

ALDERMEN DEMAND NAMES IN LIQUOR CHARGES

Ninety-Six Jurors Are Selected In Three Murder Trials

SLY SLUR OF DRUNKENNESS AGAINST 1923 ALDERMEN GETS PROMPT CHALLENGE

Members of Last Year's Council Indignant Over Blanket Insinuation Published Yesterday Afternoon—Demand That Names and Facts Be Given or Apology Made.

MUST MAKE GOOD CHARGES OR WITHDRAW THEM

Have members of the city council been drunk while in performance of duty?

If so, who are they?

These plain questions demanding plain answers face the London Free Press as the result of an article published in that paper yesterday afternoon.

The article, which is quoted in the next column, is an insinuation that the city council of 1923 indulged in drunkenness during the execution of the city's business, and that, because of such drunkenness, restrictions should now be placed on the council of 1924 to prevent its repetition.

INSINUATION IS SERIOUS.

Whatever the motive may have been in making the insinuation, its effect is serious. Members of the city police force or of the fire department would be summarily dismissed if guilty of such conduct, and similar offences by aldermen or by mayor could not be tolerated in any city.

Four members of the 1923 council stated to The Advertiser today their demand that:

1. The insinuation of drunkenness be proven in detail, or
2. The article be retracted in entirety.

This demand comes from George Burdick, former alderman of Ward Four; John Colbert, former Labor alderman of Ward Three, and president of the Street Railwaymen's Union; Alderman Edmund Hayden of Ward Four, prospective chairman of the 1924 Board of Works, and Alderman Gordon Drake of Ward Three.

Other members of last year's council wish to withhold statements until opportunity is given for withdrawal of the defamatory article.

"Too Serious to Pass."

Ex-Ald. Burdick, in expressing his indignation, described the article as a "despicable and unwarranted attack" on those who have given their best efforts in the interest of the city and those who elected them.

"It is more of the usual dirty tactics of the Free Press," said ex-Ald. Burdick. "They have knocked London and London men for months past. But this is too serious to pass over. I challenge the editor of the Free Press, without delay, to name any member or members of the 1923 council as being under the influence of liquor at the council or committee meetings of 1923."

"Facts Must Be Given."

Ex-Ald. John Colbert makes a similar demand. "This thing is contemptible and the city can not afford to let the Free Press get away with it," he said. "They must give the names of the men they believe guilty, or crawl out. All members of the 1923 council should not be accused in a sweeping charge. If the charge is true, the facts must be given. If it is untrue, it must be denied."

Give Names, Says Hayden.

Ald. Edmund Hayden said that the matter cannot be dropped at its present point.

"Let's hear who the offenders were, if there were any," he stated. "All members should not be charged in this unfair manner. It is a sneak's way of doing things. I want to hear who were supposed to be intoxicated during our meetings."

"Abusive and Defamatory."

Ald. Gordon Drake said that "in all my ten years in the city council I have never heard of such an abusive and defamatory charge against its members. I would consider the council of 1923 the most temperate in years."

"The Free Press must now make good its charges or sink back to its hole. Name the men or apologize. I, for one, challenge them to come clean."

ALD. HAYDEN DESERVES POST, SAY SUPPORTERS

Feel the Councillor Should Be Given Works Board Chairmanship.

Members of the council who have been supporting Ald. Edmund Hayden for the chairmanship of the board of works for 1924 feel that he is more entitled to that post than others who have been mentioned.

Ald. Hayden was a valuable member of the works committee during 1923, and his supporters say that it would be decidedly unfair to bring in an alderman from the finance committee and appoint him chairman of the board of works over the head of those who should retain the seniority rights.

'They Say—'

The following is from the article published in the Free Press yesterday afternoon insinuating drunkenness on the city council. The "alleged resume" refers to the forecast of the 1924 inaugural address given in The Advertiser Monday afternoon.

"Wait for Mayor Wenige's inaugural statement on liquor at the city hall."

"Will last year's ban be extended to members of city council is the question."

"The one question on which the public is waiting for is an opinion from Mayor Wenige, and there are many who hope that he would have something to say in his inaugural address on it, was not touched in the alleged resume of that address published yesterday. That question refers to the attendance of the members of the council or city hall officials on any public duties under the influence of intoxicating liquors."

"While the reference in his address last year was to city officials only, it was stated at that time that this should be extended to include members of the council. The inference was that mayor and aldermen would not be restricted at all in this. It was also charged that it was unfair to this single out the civic employees. And events that occurred during the year just closed, which events are more or less known to the public, strengthens the opinion held in certain quarters that his worship should go one step farther this year and include the members of the council within the liquor restrictions."

NORTHERN BIRDS ARE SCARCE HERE THIS YEAR

Winter Visitors Only Come When Food Is Scarce, Says W. E. Saunders.

An unusual scarcity of northern winter birds has been noted in London this year, local fanciers say. Several species of winter birds, such as the pine grosbeak, crossbills, red polls and skinkids, which generally make their abode in this country during the winter months, are absent altogether.

W. E. Saunders, in giving the reason for the scarcity, says: "The northern winter birds are not afraid of extremely cold weather, they only come from the north country when there is not sufficient food for them there. Last year, we know, was a poor one for them in the northlands, and as a result they came south in flocks. This year they are very scarce in Ontario."

CARROTHERS TO CONTINUE AS SHRINERS' POTENTATE

Immediate Past Potentate A. Carrothers of Mocha Temple will guide the destinies of local Shriners, following the death of Dr. G. A. Routledge, potentate until May at least when it was possible that an election might take place. It is also likely, however, that Mr. Carrothers may continue in office until the next elections in December. Mr. Vining is next in line for the potentate's chair.



ALD. EDMUND HAYDEN, who is indignant at the wholesale attack on the city council's reputation, and demands that the suggestions of drunkenness be aired in public.



DEMANDS THE FACTS. Ex-Ald. George Burdick demands that the insinuations of drunkenness at city council meetings be proven in detail or retracted.

DONAHUE MAY NOT BE COUNSEL AGAIN FOR TWO BANDITS

Copy of Evidence in Murrell and Williams Trial Is Denied.

FAMILY MAKES MOVE

J. M. Donahue, counsel for Sidney Murrell and "Slim" Williams, when the two Melbourne bank robbers were tried for murder at the assizes last October, is not likely to appear for them again at their trial on Feb. 4 unless he is supplied with a copy of the evidence taken last October.

Interviewed today, Mr. Donahue stated he had not received official word from the attorney-general in the matter, but understood that the Hon. Mr. Nickle did not deem a copy of evidence necessary for the crown prosecutor.

It was learned that William Murrell, father of Sidney, had applied to a certain organization for assistance, and these men had made application to the attorney-general for a copy of the evidence, which was refused by Mr. Nickle.

BISHOP FALLON TALKS BEFORE MOTHERS' CLUB

Preparations Being Made For Valentine Party—Father Brissos Speaks.

Right Rev. M. F. Fallon, Bishop of London, and Father Brissos addressed the Sacred Heart Mothers' Club unit at a meeting held in St. Peter's Hall last night. Father Brissos thanked the club for the generous donation to the Sacred Heart school and the work they have done during the year.

Preparations are being made by the club for a Valentine party, which is to be held Feb. 14. Mrs. M. J. O'Mara, president, is entertaining at cards at her home, 3 St. George street, on Thursday for the benefit of the unit.

Free Kingston Prison Inmate

Robert S. Watson Rewarded For Evidence On "Trafficking."

Canadian Press Despatch. Kingston, Jan. 8.—Following the hearing of the case of "trafficking" on Monday afternoon, an inmate of the penitentiary, Robert Steel Watson, who was a witness in the case, was given his release by the penitentiary authorities and left in the evening for his home near Windsor.

CONVENTION IS BLAMED FOR INFRACTION OF M.V.A.

William Darling, charged in police court with parking his motor car on Dundas street for more than 30 minutes, told the magistrate that there had been a convention in London that day, and he had taken the boys out. "It lasted longer than you thought it would," smiled Mr. Graydon. "I will impose the minimum fine of \$2."

LADY HANSON DIES. Associated Press Despatch. London, Jan. 9.—Dowager Lady Hanson, widow of Sir Charles Hanson, a former lord mayor of London, died today.

TOTAL COST OF MURDER TRIALS MAY BE DOUBLED

Machinery Set in Motion With Selection of Ninety-Six Jurors.

SEPARATE TRIALS

Action Is Possible in Proceedings Against Murrell and Williams.

With three murder trials scheduled for the winter assizes commencing February 4 at the courthouse, the first legal machinery in connection with the cases was set in motion today with the selection of 96 jurors by Judge J. C. Judd, Sheriff Graham, Squire Chittick and Miss Mary McLean, acting for the crown attorney. The selection was made in the office of the crown at the courthouse. Just double the ordinary number of jurors were named, his honor Judge Judd pointing out that there might be a great number of challenges before the juries were finally selected.

There is a possible chance that Murrell and Williams will be tried separately and in this event, the cost of the trial will be doubled or rather quadrupled.

Instead of the usual panel of 48 jurors, the cost of summoning and paying 96 jurors will run the cost of the three murder trials into thousands of dollars. The coming assizes promise to be the most costly in the history of the county of Middlesex.

DR. H. BRITAIN ACTS FOR CITY AT MEETING

Submits Proposals at Session of Municipal Association.

Dr. Horace L. Britain, head of the Citizens' Research Bureau of Canada represented London yesterday when the executive members of the Ontario Municipal Association submitted their several recommendations to the provincial secretary.

At the last minute, City Clerk Sam Baker was unable to attend but he notified Dr. Britain in time to have him attend in the city's behalf.

Londoners are particularly interested in the proposal from the association that the government consider municipalities to introduce the commission form of government.

Human Old Tuber Found With Face of Old Tippler

Discovered by a Londoner Reposing in Bag From Grocer.

INTERESTING STUDY

When a certain Londoner inspected the bag of potatoes sent by his grocer to assuage the hunger of his family, he discovered one very human tuber whose sentient features looked out at him with the dignified and somewhat morose expression of a gentleman of the old school.

The potato, which is a fine, healthy chap about six inches long, bears the most striking resemblance to an old experienced tippler of any spud ever seen or written of.

For the benefit of those who saw Harry Lauder on Monday night, the best description is that it looks exactly like the old shepherd in "When I Was Twenty-One," at least the profile does.

You see nine-tenths of this human potato is merely ordinary every-day brown spud. But there is one side of the root that gives the profile of face and for a potato the expression is wonderful.

There is a long head and a high forehead, a long bulbous nose that Cyranos de Bergerac would have envied and one of those deep set eyes overhung with bushy eyebrows. Then with sorrow it must be confessed, there is a lovely "cauliflower" ear. Just the sort of ear that any second-rate "pug" who was not quick enough on his feet to canter away from punches would be likely to get.

His face is tremendously thoughtful and pensive and even morose. It seems to say: "Yes, I have suffered in my short life. I have been raised from a hard school."

It is too soulful a spud to throw away and to cook it would be sacrilege. It is enough to turn any man from vegetarianism and would be a fine argument for the meat lover.

Bandit Gang Under Ryan Had Laid Plans to Rescue Ed. McMullen From 'Pen'

The Arrangements Failed, But Through No Fault of "Red" Ryan's, It Is Claimed.

WAS KEPT POSTED

Special to The Advertiser.

Kingston, Jan. 9.—Startling ideas and big plans for a scheme that would have started Ontario was concocted in the brain of Norman "Red" Ryan during the four months he was dashing about the country since he escaped from Kingston.

It was learned by The Advertiser today that Ryan had planned with the aid of an American-Canadian bandit gang of gun fighters to come right into Kingston and attempt to rescue Eddie McMullen, Wyoming bank robber who was shot and later captured after he had escaped over the wall with Ryan, Simpson, Sullivan and Bryans.

Ryan liked McMullen and if McMullen had not been shot down McMullen and Ryan were going to work together in robbing banks. Ryan trusted McMullen more than any of the others who escaped. Ryan and McMullen had sworn to travel together, and it was a big disappointment to Ryan when he had to leave McMullen behind him in the swamp.

Ryan Planned Rescue.

But McMullen was going to be rescued when he was on his way to the courthouse in Kingston to stand trial for his escape. Ryan had in some manner the same brainy way he engineered all his expeditions to get McMullen know in the penitentiary that he was going to rescue him from the prison escape.

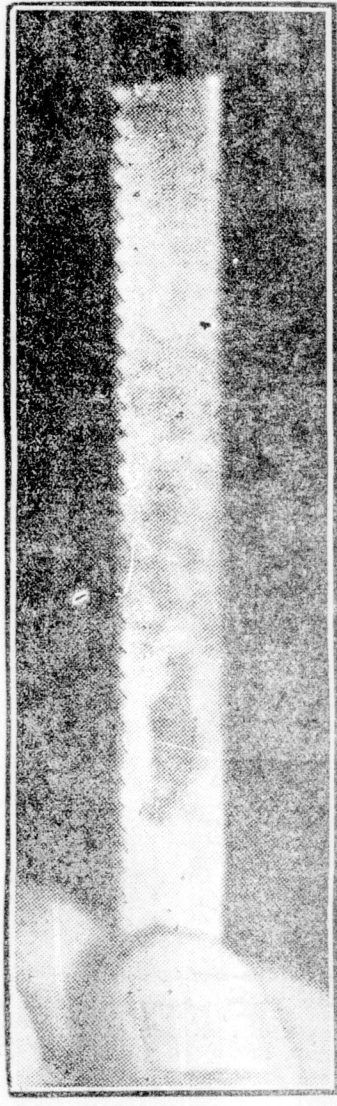
Ryan was to lead the raid into the heart of the town and intercept the party at a cross road near the courthouse. Ryan worked away on his scheme and had a gang of a dozen gunmen ready to follow him. But something went wrong and Ryan could not reach Kingston on the day McMullen was taken to the courthouse. Information kept Ryan posted.

McMullen was taken to the courthouse and the raid did not come off. It was no fault of Ryan's. The men he was leading on failed to give him the correct information as to when McMullen was to be brought into town. Probably the penitentiary officials knew of the plans. McMullen had been informed by friends through certain channels, and was ready for the rescue. The Advertiser put it up to Ryan, "You got the right dose there, there was a dozen of us coming to Kingston but I am not saying why we did not get there," Ryan stated.

Would Have Startled Country.

Inspector Duncan discussing Ryan yesterday said he had information that if Ryan had been at large much longer he could have been involved in some affairs that would have "rocked the country."

"McMullen was a friend of mine, I banked on him if he got away," was all that Ryan would say.



"RED" RYAN'S HACK-SAW.

Above is shown the seven-inch hack-saw which "Red" Ryan succeeded in concealing from his guards in Toronto jail, even when he was stripped of his clothes. Later he surrendered the instrument to the jail governor, confessing that he had given up hope of escape.

OUT OF WORK, NO MONEY HE PASSES BAD CHECK

Court Remands William Davis Until His Case Is Probed.

Out of work and without funds, William Davis took "the easiest way," as he considered, to obtain the necessary cash to buy food. He passed a worthless check for \$10 on William Bounback, King street, and today found himself in police charge with obtaining credit by issuing a worthless check.

Davis told the court he knew he was committing a criminal offence and he didn't have any funds in the bank.

"It is unfortunate that you are out of work, but it was a poor resource to commit crime in addition," declared the magistrate.

Crown Attorney Henders asked for a remand for a week in order to further probe the case of Davis. The remand was granted by the court.

DR. W. J. STEVENSON HAS NOW FULLY RECOVERED

Well-Known Physician Resumes Practice After Lengthy Illness.

Dr. W. J. Stevenson, well-known Western Ontario physician, who several months ago underwent a serious operation at St. Joseph's Hospital, is pronounced by his physicians to be in fit condition to resume his medical practice.

When he was taken ill, Dr. Stevenson was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital, where he was operated upon by a prominent Detroit surgeon. He left the hospital a month ago, and since that time has been convalescing.

MANY START FOR SOUTH BECAUSE OF COLD WEATHER

The cold wave which commenced a week ago and the sudden change to winter weather has caused a rush for reservations on both C. N. R. and C. P. R. lines to warmer countries, city ticket agents report.

More than forty citizens left this week for Bermuda, California and Florida, and several bookings have been made by London families for the Mediterranean trip.

SUBSTATIONS ARE NEEDED FOR PROPER CITY SERVICE

Buchanan States Three More May Be Erected Shortly.

NINE AT PRESENT

Will Continue Testing Operations in Search For Water Wells.

Three new substations may be established in London this year, according to General Manager E. V. Buchanan who stated that three small ones were almost essential to the perfect maintenance of hydro service.

The location of the proposed units which would distribute about 2,000 horsepower will be as follows: No. 2, Buchanan who stated that three small ones were almost essential to the perfect maintenance of hydro service.

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THE WEATHER

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 34; lowest, 13. The official temperatures for 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 33; lowest, 30. Barometric Readings. Tuesday—8 p.m.—23.34. Today—8 a.m.—23.26.