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LAST EDITION

## Progressive Conferences With Liberal And Conservative Leaders

### FURTHER REDUCTION IN HYDRO RATES IS LIKELY IN KINGSTON

Public Utilities Commission to Ask Hydro-Electric to Lower Present Rates in View of Last Year's Surplus—R. N. F. McFarlane Again Elected Chairman of Local Commission.

In view of the surplus looked for in the electrical department for the year 1925, the Public Utilities Commission will ask the Hydro Electric Commission for a further reduction in the rates.

This was decided on at the inaugural meeting of the Commission, held on Monday morning at 11 o'clock. A deputation will be sent to Toronto, to take up the matter with the Hydro Commission.

Mr. R. N. F. McFarlane was re-elected chairman of the Commission for the year 1926.

The members felt that if the Commission had a surplus in the electrical department, the consumers should have the benefit of it.

The members present at the meeting were R. N. F. McFarlane, Mayor Agnew, James Halliday, Mayor Agnew, elected member, who was given a warm welcome, and James Harris.

**Plant Making History.**  
The manager, C. C. Folger, occupied the chair at the opening of the meeting, and addressed the Commission briefly. He stated that the Commission had been making history and referred to the fact that the waterworks department had been under civic management for 39 years.

The gas and electrical department had been under civic management for 22 years, having been taken over on August 1st, 1904. Mr. Folger said that he felt that the city had reason to feel proud of the various departments. They had made good and compared favorably with other cities.

Mr. Folger then called for nominations for chairman. Mayor Agnew moved that Mr. McFarlane be re-elected. This was seconded by James Halliday, and carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. McFarlane thanked the members for the honor conferred on him. He said he would not care to take over the chairmanship, without the confidence and co-operation of his colleagues, but he felt sure he had this, and remarked that there was no reason why the year 1926 would not turn out to be the "banner year" in the history of the Commission.

Mr. McFarlane paid a warm tribute to the worth of Mayor Agnew's contribution to the Commission. He stated that the Mayor, with his genial manner, and his marked ability, had succeeded in bringing together the city council and the Commission. Mayor Agnew deserved the credit for cementing these two bodies. The chairman also made reference to the good work of Mr. Harris, on the Commission, stating that he had been a hard worker. Regarding the retiring member, Mr. H. W. Newman, the chairman stated that he was the most conscientious man the Commission ever had.

"Our new member, Mr. Halliday,

comes to us with a wide experience in municipal matters," remarked the chairman. "With his wide experience I am sure he will be a splendid asset to the Commission. I welcome him to our board."

Dealing with matters in general, the chairman stated that the roof on the power house had been leaking, and that it would be necessary to put on a new roof this year. The present roof had been put on fourteen years ago. It was quite necessary that action be taken to give the necessary protection to the very valuable machinery it housed.

It is estimated that the new roof will cost in the neighborhood of \$1,200 or \$1,500.

**Reduction in Rates.**  
Chairman McFarlane stated that in view of the anticipated reduction in the electrical department for the past year, a deputation should go to Toronto and take up with the Hydro Electric Commission, the matter of having the rates for electricity in Kingston reduced.

Speaking regarding the gas department, the chairman stated that the Commission would about break even for the year. It had been a rather difficult year with this department. He was in favor of making a reduction in this department, too, just as soon as the receipts would warrant it.

Regarding the waterworks department, the chairman said that in 1925 the debentures for this department would mature, and the Commission would then be free from incumbrance. The plant at the present time was about up to its capacity. Increasing its capacity would likely be a "big question" for the Commission this year.

Chairman McFarlane stated that if the electrical department showed a surplus, there should be a reduction to the consumers. Hydro authorities stated that the Commission had no right to hand money back to the city. The chairman felt that the merchants and citizens in general should get the benefit of a reduction.

Mayor Agnew stated that he was of the same opinion. "We should reduce the cost to the consumer as much as we can," added the mayor.

Commissioner Harris also suggested that an effort be made to secure more power, so as to encourage industries.

Chairman McFarlane remarked that there was not one chance in a thousand of securing more power until the development of the St. Lawrence was proceeded with.

Mayor Agnew moved that the deputation go to Toronto to interview the Hydro Commission regarding a further reduction in the rates in view of the anticipated surplus in the department here, and the motion was carried.

### No One Appears Able to Forecast Result of Non-Confidence Motion

(From Our Own Correspondent)  
Ottawa, Jan. 11.—The Capital is on the tip top of expectancy this afternoon. The air has not cleared any since Saturday and no one seems able to forecast the result of the vote on the non-confidence resolution with any degree of certainty.

The corridors of the parliament buildings and the rotunda of the Chateau Laurier are filled with politicians from all over the Dominion and many rumors are current as to the result of this afternoon's session of parliament.

One thing is certain that if the King Government is sustained they are preparing to put up an aggressive battle on every question that comes before the House. In the Liberal ranks are many able debaters and with the expected acquisition before many weeks of Dunning and King, they will be able to successfully combat the onslaught of the opposition.

### COST OF DYING HIGHER IN RUSSIA

Moscow, Jan. 11.—The cost of dying is increasing in Soviet Russia. Owing to the scarcity of suitable wood and draping materials, coffins have advanced in price during the last six months by 33 per cent, while, owing to the congestion in cemeteries, graves have gone up 25 per cent.

### Water-Logged Boat Proves To Be a Run-Runner

Boston, Jan. 11.—The disabled, water-logged motor boat sighted off the Point of Pines on the north shore, proved to be a run-runner carrying \$50,000 worth of champagne and whiskey. Coast guardsmen salvaged the craft and brought it to Boston. The boat is capable of making fifty miles an hour and is valued at about \$100,000. The fate of her crew is not known.

### Willowdale Company To Move to Kingston

It has been rumored persistently about the city that the Willowdale Dairy, Collin's Bay, ice cream manufacturers, have decided to locate in Kingston, and that they will take over the old cereal building, at the foot of Gore street, which is owned by the city, and which has been unused for some years.

Chairman Boyd, of the industries committee, when interviewed about the rumors, stated that Manager Grass of the Willowdale company had opened negotiations about the matter, but that no definite decision had been reached.

The Whis was unable to get in touch with Manager Grass, but is understood that the company has completed this move for some time. The Willowdale company has a very large business in the city and district and it is due to this fact that this important step has been taken.

### Former Lord Mayor To Be Prosecuted For Alleged Irregularities in Connection With His Administration.

Bradford, Eng., Jan. 11.—H. M. Trotter, former lord mayor of Bradford, and for twenty-five years an alderman of the city, is to be prosecuted for alleged irregularities in connection with his administration of the baths department of Bradford. Mr. Trotter has been generally respected in Bradford for many years and his resignation is the cause of considerable regret among the citizens.

### Lord Londonderry Has Stepped Out Succeeded as Ulster Minister of Education by Lord Charlemont.

Belfast, Jan. 11.—(Special Cable).—Lord Londonderry has unexpectedly resigned as Minister of Education for Northern Ireland. His political career in the Ulster Government was marked by the Londonderry Education Act. The original act did not provide for Bible teaching and after an intensive campaign in which the Orange Order led the van he accepted the amendment which Protestant Ulster demanded. The crisis was very serious at one time, Lord Londonderry finding himself practically alone in the Cabinet on the point.

Viscount Charlemont, of Stewartstown, County Tyrone, representative of a good old Protestant family, has been appointed Lord Londonderry's successor in the ministry.

Mail advices from the U. S. indicated that Ulster linen is being vigorously boycotted by De Valera's sympathizers.

### Two Jewellers Robbed of \$100,000 in Diamonds

New York, Jan. 11.—Two jewellers were robbed today of a bag containing more than \$100,000 worth of uncut diamonds by two men who held them up a short distance off Fifth avenue in the busy downtown district. The robbers knocked the jewellers down with pistols, grabbed the bag and escaped in an automobile.

### Girl Dies of Poisoning

Toronto, Jan. 11.—Theresa Swan, aged twenty-seven, died this morning in the General Hospital where she had been admitted on January 1st. Death was due to poisoning. The girl, who came from the Old Country, is said by police to have been homesick and took bichloride of mercury tablets.

### Where All Eyes Reach Your Message

Have you a car, horse, lot or furniture to sell? Are you looking around with hopes of buying a radio set, a stove, a plant, or anything else for the home? Maybe you're searching for a job? Or, trying to hire help?

Then—why keep it quiet? Merely telling your friends, won't help. Tacking up a sign won't do it. You've got to get your problem before the thousands of eyes that daily closely scrutinize the Classified Ads of the British Whig.

### A SNOWSTORM BRINGS DEATH ALONG COAST

Six Persons Were Killed in New York City.

### SEACOAST WAS SWEEPED

Ten Thousand Snow Shovelers Kept Traffic Moving in the American Metropolis.

New York, Jan. 11.—Seventeen deaths attributed to the storm, which started all along the Atlantic coast from Georgia and Alabama to southern Michigan and Maine, were reported up to yesterday afternoon. Automobile disasters, in which the drivers' visions were affected by the blinding snowstorm, or skidded on the slippery road, were responsible for the persons' met death.

Six persons met death in New York City and the harbor during snow and windstorm. Fear was entertained for the safety of several men in small craft last heard of before the storm.

Slightly more than two inches of snow had fallen in the city by noon Saturday, but 10,000 snow shovelers and snow-fighting apparatus prevented the snow from interfering with street traffic. Soon after noon the storm subsided.

During the storm one barge capsized and was thrown from the pier. A man lost his balance and was killed by a fall through a glass roof and four were killed in an automobile accident. Several others were hurt in accidents due to the blinding snow.

A forty-mile wind which accompanied the snow caused the death of Capt. Nick Russo, who was thrown from the deck into the East River when his barge, the Port Light, broke away from a string of barges near Hart's Island. The others on the barge were unable, because of the darkness and snow, to see Russo after he fell into the river. The body was recovered.

### SEACOAST WAS SWEEPED

Snow that has been sweeping across the north central states and the Atlantic seaboard struck New York Saturday after dropping a white mantle on Washington.

Ice, snow-laden winds swept the seacoast from North Carolina to Boston, bringing a sharp drop in temperature.

Shipping all along the coast north of Norfolk was affected, and in many cases vessels were forced to seek shelter. Ocean liners at Atlantic ports reported rough weather at sea. The Adirondack region had sub-zero weather with predictions of colder weather still to come.

The storm has been making its way east steadily, first invading the far west, then the south-west, sections of the south and finally working along the coast toward the north. Atlantic City enjoyed its usual immunity. Rain and mist was substituted by the weather gods for "the beautiful."

### CONVENT QUARANTINED

Eleven Mild Cases of Smallpox Have Developed.

Toronto, Jan. 11.—With a total of eleven cases of smallpox in the institution having developed, the Convent of the Sisters of St. Joseph has been quarantined. The first case, that of an elderly sister, was discovered before Christmas and she was isolated in the hospital ward of the convent. All the cases are of a mild type, but the authorities have decided to place all convent buildings under quarantine.

There are about one hundred sisters in the convent, and about one hundred pupils in the boarding school. With attendants of various kinds, about 250 persons in all are in quarantine. Dr. Mager, pathologist at St. Michael's Hospital, is in charge.

### TURN'S 98 YEARS OLD

Celebrate Birthday on Saturday at Fairfield, Conn.

Fairfield, Conn., Jan. 11.—Mrs. Mary Sophia Dowd and Mrs. Sarah Marie Seymour—believed the oldest twins in the country—celebrated their 93rd birthday here Saturday.

Kept indoors by the storm, the twins held a quiet celebration, attended by relatives of four generations. Homer Dowd, 94, husband of one of the twins, recently died after the Dowds had celebrated their 76th wedding anniversary.

The Nova Scotia coal enquiry commission recommends that the wage scale be revised every six months.

### BEAVERBROOK GIVEN AN IRONICAL REBUKE

Saturday Review Points to Men Who Have Not Divulged Confidences.

London, Jan. 11.—The Saturday Review, with something more than a mere casual reference to Lord Beaverbrook's latest self-confession in his shilling booklet entitled "Politicians and the Press," in which Lord Beaverbrook discusses political events at large since the signing of the armistice, with special reference to the part he himself has played therein, comments on the career of Sir John Merry Le Sage, the veteran managing editor of the Daily Telegraph, who resigned his position on the Telegraph in 1923, at the age of eighty-six, and whose death occurred a week ago.

Ironically pointing out several ways in which Sir John Le Sage missed his chance, the Saturday Review says:

"He did not write books to explain what he had done. He had a queer idea, which he would enunciate with some violence, that all the information of which a man became possessed while working for a newspaper was the property of the newspaper and that it was wrong for such information to be used for any private purpose, even that of proving how much the collector of the same had been behind the scenes."

The Review says that such principles were well understood also by John Thaddeus Delane, one of the great editors of the Times, who died in 1879, and other Victorian journalists whose names managed to survive despite their reticence.

### 1,000 FAMILIES MAY ARRIVE THIS YEAR

422 Applications Already Approved Under Settlement Scheme.

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—At the end of December, officials of the department of immigration and colonization in the British Isles reported the acceptance of 422 applicants who will come out this year under the British family settlement scheme. In the last two weeks of the year 130 were accepted according to the department here. Officials of the department expect that fully 1,000 families, with an average of six to the family, will be approved this year. The first sailing will be in March.

Last year, according to a statement handed out, the number of families settled on farms under the plan was 485, in all about 2,900 men, women and children. Under the scheme the department will bring out 3,900 British families by the end of 1927. Assisted passages were granted by the British Government to a number of families. Of the families who had payments due, up to November 21st, 1925, ninety-two per cent. made their first repayment.

Settlers under the scheme are generally reported as being well satisfied, and with few exceptions they have made a good start in the direction of farm ownership.

### DEFINITE STAND ASKED

These fourteen points were submitted in writing to Mr. Meighen and Mr. King on Wednesday. Request was made that reply should be given as early as possible, preferably not later than the evening of the 25th.

The correspondence is regarded as confidential but it is reported that Premier King replied that the attitude of the government on the questions submitted was expressed in the speech from the throne. Mr. Meighen, it is stated, did not make any written reply.

To-day, at conference between Progressives and the party leaders, the fourteen points were further discussed. In the discussions, it is reported, Mr. Meighen took the general line he took in the elections. On the Hudson Bay, it is stated, he favored completion, providing the cost would not be more than three millions, as had been reported. It is further stated that he favored return of natural resources but was opposed to the alternative vote. It is understood that Mr. Meighen is replying more fully by letter to the Progressive proposals.

From conversations with individual Progressives, the idea seems to be rather to vote against the Meighen amendment with a view to the submission by the government of legislation indicated in the speech from the throne.

At the same time, there is always the possibility of the opposition getting some independent support. With Conservatives holding 117 seats out of 245 if the speaker is expected, not many switch votes would be necessary to leave the government in a minority. On Monday, Mr. Meighen's amendment of non-confidence will have right of way.

### NO DECISION YET

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—The Progressive party emerged from a two-hour caucus this morning, without having made any apparent decision on the non-confidence motion of Right Hon. Arthur Meighen. Some of the progressive members were non-committal when questioned as to how they would vote. Some frankly admitted that they did not know yet how they would vote. One or two who were seen said that it was in their best interests to support the Government. It was clear that no positive decision had been reached by which the party would vote a straw vote. The Progressives are of opinion that a division will not likely come today.

### MAINE HARBOR SUCKED DRY

A Tidal Wave Follows

Southwest Harbor, Maine, Jan. 11.—An unprecedented phenomenon, apparently local in character, Saturday sucked dry the harbor at Southwest Harbor, three miles from here and then sent a ten foot tidal wave crashing back to the shore, carrying with it half a hundred fishing boats.

The tidal wave was preceded by two distinct runnings which led to the belief that an earthquake at the sea's bottom off shore may have caused the phenomenon, although no tremors were felt.

W. C. Durant, motor car manufacturer, was injured by a railway wreck near St. Augustine, Florida.

### Weather Probabilities

Becoming much colder to-night, Tuesday, fair and colder.

### MORE LIKELY TO VOTE WITH THE LIBERALS

This Is the View After Conversation With Progressives.

### MOTION OF MEIGHEN

Expressing Non-Confidence in Government to Be Debated Again This Afternoon.

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—Progressive M.P.'s spent Saturday in caucus and in conference with Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, Conservative leader, and with Premier King. They opened with a brief caucus, and then their executive, headed by Robert Forke, Progressive leader, conferred in turn first with Mr. Meighen and then with Mr. King, asking, it is understood, for a definite statement of policy on:

(1) The tariff. (2) Hudson Bay railway. (3) Peace River outlet. (4) Mountain differential. (5) Statutory freight rates on grain and flour. (6) Public ownership of national railroads. (7) Income tax. (8) Rural credits. (9) Transfer of natural resources to prairie provinces. (10) Trade relations with the United States particularly with regard to livestock. (11) National coal policy. (12) Revaluation of soldier settlers' lands. (13) Co-operative marketing. (14) Alternative vote.

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### GERMAN SPINSTERS SEEK BRIDEGRROOMS

And Propose That There Should Be "Leap Year" Week Each Year.

Berlin, Jan. 11.—German spinsters, weary of indirect methods of sharing the single male, are agitating for a recognized "leap year" week in each year, during which it shall be their privilege to propose. The idea has been presented to the government marriage bureau, and proposes that there shall be each year one but seven days dedicated to St. Catherine, the patroness of unmarried women. Several spinsters organizations are backing the proposal.

Officials of the marriage bureau say that when a girl in Germany is twenty-seven years old and unmarried her chances of getting a husband are about one in five. Al-

### LATE HENRY TAYLOR

The Former Police Magistrate of Perth Passes.

Perth, Jan. 11.—Henry Taylor, aged eighty-one, former police magistrate and one of the oldest residents of this place, died at his home here Saturday night.

The late Mr. Taylor was the father of Mrs. Felix Shaw, formerly of Kingston, and now of Montreal.

Kenneth J. Dunstan, Toronto, will be the next Grand Z of the Grand Chapter of Canada Royal Arch Masons.

### Division on Meighen's Non-Confidence Amendment Not Expected Until Thursday

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—The division on the amendment of non-confidence in the Government, Meighen, is not now likely to be moved by Right Hon. Arthur Meighen until Thursday. There was at first talk of a short debate, with the deciding vote tonight but the list of speakers in hand makes this a virtual impossibility, unless special arrangements are made.

Three ministers are on the list—Hon. E. M. Macdonald, Hon. Charles Stewart

and Hon. J. A. Robb. The first two conservative speakers will be R. S. White, Mount Royal, Montreal, and Hon. R. B. Bennett, former Minister of Justice, when the house meets, the debate to be resumed by A. M. Carmichael, of Kindersley.

The Progressives were again in caucus this morning to discuss their attitude. They had before them the reply of Mr. Meighen to their questionnaire of fourteen points.