

KING REFUSED TO ALLOW HOME BANK DECEPTION

One Inch of Rain Falls In London In Thirty-Six Hours

PREMIER DECLINED TO DEPOSIT FUNDS ON EVE OF FAILURE

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Testifying at Home Bank Probe Today, Tells of J. F. M. Stewart's Request for Government Deposit To Save Tottering Institution.

PLEA MADE THREE DAYS BEFORE FAILURE

Canadian Press Despatch.
Ottawa, May 9.—Premier Mackenzie King appeared before the royal commission investigating the Home Bank this morning and told of a visit which was made to him by J. F. M. Stewart, a director of the Home Bank, three days before its failure. Mr. Stewart had informed him that the bank was on the point of failure, and asked for a large government deposit to enable it to continue in business.

Mr. King had replied that, if the bank was in the condition which Mr. Stewart described, it was manifestly impossible for the government even to consider making such a deposit.

Mr. King was examined by Eugene Lafleur, K.C. He said that on the night of August 14, 1923, three days before the bank failed, about 10 o'clock, he received a telephone call from one of his colleagues saying that Mr. Stewart was in Ottawa in connection with matters of "grave concern."

DESCRIBES BANK'S CONDITION.

"He asked me if I could see Mr. Stewart," said Mr. King. "I replied that I would be pleased to see Mr. Stewart."

Mr. Stewart had come up to Mr. King's house at 11 o'clock at night and described the condition of the bank to the prime minister. Hon. J. A. Robb, Hon. George P. Graham and Hon. T. A. Low, who were present. He had stated that the Home Bank was in great difficulty and, in the course of a day or two, might have to close its doors.

Suggested Deposit.

"He said," continued Premier King, "that he had been in conversation with Sir Thomas White, who advised that the directors of the bank should lay its condition before the government and the Canadian Bankers' Association."

"When he outlined the situation, I asked him what he wished to place before the government."

"He wished to know if it would not be possible for the government to place a deposit with the bank in order to enable it to carry on."

Premier King told Government Counsel Eugene Lafleur, K.C., that he "was anxious at the moment of Mr. Stewart. I replied to him that the circumstances he mentioned made it impossible for the government to even consider placing a deposit with the bank."

On the request of Mr. Stewart that the government use its good offices for the bank with the Bankers' Association, it was arranged that Mr. Robb go to Montreal to be in that city when negotiations took place. The government was anxious to show the Bankers' Association that it wished that organization to avert a failure if possible.

The prime minister emphasized that he had no knowledge of the condition of the bank prior to his interview with Mr. Stewart. He stated that the Home Bank directors had not appeared before the cabinet the following day. He also said that he had conversed with Mr. Fielding and all that the Home Bank directors had said was that the minister took "very strong exception to Sir Henry Drayton's evidence before the commission."

Adjourns to Wednesday.

Mr. Fielding had said "that Sir Henry Drayton had not drawn his attention to the Home Bank in the manner described," nor had he been referred to any file on the subject by Sir Henry. After hearing the prime minister, the commission adjourned until next Wednesday for argument. It is possible that Hon. T. A. Cregar may be recalled to answer a few questions which counsel for the shareholders wishes to ask.

WESTERN GRADUATE WINS \$1,200 AWARD

Ontario Govt. Scholarship Goes to Harold Dalglish of Class '22.

Harold Dalglish, a London boy who has been holding a position on the faculty of political science in the University of Pennsylvania, has been awarded an Ontario government scholarship (\$1,200) for the study of political economy and history in some French university.

Mr. Dalglish is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario. In 1922 he took his B.A. and the following year succeeded in securing the degree of M.A., after which came his appointment to the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania.

The Weather

FORECASTS.

Today—Strong northeast winds, with rain.

Saturday—Unsettled, with occasional showers.

Pressure continues high over Northern Canada and low over the southern portion of the Great Lakes and the Middle States. Strong northeast winds prevail in Eastern Canada, as well as on the lakes, and rain is falling in Southern Ontario and in Nova Scotia.

Temperatures.

The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations: High. Low. Weather.

Victoria..... 70..... 50 Fair

Calgary..... 64..... 34 Clear

Winnipeg..... 52..... 32 Cloudy

Port Arthur..... 48..... 38 Cloudy

Perry Sound..... 44..... 32 Cloudy

Toronto..... 56..... 48 Cloudy

Kingston..... 58..... 48 Fair

Ottawa..... 54..... 44 Fair

Montreal..... 54..... 44 Fair

Quebec..... 52..... 40 Clear

Halifax..... 48..... 38 Foggy

St. John..... 54..... 38 Fair

St. John..... 54..... 38 Fair

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J. F. M. STEWART, director of the Home Bank who appeared before the royal commission three days before the bank failed. Stewart asked the premier if the government could make a deposit to keep the bank on its feet. In his evidence before the McKee commission today, King testified he refused to consider the request.

LINERS ARE SAFE AFTER COLLISION

Royal Mail Packet, Orca, Hits Passenger in Fog Off Father Point.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Father Point, Que., May 9.—The steamer Porsanger collided with the Royal Mail packet liner Orca last night in a dense fog about 30 miles east of here. The Porsanger's bows are crumpled and stern disabled, but she is not leaking. The Orca was hit amidships and a hole made in her side about 15 feet above her waterline. She is taking water, but able to control the intake with her pumps.

The Orca had called at Quebec to land passengers.

REPUBLICS ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Associated Press Despatch.
Washington, May 9.—Establishment of diplomatic relations between the republics of Panama and Colombia, was announced yesterday by the state department. Official relations between the two republics had not existed since Panama acquired its independence in 1903.

Western University Proud Of Its First Woman Doctor

Kathleen Braithwaite Will Shortly Graduate From the School of Medicine.

MANY STARTED

Achievement Is Viewed With Pleasure by Members of Faculty.

Several aspiring girl medical students have entered the course of medicine at the University of Western Ontario within the past few years, but few lasted long. For members of the gentle gender to go through the experiences of a medical student requires a degree of courage and stick-to-itiveness not commonly ascribed to womenfolk.

That is why her classmates, the faculty and the university generally feel immensely proud of Kathleen Braithwaite, who is shortly to graduate as a full-fledged doctor. She is the first woman product of London's Medical School. While others abandoned the grind in their first, second or third years, some because of marriage and others because medicine proved a much more severe vocation than they expected, Kathleen Braithwaite stuck to it for seven whole years.

The study of medicine requires fortitude and perseverance, and few men graduates possessed these qualities to a greater extent. Miss Braithwaite's heart has always been with her classmates, and her kindly disposition has endeared her to professors and students alike, both at the Medical School and at the College of Arts, where she obtained the degree of bachelor of arts.

She is the first actual "doctor" of the university can boast of. On the word of a fellow student, however, she doesn't seem to be a bit proud of her achievement.

"She doesn't look like one of those formidable female doctors," he said. "But like a nice, sweet lady, who wisely and modestly keeps what she knows under her coppery curls."

A. HEWITT TO BE TRIED FOR THEFT NEXT JUNE

Case Postponed Twice Last Year, Due to Illness of Defendant.

ONLY ONE CASE

Understood Outside Crown Counsel Will Be Brought In.

But one case is set down for trial before County Judge Talbot Macbeth at the criminal sessions which open at the court house on June 8, and it has been postponed from time to time since June 1923.

Allan Hewitt, who is charged with the theft of groceries, hardware, etc., valued at over \$800, from a C. N. R. boxcar in Stratford in April, 1923, is being defended by J. M. McEvoy, K. C. Hewitt is also charged with receiving stolen goods.

Owing to the fact that Crown Attorney Albert M. Judd acted for Hewitt at the preliminary hearing and subsequent postponements, it is understood that outside crown counsel will be brought in by the attorney-general's department to prosecute the case.

Hewitt was ill in hospital when the case came up last June, and he was still ill last December. It is understood, however, that he is now sufficiently recovered to stand trial.

A second case is likely to be heard, although it has not yet been set down for trial. Hector Zwisk, who was charged with the theft of a car, appeared in police court a week ago, charged with procuring a girl for immoral purposes, has not yet decided whether he will be tried by judge alone or by judge and jury. His case is being looked after by W. B. Henderson.

LAYING OF NEW RAILS TO BE FINISHED SOON

The laying of new rails on the C. N. R. between Komoka and Glencoe, a distance of 19 miles, will be completed within a week's time, according to an announcement made at the divisional headquarters today. This work has been under construction for some time.



HON. DR. H. S. BELAND, minister of pensions and soldiers' civil re-establishment in the King government, assured delegates at the convention of the Amputations Association in Ottawa yesterday that the present system of pensions would be continued permanently.

CURRIE DELAYED TILL NEXT WEEK

L. S. R. President Wires the Mayor To Arrange Meeting—Busy With Conferences.

President Currie of the London Street Railway Company, in a telegram to the mayor received here this morning, states that owing to previous engagements at conferences in Chicago and Cleveland he will not be able to come to London before Tuesday or Wednesday of next week, and asking the mayor to arrange a meeting here for the beginning of the week.

This holds the purchase price question over for a few days and gives a little more breathing space for the mayor and his viza-viz in the conference. The mayor is now asked to accept the invitation of the London Old Boys' Club of Detroit, and attend their annual banquet tonight in the G. A. R. Building. Mrs. Wenige will accompany him on the trip.

LT. WILLIAM SOUTHAM SLIGHTLY IMPROVED

Toronto Specialists Called In on Case of the Injured Young Man.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Oshawa, May 9.—The condition of Lieut. William Southam who was critically injured in a motor accident at Dunbarton Wednesday night and who is lying in the Oshawa hospital, is reported by his physicians this morning to be slightly improved although he is still unconscious. He is suffering from a severe concussion of the brain. Dr. Cavan, specialist of Toronto, was called in on the case. Lieut. Southam's father, Wilson Southam of Ottawa, arrived here yesterday and is at the bedside of his son.

WILLIAM J. BURNS QUILTS AS DEPARTMENT CHIEF

Famous Detective Has Borne the Brunt of Much Criticism.

Associated Press Despatch.
Washington, May 9.—William J. Burns, whose activities have been a storm center in several senate investigations, has resigned as chief of the justice department's bureau of investigation.

Selected for the post three years ago by Attorney-General Daugherty, the famous detective has borne the brunt of much of the criticism leveled at the administration of the chief, he now follows into retirement.

MISS CHARLOTTE GARRETT TO TEACH IN ENGLAND

Miss Charlotte Garrett, a teacher in the Pottersburg public school, was granted leave yesterday by the board of education to exchange for one year under the Overseas Teachers' Exchange on the recommendation of the school inspectors. Miss Garrett will leave in August, and will do her overseas teaching in the East Ham board school in Old London. Her place in the Pottersburg school will be taken by Miss Leach of the East Ham school.

District Farmers Afraid Heavy Rainfall Will Mean Great Loss to Their Crops

Continued Downpour Since Wednesday Night Causes Floods in City.

TOTALS ONE INCH

Delay in Seeding Expected To Ruin Chance of Early Harvest.

While citizens of London have been bemoaning the weeping efforts of Jupiter Pluvius yesterday and today, their complaints are but idle chatter to the feelings of district farmers whose work on the land has been seriously hampered.

Owing to the backward season farmers of Middlesex and adjoining counties have been unable to complete their seeding, in fact a number of them were not nicely started when the rain came along. Others had large fields worked up and ready for the seeder, and now all the work will have to be done over again.

One farmer who motored to the market today stated the seed he had put in was rotting in the ground, and this was true of neighboring farms.

R. A. Finn, of the department of agriculture, stated that while some farmers had completed seeding there were others who were far behind in their work. The heavy rains would mean that these men would not be able to work their land until late next week, and at this time every day counted in the farmer's calendar.

Do Work Over Again.

Vegetable men who have planted large acreage of early potatoes and sweet corn are viewing the rain with alarm. One man told The Advertiser that he planted corn three weeks ago, but adverse weather, plus the rain of today, meant that he would have to work up the land all over again and plant new seed.

"It just means the loss of a month in getting corn on the London market, as far as I am concerned," he said. "It is poor satisfaction to know that my neighbors are in the same boat. Some of these fellows on the sand and in outside counties will come in here with the early stuff and grab off the early season, which is the best. This rain is going to cost us hundreds of dollars, both in corn and potatoes. I certainly feel sorry for the fellows on wet land, who have yet to plant oats. Unless the season from now on is more than favorable their crops will be mighty poor."

One Inch of Rain.

Since Wednesday night the rainfall in London and district has exceeded anything of the nature seen here at this time of the season for many years. More than an inch was recorded at the local weather bureau and prospects are that it will continue in spasmodic fashion through the day.

Flooded cellars were reported by several residents. The river has risen substantially, but no overflow is expected. According to The Advertiser's weather-man, the weather of the past few days is very unseasonable.

From 55 yesterday the temperature dropped to 40 this morning, and then rose to 48. The barometer does not promise any relief today or Saturday.

One of the most objectionable features of the sudden change has been the necessity for householders to relight their furnaces after having left them out during the warm weather earlier in the week. Coal men were engaged today delivering small quantities of fuel to citizens who had exhausted their supplies. Much soft coal is in demand, many believing that grate fires will suffice to take the chill from the air until more balmy weather sets in.

ONLY FAIR, BUT WARMER.

Weather conditions were blamed by Police Court Clerk John Moule for the non-appearance of a resident in the county to answer a police court charge of a breach of the highway traffic act. He was the clerk's only chance today of registering a motor vehicle fine.

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Watch on Saturdays For 8 Pages of Comics

The funniest and most entertaining people in the world of comics are in The Advertiser's colored section every Saturday.

And there are eight of them now instead of four—eight full colored pages.

Here they are: Andy Gump, Jiggs, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Google, Toots and Casper, Tillie the Toiler, Polly and Her Pals, and Buster Brown.

Watch for the eight colored pages in the Saturday Advertiser.

PARLIAMENT URGED NOT TO COERCE ANTI SIDE

T. B. McQueen of Hamilton Asks For Clear Mandate For Unionism.

COMPARES GIVINGS

Statement of Contributions Brings Caustic Question From Western Member.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Ottawa, May 9.—"If you will not coerce us," said T. B. McQueen of Hamilton, in resuming his plea against the church union bill this morning before the Commons private bills committee, "if you are reasonably satisfied that there is a majority or a very powerful minority who do not want to go into union."

Mr. McQueen followed this up by a survey of recent votes and other statistics to prove that there had been "a complete turnover" in opinion in the Presbyterian Church since the 1915 vote on union. He gave the result of card votes in a large number of congregations, showing a total vote in Ontario against union of 43,739; Quebec 6,921; New Brunswick 3,221; Nova Scotia 5,258; Prince Edward Island 316; Prairie Provinces, and British Columbia, 5,086, making a total of 72,577. This total of 72,577, he said, came from 299 congregations and compared with a total vote against union of 73,755 in 1915.

FINDING IN LIQUOR PROBE A SECRET

House of Refuge Report Held Till County Council's June Session.

The special report on the House of Refuge, Strathroy, in connection with the consumption of liquor there during 1923 will not be available to the press until it has been presented to the county council at the June session, it is announced.

The committee met last month under the chairmanship of Reeve Walter Laidlaw of Westminster Township, and a small committee was appointed to bring in a report to the county council as a result of their findings.

Members of the committee have nothing to say in the matter, but it is believed that recommendations will be made that only a small quantity of liquor be kept at the House of Refuge at any time and that due care be exercised in doing it out to inmates.

DENTAL SUPERVISOR ASKS LARGER STAFF

Over 300 School Children in Need of Treatments, Dr. E. W. Fuller States.

Dr. E. W. Fuller, dental supervisor of the public schools, told the school trustees yesterday that owing to lack of equipment and staff, over three hundred school children at present were in need of five or six separate treatments before mid-summer would be unable to get this work done. He recommended the appointment of another part-time dentist at \$100 a month, and the installation of extra equipment at a cost of \$1,000.

Dr. Grant, speaking today on behalf of dental treatment for children attending schools, said it was an essential part of hygiene education and urged the board to keep its dental equipment and staff up to date and capable of handling all the work.

WINNIPEG WOMAN, 41, BRUTALLY MURDERED

Two Men Held For Revolting Crime in Foreign Residential District.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Winnipeg, May 9.—After being bound, gagged and assaulted, Mrs. Kate Synchishyn, aged 41, was murdered at her home in the north end of the city yesterday. The body was found by her young son when he returned from school. Two men, who were seen in the vicinity of the house during the afternoon, have been arrested, the police announced last night.

The house, which is situated in the foreign residential part of the city, was in great disorder; it had been ransacked from top to bottom in search for money, of which a small sum was obtained, said to be only \$30.

The police last night declared it was one of the most brutal murders in the city's history. The woman, the wife of a railway laborer, had put up a terrific struggle and was considerably bruised and battered about the head and shoulders. She had been smothered to death.

The police refused to divulge the names of the suspects held, but they are said to be residents of the districts where the crime was committed. An inquest is being held today.