

## MAY DECIDE TO ASK FOR STRENGTHENING OF COMPANIES ACT

Members of London Chamber of Commerce To Vote On Suggestion.

Members of the Chamber of Commerce are being asked to express their opinion for or against a resolution introduced at a meeting of the directors of that body recently, that the Ontario Legislature be pressed to enact legislation regulating the public sale of speculative stock. In event of this recommendation being received favorably, the boards of trade and chambers of commerce affiliated in the Western Ontario Boards of Trade will be invited to take similar action, with a view toward discussion and possible endorsement as a united body at their next general meeting.

In order to secure evidence the members are being asked to furnish the amount of their losses during the past ten years through the purchase of worthless stock of Canadian concerns, giving the name of company or companies selling it.

### Act Not Effective.

Among other things the local Chamber of Commerce asserts that the Ontario companies act does not, except in a general way, concern itself with the nature of the business that a proposed corporation intends to carry on. So far as the statutory declaration goes, a charter might be granted to extract gold from ether or to discover the philosopher's stone, or to do any fool thing, if not prohibited by criminal law.

A further claim is strenuously advanced that "no scrutiny is required by the act of the moral or business character of applicants for articles of incorporation. They are not called upon to submit any evidence or even to make any profession of business ability or moral integrity, and even if it were common knowledge that applicants were extremely unlikely to make a success of the undertaking contemplated by the new corporation, a charter is cheerfully granted permitting them to start with other people's money an undertaking doomed to ultimate failure."

## PRISONERS DECLARED TO BE A MENACE TO HEALTH OF THE CITY

Pair Arrested; Woman Refuses To Go To Hospital.

Mary Stover and George Stover, charged with keeping a disorderly house at 4 Dundas street west, were found to be in such a condition that they were taken to the hospital. The police believe that the pair are a menace to the health of the city if they were not confined in some institution. Both of them are suffering with tuberculosis. Crown Attorney J. E. McKillop stated:

"Mrs. Stover refused to go to the hospital, saying that she was going to leave London. She was told by the court that she must either go to the hospital or to jail. She went to jail. Her husband decided to go to the hospital."

Eva Hicks and Hugh Waldo were summoned to appear in court to answer a charge similar to the one laid against the other prisoners, but they failed to appear. Warrants for their arrest have been issued.

An account of another part of the house in which the four accused lived stated that men were going to their quarters at various hours of the night and some of them remained all night. It was as a result of her complaint and the action of the public health authorities that the case was brought to court.

## CANADIANS STILL POPULAR IN ENGLAND

Major Chester Butler Delighted With Showing of Rifle Team.

Major Chester Butler, adjutant of the Canadian Rifle team, arrived home this morning on the 11:40 G. T. R. train. He was met by members of his family and of the 1st W. O. R.

"This year's team did much better than any team of recent years in the number of individual prizes won and their aggregate total," stated Major Butler to an interviewer.

"The Canadians have not lost their popularity in England, and it was shown in many little ways during our sojourn in the country. The team members were more than pleased with the trip, the arrangements made for us in England and the courtesies for us continually shown them."

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## LONDON DISTRICT HAS MANY NOTABLE GHOSTS ON RECORD

Residents of Thames Park Locality Differ On Ghost Question.

### FAMOUS GHOST STORIES

Horse and Rider Said To Visit House On Ridout Street.

Can Psycho-Analysis explain the mystery of the Thames street ghost, whose nightly appearances have divided the neighborhood into sharply clashing factions, and drawn hundreds of people from all parts of the city to the riverbank on Horton street, from seven o'clock in the evening until three o'clock in the morning?

Psycho-Analysis might easily explain the widely divergent attitude of the residents of the Thames and Horton street district towards the alleged visitations of some supernatural form, but psycho-analysis would have a real problem before it to explain the satisfaction of a score of people, most of them of adult age, that the ghosts they thought they saw were only tricks of their subconscious mind conjuring up realistic-looking imaginations out of complexes derived from seeing "Earthbound," or some other psychic movie, or from ghost stories they had read.

All of those people declared that hitherto they never believed in ghosts. Their friends all declare that they were not regarded as nervous or extremely imaginative people. No doubt seems to exist but that they honestly believe they saw the ghosts, whether or not there are such things as ghosts.

On the other hand, property-owners have become considerably alarmed over the weird publicity the district has received. They are afraid that nervous people will hesitate before becoming future tenants of the houses near which the ghosts are alleged to have appeared. One would have supposed there would have been some recompense involved in the uncanny reputation the district is securing, but to date rumors that a local psychic research organization is negotiating for a site for a Spiritualistic church and that the inventor of the Quidja board is planning to erect a Canadian factory on Thames street, have not been confirmed.

Attendance Reduced.  
Wednesday night the attendance at the outdoor sessions of the Ghost Cult was slightly reduced. There was perhaps not more than one hundred people congregated on the riverbank at any one time, but they came and went. Tuesday night two or three hundred people might be observed at one time, and there must have been at least one thousand on Monday night.

Up to a late hour Wednesday night, the ghost had not appeared, and either the police had put a stop to the ghost-fairs or else those practical jokers had voluntarily tired of furnishing free amusement and occasional false thrills for the spectators. But the real ghosts have not been laid. Some people are quite sure of that. There have been no deaths in the Thames who had been in the district for some time, and there must have been at least one thousand on Monday night.

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Invitation committee—S. Grant, chairman; P. Pocock, A. C. Carty, D. Mason, A. B. Greer, C. A. Webb, E. J. Carty, B. C. McCann, E. Meredith, K. C. A. S. Glass, E. S. Little, J. Shannon, C. L. Griffin.

Membership committee—Dr. L. H. Douglas, chairman; C. A. E. Webb, G. H. Carty, M. O'Sullivan, M. Breen, B. Noble, S. F. Glass, M. P. E. V. Hoslan, J. J. Johnston, M. T. Donohue, R. M. Burns, J. Greer, H. Merritt, P. Mulhall, G. Webb, E. Ryan, A. McMahon, G. Ferguson, J. H. Moran, W. H. Abbott, J. H. McKelvey, J. Nolan, Geo. McNeil.

Sports committee—P. H. Ranahan, chairman; G. H. O'Neill, H. Nopper, E. S. Little, R. Kenny, N. P. Graydon, S. Pocock, Jr., Dr. C. Wilson, C. White, C. Bowden, C. Spittal, W. Jackson, J. Greer, E. N. Slater, A. Harvey, J. A. Tume, H. McPhillips, C. B. Finney, W. F. Hungerford, G. Henry, J. Shannon, W. H. Fox, F. B. Lavender, K. Murray, W. R. Grant, B. C. McCann, C. F. Corrie, Gilbert Ward, A. J. Blackie, Dr. W. J. Wilson, W. H. Graham, J. Toomle, A. C. Carty, S. B. Pocock, N. Coughlin, J. Hickey, M. J. Donohue, H. T. Reason, W. Duffield, W. A. Wilson, M. O'Brien, J. McIntyre.

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Baby show committee—Chief J. Altman, chairman; H. Merritt, E. V. Heslan, D. Regan, T. J. Murphy, F. J. Mitchell, F. Jewell, E. Shea, J. Law, J. C. Spittal, W. R. Grant, G. Webb, W. L. Talbot, S. Stevely, J. H. Saunders, E. J. Carty, M. J. Donohue, T. Cribbin, P. Taff, P. A. Reynolds, R. M. Slater, M. J. Dillon, N. Howden, Vining, J. Granger, F. C. Dunn, H. J. Carroll, G. Taylor, J. Murphy, H. T. Reason.

Refreshment committee—R. Forristal, chairman; K. Murray, W. G. Smith, P. W. Warr, P. H. Ranahan, J. Toomle, A. McIntyre, R. Magee, G. Webb, H. Smith, J. L. Johnston, F. Ward, P. H. Reynolds, L. A. Boss, C. M. Slater, M. J. Dillon, N. Howden, A. Harvey, O. G. Keene, D. Mason, M. P. McDonagh, F. G. Jewell, Dr. L. S. Holmes, P. Pocock, T. J. Murphy.

Dancing committee—J. Stevely, H. L. Jackson, C. B. Finney, S. J. Pocock, P. Mulhall, S. McCoy, Dr. Hutchinson, V. Jackson, M. Donnelly, M. J. Breen, J. P. Forristal, J. P. Murray, A. Chapman, P. Marshall, R. Arncliffe, S. F. Glass, M. J. McCormick, W. J. Connor, W. McNeil, R. T. Orr, W. E. Forristal, R. A. C. Carty, chairman; B. C. McCann, M. Slater, J. Garvey.

Collection and attraction committee—G. A. Wenige and officers.

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## DESOLATION

so rapid, and accompanied by such terrific heat, that it was impossible for the workers to salvage anything.

D. G. Lortie, aged 48, was at his home when the flames reached it. While members of the family made frantic endeavors to save some of their belongings, he climbed on the roof of a shed, and with a garden hose directed a stream of water on the roof of his house to try and save it. In a few minutes the house and shed were afire. It was impossible to reach Lortie, whose body was later found among the debris of the house.

Many Narrow Escapes.  
Lortie, who is the only casualty thus far known, leaves a widow, six sons and five daughters.

Many narrow escapes were recorded as persons attempted to reach their homes after the flames got to them, in an endeavor to save valued personal belongings.

Bedridden and blind persons were carried out of their homes by willing volunteers only seconds before the flames reached these dwellings, and taken to places of safety in houses removed from the path of the flames.

Fifty tents, 1,000 mattresses, with blankets and first aid supplies, were rushed out from Ottawa in motor lorries, and when the tents had been erected the new sufferers were allotted space according to their needs.

Persons whose homes had escaped the flames threw open their doors to the less fortunate, and by nightfall last night some semblance of order had been brought about, though there were many small knots of people who stood about the ruins of what had been their homes, discussing their plans for starting all over again.

Throughout the night squads of villagers worked extinguishing smoldering fires wherever possible. From dusk until dawn this morning some 30 streams of water were played on the ruins at various points, but there were many fires still sending sparks and cinders skyward.

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The legislative council chamber, where the ceremony of swearing in was to take place, was a scene of considerable brilliancy. Against a background of vivid red, the scheme of the chamber, there stood out the gold and black of the uniforms of the military officers present, the sombre tones of the uniforms of Premier Meighen and his cabinet ministers, who are privy councillors, the scarlet robes of the lords, and the variegated tints of the ladies' dresses.

### Receives Great Seal.

The administration of the government of Canada and others to officiate in the installation, having taken their allotted places, there was a short pause, broken by the announcement that the governor-general had arrived. His Excellency and Lady Byng entered the chamber preceded by representatives of the militia, air forces, and navy, the lieutenant-governor, the Province, and aides-de-camp to the governor-general.

After the governor-general had taken his stand on a dais Mrs. Meighen presented Lady Byng with a bouquet of white roses. Lord Byng's commission as governor-general was then read by his military secretary, Capt. O. P. C. Balfour, his excellency immediately afterwards taking the oath of allegiance to the King and swearing to "well and truly" exercise his office as governor-general and subscribe his name in the oath book. He was next handed the Great Seal of Canada by Sir Henry Drayton, under secretary of state, which, according to custom, he handed back to Mr. Drayton, "for safe keeping."

The proclamation of the governor-general's swearing in ordering the government of the Dominion to continue was ready and after his excellency had signed it, was sealed with his privy seal. The ceremony concluded with playing of the National Anthem by the band in attendance.

The installation ceremonies completed, a salute of nineteen guns from the citadel of the building. There was for a moment or two after they had been fired a solemn and tense silence, testifying to the effect upon the gathering of the dramatic episode in the country's history which had just been enacted.

After Madame Meighen had presented a bouquet of flowers to Lady Byng, an address of welcome was made to the governor-general and Lady Byng by Premier Taschereau on behalf of the Province of Quebec and by Mayor Samson on behalf of the City of Quebec, to which Lord Byng replied, referring to his connection with the Canadian arms during the war and expressing the intention, following in the footsteps of his distinguished predecessors.

Taschereau's Address.  
The address of Premier Taschereau to Lord Byng here said that Canada had ever been proud of the sovereignty of the province of Quebec, and that the choice of those to whom his nation in this country has been delegated.

"We have known you long," said the premier. "Not only were you one of those brilliant officers to whom the Allies owe the decisive victories obtained on the western front, but you commanded the Canadian army at one of the critical periods of the war, at the hour when our soldiers achieved immortal fame. On the Vim Ridge, where for the first time the Canadian troops fought as a corps unit, you led them to the assault. It was again under your command that they triumphed on the Somme, above all at Courcellette, the memory of which Quebec proudly cherishes."

"Loyal and contented subjects of Canada, desiring no change in our government, working in a spirit of emulation with our neighbors instead of aiming against them, free from all international quarrels, dividing and paralyzing the vital powers of a nation, rarely halted by the disastrous conflicts between capital and labor, we possess in our province the qualities which will make for the greatness of the Canadian people, faith, love of soil, the inclination to work in peace, the calm and steady will, the vitality and force of expansion."

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"Canada showed early in the great struggle the value she sets on the ties that bind the Empire. The heroic sacrifices made by the first Canadian division at St. Julien in 1915, notwithstanding the German attack which opened the second battle of Ypres, was a fitting prelude to the long series of actions in which they distinguished themselves."

"That first enthusiasm was well maintained, and in the second year of the war Canada was able to place an army corps in the field. I have held it a high honor to have commanded and to have got to know and love so many men of that distinguished unit. I look forward most eagerly to renewing old acquaintanceships and old ties throughout the Dominion, and I have been happy today to meet many old comrades of the war in my first few hours in Canada."

"I come into your midst with the conviction that the descendants of Jacques Cartier and of Champlain, as exemplified only quite recently in the person of Laurier, constitute in the Empire a unit which is just as valuable as the other subjects who speak the English language."

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The administration of the government of Canada and others to officiate in the installation, having taken their allotted places, there was a short pause, broken by the announcement that the governor-general had arrived. His Excellency and Lady Byng entered the chamber preceded by representatives of the militia, air forces, and navy, the lieutenant-governor, the Province, and aides-de-camp to the governor-general.

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