

SEEK CAUSE OF RETICENCE ON KING'S CABINET

Montreal Political Circles Report "Inside Explanation" of Drury Offer.

BLAME QUEBEC DEMANDS

Liberal Leader Alleged To Have Offered Crerar Big Concessions.

[Special to London Advertiser.]

MONTREAL, Dec. 21.—The ominous silence that broods over Ottawa may be explained by a story that is circling the rounds in inside political circles here today.

The attitude of the French press for several days has been typical of the feeling of Quebec.

The papers have not been backward in reminding King that the success of the Liberal party in the recent elections was in great measure due to the solid support he received in the province of Quebec. Having been so prominent in the winning of the election, Quebec was early on the job to see to it that a full share of the honors of war came to this province.

It is reported in well-informed circles that Quebec Liberal managers informed Mackenzie King that they were entitled, and were going to insist on having five seats in the new cabinet. They even went so far as to name most of them. At this writing it is not, however, possible to name the men for the seats, in the order asked for by Quebec.

The upshot of the whole thing was that King flatly refused to make any such concession to Quebec, claiming that he was not going to have his hand forced, and also pointing out that his cabinet had, of necessity, to be representative of the Dominion as a whole.

King was also aware that negotiations were on looking to some understanding with the Progressives, and he was not anxious to compromise the situation by giving such a large number of portfolios to Quebec in advance of the completion of other negotiations.

Unless the information received late tonight is very much in error, there is a schism now imminent between King and the Quebec Liberals, the Liberal leader having refused to bow to the demands that were made upon him.

Other Possibilities.

The next question asked by local wisacres is: "Who is King going to get, now that he may have to count on doing without Quebec?"

He has made overtures to Drury and to Crerar.

The Drury offer is common knowledge, and Montreal hears that the Ontario premier was offered a cabinet position of prominence that has been commonly regarded as the property of another Ontario Liberal.

Had Mr. Drury been left to his own way of thinking and acting, the chances are that he would by this

ACHES AND PAINS OF RHEUMATISM

Sometimes They Are Unbearable. There are weather conditions that make rheumatism worse. They are not the same in the cases of all persons. Some rheumatism sufferers are in dry, warm weather than in moist, cold weather, but all suffer more or less all the time.

The cause of rheumatism is an excess of uric acid in the blood, affecting the muscles and joints, causing aches and pains. Hence the blood must have attention for permanent results in the treatment of this disease.

Hood's Sarsaparilla has given entire satisfaction in thousands of cases. Do not fail to try it.

For a laxative take Hood's Pills. Adv.

time have closed with King and taken a seat in the first place and asked him to take the leadership of the party, and he had consented to do so. In deference to their wishes, therefore, Mr. Drury has decided to remain at Toronto for the present.

The story of the effort to come to some arrangement with Crerar has also appeared in print. Montreal hears that King offered to make certain concessions in order to bring the Progressives to working terms, in hope that cabinet construction might be completed and the work of organization be gone on with.

Spread Strange Report.

Some of the Conservative interests here are even suggesting now that if the Quebec Liberals under Gouin could make an alliance with the Conservatives they might even yet dominate the situation and retain Melglen as leader of the Conservative party.

Of course, there are those who ridicule this suggestion, but it is one of the political reports going around.

BANDITS WHO TIED UP WOMEN ARE CAPTURED

Sarnia Man Shot by Port Huron Police During Chase.

WOUND NOT SERIOUS

[Special to The Advertiser.]

SARNIA, Dec. 21.—Edward J. Shannon, 549 Wellington street, Sarnia, is in Port Huron hospital with a bullet wound in the leg, and William Hall, 273 Davis street, this city, is in Port Huron jail, as the result of an affair which occurred in Port Huron last night, when two armed and masked men entered the home of Mrs. Hattie Comover, Beers street, between 9 and 10 o'clock and held up Mrs. Comover and two lady visitors. After relieving the women of their money and valuables the bandits drove them upstairs and after tying them up, made their departure.

One of the ladies managed to give the alarm, and police were soon on the scene. Finding a \$1 Canadian bill near the residence, police officers were at once sent down to the ferry landing and located two men lurking in the shadows. The men ran, and a chase ensued. The police came up to them as they were separating and grabbed them. Shannon broke away and ran along Quay street.

Patrolman Campbell fired at the running man, and he fell. When he was picked up it was found that he was wounded in the leg, and he was taken to Port Huron hospital. It is stated tonight that the wound is a flesh one, and not likely to be serious.

The men are known in this city, both being employees of the Imperial Oil Company.

BRANTFORD VETS TREAT 300 KIDDIES

[Special to The Advertiser.]

BRANTFORD, Dec. 21.—Over \$1,000 was raised by the G. W. V. A. for a fund to provide Christmas treats and regular yuletide dinners for the widows and orphans of their deceased comrades. A big Christmas tree and entertainment was held tonight at the G. W. V. A. Hall, and over 300 kiddies were provided with Christmas toys and goodies.

ATTENDED FUNERAL.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

BRANTFORD, Dec. 21.—Representatives of the local works of the Massey-Harris Company, the Verity Plow Company and the Cockshutt Plow Company were in Toronto today attending the funeral of the late Thomas Findley, general manager of the Massey-Harris Company.

JUDGE ASSAILS 'DISCOURTESY' AT TIMBER QUIZ

Censures Counsel During Examination of Witness At Session.

WANTS CONTRACT SHOWN

Attorney For Spanish River Requested To Reveal Authority For Firm's Action.

TORONTO, Dec. 21.—Justice Riddell, at a session today of the timber inquiry, characterized remarks made by Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, former minister of lands, forests and mines for Ontario, as "gross discourtesy."

To this Mr. Ferguson replied: "That is not so. I have been distinctly courteous to the commission."

Justice Riddell—"Then I don't know what courtesy is. We differ as to its meaning."

Mr. Ferguson—"I am glad to know that."

Justice Riddell—"Let's get on." The flare-up began through Mr. Ferguson taking exception to words used by Shirley Denison, the crown counsel, and changing that Mr. Denison had prepared briefs in the probe for the attorney-general for political purposes. Justice Riddell objected to Mr. Ferguson's remarks.

Mr. Ferguson—"I tell you that unless you stop this you must leave."

His lordship stated that the crown counsel was perfectly regular in his examination of witnesses.

Wants Contract Evidence.

Col. T. Gibson, counsel for the Spanish River Pulp and Paper Company, was requested by Mr. Denison to give evidence as to contracts between the Spanish River Company and the Marquay Lumber Company, under which the latter had cut spruce and jack-pine on the former company's limits. Col. Gibson refused to testify in the matter, and was warned by Justice Riddell that he might have to give evidence.

G. H. Kilmer, K.C., representing the Marquay Company, produced four contracts, which he said, were all he had been able to find since Saturday, when the matter was referred to.

To show the existence of a common ring which he submitted had been favored, also the interlocking of directors, Shirley Denison, K.C., examined George A. Gray, a director of the Spanish River Pulp and Paper Company, as to his connection with other companies.

Mr. Gray said that he had been for a long time a director and shareholder of the Cochrane Hardware Company, of which the president was W. J. Bell of Sudbury, one of the large shareholders of the Spanish River Company.

Mr. Gray admitted that the largest shareholder of the Cochrane Hardware Company was the estate of the late Hon. Frank Cochrane. Other directors were Hon. Geo. Gordon, A. B. Gordon, W. C. Cochrane and Archie Foster. The Albany Timber Company and Archie Foster were also shareholders.

Witness was a director of A. J. Young, Limited, now the National Groceries, of which W. J. Bell was president, Senator Gordon and A. B. Gordon directors, and W. C. Cochrane and Frank Cochrane a shareholder.

Alluding to A. J. Young, president of the Ontario Liberal Association, and to W. C. Cochrane, Mr. Denison asked: "So you were associated with a prominent Liberal and a prominent Conservative?"

SECURE CLUE TO
POULTRY THIEVES

One Man Convicted and Sentenced, But His Companion Escapes.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

INGERSOLL, Dec. 21.—In connection with the wholesale stealing of poultry in North Oxford Township, which has been a source of worry to the farmers of that district for upwards of three months, Eric Ackert, a local young man, today pleaded guilty in four cases and was sentenced to two years less one day in the Ontario Reformatory by Magistrate Paterson.

Another local man, said to be a pal of Ackert, has eluded the police, who are determined that all connected with the gang shall be rounded up.

One of the startling features in connection with the case today, and which emphasized the fact that stealing had been carried on in a systematic manner, was that quantities of stolen poultry had been shipped to the Harris Abattoir by Ackert and another party for which they had obtained in the neighborhood of \$100.

For weeks, farmers in North Oxford had complained bitterly of their flocks being decimated. Finally the local police discovered a clue which resulted in the arrest of Ackert, but before they could swoop down on his accomplice he had made good his escape.

Evidence was given today by a chauffeur, who had been engaged to make one of the trips into the country, and by farmers who had lost poultry. In some cases stolen fowl located by the police has been identified, and will be returned to the owners.

COURT CENSURES
CAVELL DEFENCE

BRUSSELS, Dec. 21.—The court of appeals today handed down a decision censuring Sadi Kirschchen a German attorney who defended Edith Cavell, the British nurse who was sentenced to death in 1915 before the German court-martial which tried her.

It also reprimanded Gaston DeLavelle, a Belgian, lawyer, who at the time acted as legal counsel for the United States legation in Brussels.

DeLavelle, in his report to Brand Whitlock, the United States minister to Belgium at the time, charged that Kirschchen's defense of Miss Cavell was not what it should have been, and also that he had failed to inform the legation of the sentence passed upon Miss Cavell until after her execution.

ELECT B. O. T. OFFICERS.

KIRKWOOD, Dec. 21.—Kirkwood Board of Trade met Wednesday evening, with a fairly good attendance, and elected the following officers: President, Morehead Morgan; first vice-president, J. J. Foster; secretary, H. Kerr; treasurer, John Taylor.

States Merchants Bank Deposits "Are Safe As In Bank of England"

MONTREAL, Dec. 21.—Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, general manager of the Bank of Montreal, today issued a statement relative to criticism which has been aimed at the absorption by his bank of the Merchants Bank.

"Reports have been circulated and articles have appeared in the press in certain centers that may prove misleading to people unfamiliar with financial matters," says the statement.

"You may quote me as saying that the Bank of Montreal has undertaken, subject to ratification by the shareholders, to take over all the assets and assume all the liabilities of the Merchants Bank of Canada."

"Pending the completion of the necessary formalities, H. B. MacKenzie has been installed in the Merchants Bank as acting general manager. The capital of the Merchants Bank is intact, and the deposits in the Merchants Bank of Canada are safe beyond all question, as safe as the Bank of England."

Hold-Up Men Compel Owners Of Liquor To Load It On Wagon

Alleged Bandits Who Raided Home of Down Brothers, Port Lambton, Tuesday Morning, Arrested in Marine City On Wednesday.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

SARNIA, Dec. 21.—Carmen Mitchell and Henry McNeil were arrested in Marine City tonight in connection with a daring hold-up perpetrated Tuesday morning, when two brothers, Gerald and Ernest Down, residing three miles east of Port Lambton, were held up by revolvers at their home, and thirteen cases of liquor stolen from the premises.

The two bandits, after shooting at Gerald, who tried to escape, forced the brothers, along with two Sombra men who they had brought from that village, to load the liquor on a wagon. The whole party then set off to Sombra, near which place the bandits handcuffed three of the men to a post, and took the fourth with them to the waterfront.

The affair constitutes one of the most daring hold-ups ever perpetrated in this county. The bandits were traced through the efforts of License Inspector W. J. Coulter and Provincial Constable Leslie Atkins.

The bandits, according to the story of the raid told by those concerned, crossed the river early Tuesday morning at Sombra. They found two men with a wagon and stated they wanted to purchase some liquor. They were taken out to the home of the Down brothers, who stated they had liquor, but it was not for sale.

"We will take it anyway," one of the bandits said, and each produced two revolvers and ordered the two brothers and the two men with the wagon to put up their hands. Gerald, one of the brothers, made a dash through the door. Mitchell fired

at him, barely missing, and ordered him to come back, which he did.

The liquor was thereupon loaded into the wagon under compulsion and the party set off towards Sombra, the two bandits still flourishing their guns. Near the village they ordered three of the men out of the wagon, and producing handcuffs, secured them to a post. They took the driver with them to the waterfront and loaded the whiskey into a boat.

Before leaving the bandits gave the driver the key of the handcuffs, and told him to go back and release the others, which he did. The liquor has not yet been recovered, and is thought to have been sold in Detroit.

PREMIERS' PARLEY AFFECTS MEETING

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Another meeting of the allied supreme council, this time at Cannes, on the French Riviera, in January, is the outcome of the parleys between Prime Minister Lloyd George and Premier Briand of France during the last few days.

A pledge of secrecy was entered into between the two premiers regarding their London conversations, but the supreme council evidently has been called either to revise the reparations provisions of the treaty of Versailles, or to deliberate on the advisability of calling a still larger international conference with a view to dealing with the whole question of international finances and exchange.

URGES FARMERS BE INDEPENDENT

CALGARY, Dec. 21.—The Alberta Farmer tomorrow will say of the proposed Progressive-Liberal union: "With a group as large and powerful as it possesses in the new parliament the Progressive party has a fine chance to demonstrate a new principle in government. By remaining absolutely independent and assuming a position where its support will be guaranteed for all good legislation, no matter from what party or group it may come, it can serve its own and the country's cause best. Union with either of the old parties in parliament is the way danger lies for the Progressive cause."

U. F. O. HOLDS UP BIG HYDRO DEAL

TORONTO, Dec. 21.—The "clean-up deal" whereby the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission and the city of Toronto are to acquire the electric power and radial railway interests of labor Sir William MacKenzie is the head, as recently passed by the city council, is being held up by the government in order that Scarborough Township may be satisfied as to the Toronto and York Radial Railway end of the deal.

Scarborough's solicitor has written to Hon. W. E. Ransay, attorney-general, stating that Scarborough Township was not consulted in respect to the drafting of the agreement, which affects the township's interests, but he makes it clear that Scarborough is not necessarily opposed to it.

OLIVER CABINET MAN
RESIGNS TWO POSTS

VICTORIA, B.C., Dec. 21.—Indicating his course of action has been dictated by personal reasons, Hon. J. W. DeB. Farris, attorney-general and minister of the province of British Columbia, has resigned his dual portfolio in the Oliver cabinet.

Effective Sept. 6, 1921.

TO ST. THOMAS: 7:50 a.m., 7:05 a.m., 9:20 a.m., 1:20 a.m., 4:12 p.m., 5:20 p.m., 6:20 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 8:20 p.m., 9:20 p.m., 10:20 p.m.

TO PORT STANLEY: 7:50 a.m., 9:20 a.m., 1:20 a.m., 4:12 p.m., 5:20 p.m., 6:20 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 8:20 p.m., 9:20 p.m., 10:20 p.m.

Limited, London to St. Thomas. Daily except Sunday. All trains stop at Gairthwaite.

RETURN TO WORK WITH RATE OF WAGE REFUSED

CALGARY, Alta., Dec. 21.—Miners at the Colliery mine, numbering 190, Drumheller, went back to work this morning at wages reduced by 25 per cent.

Secretary Robert Peacock of the United Mine Workers of America, asserted emphatically, in confirming the news, that though the men were back at work, this does not necessarily mean an "acceptance" of the 25 per cent reduction.

"This has been forced on the men by the management," he said. "They are not on strike now, but they will be."

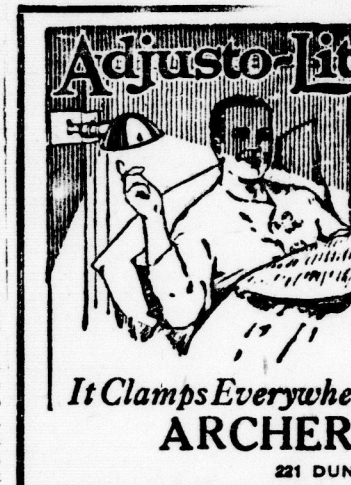
London & Port Stanley Railway

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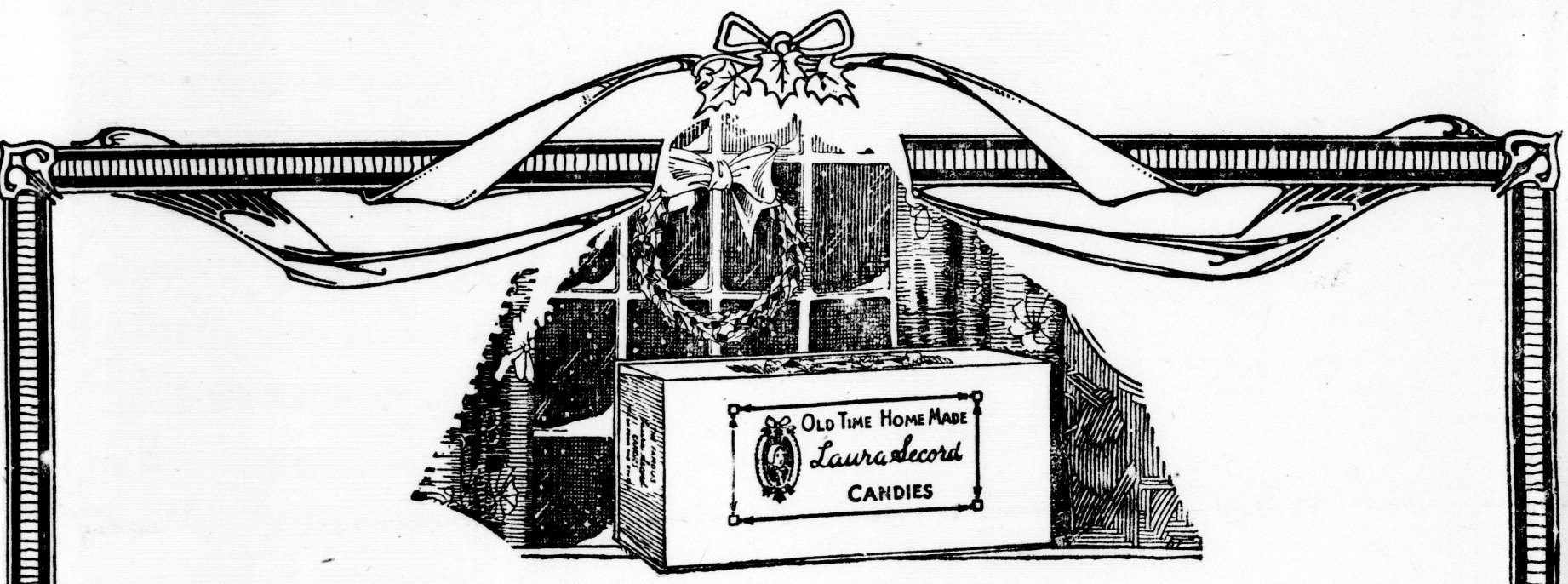
Limited, London to St. Thomas. Daily except Sunday. All trains stop at Gairthwaite.



Electrical Gifts the Best

Adjusto Lamp \$3.00
Boudoir Lamp, complete \$4.00 and up
Reading Lamp, complete \$5.00 and up
Electric Irons, guaranteed \$6.00 and up
Christmas Tree Outfits, 8 colored lights at \$1.00 and up
Upright Toasters, complete \$2.00 and up
Coffee Percolators, complete \$2.00 and up
Japanese Wicker and Silk Shades \$2.00 and up
Apex Electric Vacuum Cleaners \$50.00
Do Your Christmas Buying Now.

It Clamps Everywhere
ARCHER ELECTRIC
221 DUNDAS STREET.



Dear Friends:

Mysterious parcels—tissue paper clad, and holly-decked—how many thousands of them on Christmas Eve slip unnoticed (perhaps?) behind chairs and under couches?

And then—the dawning of the most wonderful day in the year. The sun sparkles and dances on the snow and the ice-clad trees rattle their branches in a merry winter dance. Distant Church-bells ring out glad tidings of peace on earth to men of good will.

There is a rustling in the hall and a patter of little bare feet across the floor. "Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!" And now the whole house is awake and eager little hands tremble so they can hardly untie the big parcels and the little parcels and all the parcels in between.

And on that merry, merry morning what inexpensive remembrance will bring more joy than a box of Laura Secord Old-time Home-made Candies?

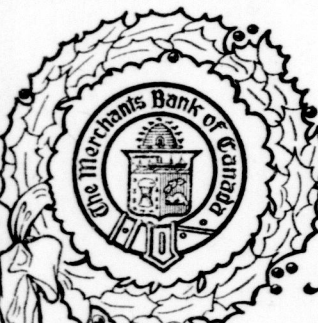
Made so pure and wholesome that they're best for children—made with such old-time deliciousness in the Laura Secord Studios that they are the favorite candies of most people today.

You'll want your favorite candies for Christmas. Past experience proves that, in spite of the greatest efforts, some of Laura Secord's friends will be disappointed. Orders placed at once, for special assortments, or for regular boxes, will surely be filled.

All Sixty Cents the Pound

Laura Secord CANDY SHOPS

389 Richmond St. Royal Bank Bldg.



Have plenty
for Christmas
next year

When you don't have to "rake and scrape and scrimp" to get enough money together for Christmas remembrances, then you feel the real joy of giving.

You can have enough—more than enough—for all the gifts you want to give, if you join our 1922 "Christmas Club" NOW—to-day.

Any amount you want to save makes you a member—and there are no dues or fees of any kind.

You decide how much money you want in the Bank by Christmas next year. You divide this amount by fifty, and save a fifth every week. That's the plan of the "Even Payment Christmas Club" in a few words.

Join the Club—make your deposits regularly—and two weeks before next Christmas, you will have your Christmas money ready for Christmas shopping or for any other purpose.

Come to the Bank to-day, and get enrolled. We are waiting for you.

Even Payment Classes

in which the same amount is deposited each week for 50 weeks

25c. weekly totals \$12.50

50c. weekly totals 25.00

\$1.00 weekly totals 50.00

\$2.00 weekly totals 100.00

\$5.00 weekly totals 250.00

\$10.00 weekly totals 500.00

or weekly totals 1000.00

Increasing Payment Classes

in which increasing amounts are deposited each week for 50 weeks

1c. and increase totals \$12.75

2c. and increase totals 25.50

5c. and increase totals 63.75

10c. and increase totals 127.50

You can join several classes if you wish

London Branch, Cor. Richmond St. and Queen's Avenue, J. E. Magee, Manager
London South Branch, 146 Wootley Rd., J. E. Magee, Manager
London East Branch, Cor. Dundas and C. F. McKenzie, Manager
Market Branch, Cor. King and Talbot St., D. L. Willson, Mgr.

The MERCHANTS BANK Christmas Club