

PROBS—Moderate to fresh southwest to south winds; fair and comparatively mild.

## Liberal Members of Legislature Asked \$10,000 From Ontario Liquor Men Quarter Million Dollar Fire in Toronto—Sudbury Doctor Held Following the Peculiar Death of His Wife

### QUARTER MILLION LOSS BY FIRE IN NEW RICHMOND ST. BUILDING FEARS FOR LIVES OF FOUR MEN

**Independent Cloak Co.'s New Premises Completely Guttered Thru Suspected Incendiarism, and Many Firms Lose—Four Employees Are Said to Be Missing.**

Fire, believed to be of incendiary origin, completely gutted the new building of the Independent Cloak Company, Richmond street, near Bathurst, last night. The estimated loss is a quarter of a million dollars. The six-story brick building, which was completed about a year ago, and designed as a fire-proof structure, was occupied by five textile firms. Late last evening fears were entertained by the police and firemen that four persons had lost their lives in the building.

The first alarm was rung at 7.10, and a few minutes later firemen from all over the city responded to a general alarm, and at 7.30 the building was a complete mass of flames and all hope of saving it had been abandoned. Eight fire companies led 15 lines of hose with water at a pressure of 150 pounds, and these worked for over three hours in an effort to keep the blaze from spreading to the surrounding dwellings. Upon the arrival of Chief Thompson the residents in the houses in the danger zone were instructed to vacate and take with them as much of their belongings as was possible. Owing to the high wind the firemen found it necessary to keep several lines of hose playing on the roofs of the surround-

**DETAILS OF FIRE**

To building, owned by Messrs. J. B. Bochnack and Louis Flaxgold, proprietors of the Independent Cloak Co., between \$80,000 and \$100,000.

R. S. Long & Co., glove manufacturers, basement and ground floor, about \$80,000.

Independent Cloak Co., second floor, about \$60,000.

Brown & Bregman, third floor, suspenders and clothing, \$40,000.

Monarch Clothing Co., fourth floor, \$40,000.

Freightland Fur Co., top floor, \$40,000.

Time commenced at 7.10; under control, 10.15. Smouldered all night.

Cause: Unknown.

Insurance: \$140,000 on building and all the contents.

Injured: Capt. Thompson of No. 2 Station, and a fireman.

Thrown out of employment: Three hundred men and girls.

### DR. SUNNEL OF SUDBURY HELD FOLLOWING DEATH OF HIS WIFE

**Called at Hospital for Ambulance, Phone Message Said She Was Dead, Coroner Found Body Quite Cold and Organs Contained Blue Fluid.**

(Special to The Toronto World)

SUDBURY, Feb. 25.—Dr. Karl Sunnel, a Finlander, aged 46, owner of the medical baths here, is being held on a nominal charge following the mysterious death of his Finnish wife, a woman of 22.

Mrs. Sunnel, who had six weeks ago given birth to a boy, was in good health up to Friday night. On Saturday Sunnel called at the hospital for the ambulance for his wife, and while there a telephone message came thru that she was dead.

Coroner Dr. Patterson went to the house at once and found the body quite cold, the woman apparently having been dead for some hours, and suspicion was aroused later.

Sunnel was locked up on the nominal charge of vagrancy and an autopsy ordered. The woman's internal organs were found to be stained with something resembling methylene blue, while blue marks were discovered running from the eyes. The room in which the body was discovered was scattered with drugs, any one of which would have caused death. The internal organs were sent to the provincial analyst for examination.

Sunnel came to this country from Finland some years ago, professing to be a gold medalist of Heidelberg University. He was twice in trouble in Copper Cliff and Sudbury for practicing medicine without an Ontario license.

The affair is causing a sensation in Sudbury, where Sunnel was widely known. Startling developments are expected, a jury having been empaneled by the coroner.

### EVANTUREL ASKED \$10,000 FROM LIQUOR MEN TO VOTE AGAINST AND OPPOSE N. W. ROWELL WHO READS HIM OUT OF THE LIBERAL PARTY

#### Here is Mr. Evanturel's Letter

Alfred, Ont., Sept. 4, 1913.

Dear Sir—I have written a long letter to the secretary of the Hotelkeepers' Association for Ontario, Mr. Allen, 26 Wellington street, Toronto, asking him to submit my letter to the directors of the association at their first meeting. In that letter I pledged myself as a true friend of this association and prepared to fight in the house and vote against my leader on that question of abolishing the bars, etc. I have been in the past, one of the speakers who has stood on the public platform in the County of Prescott against the Scott Act when it was tried some years ago in the province. During the past summer I have visited all my county and I have openly declared that I would not support my leader, Mr. Rowell, on his policy to abolish the bars, and I have in my two previous sessions voted against him in that respect. I am, and I have always been, a true friend to the liquor interests, and I have been backed up by my constituents in doing so. I am a poor man, living only upon my small sessional allowance, and do expect that the association will see its way clear to help me along, and in my letter to the board I ask at least \$10,000, payable \$3000 now, and the balance per instalments, in order to support me. I am prepared for that salary to be the defender of the association, and introduce before the legislature any amendments to the government measures to restrict the liquor traffic, etc. I am the only M. P. P. in the Ontario House who will place himself openly against that policy of Rowell and the restrictions to the trade brought from time to time by the government. I believe it would be useful to your association to have an M. P. P. who would be there in the house to accept and present to the house all the suggestions coming from your important body. Will you kindly support my application, which is before the board, at its next meeting? I will sign any agreement which your board will require to be sure that I am the man who will fight for your cause in the house. The newspapers of Toronto have published already my interviews with the reporters at the time I have refused to support my leader on that ground of prohibition, etc. I am the only M. P. P. who has taken that open step in the house and before the province. I would like to have the matter settled up as soon as possible as I have to be financially supported at the present time. You have known my late father, Hon. A. Evanturel, ex-speaker of the legislature, and ex-M. P. P. for the County of Prescott before me, and during his long and prosperous public life he has fought the battle for the hotelkeepers whenever he had the opportunity to defend your rights, etc. Confident of your strong support before the next meeting, I am, very truly yours,

(Signed) Gustave Evanturel, M. P. P. for Prescott County.

"I Am a Poor Man," He Wrote, "Living Only Upon My Small Sessional Allowance, and Ask at Least \$10,000, Payable \$3000 Now and the Balance Per Instalments."

### HE WAS PREPARED FOR THAT SALARY TO BE DEFENDER OF THE LIQUOR MEN

**Sensation in the Legislature When Letter Was Read After Evanturel Charged the Government With Being Allied With Liquor Interests.**

Yesterday's session of the legislature was marked by sensational disclosures which revealed a traitor in the ranks of the Liberal party, and his deliberate attempt to sell himself to the liquor interests for \$10,000. Gustave Evanturel of Prescott was the man who bolted and concealed it, and G. Howard Ferguson of Grenville, the man who exposed the whole situation. Not alone the fact that he differed radically from the pronounced position of his party, but that he was insincere in his work, and that the very words with which he was fulminating against the government were such logical and condemning fashion that there was no evading. In one moment he was on his feet denouncing the government for an alliance which in secret he was using every means possible to foster to his own financial benefit. In the next he was listening beneath the amazed and scornful gaze of the house to his exposure.

### Stabbing His Leader in the Back

In the words of his interlocutor he was "trying to ride the temperance horse, and at the same time negotiating in a surreptitious and clandestine manner with his liquor allies. He was hiding behind his leader's skirts, and while he was playing his own mean, selfish and miserable game, was stabbing his leader in the back." Before the covering was torn away and the political ignominy of the position became plain, abundant opportunity was given to the member for Prescott to acknowledge that his own "hands were not clean," and that he had not the moral right to censure the government. Three times the pause came that would have saved the day for him and the party. No alliance whatever between the liquor interests and himself, he said. Then came the letter from himself as an attorney to the Hotelkeepers' Association, in which he avowed himself at variance with his leader, and a true friend to the liquor party.

### A Great Blow to the Liberals

The great blow came to Mr. Rowell and the faithful. The cry had been raised that the party did not stand unitedly behind the banish-the-bar slogan. Yesterday proved it, and the disposition of the member for Prescott was laid directly at the feet of the leader. The irony of the afternoon occurred when the recalcitrant member referred in his opening remarks to "my beloved leader" and the "splendid address" he had made. In the evening the opportunity came for Mr. Rowell to state his opinion of the whole affair. He took the point quite clearly and made it plain that the opposition was prepared for the resignation of the member to follow. He said that above all he wanted to be fair, but that from his position of responsibility as leader of the opposition, he could condone in no way, nor share responsibility nor sympathy with Evanturel.

### Mr. Rowell's Particular Regret

"I want to say, that the attitude of the member from Prescott has been one of opposition to our policy of abolishing the bar. He has never spoken for it, and has voted against it. That is a matter known to the house and the province and he takes a position he is entitled to take, but there was more in the letter than simply a statement of opinion, and that is the part I particularly regret." "I have no doubt he will make a statement concerning the whole, but speaking for myself, and from my position of responsibility as leader in this house, I feel that there is no justification for writing the letter, and I want to disclaim all responsibility and sympathy."

Mr. Rowell stated that the member had done himself great injustice in writing it, but that he would not himself, and he did not think that any should reach a final conclusion in the matter. In his mind there was no justification for writing it, and the members of his constituency would no doubt require some further action from him. He then pointed the moral that the letter being received was merely the liquor interests fighting the opposition thru the government in a new way. Personally he would go down to defeat fighting the bar rather than ten times to victory with its defeat.

### Mr. Evanturel's Position

Gustave Evanturel, about whose head the tempest had raged, obtained a few moments to speak, and claimed that his limited knowledge of English had deceived him as to the letter referred to. He had thought it concerned a circular concerning bars in Montreal and had taken his stand accordingly. He had never supported the banish-the-bar slogan when he was called to order and told that his statement should be read before the orders of the day or on adjournment. He then disappeared from the house for the day. The vote on the amendment of Dr. McQueen, calling for regret at no liquor legislation, was lost on a vote of 52 to 15. Messrs. Pratt, Proudfoot, McCown and Studholme wound up the discussion.

(Continued on Page 11, Column 2.)

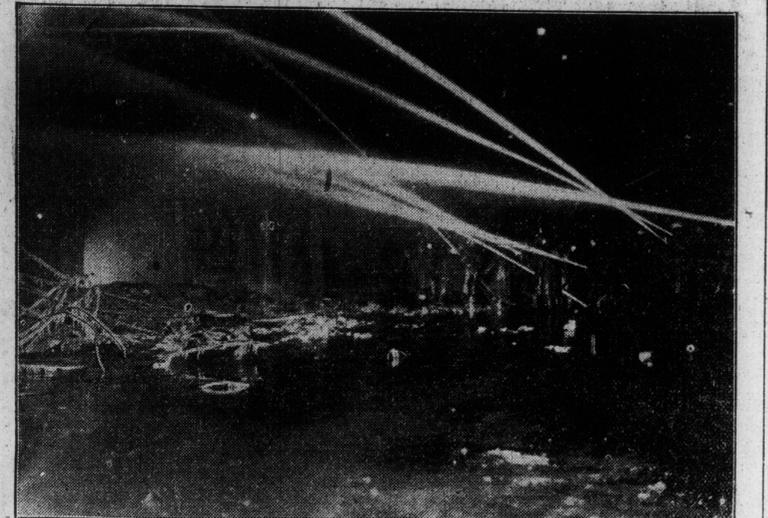
### REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS REVIVE MYSTERY BLOCK TALK

Some recent real estate transactions east of Yonge street and north of Carlton, have started a batch of fresh rumors in regard to the "Mystern block."

This block was bought two or three years ago by H. H. Williams, acting for the International Realty Co., a holding company of which he is president, but the real owners of which have not yet been disclosed and in the last few days Mr. Williams has been buying properties north of the block including lots on Isabella and Dundonald streets. The fact that options have been taken on the houses at 29 Isabella street, houses Nos. 24, 25, 26 and 27 on Dundonald street, property on Gloucester street, and the fact that Ma-her's sale and livery property on Bloor street recently changed hands—these incidents are quoted as further transactions in connection with the mystery block. It was stated yesterday that the Canadian Pacific Railway company is the owner of the mystery block, and that the company was now buying a strip of lots immediately north for a tunnel from the block to their tracks up north. They were to use the block for a new passenger station.

The World was again assured, on reliable authority, that neither the C. P. R. nor any other railway company is the owner of the mystery block. But even if this is so, it does not preclude that company from seeking a right of way for a tunnel from its tracks up north to down town, say the normal school block, where there is land sufficient for a big station. Another thing that might connect the C. P. R. with these deals is the fact that H. H. Williams does most of that company's real estate purchasing in Toronto.

### QUARTER MILLION DOLLAR FIRE



This Photograph Was Taken by The World's Staff Photographer at 8 o'Clock Last Night. It Shows the Streams of Hose Playing on the Burning Building From Richmond St.

ing buildings to prevent their catching fire.

**Firemen Injured.**

Capt. Thompson of No. 2 Station, with a fireman, was the first to enter the burning building. The captain ran up the stairs from the ground floor to the second, where he found the whole of the south section of the building in flames. No sooner had the

(Continued on Page 2, Column 6.)

**New Dunlap Hats.**

The new Dunlap hats have arrived at Dineen's. They could not arrive anywhere else in Toronto, because Dineen's are the exclusive agents. The Dunlap New York hat is the happiest combination of style, comfort and quality produced by American hatmakers. As you are passing Dineen's, drop in and see the new Dunlaps and look over the collection of spring styles. Dineen's, 140 Yonge street, corner of Temperance street.

**Get in Line Early.**

The advance sale of seats opens to-day for the engagement of England's famous character actor, Mr. Tom Duggan, at the Princess Theatre next

### COULD ESTABLISH OCEAN FLEET WITH FIVE MILLION DOLLARS

**Associated Boards of Trade Urge Federal Government to Break Freight Combine—Claim Made That Workmen's Compensation Bill Puts Ontario Manufacturer at a Disadvantage.**

"A government-owned fleet of fifteen to twenty Atlantic steamships to combat the ocean freight rate combine could be secured at a cost of \$5,000,000," declared D. B. Wood of Hamilton at the annual meeting of the Associated Boards of Trade of Ontario at the city hall yesterday.

He declared that the hydro-electric policy had killed the electric combine in Ontario; the parcel post system would eventually put a crimp in the excessive express rates, and that it was now up to the government to put a crimp

in the most iniquitous combine that existed in commerce today—the ocean freight rate combine. Canadians were annually contributing millions of dollars in excessive rates.

The Dominion Government had granted \$120,000,000 to the C.P.R., \$22,000,000 in two years to the C.N.R., and hundreds of millions in the building of the National Transcontinental, and could not reasonably refuse to accept such a chance to effectually kill the ocean freight combine as could be accomplished by the government.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 7.)

### A Great Public Policy in Power and Traction

The speech of Hon. Adam Beck to the Associated Boards of Trade on Tuesday night, the resolutions passed by that body yesterday in favor of a comprehensive scheme for the conservation of water power, the determination of the Hydro-Electric Commission to go into radial railways, and the negotiations now on, on the part of the City of Toronto, to buy out the Toronto Electric Light, all point in the direction of a big clean-up and forward movement in the public interest.

Mr. Beck said that the Hydro-Electric Commission was now using \$0,000 of the 100,000 horse power which it had contracted to purchase from the Ontario Niagara Power Company, and that steps would be taken to secure more power for the commission in connection with its distribution of energy thru the municipalities of Ontario.

It is believed that Mr. Beck would like to secure the Ontario Power Company, or at least, the whole of its output and transmission lines, and it is even said that the Ontario Government would back him up in buying out the Ontario Electric Development Company (now Sir William Mackenzie's), and its transmission lines, thereby giving the public absolute ownership of two of the three big plants at the Falls; and which, with the plants that now have contracts with the hydro-electric, or still others which can be purchased in other parts of the province by the hydro-electric, would give the people of all southern and western Ontario almost a monopoly in electrical energy, and make the people masters for all time of this immense store of wealth and enable them to sell the energy to the public at the lowest possible price.

To make such a clean-up it would be necessary to get possession of the Ontario Niagara Power Company, the Ontario Electric Development Co., and to buy out the Toronto Electric Light Company, which has a contract for a large portion of the Ontario Electric Development Co.'s energy. This contract between the Toronto Electric Light Company and the Ontario Electric Development Company is said to be somewhat of a bar to a complete clean-up as far as the City of Toronto is concerned.

If Toronto was to buy out the Toronto Street Railway and the radials in the city and the Toronto Electric Light Company, then it is believed that the Whitney government would be more than justified in buying out the two big power companies already mentioned; and with the ownership of the Toronto Street Railway and all the radials in the city, the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission would be in a position to undertake an extensive system of radials thruout the province.

There is, however, one big generating plant outside of this computation, and that is the Cataract Power Company of Hamilton, which also owns the street railway system of that city, and some of the radials running out of it. This big plan of public ownership in connection with power and in connection with radials might later on include the purchase of the Cataract's interests, provided a reasonable price could be had therefor.

Another link in this proposal is the fact that the City of Guelph now owns its street railway and power plant, and the radials leading therefrom, and that the City of Brantford is soon to acquire its street railway; Mr. Beck has also arranged for that city to acquire an electric line from London to Port Stanley.

There are supporters of Mr. Beck who believe that if Toronto will lead the way in acquiring the local traction of the city and the radials as well as the Toronto Electric Light, it will then be comparatively easy for the Hydro-Electric Commission and Mr. Beck and the Ontario Government to initiate a policy of a great big clean-up, or at least a linking up of the street railway and the radial interests and power interests of Toronto, of Guelph, perhaps of Hamilton and of London and Brantford.

It is believed that such a system would not only be supported by the Ontario Government, but might be backed by the Dominion Government in the way of aid to new radial lines constructed by the Hydro-Electric Commission. It is known that Mr. Beck and Mr. Cochrane have been in conference.

Anyway The World finds that there is quite a movement along these lines that is rapidly taking shape. Just how large and definite it is may not be evidenced for some weeks yet, but that a movement of this kind is under way, and is being much discussed is plain to everyone.

There is one way by which the Dominion Government could greatly aid this proposition: It controls the water of the Welland Canal, has a jurisdiction of some kind over the Niagara River, and the export of power, and probably has in view an immense development of public power in connection with the St. Lawrence from Kingston to Montreal, either as a Canadian proposition or as a joint proposition with the United States; and certainly the whole trend of public opinion these days is in the direction of public ownership and control of the bulk of water powers in connection with the Niagara and the St. Lawrence waterways.