

MENTION TWO AS JUDGE OF CITY JUVENILE COURT

Mayor Wenige Suggests A. E. Barbour, While Dr. Stevenson Favors Rev. Quintin Warner—Will Have Jurisdiction Over Whole of Middlesex County.

HON. W. E. RANEY DELAYS GIVING DECISION

Special to The Advertiser

Toronto, Feb. 12.—Two opposing factions met in the attorney-general's office at noon today to urge the appointment of a juvenile court judge in London.

As a result, no recommendation is yet forthcoming from Mr. Raney. He accepted both names under advisement.

Mayor George Wenige submitted the name of A. E. Barbour, president of the London Children's Aid Society, revealing incidentally a long list of organizations who have expressed themselves favorably in this respect.

Dr. Hugh A. Stevenson, Labor M. L. A. for London, urged the appointment of Rev. Quintin Warner, rector of the Croydon Memorial Church.

This was the unanimous choice of the Labor party in London, he explained, adding that he would support no other nominee.

J. G. Lethbridge, M. L. A. for West Middlesex, represented the county at the conference, but had no names to submit, as it was generally understood that the appointee would naturally be a resident of London.

He did question whether Mr. Kelly of the Children's Aid Society, would be a suitable judge, but did not press his appointment, when informed that the latter could not consider the position without remuneration.

Both Mr. Warner and Mr. Barbour would undertake the duties without salary, the attorney-general was assured.

Includes Whole County.

Mr. Raney explained that once the juvenile delinquents act is proclaimed, the court will have jurisdiction over the entire county of Middlesex.

This was news to the visitors, with the exception of the member from West Middlesex, who explained that a resolution had been passed by the county council some years ago, recommending the establishment of a court, but action had been deferred pending a move by the city.

The point was raised that certain difficulty might arise by the necessity of holding court in the county,

but the attorney-general held that this was a detail that could be worked out later. The same system was already in vogue in many centers, and no complaints have yet been registered, he stated.

The attorney-general was anxious to know if Mayor Wenige was officially representing the city council. He explained that he had a recommendation from the London Council, involving the name of Police Magistrate Graydon.

The mayor pointed out that this was a communication from 1922, but the attorney-general insisted that it had never been withdrawn.

Given Assurance.

Mr. Raney was quite satisfied, however, when Mayor Wenige gave positive assurance that the chairman of No. 1 committee and himself had been authorized to choose a likely candidate.

Dr. Stevenson interjected the remark, however, that he understood that the mayor had to report back to the council for confirmation.

His worship held a contrary opinion, however. Mr. Raney was asked if it would be possible to appoint a lady as an associate judge, and Dr. Stevenson explained that, if such was feasible, the women of London would be more than satisfied.

Some of them had advocated the appointment of Miss Grace Blackburn.

Mr. Raney was frankly opposed to any more of this nature, however, but favored the appointment of a woman as probation officer for delinquent girls.

Mr. Raney would make no recommendation other than to state that the city council's choice would naturally receive every consideration. Dr. Stevenson insisted that he was championing Labor's choice.

Although the conference was set for 10 a.m., the London deputations were an hour late by reason of the fact that a wheel broke on their train en route to the city.

The accident occurred just west of Princeton. The trainmen stopped the train in time. The damaged car was hauled into Princeton and switched out.

MOTHER IN SOUTH CLEARS MISSING CHILD MYSTERY

Mrs. Herman Absolves Mrs. H. Smith of Any Blame in Abduction.

WRITES HER LETTER

Declares She Is Sorry For Having Neglected Her Friends.

Mrs. Herman, formerly Mrs. John Irwin, mother of the missing Lillian Irwin, for whose abduction, Mrs. Hannah Smith, 2 Adelaide street, was held by the police last month, is in Jacksonville, Florida. Hearing of Mrs. Smith's plight, Mrs. Herman wrote a letter, assuming the entire responsibility for the disappearance of her 10-year-old daughter, and absolving Mrs. Smith of all blame. It is the first word from Mrs. Herman received in London since she left with Lillian a few days prior to Christmas.

On Jan. 18, Mrs. Smith was dismissed of the charge of abduction because of the lack of corroborative evidence. It had been charged she had been a party to the stealing of the child from the home of John Irwin, Mrs. Herman's first husband, at 495 Burbrook street, East London.

The letter Mrs. Smith received today reads in part:

"Jacksonville, Fla., 'General Delivery,' Feb. 7, 1923.

"My Dearest Friend, Mrs. Smith—You surely must be mad at me. I am just so ashamed of myself for neglecting my friends. It has been so long since I heard from you last, or even written to you, but Mrs. Smith, I just want to hear from you real soon, for I have so much to tell you.

"My dear, I feel worried about you. I wish I could see you. Lillian was attending a party at your house. He also said he was having you up for examination. Now, Mrs. Smith, this is awful—for you did not have anything to do with helping me—I drove the car and took her—no one knew what I was going to do—and so you are absolutely innocent.

"Very sincerely, I am your true friend, MAY."

The letter was turned over to The Advertiser by Mr. Melville Smith, husband of Hannah Smith.



WHERE MYSTERIOUS HERMIT DIED IN WANT.

In the attic of this semi-vacant house at 140 Queen's avenue, David Williamson, who had \$900 to his credit in a local bank and \$8.48 in cash in his pocket, died of starvation and old age yesterday. Photographer's mark of conversation between two unknown strangers in the back room of a hotel was the clue that led police to discovery of the emaciated body of the aged man.

WILL SEEK IMPROVEMENTS FOR PORT STANLEY HARBOR

Large Deputation From Middlesex and Elgin Is Scheduled To Wait On Hon. J. H. King, Minister of Public Works, On February 22.

Once more a strong effort will be made by the various bodies, both municipal and private, interested in the port of Stanley, to have the long-sought-for improvements made to the harbor of that port.

On the 22nd of this month, a large deputation consisting of representatives from the London and the St. Thomas city councils, the Middlesex and Elgin county councils, the Port Stanley village, the Lake Erie Fishing Company, the shipping, milling and coal interests using the port, the London and St. Thomas chambers of commerce, and the London and Port Stanley Railway Commission, will wait upon Hon. J. H. King, M.D., minister of public works, in an attempt to interest him in a grievance that has been hanging fire since 1918.

Appoint Sir Adam.

At a meeting this morning the L. and P. S. Railway Commission appointed Sir Adam Beck to represent that body on the deputation. Sir Adam expressed himself as being heartily in favor of the movement, and stated that if it were at all possible he would go down to Ottawa on that date.

To make the deputation as representative and as strong as possible, the members of parliament for Middlesex and Elgin counties will be asked for their full co-operation, and if possible to interview the minister of public works with the deputation. The improvements to be requested will be practically the same as those asked for in 1909. Secretary Gordon Philip of the chamber of commerce told The Advertiser this morning. At that time, the department engineers recommended that the harbor be deepened by dredging, the entrance of the harbor be widened, and that a new east pier be constructed. The estimated cost of the improvements then was \$264,500.

Extended Over Years.

It was not planned that all the improvements should be made at one time, but that they should be extended over a period of years. It is understood that the present deputation may kindle some action.

Prominent citizens point out that the progress of Port Stanley as a lake port has been greatly hampered through lack of improvements, and the population of Middlesex and Elgin counties, especially those who have a direct interest in the port, feel that way or another must be taken.

Every confidence is expressed that the Hon. Mr. King will realize, when the time and figures are shown him, the importance of the improvements, and will make at least to make a start before 1924.

CLUBMAN SHOT DEAD BY MASKED BANDITS

Seven Members of Band Escape With Jewels Valued at \$5,000.

Associated Press Despatch.

Charlevoix, Pa., Feb. 12.—William Hope was shot dead in a spectacular raid by seven masked bandits on Eagles Club here early today. The men escaped with money and jewels estimated in value at \$5,000.

Eighteen men were sitting in the club shortly after midnight, about to leave for their homes, when the gang, dressed in black robes and black hoods, walked into the room and ordered them to throw up their hands. Hope did not get his hands up as quickly as the others and one of the bandits immediately opened fire. He was shot through the head.

The Eagles were then ordered to sit down, and while two of the bandits covered them with their pistols, the others searched them and rifled the cash register. They then cut the telephone wires and drove rapidly away in automobiles.

Central Ceases To "Tell Time"

Bell Telephone Company Ruling Effective After Monday.

Associated Press Despatch.

Montreal, Feb. 10.—"What's the time, please, central?" will be a fruitless question within the next few days. The Bell Telephone Company announces that its operators have been instructed to discontinue giving the time of day on and after Monday, Feb. 19. The ruling would apply to Ontario and Quebec offices of the company.

SIR ADAM FIGHTS TO HOLD LOYALTY OF LONDON BLUES

Worried by Actions of E. R. Dennis, Who Would Supplant Conservative Leader.

PARTY RIFT SERIOUS

Local Camp Torn Between Desires and Duty to Provincial Chieftain.

Although the tenor of observations at the recent get-together banquet of the Conservative Club was that all was well on the poop of the good political ship piloted by G. Howard Ferguson, provincial leader, there appears to be a definite cleavage of Conservative supporters locally.

The nomination for a candidate to contest this constituency in the approaching election is between E. R. Dennis and Sir Adam Beck and therein lies the rift.

On the surface everything is tranquil, but down below the Conservative orchestra is playing discordant notes. It is known that E. R. Dennis aspires to leadership of the local blues but Sir Adam will not allow the laurels to be wrested from him without a fight.

Suffers From Blow.

The defeat of the London Street Railway bylaw in the municipal election was a blow to Sir Adam from which he has not fully recovered. And among those who contributed to his defeat were none other than E. R. Dennis and his henchmen.

Realizing that defeat of the measure would materially lessen Sir Adam's chances for the leadership of the Conservative party, Sir Adam and his supporters worked and voted solidly for George Ferguson against Childs. Perhaps Mayor Wenige would have carried the honors without this assistance but it is conceded that it had a strong bearing on the result of the battle.

Sir Adam is very much down but he is not out. According to the best information he wants the Conservative nomination in the forthcoming provincial affair in spite of the obvious disapproval of the electors as reflected in the late civic contest.

He appeared at the Conservative banquet Friday evening and was accorded a rousing personal acclaim.

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MAN DIES, HUNGRY, COLD, DESPITE BANK ACCOUNT

Aged David Williamson Found Dead Amid Rags in Squalid Tenement House in This City—Lay Uncared For With Bottles Only as Companion.

OVERHEARD WHISPERS LEAD TO FIND

Although he had \$900 in the bank and \$8.48 in cash in his pocket, David Williamson died of starvation and senility in a squalid attic bedroom at 140 Queen's avenue Sunday. Apparently no one was with him when the end came.

Chance conversation overheard in the back room of a hotel led police to the emaciated body.

"How could I get anything with him lying there dead? Besides, the people in Beemer's garage across the road would see me coming out," said a voice in the hotel room.

"Maybe you're right," said the other voice.

A third man, who was in the room, but on the other side of the partition where the strangers were conversing in low voices, became suspicious and notified the police.

Police Investigate.

It was 11 o'clock Sunday night when Sergeant James Oakley received the information. After a brief search he entered the tenement house known as 140 Queen's avenue. Up the uncarpeted stairs he went, until he reached the third floor. The door of the front room was ajar. The officer flashed his light, and on the road would see me coming out," said a voice in the hotel room.

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