

MUNICIPALITIES MAY TAKE BIT BETWEEN TEETH

Threat Made To Ignore Government's Refusal To Authorize Hydro-Radials.

SIR ADAM BECK REPLIES

Tells Drury He Is Surprised—Claims Approval Given To Proceed.

TORONTO, Dec. 22.—Municipalities in the Niagara frontier, which now threaten to vote on radial bylaws in January, despite the government's refusal to authorize the bylaws in their present form, will probably gain nothing more than an expression of public opinion by such a move.

A verdict given at the polls under such circumstances, would not be recognized by the government, Premier Drury declared today.

"The first thing that must be done is to develop a proper scheme, things are chaotic at present," he stated. "There would have to be another vote, even if one were taken in January."

The prime minister added that the government would not operate will be left to the municipalities. "If they ask that the hydro commission may operate, the government may consent," he declared. "That matter has not been decided."

He expressed the view that it was undemocratic a commission operating for municipalities which was not responsible to the municipalities.

Halcrow Silent on Bolt.

G. C. Halcrow, M.P.P. for East Hamilton, and house leader of the Labor party, declared today that no date had been set as yet for the reported caucus of the Labor members, and that it would not be held until the new year. "It will consider whatever questions may arise up to that time," he added. Mr. Halcrow was silent as to the report that he was likely to resign the house leadership, and to bolt from the government in the near future.

"That's a thing I can't discuss," he declared. "I have been accused, in some quarters, of following the lead of Mr. Macdowell. I certainly don't want to appear in that light."

Defends Government Policy.

In the explanation of the government's policy, Mr. Drury last night issued the following statement:

"The government refused to ratify, by order-in-council, the bylaws submitted to it, because in several instances they overstepped the hydro-electric railway act. Further, these first letters, asking for ratification, were received at the parliament buildings on Saturday, Dec. 3. The first day on which they could have been dealt with was Monday, Dec. 5, so that, even if the government had been willing to have given an unconditional ratification, which it was not, the bylaws could not have been passed by the municipal councils and received by law, before Jan. 2, the date of the municipal elections.

"Further, in accordance with the government's promise, it is the intention to submit legislation at the coming session which will empower groups of municipalities to build, acquire and operate electric lines where they so desire under conditions which will better safeguard the municipalities and the delay of the commission in submitting the matter to the government, would, in my opinion, be premature and would defeat its own purpose."

Mr. Drury added that the ground for objection to the bylaws, in their present form, had first been discovered by the legal department, which reported it to the government.

Sir Adam's Reply.

Sir Adam Beck tonight made public his reply to the Drury government in its refusal to assent to the submission of hydro radial bylaws for the acquisition of the Niagara, St. Catharines and Toronto Railroad, and the Toronto Suburban Railway.

Sir Adam charges that the premier has gone back upon a definite understanding given on Oct. 12, when the members of the cabinet at a conference with the hydro chairman, according to Sir Adam, gave an assurance that they would allow the necessary bylaws to be submitted to the municipalities.

Sir Adam says that as a result of this understanding he took up the question of the guarantee with the Dominion authorities, and secured their consent to the new bond arrangement necessary in view of the refusal of the government to give any guarantee.

"I am in receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, addressed to the secretary of the commission, in which you state that it does not appear that any purpose will be served by approval of the terms of the agreements," says Sir Adam's letter.

Surprised by Action.

"I must admit complete surprise at the decision taken by you in this matter, in view of my conference with yourself and the members of the government on Oct. 12. At that time you had made the public statement that the government could not undertake to guarantee any radial railway bonds and the only purpose of my conference with you was to ascertain whether or not your government would give the necessary approval to agreements under which the municipalities could give the necessary guarantee.

"You and the members of your government assured me at that time that you would allow the necessary bylaws to be submitted to the municipalities, authorizing the municipalities to enter into the necessary agreement and give the necessary guarantee. It was a matter for the municipalities to decide by vote.

"Having reached, as I assumed, this clear understanding, I at once took up the question of guarantee with the Dominion Government and secured their consent to the principle of the disposal of the roads upon a hydro bond guaranteed by the debentures of the various municipalities. As soon as this was settled, the necessary agreements and by-laws were forwarded to your government at the earliest possible moment, viz., on the second day of December, for what it occurred to me would be merely a formal approval, in view of the conference of Oct. 12."

"I observe that you state there are objections to the agreements as submitted, because they differ in two particulars from the standard form of agreement and you point out that the two objections are:

"(1). (The agreement) provides that the debentures of the municipalities be issued as collateral security for the bonds proposed to be issued by the commission may be hypothecated.

"The radial act provides for the deposit of these bonds with the commission as collateral security for payment of all the obligations of the commission in respect to the undertaking—and the agreement submitted provides that the commission may, if it desires, deposit the bonds with a trust company for the same purpose.

"Council for the commission advise the change from the standard agreement neither adds to nor subtracts in any way from the responsibilities of the municipalities and that the commission under the standard agreement had full authority to deposit the municipal bonds with the trust company.

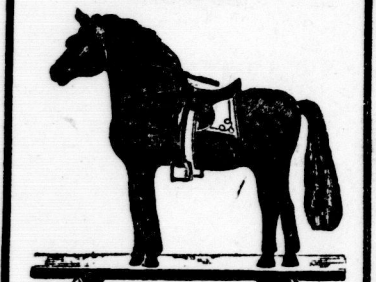
"The agreement authorizes the commission to acquire and operate other means of transportation than radial railways."

PEEL'S TOY WORLD SPECIALS

GUNS, POPGUNS, TARGET PISTOLS, TARGET GUNS, DARTS FOR DART GAMES,

50c to \$2.00

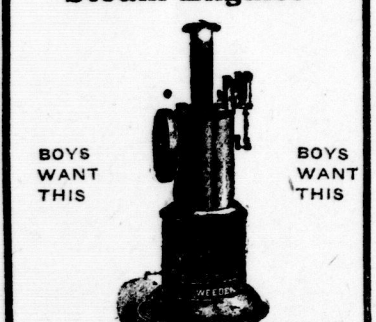
HORSES



Big Display Pull Toys—Horses and Wagons, Carts, Horses on Platform. Very special 25c to \$8.00

Children's Colored Beads 25c and Neckties. Very special 50c Mutt and Jeff and Bringing-up Father Books. Very special 35c Latest Edition of Chatterbox \$1.50

Steam Engines



Steam Engines, Well Made, \$1.25 to \$10.00

Kiddie Cars \$2.25

Teddy Bears, all reduced to clear. Gift Stationery, very special 50c

Dressed Dolls, all reduced for quick sale, 50c, 75c, \$1.49 to \$8

Imitation Kid Body Dolls, all reduced 75c to \$8.00

Watch and Chain special 25c Christmas Candles, assorted colors, box of 36, Special 12c

Wind-up Railway Trains, with rails, Special \$1.45

Blow and Arrow Set, made of hickory, ribbon tied, Special 35c

Steamboats, Wind-up Toys that go, Special \$1.25 to \$10.00

House Floor Chime, nickel-plated, Special 45c

Children's Toy Chocolate Set, five pieces, Special 19c

Tin Tea Sets, nicely lithographed, the cups, three plates and tea pot, Special 29c

NOVELTY BALLOONS AND CRY BABY



OPEN EVENINGS.

and this is against existing legislation."

"You will observe that the agreement limits this to the following: 'The commission is hereby authorized as part of, and incidental to, the operation of the said railway, to acquire necessary equipment and operate other means of transportation of passengers or freight.'

"This special provision was included to cover the operation of the steamer City of Dalhousie, which is part of the system to be purchased, and other subsidiary operations. Surely this is a reasonable provision."

"In view of these facts, I regret that you should see fit to refuse the approval of the government to the submission of these bylaws and especially that if you did not intend to approve that you should have delayed notifying me until after the 12th of December, which was the last day for commencing the advertising to enable the bylaws to be submitted at the coming municipal elections. Yours very truly, 'SIR ADAM BECK, 'Chman'."

The intimation in Sir Adam's letter that a reply by Dec. 12 would still have left time for advertising the bylaw is a direct contradiction of the Drury-Raney claim that when the government received the applications on Dec. 5, it was already too late to bring on a vote, since the statutes requires four weeks' notice.

DENIES RUMOR OF HOUSE CLEANING

Moore Township Reeve Claims Progressive Opponents Not Plot Object.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

SARNIA, Dec. 22.—Referring to an article in a recent issue of a Toronto newspaper to the effect that a movement was on foot at the present session of the Lambton County Council to make a house-cleaning of county officials, who had worked against the Progressive campaign in the recent federal election campaign in this constituency, R. J. White, reeve of Moore, and the unsuccessful candidate for the Progressive party, at Wednesday's meeting denied any responsibility for the story.

Mr. White said that it had not been brought to his attention until Tuesday. He declared emphatically that he knew nothing of such a move, if any, and was entirely ignorant of the story until it was pointed out to him.

DECLARE CROSSING TO BE DANGEROUS

Jury Exonerate G. T. R. Train Crew From Blame For Accident.

[Special to London Advertiser.]

INGERSOLL, Dec. 22.—While returning a verdict to the effect that death was accidental, and exonerating the train crew, the coroner's jury investigating the death of Fred Webster, who received fatal injuries at the Wingham street crossing of the Grand Trunk Railway a week ago, recognized the crossing as being dangerous, and recommended that gates be kept closed or some means of protection provided. Webster, a well-known local young man, received fatal injuries when he jumped from a delivery wagon to escape being struck by a train. The inquest was conducted by Coroner Dr. Cornish, and the foreman of the jury was A. L. Law.

LADEN STEAMERS ARRIVE IN BUFFALO

Wheat Freighters Make Record Trip Down Lakes Despite Adverse Weather.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

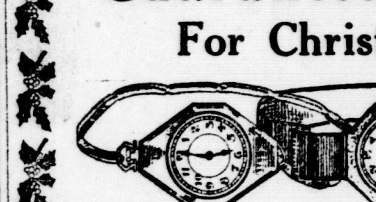
SARNIA, Dec. 22.—The steamers J. J. Sullivan and G. A. Tomlinson of the Pioneer line, which passed down the St. Clair River on Monday morning last, covered with ice, showing the effects of the big Saturday night gale on Lake Huron, arrived in Buffalo yesterday with valuable cargoes of wheat taken on at Fort William.

Both steamers made the trip on summer time, the storm not being a factor in delaying their progress, and made a wonderful showing for December sailing. The freighters were chartered at 7 cents to unload on arrival in Buffalo. This was the highest rate paid in the year 1920. They made the trip without insurance.

FIRE DESTROYS BARN, EQUIPMENT, CATTLE

THREE RIVERS, Que., Dec. 22.—Word was received from Ste. Marguerite, a village near Three Rivers, that a fire last night destroyed the barns, farming equipment and rolling stock of Henri Bettez, a wealthy farmer. Twenty-two head of registered dairy cattle, valued at more than \$200 each, perished in the blaze. The loss will run over \$10,000.

Guaranteed Watches For Christmas Gifts



Gents' Watches

In the very latest types of thin models; a ready reference time guide that is entirely dependable. We have them from

\$15 to \$100

ROSS McKAY, The Jeweler

EAST LONDON. NEXT TO STANDARD DRUG.

2 IN HOSPITAL AS RESULT OF TORONTO FRAY

Frank Amro, Shot by Unknown Assailant, Found in Unconscious Condition.

STABBED SEVERAL TIMES

John Kavochock, Set Upon by Man Believed To Be Room-mate, Seriously Wounded.

TORONTO, Dec. 22.—Two murderous attacks took place in Toronto today, and as a result Frank Amro, 76 Dundas west, lies in Grace Hospital with a bullet in his breast, and John Kavochock, 18 Eastern avenue, is in St. Michael's Hospital with several stab wounds in his head.

While walking over Spadina avenue bridge early this morning, Frank Amro was shot in the breast by an unknown assailant. The man ran away, chased by Amro, who shouted for help, collapsed on the bridge, and was found by Leonard Harris, 840 Yonge street, and I. Schwartz, 4 Spadina avenue, who took him to the Grace Hospital in Mr. Harris' car.

The man who shot Amro ran along the C. P. R. tracks into the freight yards north to Wellington street. Amro, who is an engine wiper in the Grand Trunk shops, foot of Spadina, was on his way to work. His assailant was waiting for him on the bridge.

Amro came up to him, the man flashed a revolver, pressed it against Amro's body and fired. The bullet struck him near the heart.

Dispatcher Hears Shooting.

George Balcher, 349 Westmoreland avenue, train dispatcher for the C. P. R., who heard the shots, telephoned the police at Court street station and detectives hurried to the bridge in a police car.

Several people told the police they saw Amro's assailant walking up and down to the bridge, waiting for Amro to come along.

Amro stated his assailant walked up to him and then put the gun against his forehead and fired. "I never said a word, and he never said a word to me," said Amro. "I ran after him and then fell down."

Amro told the police he did not know the man who shot him.

Was Stabbed in Head.

Stabbed several times in the head, John Kavochock is in St. Michael's Hospital in a dying condition. Early this morning Kavochock, who was in his room, was attacked by a man—believed to be a room-mate—and in a fierce fight Kavochock was seriously wounded.

The men were locked in the room, and Lazarro Boshoff, another roomer, heard the fighting and cries for help from Kavochock and summoned the police. When the door was forced open Kavochock was found on the floor and the window was open. It is believed his attacker escaped through the window.

PUT CHICKEN ON TABLES AT JAIL

ST. THOMAS, Dec. 22.—Chicken will grace the bill-of-fare at Christmas time in the county jail, where five male prisoners are now abiding, according to Governor Theophilus Lister. The other courses of the meal will be the garnished bit so that the chicken will not seem so out of place.

SANTA VISITS SALVATION ARMY

ST. THOMAS, Dec. 22.—So big was the audience that not another person could gain entrance into the Salvation Army Citadel Thursday night, when the children gave their annual Christmas concert. The program, of considerable length, contained many excellent numbers by juvenile talent. A big Christmas tree, covered from top to bottom with presents for everyone, capped the evening. Brinkman acted as chairman. The mayor also presided over a Christmas dinner given earlier in the evening to the old people at the Thomas Williams' Home. The dinner was given under the auspices of the women of the L. B. S.

"LIVED HAPPILY" FOR FIFTY YEARS

[Special to London Advertiser.] GALT, Dec. 22.—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Park of Hespeler on Wednesday celebrated the 50th anniversary of their marriage, which took place in the same village.

EVENING HATS

Evening hats are again being worn. One sees many of the great, soft, dark shapes on the heads of feminine theatre patrons and fashionable diners.

Extend Time For Payment of Taxes in Greenock Township.

[Special to London Advertiser.]

CLARKE, Dec. 22.—At the regular meeting of Greenock township council Monday afternoon a motion was passed to extend the time limit for payment of taxes, which was payable Dec. 15, for two months.

This will give the ratepayers a better chance to realize a higher price for their livestock later on. In Arran township every dollar of taxes was in before Dec. 1, according to a report of the collector.

SENT TO STATES AFTER ACQUITTAL

Frank Blundell Has Auto Seized by Customs Department.

[Special to London Advertiser.]

BRANTFORD, Dec. 22.—Frank Blundell, acquitted on a charge of theft of liquor from the residence of John H. Spence, collector of customs here, was deported to the United States today. He admitted violation of the immigration laws, and was taken to Windsor by the authorities. He entered Canada under the name of Frank Neal. Blundell is a transient resident of Detroit and Port Huron. His big Stutz car, which, it was alleged, was used to carry away liquor from the Spence residence, is under seizure by the customs department.

RICHARDS TALKS TO M. C. R. MEN

Believed To Be Regarding Exchange Traffic With L. and P. S. R.

ST. THOMAS, Dec. 22.—L. W. Landman, passenger traffic manager, Chicago, and G. W. Switzer, assistant general passenger agent, Detroit, both of the Michigan Central Railroad, were in the city today conferring with General Manager Richards of the London and Port Stanley Railway. The object of this meeting was not divulged, although it was intimated by an official of the M. C. R. that it was in reference to the exchange passenger traffic between the two roads, which is reported to be increasing rapidly.

BUYS BUILDING AS INVESTMENT

ST. THOMAS, Dec. 22.—The building on Talbot street occupied by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company as ticket offices has been bought by George A. MacMurray. The property was owned by Dr. Lionel Lunt of St. Louis, Mo., and Dr. Irving Lunt of Detroit. The transaction was put through by W. T. Black, real estate agent, Mr. MacMurray buying the property as an investment.

BID ON POULTRY TO HELP NEEDY

[Special to London Advertiser.] WOODSTOCK, Dec. 22.—The sixth annual show of the local poultry association closed tonight with an auction sale of pure-bred stock by members of the association. The proceeds of the sale will go towards the purchase of Christmas dinners for the needy in the city.

DORCHESTER HOME DESTROYED BY FIRE

DORCHESTER, Dec. 22.—The home of Mr. and Mrs. James Stevenson of this village was completely destroyed by fire Wednesday afternoon. The fire had gained such headway before it was discovered that practically nothing could be saved.

ARREST WINDSOR MAN ON ROBBERY CHARGE

WINDSOR, Dec. 22.—Harry Ross, aged 19, residing on Assumption street, is under arrest charged with being one of two masked bandits who assaulted and robbed D. L. Hopgood, 409 Gladstone street, in his office on Brant street Monday night.

A complete confession has been made by Ross, Inspector of Detectives William Reid stated today. Ross has also admitted taking part in a number of other recent holdups, it is claimed. He was remanded for one week.

HANEY—FAULKENS.

ST. THOMAS, Dec. 22.—A very pretty event took place in Alma College today, when Miss May Faulkens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Faulkens of Springfield, a student at that school, was married to Mr. Earl Haney, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Haney of Aylmer, at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Rev. W. Williams of Springfield performed the ceremony. The young couple were attended by Miss Ruby Faulkens, a sister of the bride, and Mr. Percy Stail.

Toys, Dolls, etc., on sale for about one-half price at Keene Bros., 125-127 King street, London.—Advt.

RECEIVE \$22,000 BY COURT RULING

CALGARY, Dec. 22.—Mrs. F. A. Schultz and Cranville Duchesney, residents of Calgary, will each receive approximately \$22,000 as a result of the ruling of Mr. Justice Surveynor in a Montreal court on Wednesday in respect to the will of the late Hon. Charles Wilson. Notification to this effect was received by the Calgary heirs this morning.

The amount involved in the entire estate is said to be in the neighborhood of a million and a half dollars.

When the late Hon. Charles Wilson died in 1872 he set aside a portion of his estate to be divided among the grandchildren of a brother and a niece. It devolved upon the third generation to seek in the courts a distribution of the estate.

When interviewed today Granville Duchesney expressed his surprise and pleasure at the settlement reached. "For forty-four years the estate had been tied up, and long ago I gave up hope of securing any benefits from it," he declared, but he intimated that though the time of waiting was long, it was well worth while.

4 -- SPECIALS -- 4 AT WEGNER'S THE HEART OF LONDON

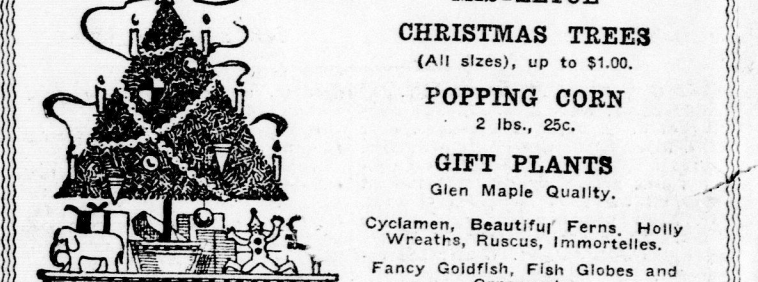
Just the things you need for Christmas gifts, marked at prices that will be easy on your pocketbook.

30 Dozen	20 Dozen
Fine Shirts	Sweater Coats
Excellent quality, up-to-date patterns; all sizes, 14 to 16½. Regular value \$3.25, for \$1.95	With and without collars, in brown, grey, maroon and blue. Regular value to \$5.00, for \$2.95
About 15 Dozen Pairs	300 Dozen Extra Quality
Mocha Gloves	Heavy Socks
Also tan cape, in lined or unlined. Regular values up to \$3.25, for \$1.95	Grey ribbed top. Regular 75c value. 3 pairs for \$1.25

25 PERSIAN LAMB CAPS AT HALF PRICE
25 DOZEN WINTER SAMPLE CAPS AT HALF PRICE.
100 DOZEN OVERALLS AND COTTONADE PANTS ON SALE. YOU SAVE 25 CENTS ON EVERY PAIR BOUGHT HERE.

Wegner Clothing Co.
Main Entrance 371 Talbot Street, Opp. Market, London.

Get the Christmas Spirit!



WE DELIVER EVERYWHERE, EVERY DAY.

Dominion Seeds, Limited
119 DUNDAS STREET. PHONE 550.

Don't Miss This Sale of Easy Chairs and Rockers

We are offering special prices on big Stuffer Chairs and Rockers for tonight and balance of week. What better gift for father or mother? Come in tonight or tomorrow and save money.

Big Massive \$25.00 Stuffer Chairs or Rockers Reduced to \$17	A LIST OF SENSIBLE AND USEFUL GIFTS. Brass Goods, Blue Bird China, Violet China, Smokers' Sets, Trays, Pictures, Shirts, Towels, Boxes, Kiddie Cars, Doll Cradles, Shoe Files, Doll Cradles, Kindergarten Sets, Rockers, Children's Desks, Blackboards, Bowling Games, Floor Lamps, Rugs, Ferneries, Writing Desk.	\$35.00 Stuffer Tapestry Rockers Go At \$27
All-Layer White Felt Mattresses. \$9.50	\$18.00 SOLID QUARTER-CUT OAK ROCKERS TO BE SOLD AT \$10.50	The Ideal Gift—HOOSIER KITCHEN CABINETS
Good art tick, with handles for turning.	Choice of golden or fumed.	What better gift for mother? It will cut her work hours in the kitchen in half. Let's send one up Christmas Eve and you pay for it next year.
\$24.50 Brass Beds \$14.95	CEDAR CHESTS \$21.50	Special Clearing Prices on All Couches.
Ribbon finish, 2-inch posts, full size. The biggest value in London.	Made of genuine Tennessee cedar; guaranteed mothproof.	

TRAFFORD FURNITURE CO.

129 DUNDAS STREET. 11 MARKET SQUARE.



Special Sale of Shirts For Christmas

All the popular fabrics and patterns in this big selection. Each \$1.50 to \$3.50

Special Silk Shirts

White, natural color and stripes \$4.00 to \$7.00

Neckwear

100 dozen new Christmas Ties. Regular \$1.00 line. On sale this week 65c, two for \$1.25

Large assortment of our best Christmas Ties, for, each \$1.00 and \$1.50

Knitted Silk Ties, very popular. Each 75c

Handkerchiefs

Hemstitched, initialed 25c, 35c and 50c

Plain hemstitched, linen 25c, 35c and 50c

Fancy colored borders 35c and 50c

Mufflers

Wool or silk. Make a great present.

Wool \$1.00 to \$3.00 Silk \$1.50 to \$5.00

Holeproof Silk Socks

All colors. Per pair 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25

Gloves

Unlined, fur lined or wool lined. Pair \$2.00 to \$5.00

BATH ROBES, HOUSE COATS, UMBRELLAS, PYJAMA SUITS AND SWEATERS.

Big stock of all the above to pick from. Store open every night.

John Graham & Co.