The London Evening Free Press

WESTERN ONTARIO'S FOREMOST NEWSPAPER.

THE WEATHER: Probabilities—Snow Or Rain. | LONDON, ONTARIO, TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1922. —12 PAGES | MORNING EDITION—THREE CENTS.

CHILDREN OF HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES ARE BARRED FROM COUNTY SCHOOL

Parents, Being Civil Servants, Refused To Pay Fees For Tuition.

QUESTION WILL PROBABLY BE SETTLED IN COURT

Department of Education Has Taken No Action, Although Notified of Events.

Following official notice at the instance of the public school supporters of school section number three, Westminster Township, 10 children who live on Government property at Westminster Hospital were barred from the public school of that section at noon to-day.

The parents, being civil servants, refused to pay fees for their children's tuition. They are not liable to taxation, as they live on Government property. The public school supporters of S. S. No. 3, however, held that they should not be called on to bear the expense of educating children of tax exempted parents. Accordingly on last Wednesday night, the ratepayers met in their annual session and ordered that the children be barred from the school on Tuesday, January 3.

That action was carried out to-day by Principal John A. McNaughton, who informed the Westminster pupils at the opening this morning.

TAKE MATTER TO COURTS.

The parents of the children involved and other employees of Westminster Hospital are preparing to take the matter to the courts. Four employees' families are now directly involved — Hayter, Toy, McLean and Murdock. But other employees are also concerned. One of the parents mentioned, with the support of the hospital staff employees, will take the case to the courts at once, Dr. W. B. T. McGee, superintendent of Westminster, stated unofficially to-day.

The issue to be decided is whether children of civil servants living on Government property are exempt from educational taxation. If the case is decided in favor of the Westminster parents, a precedent will have been established which will be of interest to citizens employed in the civil service throughout Canada.

Under the provincial school attendance laws, however, the parents of the children barred to-day from the section school will to-morrow be liable under the truancy regulations, P. J. Thompson, Middlesex school inspector, informed The Free Press that so far as he could see the parents would be liable for keeping their children out of school, even in view of the fact that they were barred from the nearest school on the action of public school supporters concerned.

REPORTED TO DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Thompson also stated that the matter had been fully reported to the ministry of education at Toronto, and action from that quarter within the next few hours may settle the matter to the satisfaction of all parties. Mr. Thompson pointed out that the children were ordered barred from the school last fall by the school board of S. S. No. 3, but the ministry of education took steps to settle the difficulty temporarily.

It is believed, however, that the Ontario department of education will take no action this time in view of the fact that they have been aware for several day that the pupils were to be barred to-day, and no ruling on the matter has yet been received.

The dispute between the Westminster ratepayers and the hospital parents is purely a technical one. There is no hard feeling on either side. The hospital parents hold that from the nature of their work they should be provided with educational facilities for their children. The ratepayers point out, on the other hand, that the recently erected addition to the school, costing over $10,000, was built to take care of increased attendance through the opening of the new hospital. That building, they hold, showed their willingness to accommodate civil servants brought here through the success of efforts to have the great Government psychopathic institution located in Middlesex County. They maintain, however, that the parents of pupils attending the school should pay for their education either directly by fees or indirectly by taxes.

ACTION ANNOUNCED.

The school board of S. S. No. 3, Westminster, is composed of George McMurray, chairman; Frank Andrews, secretary, and Trustee M. G. Hay.

The school has three teachers, John A. McNaughton (principal), Miss Gertrude O'Dell and Miss Vera Kernohan assistants.

At the opening of the school this morning Principal McNaughton announced the action taken by the school ratepayers at their annual meeting on Wednesday, December 28. He informed the children that the action taken was not taken by the teachers, but by the school board and ratepayers. He pointed out that those who attended school should pay for that privilege either by taxes or direct fees.

SUPERVISING PRINCIPAL.

GEOFFREY WHEABLE, B. A., took office to-day as assistant to Inspector V. K. Greer. Mr. Wheable is a native Londoner with a fine military and educational record, and has been active in organizing and commanding London's public school cadet brigade.

CHICAGO BANKS IN BIG MERGER

Resources of New Combination Estimated At Half Billion.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—The Continental and Commercial National Bank and the Continental and Commercial Trust and Savings Bank to-day formed the second largest banking institution in the United States and the largest west of New York through absorption of the Fort Dearborn National Bank and its affiliated institution, the Fort Dearborn Trust and Savings Bank, that action averting what was described as the most serious difficulty which had threatened Chicago's financial district in 16 years. The merger was announced last night after an all-day session of the Chicago Clearing House Association and leading financiers and continental and commercial institutions agreeing to assume liabilities of $60,000,000.

The absorption placed combined deposits of the four banking institutions at more than $400,000,000 and total resources at a figure greater than $525,000,000.

Difficulties of the Fort Dearborn properties were attributed to overextension of credits.

The clearing house banks guaranteed the Continental and Commercial against possible losses to the extent of $2,500,000 and the Fort Dearborn stockholders made a further guarantee of $1,500,000. In addition there is a capital, surplus and undivided profit of approximately $8,000,000. The Continental also pays approximately $1,250,000 for the good-will of the two absorbed institutions.

ALTON RYCKMAN IS REEVE OF DELAWARE

Township Clerk Casts the Deciding Vote To Break Election Tie.

DELAWARE, Jan. 3.—By the casting of the vote of Township Clerk J. H. Matthews the tie in the reeveship contest was broken this afternoon, with the result that Alton H. Ryckman returns to the 1922 County Council. The vote yesterday stood 195 for each of the candidates, Alton Ryckman and Duncan Gordon. The situation called either for a recount or the casting vote of the township clerk. The latter course was adopted with the result that Ryckman was elected.

King and Queen Send New Year Message to Canada

OTTAWA, Jan. 3.—(Canadian Press Dispatch.)—The following message has been received from His Majesty the King in answer to that sent by his excellency the governor-general on behalf of the people of Canada: "The queen and I send our best thanks to the Government of Canada and the Canadian people for their loyal message of greetings for the new year. We trust that the coming year may be one of continued prosperity for Canada and the Canadian people."

(Signed)" George R. I."

Missionaries Not the Only Men Preaching the Gospels Asserts Dr. S. Banks Nelson

HAMILTON, Jan. 3 — Rev. Dr. S. Banks Nelson, minister of Knox Church, Hamilton, made a spirited attack this morning at a meeting of the Hamilton Presbyterian missionaries.

"The foreign missionaries," he said, "think we ministers at home are not preaching the Gospel and that we are slipping into barbarism. They believe only themselves and their Chinese converts deliver the true word of God."

He said it was unfair to the ministers at home for the missionaries, after soaking in heathenism for years, to tell the home ministers how to preac

A motion was passed asking for closer co-operation of the other churches for mission work amongst the foreigners in the east end of Hamilton, but the work will be continued whether there is co-operation or not.

A call to Rev. Charles H. Cook, B.A., Stoney Creek, to Dunwich, was sustained.

The Haynes Avenue Church, St. Catharines, is being reorganized and the presbytery will aid the church if it will establish a fund for a new manse and church building farther east in St. Catharines.

H. McGill Is Named District Examiner

Will Have Headquarters In City. Promotion For Mail Clerk.

APPOINTMENT IS POPULAR WITH MEN

System Has Been Changed. Regular Examination To Be Held.

H. W. McGill, at present a railway mail clerk, has been appointed district examiner for the postal department and enters upon his new duties at once. Information of the appointment has been received at the local post office. Mr. McGill's headquarters will be in London.

The appointment of a district examiner is a new procedure in the postal department. Formerly there were two examiners, who had as their territory the whole of Canada, but this system has been changed and in future examiners will be on duty in the different postal districts.

These examiners will not only examine members of the staffs as to their knowledge of distribution and other postal matters, but will also have some jurisdiction over local post offices in the district.

Examinations will probably be held annually and the standing of the candidates will be taken into consideration in their promotion and salary increases.

Mr. McGill is well known in London and his many friends are congratulating on his new position.

RADIAL MANDATE IS QUESTIONED

Toronto Vote Not Strong Enough To Suit New Controller.

EXPECT BECK TO SPEAK

Drury Sticks To Government Policy of Going Slow.

TORONTO, Jan. 3.—(Canadian Press Dispatch).—In some quarters the majorities registered for the two hydro radial propositions, voted on by the ratepayers of Toronto yesterday, are not regarded as "a clear mandate' to the City Council to proceed with the carrying out of the two schemes. One of these proposals was the acquirement of the Dominion-owned Toronto suburban railway, three miles of which runs in the city limits and then on to Guelph. The other scheme concerned radial railway development on a new line from Toronto to Bowmanville.

Yesterday's polling day gave a majority of 2,507 on a vote of 16,087 in favor of the purchase of the Toronto suburban from the Dominion Government, and the Toronto-Bowmanville project the ratepayers gave a majority of 1,792 in a favorable vote of 15,872 for the scheme.

BY-LAW OUT OF ORDER.

Controller-elect Hiltz said this morning that in view of the close vote on these questions, the matter would have to be gone into very thoroughly before proceeding further, especially as there was a feeling in some quarters that the by-law was "all out of order."

In the meantime Premier Drury has stated that despite the vote in Toronto and other municipalities yesterday the Ontario Government will maintain its conservative policy in the matter of the building of hydro radials and the guaranteeing of municipal bonds for the same. Sir Adam Beck, chairman of the Hydro-Electric Commission, is expected to make an early statement on the matter.

In the election for the Board of Control, one of the features was the battle between ex-Controller A. Russell Nesbitt and ex-Controller W. D. Robbins, and the result of the struggle was not definitely known until early this morning. The final figures showed that Mr. Nesbitt had nosed out Mr. Robbins by a majority of 131. The new Board of Control is comprised of the following: Thomas Foster, ex-M. P. for York and a former controller of Toronto; Controller W. W. Hiltz, Controller Joseph Gibbons and former Controller Russell Nesbitt. Mayor Alfred Maguire was elected by acclamation.

NO SALARY INCREASE.

A feature of the vote on the hydro-electric radial railway by-law and the questions as to increasing the aldermen's salaries from $300 each to $1,200 a year and paying $800 a year to the members of the Board of Education, who had not been in receipt of salaries, was that the salary questions drew much larger votes than the more important questions of railways.

While 44,870 people voted on the aldermanic salary increase question and 48,888 on the question of paying trustees, only about 30,000 voted on the question of the acquirement of the Toronto suburban railway.

The vote on the aldermanic salary question was 40,116 against the proposed increase and 4,754 in favor of it. On the question of paying school trustees the vote was for 5,726, against 43,162.

SHADOW OF HANGED MAN HAUNTS JAIL

Does the ghostly shadow of a prisoner who was hanged at the county jail dance on the sombre prison walls when the moon is at the full? Evidently someone has seen the dancing shadows or has claimed to have seen. Governor Dawson, however, is skeptical of the ghostly goings-on.

A London woman ventured into the governor's office this morning and timidly inquired if it were true that the shadow of a prisoner hanged for murder danced on the jail walls at night. Brrrr-rr-r!

The governor looked rather taken back at the question, but informed the questioner that he had never had the pleasure of meeting any ghostly visitors Without more ado the woman turned about and exited as softly as she had entered.

RAIL MEN WILL VOTE ON SCALE OF WAGES

Local Car Shops Employees Will Cast Ballots On Friday of This Week.

ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO REOPEN BARGAINING

Referendum To Be Taken Among 49,000 Workers In Canada.

A referendum vote will be taken by 49,000 federated shop tradesmen on the Canadian railways immediately to determine whether the scale of wages now effective will be made permanent or remain tentative and have negotiations reopened.

In July of last year a 12½ per cent. cut in wages was placed in effect by the railways throughout Canada. The arrangement under which the cut was received was that it was temporary. Every shopman will have a voice in deciding if the cut is to be continued.

On Friday evening over 1,000 local car shop men employed by the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific railways will cast their ballots. The officials of the organization will receive the ballots from the union headquarters within the next day or so.

A local Federation for Shop Tradesmen was organized in London recently and includes all the men employed in the different trades at the local car works.

RESULTS IN TWO WEEKS.

The results of the referendum will be known within two weeks, as the results must be forwarded to the union officials by January 9, when the ballots will be counted and the returns compiled.

The representatives of the unions will meet the management of the railroads later in the month and will act according to the wishes of the car workers.

The Federated Shop Trades of Canada is the first railway organization in the Dominion to take such action regarding the settlement of wages since the reduction was made in July.

"It is only a fair and just way to decide what shall be done regarding wage agreements," said a local car man in discussing the question to-day.

TRUSTEE FORGOT SMALL FORTUNE FOR YEARS

Found Valuable Bonds, When Cleaning Desk, Worth $1,100.

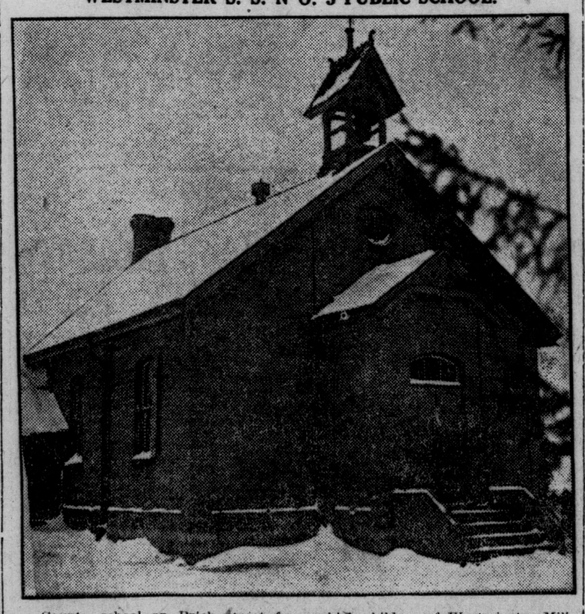
There are not many men in the city who could lay $1,100 away in a desk and forget all about it for several years, but that is exactly what one of the trustees-elect did. Had it not been for the fact that he decided to-day to start the year 1922 right, by giving his desk a thorough overhauling, he probably would never have thought of the incident again.

It appears that the trustee in question purchased $1,100 worth of stock certificates several years ago and laid them away in his desk until such time as he could take them to the bank to deposit. Then he proceeded to forget all about them until he found them to-day carefully hid beneath a pile of papers. Not wishing to take another chance he immediately conveyed them to the bank, where they will be safe. The stock is perfectly good, and the certificates are worth their face value or more in any market, and it was not because he believed them worthless that they were forgotten so long.

ARCHBISHOP REGARDS ATTITUDE OF CLERGY TO REUNION HOPEFUL

LONDON, Jan. 3. — (Canadian Press Cable.) — The Archbishop of Canterbury states that he regards the reception given to the appeal of the Lambeth conference of bishops for Christian reunion as affording ground for unreserved encouragement. The Roman and eastern churches have the appeal before them officially from himself, he announced. The English free churches, the archbishop stated, scarcely without exception, have given the appeal a welcome.

WESTMINSTER S. S. N O. 3 PUBLIC SCHOOL.



County school on Brick street from which children of Westminster Military Hospital employees were barred at noon to-day by order of school section ratepayers. The 10 pupils concerned were told of the citizens' action this morning by Principal John A. McNaughton. The Westminster Hospital employees will take the case to the courts.

May Demand Recount In Township Election

Use of Mass Ballot In Westminster Township Vote Cause of Protest.

FORM USED INCLUDED FOUR COUNTY OFFICES

Judicial Ruling Would Affect Both Rural and Urban Municipalities.

Objections have been raised in Westminster Township over the form of ballot used in the recent municipal election. The ballot carried the names of all officials being voted for—reeve, two deputy reeve and county councilors. Ordinarily, citizens stated, these officials are voted for separately, but his year one long ballot was used for the four offices. Some confusion arose in counting the ballots. Some held that where an improper vote for deputy reeves had been recorded that should not negative the whole ballot, which might have been correct otherwise.

The returning officers, however, are said to have thrown out the whole ballot if any mistake was made. In subdivision No. 10 of Westminster Township it is stated that 10 such ballots were thrown out.

A recount may be called for by Robert Brown, deputy reeve in 1921, who was defeated for re-election for that office in the late election. He came second with a minority of some 129 votes.

If taken to a judge for a decision the ruling thereon will be of considerable interest to both rural and urban municipalities. The mass ballot is more economical from the cost of printing standpoint, but is held to be a constant cause of election mistakes where used.

London used separate ballots in the recent city election for mayor, aldermen, school board and Public Utilities Commission.

DECLARES SECRET TREATY FORGERY

French Ministry Denies Franco-Jap Siberian Understanding.

CONFERENCE RESUMES

Naval Treaty May Be Signed By End of Week.

PARIS, Jan. 3.—(Canadian Press Cable.)—The French ministry of foreign affairs to-day issued a formal denial of the alleged Franco-Japanese understanding regarding the occupation of Siberia. Documents purporting to show that France and Japan had entered into such an agreement were made public in Washington last Saturday by a delegation from the Far Eastern republic.

In its denial the French ministry of foreign affairs quoted from a letter to the United States secretary of state from M. Sarraut, head of the French delegation in Washington, which declared: "The documents produced have been forged out of whole cloth."

CONFERENCE RESUMES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—(Canadian Press Dispatch.)—The armament conference resumed work to-day after a brief holiday over New Year's. The committee on reduction of naval armaments expects to receive the views of the Italian, French and Japanese delegations on the three articles of the Root resolution dealing with the submarine issue and the Balfour amendment. It will then be in a position to pass upon the resolution to be reported from the committee on drafting. This resolution will, of course, deal only with the law of nations on the question of submarines and will still leave for decision other points which have up to date elicited no little controversy. One of these is the Balfour proposal that the five great naval powers should declare against the use of the submarine among themselves; another is proposal that the use of the sub[illegible] against merchant vessels be forbidden inasmuch as such use of the submarine would be clearly impossible under the general declaration of the law of nations already agreed to by the five powers; still

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FORMER SUPERINTENDENT OF CITY MISSION ALLEGED TO BE MEMBER OF GANG THAT STOLE $2,500,000

ARRESTED AS GANGSTER.

HERBERT L. WILSON, formerly superintendent of the City Mission, who is charged in Los Angeles with being one of a gang of robbers that obtained over two million dollars by theft.

Herbert L. Wilson Held In Bonds of $100,000 By Police of San Francisco—Denies Guilt After Being Given Third Degree. Bonds of Many Nations In Loot.

PRISONER JUMPED FROM AUTO AND ONLY STOPPED WHEN BULLETS CUT CLOTHES

Herbert Wilson, former pastor of the City Mission here, has been arrested in Los Angeles, California, as one of a gang of international crooks who during the past two years are alleged to have perpetrated mail and store robberies in many of the larger cities of the United States and Canada and stolen loot totalling more than $2,500,000. Herbert Cox has been arrested as a second member of the gang.

The arrests of the two alleged members of the gang of international mail bandits followed a hunt of nearly a year, which covered the United States from coast to coast. Wilson was arrested after officers had been obliged to force their way into his home on Santa Barbara avenue, and Cox was arrested from a steamer at San Pedro.

The former Londoner denied absolutely any knowledge of the robberies with which he and Cox are charged and although grilled for nearly 24 hours persistently denied knowledge of the bandit gang activities.

ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE.

Following the third degree, Wilson, accompanied by postal inspectors and deputy sheriffs, was taken in an automobile to be lodged in the jail at Newhall, a small town outside Los Angeles. At Burbank, however, the prisoner suddenly leaped from the car and made an unsuccessful attempt to get away. The officers opened fire with their revolvers, but the former minister was only halted after two bullets had torn holes in his trousers.

According to the officers who arrested Cox, he confessed after being grilled for several hours, and his confession is said to have implicated Wilson and others.

Wilson is said to have been the first of the alleged gang arrested, but just when he was arrested appears to be rather vague. It is said that he was taken into custody a considerable time ago and for days was held on a nominal charge in a jail near Los Angeles.

BORN ON GREY STREET.

Wilson was born on Grey street here and until he left some six or seven years ago had always made his home here, where he was well and favorably known. Members of his family still live in the city and are highly respected citizens. He married a London girl, Miss Alice McTaggart.

The alleged gangster was for some years engaged in the furniture business in the city, during which time he became greatly interested in mission work and eventually gave up his interest in the furniture store on Clarence street to devote his time to the work of the City Mission. The mission was then located on Richmond street, on the site now occupied by the London & Western Trusts Company.

Wilson was a speaker of outstanding ability and was a particularly strong evangelist. The meetings of the mission during his time were largely attended and many were converted through his speaking and solicitations. An interesting story which illustrates his ability as a speaker is told of a trip which he made by boat from Toronto to Hamilton. The vessel was packed with a holiday crowd who were card-playing and singing and generally having a good time. Wilson obtained silence and read a chapter from the Bible on which he preached a sermon of such strength that there were many in his audience with wet eyes when he brought it to a close.

STARTS BUSINESS.

The former Londoner again started in the furniture business in a small way during his charge of the mission. He carried on his business from his home and had a quantity of furniture stored in a barn on his premises. Fire destroyed the barn under rather peculiar circumstances. Wilson left the city a short time later.

The robbery with which they are specially charged is the Alameda street robbery of a postal truck on March 3, 1921, in which hold-up the criminals secured loot to the value of more than $780,000.

After the arraignment Cox was held in $50,000 bonds and Wilson in $100,000 bonds, their preliminary hearings being set for January 9 and 13 respectively.

Though Cox is said to have made a partial confession to the officers, Wilson maintained his innocence as strongly as did his wife.

MONTHS OF WORK.

The arraignment of the two suspects was the climax to months of work on the part of county and federal officers.

The suspects were trailed all over the country during the chase. At any time during the last four months either of them could have been arrested on a moment's notice. But the officers kept in hiding, waiting and waiting for those two to join two other members of the alleged gang, so that all might be taken at once.

So close were officers to the suspects that Cox actually played cards on a train in California with two officers who were guarding him secretly, without his ever suspecting that he was being watched.

Crimes laid to this gang, involving both Cox and Wilson in each case, officers stated, are:

The Alameda street mail robbery.

The robbery of the Fifth street store here two years ago, a job netting the bandits $29,000 in valuables.

The robbery of Hales store in San Francisco some months ago in which $60,000 was taken.

An Oakland store robbery, also netting a big purse of loot.

Two department store robberies in the East.

And a bank robbery in the State of Washington, details of which were not disclosed yesterday.

Startling in the charges of the officers, who ceaselessly followed the two men day and night for months, is the revelation that Wilson for five years was a Congregational minister at Brownsville, Ore., and later an evangelist of some note.

CLAIM TO HAVE PROOF.

The officers declare they have enough proof to convict Cox and Wilson on every count of the crimes listed, though the postal robbery, being a federal offense, will first be prosecuted by United States District Attorney Joseph Burke.

They say they have witnesses to whom these men sold securities and in their possession or in their homes officers found much telltale evidence, they assert. Besides this, Cox, it is averred, has "come through" with a great deal of corroborating evidence, involving not only himself and the two uncaught bandits but also Wilson, who denies everything.

What may prove to be even more important as evidence in the mail case is a possible identification of the two men as the bandits who held up the mail truck on Alameda street by the man who drove the truck, Postal Carrier Grimes.

Post Office Inspector Cookson yesterday brought Grimes to the court of Commissioner Long to look at the suspects and Grimes was immediately taken away with orders to speak to no one about identification. But from his glances at Cox and Wilson, all who were there judged that he had identified the men.

Cox was not represented at the hearing by an attorney, but Leo Silverstein, from the office of Paul W. Schenck and Richard Kittrelle, was there to represent Wilson, the firm having been retained by Mrs. Wilson. In fact, had counsel not been employed, it is doubtful whether they would have been brought to Los Angeles from the Newhall jail, where the suspects had been kept, as it was hoped to keep the matter quiet until the entire gang had been arrested.

BONDS FOUND.

There they found a $4,000 bond of the Oneida & Western Railway and a $1,000 bond of the City of Henderson, Ky.

Cookson refused to discuss his find, but other officers stated that they would be able to show that these bonds were a part of stolen loot, accumulated by the bandits in their various depredations, as the bonds check with known stolen securities.

Attorney Silverstein urged that his client be admitted to $50,000, as was Cox, but Herron objected to this on the ground that Wilson had tried to escape from the officers after they had arrested him. The objection was sustained and the larger amount retained.

The first robbery traced to this gang is the robbery of the Fifth street store over two years ago. In this case they overpowered the watchman, blew the save and got away with $29,000 in money and securities.

A year later Hale's, in San Francisco, was robbed in the same way. The watchman was approached by men who said they were bootleggers, and after they had him under the influence of liquor they bound and gagged him and took $60,000 in money and stock and bonds, leaving behind them $2,000 in silver, which was apparently too heavy and bulky for them to make away with.

INSPECTORS NOTIFIED.

Soon after the mail robbery several postal inspectors and Deputy Sheriffs Bell and Couts, under direction ofg Al Manning, received a tip that the postal thieves were in San Francisco and learned, through sold securities, their identity. The officers left for San Francisco immediately, but that night, while the officers were on the train, the bandits "pulled" the Oakland theft of $25,000 worth of securities from Simon's store, and by the time the officers had arrived in the northern city the crooks had gone east by train.

But the trail they had left behind was clear to the officers, who by then had a line on their activities. Immediately every postal inspector in the country was notified, the homes here were watched, and federal investigators began to trail the alleged criminals. Since that time Cox and Wilson have never been alone, though they suspected that they were on many occasions, having separated, as usual, immediately after every "job."

The arrest of the men came at a time when the officers believed the entire gang would congregate here for the holidays. Cox was coming down from San Francisco on a steamer to visit his wife and two young children at their home, 1762 West Forty-Second Place.

Last Friday he was met at the dock at Wilmington, on orders from Undersheriff Biscailuz, by Deputy Sheriff

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HE IS INNOCENT, SAYS MRS. WILSON

Wife of Londoner Held For Robberies Heart Broken.

HAS BEAUTIFUL HOME

Two Automobiles of Her Own. Was Married Here.

"I know he is innocent. He is a good Christian gentleman, a minister of the Gospel and has been always to me a loving husband and good provider.

Mds. Herbert L. Wilson (formerly Miss Alice McTaggart, of this city), wife of the man held in $100,000 bonds for conspiracy to hold up United States mails, yesterday made this statement. Her eyes were red with prolonged weeping, her cheeks sallow, as she stood in her beautiful home at 1508 West Santa Barbara avenue.

"I can't believe it," Mrs. Wilson asserted.

"Why, for the 20 years we have been married he never did one unkind thing, either to me or to anyone else. He was always tender to me and always lived the Christian life he preached. He didn't even smoke or chew or swear. He had no vices and many virtues.

"I am sure he had no part in these terrible robberies of which he is accused as a conspirator. It is true that he was away from home for prolonged periods at times, but he always told me that he was on business, and I believed him—believe him yet.

"Why shouldn't I believe him? Isn't he my husband?

"Why, we have our own pretty home here, all paid for; we have a closed Studebaker and I have a smaller sedan for my own use. We have always been happy, and never so happy as when he would return from trips.

"It must be a mistake. Some enemies must have 'framed' this on him, as they say.

"He always told me he was investigating oil wells, as he was in the oil business, and I am sure that was what he was doing, or he would never have told me so. He doesn't lie.

"It's a terrible shock to a woman to have such charges made against her husband when she knows they are false. But I'm going to stick by him to the finish."

Mrs. Wilson is prominent in church and charitable work.

The Weather

SNOW OR RAIN.

PROBABILITIES.

Fresh southwest winds, mostly cloudy and quite mild to-day and part of Wednesday, with some light local snow or rain, then turning colder.

NOTES.

Pressure is high over the Western Provinces and along the Atlantic coast, while a trough of low extends from Lake Superior to the Southwest States. An important disturbance is centered just south of Newfoundland. The weather has been fair and cold over the greater part of the Dominion.

TEMPERATURES.

The following are the highest and lowest temperatures taken between 8 p. m. and 8 a. m.:

Stations.	Max.	Min.	
LONDON	30	17	Clear
Victoria	40	32	Cloudy
Calgary	38	24	Clear
Winnipeg	24	*12	Clear
Port Arthur	28	22	Cloudy
S. Ste. Marie	22	22	Cloudy
Toronto	10	10	Cloudy
Kingston	* 2	* 4	Cloudy
Ottawa	0	*14	Fair
Montreal	* 4	*10	Fair
Quebec	2	*16	Clear
Father Point	8	*10	Clear
St. John	8	* 4	Clear
Halifax	22	8	Cloudy

*Below zero.

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.

Steamer	Arrived at	From
Constantinople	New York	Patras
Scythia	Liverpool	New York
Zeeland	Plymouth	New York
Empress of Asia	Hong Kong	Vancouver
Bayern	Hamburg	New York
Lexington	Liverpool	Philadelphia