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BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER

VOL. XLII.—No. 40

BRANTFORD, CANADA, TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1913

TWELVE PAGES

CITY'S GREAT CHANCE NOW

Control of Street Railway Could Be Easily Effectuated Looks Like the Only Way Out of Difficult Legal Tangle

The Courier thinks the time has come when the City of Brantford should look into the acquisition of the Street Railway by the Municipality.

In this regard a review of the situation is opportune. It was in January of 1886 that the line was started with cars about the size of a saratoga trunk and one lone horse to draw each. The project was financed by some men in Cornwall. Afterwards it was turned into a trolley line and the Toronto General Electric Company, via Mr. Nichols, took a first mortgage on everything for \$150,000. It is also understood that they paid considerable indebtedness. The next move was when Dr. Ickes took hold and he built the Grand Valley line to Paris and later to Galt. He sold more bonds and actually placed them to the extent of \$30,000 a mile for 28 miles or \$84,000 in all.

Dr. Ickes passed out and Mr. Berner from the United States assumed control. He got a merger of both lines and then issued mortgage bonds over both, trying to get the others to surrender theirs. Some did and some didn't. The third issue for bonds was for \$125,000 and there you have just about the whole of the beautiful misup. It would seem to a layman that the General Electric Company of Toronto have a strangle hold on the whole situation, and that they are about the only ones with any cash in view. Incidentally it might be mentioned that the City road owes the municipality a little trifle of \$17,000.

The bond holders are at litigation and the city has given notice of action to cancel the city franchise.

It is said that this will be on the basis of turning the whole thing over to the General Electric Company of Toronto. If so The Courier does not believe in any such plan, and it further believes that now is the accepted time for Municipal ownership.

The city lines are practically all now on a paying basis and the system could be reorganized to make the earnings even larger.

The city has on hand a little over \$71,000 in available cash from the sale of the Waterworks properties.

To what better use could that money be put than as a portion of the amount necessary to acquire and improve the street railway service and the extent of mileage? The road would prove a big asset for the people of this Corporation, just in the same way as the Waterworks have.

The Courier fought for civic ownership of the latter and it is now out with both feet for civic ownership of the local railway system.

Were Fooled Race-Track Wire Tappers Caught at Their Own Game.

NEW YORK, April 22.—Three alleged wire-tappers were arrested at the point of a revolver in an up-town hotel last night after attempting, according to the police to fleecy Clats White said to be a wealthy citizen of Chattanooga, Tenn., in a game to beat the races. White had met one of the men on a train coming from the south permitted himself apparently to be "roped in," instead, however, White informed the police and after a bet had been made in which White was supposed to have won \$54,000, but was required to produce \$25,000 in cash to show that the check he had drawn to make the bet was good, the police swooped down on the trio and took them into custody.

The men gave their names as Geo. Ferns, John Thompson and Charles Franklin. The police say all of them have police records.

Resumed Work. The many friends of Mr. P. McCusker will be glad to know that he has resumed work after being operated upon for a broken knee cap.

German Aeroplane on French Soil Again

Investigation Held and Meanwhile the Aeronauts and Craft are Detained.

(Canadian Press Despatch) NANCY, France, April 22.—A military aviation incident occurred on the Franco-German frontier this morning when a German army aeroplane alighted on French territory at Nordarra Court. Two German officers in uniform were on board. These officers were Captain Deval, chief inspector of aviation of the German army division, whose headquarters are at Darmstadt, and Lieut. Von Mirbach.

The deputy prefect of the town of Luneville and other French administrative officials, made an investigation into the affair, and meanwhile the German aeroplane was kept under detention. The French ministers of war and of the interior were communicated with, and after they had

heard the reports of the civil and military authorities, decided that the landing of the German aviators at Arracourt was unavoidable. The aeroplane was released and returned to Germany this afternoon. Instructions from the French foreign office had in the interval been sent to Jules Cambon, French ambassador at Berlin, who was told to call the attention of the German government to the repeated landings of German military air craft in France and to the serious inconvenience brought about by such occurrences. M. Cambon was directed to ask Germany to take measures to avoid the recurrence of such incidents, and to discuss with France the drafting of rules for settling future happenings of this kind.

BRANTFORD MAN IS WITNESS AT ENQUIRY

Thomas Hurley Gives Expert Evidence at Oakville His Gang Laid Cable Where Electrocutation Occurred

OAKVILLE, Ont., April 22.—The resumed sitting of the inquest into the electrocution of George Carfield Till of Toronto, held here last night, continued with an attempt being made by the town of Oakville Electric Commission and the Cataract Power Commission and its subsidiary company, the Dominion Power and Transmission Company, to lay the responsibility for the wires being crossed on the Bell Telephone Company. This was owing to the fact that a telephone cable wire was strung above the electric wires, it being contended that telephone men had knocked the electric wires together while working above them.

Thomas Hurley of Brantford, a foreman of the Bell Telephone company told of having done work on the wires at Oakville. His gang had laid cable wires two feet above the electric light wires. He had examined this cable on Saturday, April 19, after the accident, and the wires appeared to be the same as when put up.

"Then if that cable line is joined to the Bell line, which is fastened to the pole it has been done without your knowledge?" asked Crown Attorney Dick.

"Yes," was the reply. "You have no idea how they came to be joined?"

"They were not joined." "They were only an inch apart?" "Yes."

"Only being that far apart rendered them dangerous?" "That is a matter of opinion." To D. J. Grant of Toronto, solicitor for the Oakville Electric Commission, Hurley admitted that there were ten men in his gang and that his men might have "done all sorts" with the wires during his absence.

Arm Amputated. KINGSTON, Ont., April 22.—George Washburn, the lad who picked up a live wire during the recent sleet storm and lost his right hand as a result, had to be operated on again at the general hospital this morning when his arm was amputated. This had to be done to save his life.

HUNGER-STRIKE BILL BEFORE COMMONS

Home Secretary McKenna Appealed For Urgent Action Amendments Defeated

LONDON, April 22.—The bill aimed at hunger-strikes by militant suffragettes introduced in the House of Commons on March 26 by the Home Secretary Reginald McKenna, came up for discussion in the House yesterday. Secretary McKenna appealed for urgent action, because, pending the passing of the bill, he felt it his duty to continue forcible feeding, which he was desirous of avoiding. At the same time he refused to accept an amendment having the effect of prohibiting forcible feeding, for the reason that he wished to retain the power to resort to this method when in his opinion the release of a hunger-striker might endanger public interest.

The bill provides for the temporary conditional discharge of prisoners whose detention is undesirable on account of their condition of health. Prisoners discharged in this way would have to return to prison on the expiration of the period stated in their order of release, or would be liable to arrest without a warrant. Numerous amendments were proposed, both for and against the suffragettes' interests, but all were opposed by the Government, apparently with a view to expediting the passage of the bill in order to get it through the committee stage without change. All the amendments were rejected or withdrawn. After Home Secretary McKenna had applied the closure the first clause was adopted by a vote of 208 to 30.

The remaining clauses were then adopted and the bill passed through committee unamended. "Arson squads" of militant suffragettes were out in several places during the afternoon. They burned a hay rack in Wiltshire belonging to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, while the grand stand at the Hford football grounds was set on fire by them, but the flames were quenched by a watchman before they had obtained a hold.

Their Majesties Visit Wales Pope Pius Was Much Less Troubled By His Cough To-day

(Canadian Press Despatch) NEW YORK, April 22.—A cable from London says: The King and Queen yesterday began another tour among the industrial classes of their subjects. A year ago Their Majesties visited south Wales and Yorkshire, yesterday they were at Crewe and to-day and tomorrow they will be among the people of the potteries. Their Majesties left London yesterday for Crewe Hall, where they are guests of the Marquis and Marchioness of Crewe.

When His Majesty reached Crewe Hall he sent for Robert Turnbull, superintendent of the line on the London and Northwestern Railway, and conferred upon him the honor of knighthood.

LOCAL OPTION CAMPAIGN SURE

So Declared Temperance Workers at Meeting Last Night Scott Act Not Considered Best Measure To Submit

A representative meeting of the citizens interested in the temperance cause was held last evening at the Y.M.C.A. The chair was occupied by A. L. Baird, K.C., and Mr. Leslie Axford acted as secretary pro tem.

Mr. Baird outlined the three acts, The Canada Temperance act (Scott Act), the Act of the Ontario Legislature giving the people power to reduce the number of licenses on a simple majority vote, providing they do not create a monopoly, and the local option act. Mr. Baird said that he thought the city of Brantford under the recent act of the Ontario Legislature would vote out all the tavern licenses but two, and all the shop licenses but two; Mr. Baird said the voters under the Scott Act are not the same as under the local option act; no women would vote under the Scott Act, but all manhood franchise voters vote under the Scott Act. He also explained that local option was the best measure to pursue because the penalties were much more effective.

Following the chairman's remarks the questions were thrown open for discussion and a lively debate ensued, in which several of the gentlemen present took part. It was finally moved and second that the Canada Temperance Act be dropped. This was carried.

It was also moved and seconded that the proposal of license reduction be eliminated. After considerable discussion, after the meeting had adjourned the Canada Temperance Act as a prospective measure to be submitted, and the act of the Ontario Legislature, it was decided to put the opinion of the governor of the province of Antwerp to an amendment, it was moved by Rev. Mr. Holling, seconded by Mr. J. C. Walker that it was the opinion of the meeting that a local option campaign be entered upon this year and that the matter be referred to the boards of the various churches and other sympathetic organizations for their approbation, and in two weeks these reports be submitted to a public meeting to be addressed by a representative of the Dominion Alliance.

This brought the meeting to a close. About fifty were in attendance.

IMPERATOR RUNS AGROUND

Biggest Liner in World Ran Into the Mud in the Elbe.

HAMBURG, April 22.—The new Hamburg-American Line steamship Emperor, 900 feet long ran aground in the Elbe this morning. She was proceeding from the Vulcan Shipyards for the Lower Elbe to make ready for her official trial trips when she grounded off Altona. Under usual conditions it is hoped she can be floated to-day.

The steamship Emperor when she goes into commission with the start of her maiden voyage to New York on May 23th will, for a time, be the largest vessel sailing. Her keel was laid two years ago, 900 feet in length or almost double that of Germany's largest warship. Her other dimensions are 96 feet beam and 62 feet depth.

Winston Churchill Was Robbed By Woman

She Not Only Got Cash But Important British Naval Secrets, Says Report.

(Canadian Press Despatch) NEW YORK, April 22.—A special cable to The New York American from London says: Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, it is learned to-day, has been the victim of a most daring and sensational robbery, in which a beautiful and mysterious young woman is suspected as the possible agent of some foreign power. By the theft of the First Lord of the Admiralty not only loses \$2,500 in money, but highly

important confidential naval data, such as might be eagerly sought as of greatest value to a nation not too friendly with Great Britain. The robbery has greatly aroused the entire admiralty, and Mr. Churchill has put Scotland Yard detectives on the trail of an aristocratic band which has just appeared in London. It is rumored the woman in the case is a member of an international band actively engaged in espionage. The political section of Scotland Yard is making secret inquiries.

STRIKE ABOUT CONCLUDED

A Compromise Will Probably Be Effectuated in Belgium

(Canadian Press Despatch) BRUSSELS, Belgium, April 22.—Premier Charles De Broqueville announced this afternoon in the Chamber of Deputies, that the government had accepted with an unimportant amendment the resolution introduced by F. Masson, the Liberal leader, providing for a compromise. This means that the strike may come to an end.

BRUSSELS, April 22.—The Belgian government is reported to be about to accept a compromise and this brings to an end the political strike of half a million workers who demand equal suffrage, which has crippled industry and commerce in Belgium for the past ten days.

Strike Ends. VAN SAINT LAMBERT, Belgium, April 22.—The strike was brought to an end here this morning by the return of all the workers to the glass factories, which are the most important in Belgium.

In Exaggerated. ANTWERP, April 22.—The governor of the province of Antwerp said to-day that the port had been injured more by exaggerations of the effect of the strike published abroad than by the strike itself. He requested the British Consul-General to issue an official denial of distorted reports published in England.

The mayor of the city telegraphed to-day to the German papers that there was plenty of labor for the loading and discharging of all vessels in the harbor, and that more could be called on in case of an increase in traffic.

The Socialist newspaper, Werker, estimates the number of strikers in the city to-day at 25,000.

Return to Work

SERAING, Belgium, April 22.—A few workmen who had been on strike since Monday last, returned to work to-day at the coal and iron works here. The great majority of the men, however, continue striking.

Soldiers Fired At

BRANNELEX-COMTE, Belgium, April 22.—Soldiers guarding a railroad bridge near here, were fired at five times from long range during the night, but none of them was hit. It is not known whether the outrage was committed by strikers or other persons.

COMEDIAN WAS DOWN HEARTED

He Failed to Make Audience Laugh After Bernhardt Made Them Weep.

(Canadian Press Despatch) CHICAGO, April 22.—Cliff Gordon, the comedian known as "the German Senator" and author of several plays, was found dead in his hotel room last night. He said a few hours before his body was found that anyone who attempted to make an audience laugh after Sarah Bernhardt, the noted actress, had made it weep would die.

Gordon had tried it during an afternoon performance and failed. It seemed to affect him for he remarked to the manager of the theatre that it was the first time in years that he had failed to produce a laugh among his auditors. "The people sat in their seats stolid and motionless," he said. "I could not get 'em and had to quit. Any comedian who tries to follow Bernhardt will die."

The manager tried to cheer him up; told him to have a rest and try again at the next performance. Gordon left the theatre, still down hearted at the failure of his jokes.

He was not missed until some time for his night appearance. The audience was waiting for him and a hurried call was sent to his hotel. The door of his room was broken open and he was found dead upon the floor.

The actor had taken a cold cure and according to a physician who judged from the amount left in the vial, had swallowed about 60 grains. This it was said, with a hot bath would have produced death. Heart disease is supposed to have been the immediate cause of his death.

Paris News

Grand River Lodge at Church—Other News of Town.

(From our own Correspondent.) PARIS, April 22.—Grand River lodge, I. O. O. F. No. 91 held their anniversary services on Sunday evening and marched from their lodge rooms to the Methodist church where they attended divine service. Rev. T. L. Kerrish preached a splendid sermon in keeping with the occasion, referring to the good work of the order and calling upon all men to help one another in things both spiritual and temporal. The musical part of the service deserves special mention, including the numbers by the ladies octette and solo by Miss Shedd.

Right Rev. Bishop Williams of the diocese of Huron, performed the holy rites of confirmation in St. James church at the 11 o'clock service on Sunday. A class of twenty-five were confirmed. Numbers of Parisians have enjoyed a walk out to the construction camp in the last few days, and have been surprised at the work done. Burt's bush has almost been removed off the map, and the trees are now being cut into staves for the new railway. Some small amount of grading has also been done. It is proposed to lay a temporary siding from the Blue Lake switch and bring in steam shovels and other construction material.

CONTRACTS ON NEW ROAD ARE LET

Favorable Decision of Railway Board Was Known on Saturday When Announcement Re Work Commencing was Made in Courier

None of the solicitors interested in the case which was recently fought out before the Dominion Railway Board had received to-day copies of the decision of the board. It was generally known on Saturday, however, when the Courier carried an exclusive story as to the commencement of work on the railway that the Lake Erie and Northern plans had been approved.

Mayor Hartman when seen this morning remarked: "What's the use objecting. The company apparently has won out!"

The city put up a vigorous fight and spent a lot of money on expert engineers in order to fight the railway. Engineer Kelleit fought the case on the merits of the route and the board's decision as announced is regarded as a signal victory for himself and the interests he represents. Members of the Parks board were none too well pleased this morning, although the railway board heard their evidence, that of Mr. Frank Cockshutt having been submitted in writing.

The railway company expected certain conditions, namely the upkeep of Lorne Bridge for two years, the protection of Jubilee Terrace and the stipulation in regard to the river channel. It is generally agreed that the job will be an expensive one, but the entire railway is planned along the same lines, a whole factory in Galt, being torn down to make room for the central terminal facilities.

With the decision of the railway board active construction work will now start and one of the busiest seasons ever around Brantford is anticipated.

Contracts Let. This morning a Courier representative called upon Messrs. Johnson Bros. of Port Hope, contractors, who have the general contract for the building of the Lake Erie and Northern Railway, who have opened up an office on Market street over the office of S. P. Fitcher and Son. Mr. D. O. Johnson when asked about the sub-contracts for construction said that nearly all of the grading and construction work in connection with the new road had been let and that many of the contractors had men and teams at work at the present time. Some of the contractors who are at present on the job are A. Zebrow, who has the contract for the first 4-1-2 miles out of Galt, and has 30 men at work and expects to have 60 next week, and increase the number as fast as he can secure help.

Grant, Campbell and Co. have 60 teams on the road a little farther down the line, in the vicinity of Glen Morris.

In the Blue Lake district, Scrivner and White have installed a steam shovel outfit, accompanied by 15 teams and a large number of laborers. This firm will do the construction work from Blue Lake to Paris.

Martin and Davy, who will construct from Paris East, have 15 teams and a gang of men on the ground and are making "fur fly."

Over at Waterford, the F. C. Johnson Co. of Montreal have the contract for a large amount of construction work and have a gang of men and teams at work and are making great headway.

The first 6 miles out of Simcoe has been let to McDonald and Co. of Montreal, who are not letting the grass grow under their feet. Messrs. P. H. Secord and Son, Limited, of this city, have been awarded the contract to do a lot of concrete work and grading. A number of other contractors are ready to commence work who have been held back awaiting the decision of the railway board, but now that their decision has become known these contractors will commence operations in a day or two and by the end of this week or first of next contractors will be at work from one end of the line to the other.

If it Happened it is in "THE COURIER;" If it is in "THE COURIER" it Happened.