded with either this evening or tomorrow.

The present officers are: State chaplain, Rt. Rev. M. F. Fallon, Bishop of London; state deputy, John O. Dromgold, London; past state deputy, O. K. Fraser, Brockville; state secretary, Dr. J. P. White, Ottawa; state treasurer, L. V. O'Connor, Lindsay; state advocate, T. A. Phelan, Toronto; state warden, J. A. Hussey, Sault Ste. Marie.

The Delegates.

The delegates in attendance today are: Ottawa—J. F. Lanigan, William Kearns. Kingston—Dr. C. A. Morrison, Dr. Wm. Gibson. Cornwall—Rev. J. J. McDonald, Dr. W. B. Cavanagh. Peterborough—Rev. Father McCall, Harry Phelan. Sault Ste. Marie—J. V. McNamara, M. A. Sheridan. North Bay—Rev. A. F. Kelly, P. McCool.

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MAN BLEED TO DEATH ON TORONTO STREET

Body Found With Deep Gash In One of the Wrists.

[Canadian Press.]

Toronto, May 14.—The body of an unknown man, who had bled to death from a deep gash in the inside of the left wrist, was found behind a large sign board at the northwest corner of Gerrard street and Carlaw avenue, Riverside, about 7 o'clock this morning.

Outstretched in the long grass, his clothing and the grass beside him still bloodstained, the body presented a gruesome sight to the small crowd that gathered. The body was that of a man about 45 years old, five feet seven inches tall, and weighing about 145 pounds. He had gray blue eyes, and black hair turned to identify him in the pockets of his dark suit. A black cotton shirt, blue tie, black cap and tan boots that had been blackened, constituted the rest of his clothing.

GAVE LONDON MAN HANDSOME PRESENTS

New Grand Trunk Freight Agent Honored by Guelph Friends.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Guelph, May 13.—Mr. D. W. Hayes, who was recently appointed freight agent at London, was today presented by the Grand Trunk staff here with a handsome gold chain and Masonic locket suitably engraved.

AGREEMENT RATIFIED

L. and P. S. R. Board Authorizes New Road at Lakeside.

At a special meeting of the London and Port Stanley Board held at noon today, the agreement between the board and the village of Port Stanley relative to opening new roads up Fraser Heights and along the beach, and the closing of Smith street, was ratified.

The Port Stanley council has already ratified it, placing in an amendment to the effect that the corporation will furnish the water provided the city will erect the four hydrants. There was no objection to that on the part of the L. and P. S. Board, and the agreement was passed.

Those present at the meeting were Mayor Graham, chairman; Ald. Moore, Ald. Spittal, Ald. Handford, Ald. Cole and Ald. Murphy.

A FINE RECORD.

Hamilton, May 14.—The highest temperature collected in a liquor case in Hamilton was imposed today by Magistrate Jelfs, when he fined William Renton, proprietor of the Halfway House, \$500 for selling liquor without a license.