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The Toronto World

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TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR

TEN PAGES—WEDNESDAY MORNING DECEMBER 26 1906—TEN PAGES

ONE CENT

HOW SEVEN WOMEN CLERKS HELPED TO WRECK A BANK

Committed Systematic Forgeries
Under Direction of the Manager,
Looting Institution of
\$1,000,000—Politics Responsible
For the Smash.

Waynesburg, Pa., Dec. 25.—Seven women clerks now are alleged to have wrought the series of forgeries by which the Farmers' and Drivers' Bank was robbed of \$1,000,000 and brought to complete ruin.

Investigation of the books has revealed an amazing state of affairs. No less than eight separate sets of ledgers were kept, and only one, in the sole possession of J. B. F. Rinehart, showed the real status of the institution. Already the failure is described as one of the worst in the history of banking in Pennsylvania.

The facts involving the seven women have been arranged for presentation to Owen T. Reed, special agent of the department of justice. A preliminary enquiry has been completed by Bank Examiner John B. Cunningham, who, before leaving for his home in Pittsburgh, frankly admitted that he was astonished by the ingenuity and daring by which the bank had been looted. He said that one-half the story of the failure had not been told, and that the rumors in circulation did not approach the seriousness of the situation. Cunningham expressed the belief that criminal information would be made against the clerks, although he believed they were only guilty of constructive forgeries.

Heads Sunday School Class.
The further the probing into the bank the more responsibility falls on Rinehart, the man who twelve years ago was a country school teacher at \$40 a month, and who in five years reaped more than \$1,000,000 from investments in gas and oil lands. The story of Rinehart's rise and fall reads like a romance. Although he hangs over him, he was at the head of his Sunday school class in the Methodist Church on Sunday last, as usual.

Rinehart, on his way home from church, with his Bible under his arm, candidly said that politics had been the cause of his ruin.

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B. C. HOUSE DISSOLVES ELECTIONS FOR FEB. 2 NEW SESSION MARCH 8

Question of Better Terms From
Dominion Government Will Be
Principal Campaign Cry—Land
Scandal May Have Precipitated
Appeal to People.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—An extra of The British Columbia Gazette was issued late last night after a full cabinet meeting.

It contained a proclamation dissolving the legislature and prescribing at most immediate general elections. Jan. 12 is named as nomination day, with elections on Feb. 2, and the new legislature is called to meet for the despatch of business on March 8.

It is expected that the question of better terms from the Dominion will be made an important campaign issue, while the large surplus created by land sales and timber receipts (the largest surplus in provincial history) will be emphasized by the government.

The attorney-generalship and the ministry of lands, the latter vacated by the recent resignation of Hon. R. F. Green, will probably be filled within a fortnight, it is expected, by the appointment of W. R. Ross and Price Ellison respectively.

Candidates are already chosen in many constituencies, among them the following:

Richmond, Hon. F. L. Carter Cotton (Conservative); J. W. Weart (Liberal); Dewdney, Hon. Richard McBride (Cons.); R. Jardine (Lib.); Esquimalt, Speaker Pooley (Cons.); John Jardine (Lib.);

Islands, A. T. McPhillips (Cons.); T. W. Patterson (Lib.); Saanich, E. W. Eberts (Cons.); R. Tanner (Lib.);

Okanagan, Fred Ellison (Cons.); Dr. K. C. McNeil (Lib.); Cowichan, W. H. Hayward (Cons.); J. N. Evans (Lib.);

Caples, Hon. E. J. Fulton (Cons.); J. D. Swanson (Lib.); Comox, Robert Grant (Cons.); J. B. Bennett (Lib.);

Mason (Cons.); H. Brewster (Lib.); Delta, F. J. Mackenzie (Cons.); John Oliver (Lib.);

Victoria, Hon. J. H. Ross (Cons.); J. D. Swanson (Lib.); Comox, Robert Grant (Cons.); J. B. Bennett (Lib.);

GIVING WIFE PRESENT DROPS DEAD AT HER FEET

Death Stills the Lips Which Were
Wishing a Merry Xmas—A
Day's Tragedies.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 25.—Just as he presented a Christmas gift to his wife, Thomas Cardin of this city dropped dead of heart disease.

There had been the usual Christmas gaiety at the Cardin home. Mr. Cardin produced from his hiding place a neatly-wrapped parcel, which he had bought several days previously.

"I wish you a merry Christmas, my dear," he said, and handed it to his wife. She opened it, and found a revolver. She shot and fatally wounded his stepfather, Henry Brinker, 44 years old, today.

According to the boy, his stepfather had threatened to kill his mother, and he bought the revolver to protect her. This morning Brinker attacked his wife with a hatchet, and the boy pulled the revolver from his pocket and fired three shots. Three of the bullets entered the man's chest just below the heart, and two entered his neck, below the chin. The boy was arrested.

DEVOTION COST HER LIFE.
Cincinnati, O., Dec. 25.—With money he had saved to give his mother as a Christmas gift, Henry Sieble, 16 years of age, bought a revolver, with which he shot and fatally wounded his stepfather, Henry Brinker, 44 years old, today.

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GREATER THAN TARIFF GRIEVANCE.



SIR WILFRID, (without looking up): "Ah! farmer with grievance, eh? See Fielding."
EMBATTLED FARMER: "I'm here to see you and your Railway Minister, boss, and don't you forget it."

GANG WHO RAIDED WARD'S NOW ALL BEHIND THE BARS

Warren Brothers and Fred Marsh
Rounded up by Detectives for
Complicity in Last Saturday
Night's Daring Burglary.

After skilful work on the part of Detective Sergeant Duncan and his corps of assistants, the quartet of daring burglars, who attempted the diamond robbery at Ward's pawnshop last Saturday night, are behind the bars.

Joseph Warren, his brother, John Warren, 25 Centre-avenue, and Fred Marsh, 27 Nelson-street, are believed to have been Milligan's aids. They are known to the police, and with the exception of the last named, are the same gang who operated a year ago Christmas Eve, getting away with a couple of thousand dollars worth of furs from Fred Marsh's.

The ground in the robbery was reported to the white villagers at Wabakak. Whites immediately organized themselves, and in a fight with the negroes of the community a number of white men were killed, including one of the most prominent of the villagers.

The number of negroes killed in the riots has not been ascertained, but dead negroes have been found in many parts of the settlement since the trouble started.

TROOPS CALLED FOR.
Meridian, Miss., Dec. 25.—Railroad men who have just arrived from Scooba, report a fresh clash between the races. Several persons are reported killed. This report, however, has not been confirmed. Scooba is seven miles from Wabakak.

Under instructions of Gov. Vardaman, twenty-five members of the local military company boarded an especial train as soon as it can be made ready.

It was reported early today that a body of negroes had fortified themselves two miles from Wabakak and announce they will resist any effort to dislodge them. They threaten to burn the little town and the white people are alarmed. The whites all around the country have armed themselves and one party of fifty armed persons have arrived there from Columbus, Miss.

Two negroes, Tom and Jim Simpson, are reported to have been killed by whites yesterday afternoon before the arrival of the troops. A firing was heard near the centre of the town, but after a few scattering shots quiet was restored and no explanation has been forthcoming.

Col. McCants announces that he will place a Gatling gun in position, and use it if necessary.

ATTACK ON A CONDUCTOR STARTS NASTY RACE WAR

Several Negroes Killed and
Troops Are Guarding Small
Mississippi Town.

Wabakak, Miss., Dec. 25.—Conductor Robert Harrison of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, who was ambushed and seriously wounded by a negro last night, died today. The origin of the racial troubles here was caused primarily by the meeting in a narrow roadway of wagons driven by a white farmer and negro respectively. The negro abused the white man, who reported the occurrence to the white villagers at Wabakak. Whites immediately organized themselves, and in a fight with the negroes of the community a number of white men were killed, including one of the most prominent of the villagers.

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Wabakak is twenty-five miles south of Meridian, on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad.

Crown Hotel, 75 Bay St.—Communitarian tickets, twenty-one for \$5.

KAISER GIVES GOLD PIECES TO PEOPLE WHOM HE MEETS

Christmas Custom at Potsdam,
When Emperor Throws Aside
His Dignity.

Potsdam, Dec. 25.—Emperor William took his usual Christmas morning walk in the environs of the palace today and chatted with chance passers-by.

According to the time-honored custom of Prussian sovereigns, he gave at parting to such as were of the lower ranks in life a freshly-minted gold piece, which, like all money for the emperor's personal use, had been highly polished at the mint.

Returning to the palace he received deputations from various bodies, many of whom brought gifts such as the huge cake presented yearly by the Second Guard Regiment.

Among the trees at the Christmas Eve celebration at the palace was a tiny one for the imperial grandchild, who took part in the family rejoicing. His majesty conducted each Christmas tree, beneath which was the presents laid for distribution.

500 ANIMALS CREMATED.
Sawblowers Start Fire Which Kills
Horses and Mules by Hundreds.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 25.—Five hundred horses and mules were burned in Harper Bros' livery stable this morning. The loss is about \$100,000.

The fire was started by saw blower, who exploded the safe in the office, the shock overturning the lamp.

CHARITIES WHICH BENEFIT.
\$1000 Worth of the Hotelkeepers' Donations Distributed.

The Christmas charity donations from the Toronto hotelkeepers have been partially apportioned as follows: Sick Children's Hospital \$350; Toronto Free Hospital for Consumptives \$350; House of Providence \$300.

A GIANTIC PHONE FIGHT LOOKS LIKE NEW ENGLAND "BELL" BEARDED IN DEN

National Independent Association
Invading Extensive Territory
With Headquarters at Albany,
N.Y.—Means a Bitter Conflict.

Boston, Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Appearing, as it unquestionably does at this time, that the numerous independent telephone companies of the country, said to number about 7000, are being absorbed, if they have not already been, by a parent company known as the National Independent Telephone Association, it is evident that the Bell and the New England Telephone and Telegraph Companies are about to enter into a determined and perhaps a disastrous combat for business supremacy with an outpost of about their own strength and dimensions.

From cities throughout the country, where independent telephone companies having membership in the National Association are now doing business, came despatches last evening confirming the reports that a gigantic telephone combine has been perfected for the purpose of competing with the big Bell companies.

Arthur W. Hoge, a consulting telephone engineer, known throughout the west, now in Boston, admits that he is behind the Metropolitan Home Company, now seeking a franchise in the city; that he is proud of it and that his companies will give the Bell and the New England companies the bitterest fight of their existence before he is done with it.

Strong Combination.
This Arthur W. Hoge is a brother of James B. Hoge, who is president of the National Independent Telephone Association, which, as a matter of fact, controls all the independent companies doing business throughout the country, and the fact that Arthur W. Hoge, who is promoting the Metropolitan Home Company in Boston, has recently taken over the conditional franchises of the independent companies being formed in Taunton and Brockton, is regarded as satisfactory proof that the Mr. Hoge of Boston is acting as agent for his brother, James B. Hoge, (the head of the independent telephone octopus, which is making ready to savagely attack the Bell and New England companies).

Through the western country, where James B. Hoge is best known, he is engaged in a strenuous and successful financial backing, and his brother, Arthur W. Hoge, who is now operating in this vicinity is regarded as the representative acting in behalf of the new telephone combination having national ambitions and an ambition to seriously compete with the Bell companies.

Dangerous Competitor.
As Boston is the home of the Bell telephone monopoly, the independent interests have made a bold strike in attempting to beat the lion in his den and the independent movement which has swept the west and the Pacific coast during recent years has actually gained a firm foothold in this New England country before the Bell companies actually realized what was under way, and by the combination of a number of Cleveland and Boston capitalists, it is the determination of the independent telephone exchange at the head and centre of the Bell system.

Observatory, Toronto, Dec. 25.—(8 p.m.)—The Atlantic storm moved into Quebec today, accompanied by heavy winds and snowfalls in many portions of that province. Fine weather, with more moderate temperatures, prevailed in Ontario, while over the prairie province it is turning colder again and some local snowfalls have occurred.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 4 below; 2 below; Alton, 1 below; 24; Port Simpson, 28-32; Vancouver, 28-38; Westminister, 28-40; Calgary, 14-24; Qu'Appelle, 4-22; Winnipeg, 18-24; Port Arthur, 22-30; Parry Sound, 4 below; Toronto, 41-22; Ottawa, 4-20; Montreal, 10-20; Quebec, 10-24; St. John, 32-46; Halifax, 34-46.

Probabilities.
Lower Lake and Georgian Bay—Fresh westerly to southerly winds; fair and a little higher temperature.

THE BAROMETER.
Time. Ther. Bar. Win. L.
8 a.m. 11 29.52 25 N.
10 a.m. 11 29.52 25 N.
12 noon 11 29.52 25 N.
2 p.m. 11 29.52 25 N.
4 p.m. 11 29.52 25 N.
6 p.m. 11 29.52 25 N.
8 p.m. 11 29.52 25 N.
10 p.m. 11 29.52 25 N.
Average, 10 below; lightest, 22; lowest, 6.

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.
Dec. 25 At From
Potomac.....New York.....Holland
Kronland.....New York.....Antwerp
Norman.....Glasgow.....Boston

Edwards, Morgan & Company, Chartered Accountants, 25 Wellington St. East. Phone Main 118.