

O'CONNOR GETS CASE READY ON SHIP SEIZURES

Will Deal With Legality of Detention Outside 3-Mile Limit

OTTAWA, Oct. 14.—W. F. O'Connor, K. C., joint government counsel on the judicial inquiry into the customs administration at its Maritime sittings, issued the following statement tonight: "Some days ago I was asked by Canadian Press what was my then status in respect of the customs and excise enquiry. Professional ethics compelled me to refer the questioner to Chief Justice Sir Francois Lemieux."

"From a Canadian Press despatch published today it may be inferred that Sir Francois, upon enquiry made of him, replied in terms such as to justify an implication that I was now engaged, either for an outside interest or for my own purposes, in the preparation of arguments upon points of law arising out of the Saint John and Halifax hearings of the Royal Commission. The Chief Justice, of course, did not say anything capable of conveying such an implication; but the circumstance that he had said anything at all so operates as to enable me now to disclose the facts."

ENGAGED FOR WEEK. "I have been engaged for a week past in the preparation of such arguments. I have been so engaged at the written request of Chief Justice Lemieux following his explanation to me that my dismissal, as I contended upon political grounds (which nobody has denied) was done by the Government without previous communication, direct or indirect with the Chief Justice, whose counsel, as commissioner I was."

"The Chief Justice expressed to me also his regret to be deprived of my 'experience and service.' He added that if I would consent to prepare the requested arguments, he would, as he had authority to do, fix my remuneration for the work. I am under no obligation to work upon like terms upon a temporary engagement to those of a continuous and extended service. I am acting at all only because of deference to the request of Sir Francois, who, naturally, has been considerably embarrassed by being deprived of his counsel in the midst of such important unfinished business to be put in order for decision."

"The most serious matter for argument will be as to the right of Canadian customs officers to arrest at sea, outside the three-mile limit, and to confiscate the ships and cargoes of Canadian run-runners."

"The Department of Customs, while under the direction of Hon. Mr. Steeves, following my advice, made some arrests of such vessels at sea, and I understand that the new government is pursuing the same policy, with the result that Canadian run-runners are quite scarce now along the Atlantic seaboard. The Chief Justice desires a very full argument as to the international law involved."

"While writing it may be well for me to correct a widespread newspaper misconception. Mr. Calder, K.C., was not the chief counsel of the Royal Commission during my association with him. We were joint counsel. He is my junior at the bar and as King's Counsel, I was appointed to the Commission before he was and he was associated with me at my request, communicated by me to the then prime minister. I considered it desirable, and so did the then prime minister, that a non-partisan Commission should have representation from more than one political party before it."

AT ARMY MANOEUVERS



President Cosgrave of the Irish Free State, and General Pearse McMahon, chief of staff (in uniform) following the course of the rival armies through the hills.

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CONVENERS MEET

Preparations For Y. W. C. A. Festival Are Advanced

A well attended meeting of all the conveners for the Grand Halloween Festival of the Y. W. C. A., to take place at the end of this month, was held yesterday afternoon in the recreation centre with Mrs. E. G. Weyman, president and general convenor, in the chair. Excellent reports were received from each department.

The members of the candy table committee reported having met on Monday at the home of Miss Rae Wilson, when they furthered plans for their branch of work and made some very attractive and novel candy boxes. The members of the doll booth committee, it was said, had met on Monday evening at the residence of Mrs. Clinton Brown and had spent the time very profitably in making very dainty garments for the dolls and decorations for the booth. The members of the home cooking table committee, it was said, had met at the home of Miss I. Johnston, Union street, on Monday night and made all arrangements for their part of the grand festival.

Reports in connection with the tea for the two days were also presented. Mrs. W. W. White has charge of the tea on Thursday, and the deMonts chapter of the I. O. D. E. will conduct the tea on Friday. Mrs. R. B. Travis is taking charge of the decorations for the tea room, and it was reported some very pleasing effects were being planned for.

SMALL VERDICT IN FREDERICTON CASE

FREDERICTON, Oct. 14.—After being out about three hours the jury late this afternoon brought in a verdict for \$276.50 in the suit of Bertha E. L. Grace vs. George B. Moore and John F. O'Connor. The verdict is only against O'Connor and is with costs against Moore nothing is found and costs are against the plaintiff. The amount of \$276.50 is made up of eight days' loss of time and the remainder doctors' expenses.

REVIEWS MEET ON LANCASTER PARISH MATTER

H. C. Ricker, Secretary, Issues Statement on Session

H. C. Ricker, secretary of the meeting held in Fairville on Wednesday night, has asked that the following statement be published:

"The report published of the meeting held in the Court House, Fairville, Wednesday is quite misleading and in some respects incorrect. The meeting was called by the citizens' committee elected at the Beaufort meeting on Oct. 8. The purpose of the meeting was to meet the residents of Fairville and Milford and if they wished to join us add to the committee members from those districts. H. P. Crouse was elected chairman and myself as secretary. Mr. Crouse outlined the purpose of the meeting and reviewed the events leading up to it."

"He produced a document signed by four citizens declaring they were present and heard Councillors McCavour, Golding and Seely give their assent to the dodger used during the last campaign. He read a copy of the letter addressed to the councillors inviting them to attend the meeting on Oct. 8. He gave Mr. McCavour's reply which was published Oct. 11. He explained that the purpose of the audit was not to condemn anyone for things of the past but to enable the councillors and residents to plan for the future."

READS ACT

"He read the act passed at the last session of the Legislature which showed that the interpretation published on Monday last was entirely incorrect. This act disqualifies those who have not before Sept. 1 paid their taxes for the previous year, but not for the current year. Mr. Crouse invited the residents of Fairville and Milford to join with those from Beaufort in demanding an audit."

"George Hennessey spoke favorably to the audit as promised. Robert Cathwood was called on to express his views. He said he was favorable to having a man pay his taxes before voting. He spoke highly of Mr. McCavour as a citizen and was in favor of allowing the present council to finish their term. Some one from the floor asked what about Mr. Golding. Mr. Cathwood's answer was 'We know all about him.'"

FAVORS AUDIT

"In my remarks I was favorable to the audit. The present council had been elected on that promise and should fulfill their pledge. I referred to the statement of one of the city commissioners that Lancaster was headed to bankruptcy and of the injury to the parish from this statement. I said that the people wished to know how much truth was in this statement and only an audit could reveal that."

"Councillor Seely was called on. He stated he had signed the dodger promising an audit, had promised it after being elected, had worked for it and was still in favor of it. He spoke highly of the ability of Mr. McCavour and had no fault to find with the way the parish business had been carried on since he became a member of the council. George Maxwell and Fred Henderson also spoke favorably to the audit."

TAKE NO PART

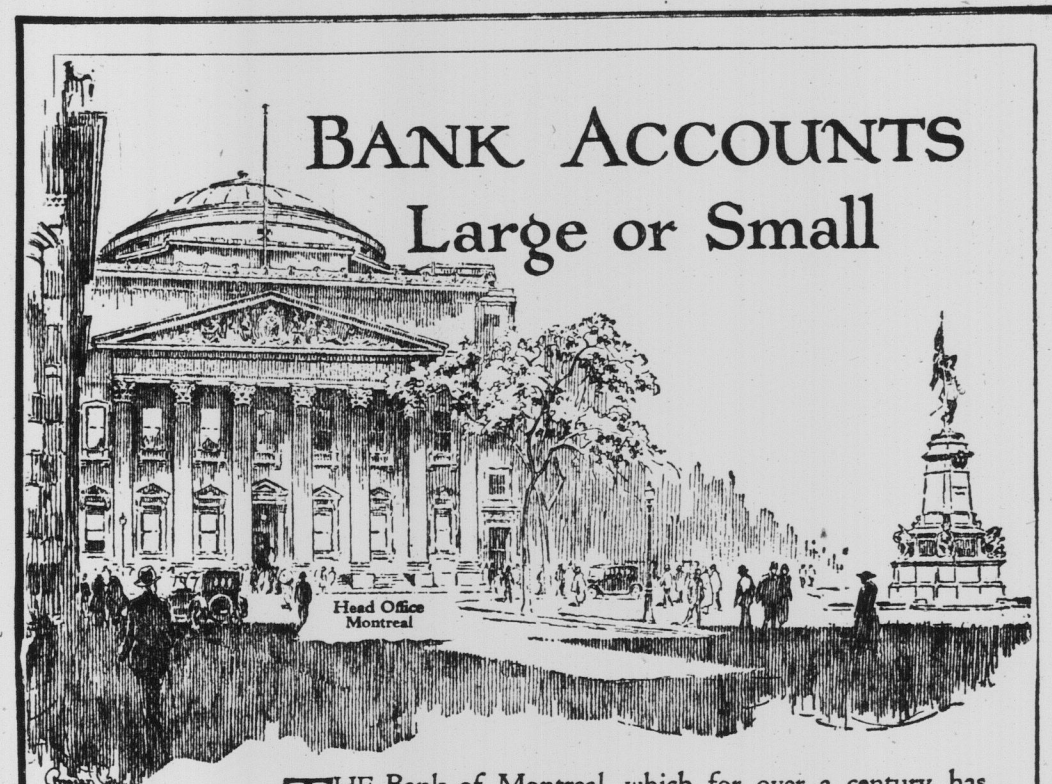
"The Fairville and Milford residents, except Mr. Cathwood, took no part and showed no spirit of co-operation so the meeting adjourned. The committee will still carry on."

No Rates Increase Is Asked By Gas Company

MONCTON, Oct. 14.—With reference to a despatch from Saint John stating it is understood an application is to be filed by the New Brunswick Gas & Oil Fields, Ltd., for an increase in rates for gas and this would have quite a bearing on the electric light rates, local officials of the N. B. Gas & Oil Fields Co., Limited, state that no action so far as they are concerned has been taken by them with regard to gas rates increase as stated in the Saint John report.

E. A. Cummings, vice-president and general manager of the Moncton Tramways Company, said that he had heard nothing of such a move.

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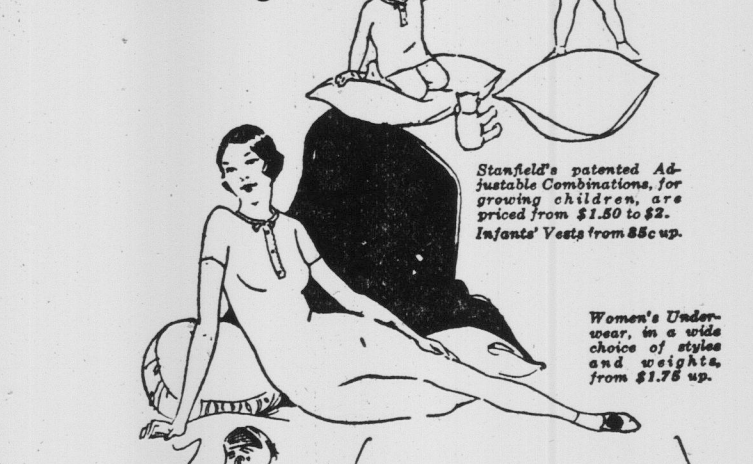
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