

44TH YEAR NO. 19208

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NO CONNECTION OF DEFENDANTS SHOWN
IN ELECTION CONSPIRACY, SAYS COURTJudge Winchester Declares
Nothing Proved Against
Messrs. Reid, Mulloy
and Wiley.Prosecution Ends Case and
the Defense Will Open
Thursday Morning.

[From Our Own Man.]

Toronto, Nov. 26.—The prosecution ended its case this afternoon, and the defense will begin Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, K. C., argued for a non-suit, on the grounds that there was no evidence of a conspiracy in Toronto. Judgment was reserved on that point, and in the meantime the evidence of the defense will be heard. His lordship was impressed with the fact that there was no evidence to connect Messrs. Reid, Wiley or Mulloy with a conspiracy, and very little against O'Gorman.

There were no sensations today. E. E. Lutton, St. Thomas, said he acted as scrutineer for McDermid at No. 7 polling subdivision in the township of Southwold, during the McDermid-McNeil by-election. Witness identified Pritchard as a man who had acted as deputy at that polling subdivision in Middlemarch.

Mr. George Kelly, London, followed. He swore he met Sifton in Buffalo, and while there arrangements were made to meet Mr. George M. Reid, in Rowell, Wilkie & Reid's office in Toronto. Mr. Kelly went to the office, but did not see Mr. Reid. He then came to the courthouse, where he met O'Gorman. Mr. Reid's brother was introduced to witness, and then Kelly was taken to see Mr. Geo. M. Reid. He did meet Mr. Reid, and witness asked him if he was going to carry out the agreement made between Sifton and O'Gorman. Mr. Reid told witness that he would do as he agreed. His agreement of Sifton's stock in the Electrical Construction Company. This agreement was not carried out, and afterwards Kelly saw Mr. Reid in London and Mr. Reid again promised to fulfill his agreement, but said there was no hurry.

Q.—These arrangements were in progress some months before the election case came on? asked Mr. Johnston. A.—Yes.

Q.—Sifton was going to sell out the whole outfit to Mr. Duifield? A.—No, sir.

Q.—Sifton said so. A.—Well, I don't know.

Q.—Were you present when all the negotiations were going on? A.—No, sir.

Q.—When you came to see Mr. Reid the investigation was on in Toronto? A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—You came to see Mr. Reid about the old agreement? A.—Yes.

Q.—Do you know anything about the power of attorney Sifton gave? A.—I don't know anything.

Q.—Did not Mr. Reid tell you that he was not going to be held up? A.—He never told me that.

Q.—Well, it's fortunate we have evidence to prove our contention. Is that so? A.—It is true.

Q.—You threatened Mr. Reid that if they did not let him out the Power Equipment Company you would bring Sifton back? A.—Yes.

Q.—Don't misunderstand me. It Continued on Page Two.

GOING HOME TO ENGLAND

Ald. Garratt Will Eat His Christmas
Dinner in the Old Land.

Ald. Garratt was acting mayor today, and he treated all who came to his office and who cared to smoke to a good cigar.

He also incidentally mentioned that he intends sailing for England a week before Christmas.

For several years, Ald. Garratt has spent the holidays in England at his former home, and he has been elected to an aldermanic seat each time, although he was absent.

CAUGHT WITH THE GOODS

Three Stolen Suits on This Burglar,
Arrested at North Toronto.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Toronto, Nov. 27.—A burglar was caught redhanded last night by plainclothes officers in North Toronto while operating in the Standard Fuel Company's office. He ran out when the officers approached, and one constable drew a gun and followed him. He had on three suits of stolen clothes, \$5 worth of stamps, and a fur coat and cap belonging to Noel Marshall.

OLD BRANTFORDITE DEAD.

Brantford, Nov. 27.—Joseph Robinson, one of Brantford's highly esteemed citizens, passed away at an early hour this morning from heart failure. He had passed his 90th year, and was in good health, only being indisposed a couple of days. For many years he held the position of division court clerk in Brantford, but has been living a private life for a few years past.

NO CONNECTION PROVEN

"How do you connect Reid, Mulloy and Wiley with O'Gorman and the conspiracy?" asked Judge Winchester.

"Well, I'll show it," declared Mr. Staunton. "On different occasions O'Gorman was associated with other workers, and in the London election he was associated with Lewis and the others, together with the defendants."

"But these men lived in London," answered Judge Winchester. "There has been no evidence of any connection or conspiracy."

"It is not necessary to prove a conspiracy," retorted Mr. Staunton. "Oh, yes it is," answered Judge Winchester. "It may not be necessary to prove a meeting, but it is necessary to prove a conspiracy."

"You have to submit some evidence that these men were in London at the time," said Judge Winchester. "They might have been in Europe for all the evidence shows. You must connect these men. So far you have not done that, and I do not think it is fair to insist upon a defense being put in until something is proved."

Transition From the Water Wagon
To Theatrical Circuit and JailVicissitudes That Marked the
Career of the Ambitious
Ben Blackstock.

From being driver of a watering cart about the streets of London to the proud proprietorship of a bonafide stock company on the theatrical circuit, and from thence to a prison cell, has been the experience of Benjamin Blackstock, of Thames street, this city, all in the short space of a month.

Blackstock formerly busied himself distributing water about London's dusty streets, but a few weeks ago he decided that a man of his attainments should seek a higher altitude. Consequently he procured a graphophone, a couple of dazzling young damsels and started out.

There was trouble at the start-off. People, it seems, refused to recognize

genius, and the graphophone didn't draw worth a cent.

At St. Thomas the show was held up for board, but it managed in some way to get out of bondage, and proceeded to Rodney. Here again the cruel villain in the person of a hard-hearted hotelkeeper, who insisted on doing business on a cash basis, intervened, and the graphophone was again placed under lock and key while the party got away as best they could without the orchestra.

Now, it seems, that when starting out on the road to fame and fortune Blackstock had visited a Mrs. Decker on York street here, and talked her into believing that a stage career was the only suitable life for her handsome little 17-year-old daughter, with the result that the girl joined the troupe as a soubrette.

After they were out on the road a short time Mr. Blackstock decided that what he needed to catch the ruralites Continued on Page Nine

To Be Private Secretary to Mr. Moore

It is announced that George Benton, secretary-treasurer of the London Street Railway, is about to resign, and will at once take up the position of private secretary to Mr. E. W. Moore, of Cleveland, well known as a member of the firm of Everett & Moore, the American street railway and traction magnates.

Mr. William T. Nutt, of Cleveland, will succeed Mr. Benton as secretary-treasurer of the London Street Railway.

He has been in London for two weeks, working into the routine of the offices.

The statement published in a local paper that Manager King is to be promoted, or is to leave London, is absolutely denied by Mr. King.

It was also stated that there is nothing definite as to when President Everett will arrive in London.

WESTON ENDS REMARKABLE WALK

Chicago, Nov. 27.—Edward Payson Weston, the veteran walker, ended his tramp of 1,234 miles from Portland, Maine, to the Federal building here, at 12:15 p.m. today.

He left Portland on Oct. 23, at 5 p.m., thus making his traveling time, exclusive of Sundays, 24 days, 19 hours and 15 minutes. Weston did not walk on Sundays.

His longest day's walk on the present trip was 55-50 miles, while on the former journey the best day was only 32 miles.

Want Names Placed on Indian List

"Something very unusual happened this week," said Inspector Galpin this morning, "when two well-known citizens requested me to place their names on the Indian list, so that they could not procure any more drink."

"Both men said they wished to swear off and were going to do everything in their power to quit drinking."

"There are just exactly 40 names on the list of those to whom bartenders are not allowed to sell liquor."

"The names include men in all walks of life, from the laborer to the professional man."

"Occupations seem to make little difference, although carpenters appear to lead, there being five men of that occupation on the list."

"The holiness of this city deserves all credit for the manner in which they try to assist us in our efforts to protect these men, and there is no hotelman that I know of who would willingly sell to a man on the list if he knew it. Next, that he is afraid of the law, to which he would be liable if he were caught, but just out of a desire to do what is right."

Two Men Lose Money on the Market

Two men came to grief by way of the marketplaces this morning. The first man was a farmer named A. T. Kelly, who lives in London Township, and who lost over \$20 in a bankbook which he carried in his side pocket. Mr. Kelly came in this morning with a load of hay, and disposed of it shortly after his arrival. He hired an old man who was standing around the marketplace to help him unload the wagon. When he returned to have the empty wagon weighed he happened to put his hand in his pocket, and discovered the money and the bankbook gone. Running excitedly into the weigh-scales house he announced that he had been

robbed. Mr. Kelly would blame no one but the thief, but he is making inquiries as to the character of the man he hired to assist him unload the hay.

The name of the second unfortunate could not be learned, as an effort is being made to hush the matter. At all events the man is a green-grocery man in the city, and he wandered down Whisky Row in search of congenial spirits. He found them, all right, and in doing so he parted with \$50, which he had in his wallet in his back-pocket. It is said that the man is ill able to lose the money, and that he has sworn off drinking for good. Neither robbery has been reported to the police as yet.

CLAIMS FOR WAGES ARE PREFERRED

Manager Moore, of the London and Western Trusts Company, today stated that there would be no developments in the Wilcox Manufacturing Company failure for another month. The employees of the company would, of course, put in claims for their wages, and they were entitled to them. Wages are always preferred claims.

BARON BATTERSEA DEAD.

London, Nov. 27.—The death is announced of Cyril Flower, first Baron Battersea. He was born in 1843, and was lord of the treasury under Gladstone's last administration.

NOT A PERJURER. Ottawa, Nov. 27.—Cyril Tourangeau, charged at Hull with perjury in connection with his evidence as to Major Vallée's movements during the fatal riots at Buckingham, was dismissed this morning by Magistrate Talbot.

No Power Contract in London
City Solicitor Makes a StatementCity Hall Circles Have Been
Laboring Under a
Delusion.

City Solicitor Meredith has no contract from the Niagara power commission or from anyone else, in regard to Niagara power.

This statement was made to Ald. Stevely today, when that gentleman called on the solicitor.

All along it has been stated that Mr. Meredith had the contract.

The city clerk said so, but it is now shown that Mr. Baker, while acting in good faith, was under a misapprehension.

There is no contract, and no form of a contract.

The city is to go ahead and submit the Niagara power bylaw to the people on the representations of Mr. Beck.

The only thing that looks like a commitment on paper of the power commission to the municipality is the statement of the commission that power can be delivered here, according to estimate, at from \$17 50 to \$23 50 per horsepower.

As regards anything else, there is, according to the statement made to Ald. Stevely by the city solicitor today, absolutely nothing.

The council has nothing to work on beyond the estimate of the cost of power delivered here, but it is understood that a copy of a contract will be produced if the ratepayers vote the money.

Solicitor Says No Re Sunday Cars

City Solicitor Meredith is a very affable gentleman, but when he is asked to give an opinion on his own opinion, he comes very close to losing his temper.

At the last council meeting, Ald. Cooper objected to an opinion given by Mr. Meredith to the effect that the matter of Sunday cars in London could not be again taken up this year by the city fathers, owing to the rule of procedure.

Ald. Cooper didn't understand the matter, and he wanted more light.

There was also a doubt in the minds of certain other aldermen, and, anyway, everybody appeared glad to get a respite no matter how short, from the Sunday car agitation, and it was resolved to ask Mr. Meredith what his opinion meant in regard to certain points of contention.

In a letter to City Clerk Baker, Mr. Meredith says that he is of the same opinion now as he was when he wrote the first opinion. This means that the council cannot sanction a vote on Sunday cars in January next.

City Has Power to Sell Debentures
To Citizens for Specific PurposesCity Solicitor Meredith So In-
formed Chairman Beattie
Today.

The city of London has the power to issue debentures of \$100 denomination and over, if it desires to float a public loan.

City Solicitor Meredith so informed Chairman Beattie and Ald. Stevely of No. 1 committee this morning.

Mr. Meredith pointed out that debentures for the sum mentioned could be sold to the citizens, provided the city has secured the power from the Legislature or the people to issue such debentures.

But the city has not the power to issue any debentures except for a specific purpose.

That is, debentures could not be sold to the citizens for the purpose of providing money for current expenses, or for the payment of undertakings not authorized by the people or the Legislature.

Local improvement debentures may be sold.

So may the new isolation hospital debentures, etc.

The matter of the advisability of floating a loan on the terms above mentioned will be taken up at the next meeting of the finance committee, on Friday afternoon.

The local improvement debentures would only run from 1 to 10 years. Other authorized debentures may, if desired, cover longer terms.

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Council May Bring Expert Engineer
To Discuss Plans for Power PlantAld. Gillean and City Engineer
Graydon Returned From
Toronto Last Night.

Chairman Gillean, of the special Niagara power committee, returned last night with City Engineer Graydon from Toronto, where both gentlemen had been seeking information in regard to the proposition put to the city by the Niagara Power Commission.

To The Advertiser, the alderman stated that Mr. Chase, of the firm of Smith, Chase & Curry, the expert engineer consulted, had verified the prices, etc., furnished the city by the commission.

He held over several important questions, and answers to these are expected today.

Special Meeting Tonight.

A special meeting of the Niagara Power Committee will be held tonight, after the regular meeting of No. 3 committee, at which the answers will be made public.

Ald. Stevely, Acting-Mayor Garratt and others pled Ald. Gillean with questions as to how it was that the expert confirmed the figures of the commission right off the bat, and with no time for consideration whatever.

Ald. Gillean, in reply, said that Mr. Chase had had the figures for some

days, and was in a position to make a statement on certain points which the Londoners put him personally.

In answer to a question, Ald. Gillean also stated that Mr. Chase had approved of the peak load system of payment by the city, as being fair to both the municipality and the commission.

The Peak Load System.

"In your private business would you agree to buy power on the peak load system?" Ald. Stevely was asked. "No, I would not," he answered promptly.

Mr. Chase informed the Londoners that the single wire system for transmission in the city will not affect the telephones, despite the arguments of Mr. C. N. Hunt, of the London Electric Company, that there would be a danger of induction.

At the meeting tonight, it will be decided whether Mr. Chase shall be brought to London to confer with the entire committee, and perhaps the council before the bylaw is given its second reading.

Some Doubters.

There appears to be doubts in the minds of some of the aldermen as regards the information secured by the committee.

"Mr. Chase has verified the figures as to prices, etc," Ald. Stevely stated, "but whether that is all the council and the people want to know from him is another matter."

THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—UNSETTLED.

FORECASTS.

Toronto, Nov. 27-8 a.m.

Today—Fresh to strong southwesterly winds; fair.

Thursday—Mild and unsettled, with light local rains.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Weather.

Calgary.....16.....Clear

Winnipeg.....22.....Snow

Port Arthur.....18.....Cloudy

Parry Sound.....26.....Cloudy

Toronto.....34.....Cloudy

Ottawa.....32.....Cloudy

Montreal.....30.....Snow

Quebec.....23.....Cloudy

Father Point.....32.....Cloudy

The first column in the above table records the temperature at 8 o'clock this morning, and the second column records the minimum temperatures during the 24 hours previous.

WEATHER NOTES.

An area of low pressure now centered in Minnesota is likely to move across the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and generally unsettled conditions. Light snow has fallen in Manitoba, Northern Ontario and Quebec. The weather continues fairly open in the West.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: London, 34-40; Dawson, 4-6; Atlin, 10-22; Victoria, 42-46; Vancouver, 37-46; Kamloops, 40-46; Edmonton, 39-40; Calgary, 26-40; Regina, 38-41; Winnipeg, 38-41; Parry Sound, 26-34; Toronto, 32-40; Ottawa, 32-34; Montreal, 28-34; Quebec, 30-32; St. John, 33-46; Halifax, 33-43.

TWO M. C. R. TRAINS COLLIDE
AT POINT CALLED WILCOX SPURThe Train Crews and Passengers Given a Severe
Shaking Up, But Fortunately No One
Was Injured.

An open switch this morning caused a head-on collision between two trains at a point on the Michigan Central Railroad known as the Wilcox spur. The accident occurred at 9:33 a.m., and although the engines were traveling at a fair rate of speed no one was injured.

Engine No. 8877, in charge of Wm. Parker, of St. Thomas, was coming south near the Wilcox switch, at a rate of twenty miles an hour. In the switch was a Pere Marquette yard engine in charge of Engineer William Robinson. At the switch joint is what is known as a double target signal, and it is supposed that the engineer of the Michigan Central train did not notice that the switch was open, for he ran over 60 feet up the switch before he realized that he was directly in the path of the yard engine, which had been hidden by a cloud of smoke.

Both engines reversed as quickly as possible, but not in time to prevent a collision, which tore the fenders off both engines, and shook up considerably the crews of both trains and the passengers of the Michigan Central special. Neither crew jumped when the crash came.

The smoke boxes of both engines and the headlights were demolished, and the rods in front of the engines were bent double.

The Michigan Central train was a special one, sent out to take the head

officials of the road on a tour of inspection, and it carried two coaches. The yard engine at the time had also a couple of cars attached. Neither engine left the track when the crash came, and the outcome is regarded by railroad men as an extremely fortunate one.

The special left Southwold some time early this morning, and took on a St. Thomas crew at St. Thomas. The conductor in charge of the special was A. Soisy, of Detroit, and Conductor Boyd had control of the yard train. When interviewed a few moments after the wreck by an Advertiser reporter, the officials on the train, about seven in number, refused to discuss the accident, beyond admitting that they were considerably shaken up by the shock of the accident.

Among the notable officials of the train were General Superintendent L'Hammill and Chief Dispatcher Adams, both of the Michigan Central. They would assign no reason for the engineer going past a stop signal, and they refused to discuss the affair at all.

The engineer and fireman of the special explained that on account of a cloud of smoke around the target (which is very difficult to read at any time), they overlooked the fact that the switch was open.

After the accident the special train was pulled into the Michigan Central yards.

The officials, who did not leave the train, refused absolutely to make any statements regarding the run-around agreements between the city and the company in reference to the building of a number of new bridges, and stated that they had heard nothing of the matter.

Proposed Changes in Education Act

Some proposed changes in the Ontario educational system, contained in a set of resolutions sent out by the Ontario Educational Association, are giving London school teachers food for thought at present. It is understood that a special meeting of the local association will be held some time shortly to discuss the resolutions.

Copies of seventeen resolutions have recently been sent out to the teachers' associations in different parts of Ontario by the Provincial body, the idea being to test the feeling of the teachers with a view of asking the education department for such changes as they might be fairly unanimous in desiring.

Favors Superannuation.

One of the most important of the proposed changes calls for a Provincial system of superannuation for teachers, assisted and superintended by the Government, all the teachers being required to contribute to the fund.

Among the other resolutions are: That in the preparation of all pub-

lic school text books, public school teachers should be consulted.

That the Ontario readers, after twenty years of service, should now give place to a set of readers that would reflect more correctly our nationality, besides being more in accord with educational principles, and that a separate reader be provided for each grade.

Close Vote on Age Limit.

That the members of the advisory council should have the power to introduce the discussion of any educational question.

That the interests of education in rural sections would be best served by having boards of five trustees in each township.

That holidays in rural schools should correspond with those in city schools.

Another resolution is to the effect that certificates shall not be granted to teachers under 21 years of age. The limit is at present 18 years.

Windsor and Walkerville teachers discussed the resolutions recently, and rejected the latter.

Trustee Tillmann Chosen Chairman

The special committee of the board of education appointed to urge the establishment of a technical school for London by the Ontario Government held a meeting last night and elected Trustee Tillmann chairman.

Plans for the promotion of the scheme were discussed at length. It was decided to invite the co-operation of the Board of Trade, the Trades and Labor council, and other bodies in London.

Were Almost Suffocated in a Vault

As a result of a practical joke played last evening upon two young men, employees of a well-known local hardware establishment, two fatalities were narrowly averted.

It seems that three or four young men were fooling about the place last evening after hours, and that two of them were requested to sing for the edification of the others.

This they refused to do, and as a punishment they were thrown into the large vault used for the storing of powder, and the door was shut.

Several hours later the night watchman opened the door for some purpose or another and found the two men lying almost unconsciously on the floor. They were very nearly suffocated. After some effort, however, they were revived.

The young men were compelled to lie flat on their stomachs to catch the air which came under the door.

Inspector Duncan has received several letters from citizens which have been sent to them from a Black Hand Society, demanding money or threatening murder if not produced.

STEAMERS ARRIVED.

Nov. 26. Reported at. From.

Lake Michigan.....London.....Montreal

Estonia.....Libau.....New York

President.....Cherbourg.....New York

Pannonia.....Gibraltar.....New York

Koenigin Luise.....Gibraltar.....New York

Liguria.....Genoa.....New York

Kron Prinz Wilh.....New York.....Bremen

Rehm.....New York.....Bremen

Furst.....New York.....Bremen

Louisiana.....New York.....Naples

Bonita.....New York.....Liverpool

Chesler.....New York.....Antwerp