

CRITICAL  
COMMENT  
WITHOUT  
FEAR OR  
FAVOR.

# THE AXE

PLAIN  
SPEAKING  
CONCERNING  
PUBLIC  
QUESTIONS.

A JOURNAL OF ACTION AGAINST REACTION

EDITED BY JOHN H. ROBERTS

"LAY THE AXE AT THE ROOT OF THE TREE"

No. 28

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## SAYS BROKERS STOLE MILLION

*Montreal Stockbroker, witness for Prosecution, states under oath that Logan and Bryan, New-York Brokerage house, robbed his firm, of over One Million Dollars.*

### "IS BRUNSON ONLY A MYTH?" ASKS ALBAN GERMAIN, K.C., WHEN EDITOR REMAINS UNFACED BY HIS ACCUSER

**Defence Counsel moves for Quashing of Indictment on Grounds that no proof of Libel is furnished by Logan and Bryan.**

In addressing the Court at the close of the case for the prosecution, Mr. Alban Germain, K. C., Counsel for the Editor of THE AXE, asked for the quashing of the indictment on the ground that no evidence had been adduced in support of the allegation that what Mr. Roberts, the accused, had written in THE AXE was libellous. "There have been no witnesses brought forward," he said, "to prove what was said was defamatory. Where is the complainant?" Counsel asked, "is he but a myth? Why was he not put in the box? If no such evidence is given the public will say that the procedure followed was allowed in order to allow Logan and Bryan to come here and establish in Canada a virginity they no longer possess, of which I can find no trace. There not being any such witnesses their guilt might be presumed. We hope the trial will go on and we are ready to face the music."

### JOHN H. SAYS

#### "THAT'S A LIE"

When Norris P. Bryant made his startling statement under oath in our libel case to the effect that Logan and Bryan had robbed the firm of Bryant, Izard and Co. of over one million dollars, Peter Bercovitch, K. C., jumped to his feet and heatedly exclaimed, "That is merely to make cheap publicity; he has already paid for some in THE AXE." "That's a lie," shouted John H. Roberts, the accused editor. The indignant exclamation of Mr. Roberts created a sensation.

#### A GOOD CASE

My lawyer said the case I had Was strong—it now appears He must have meant 'twas durable. Its lasted many years.

### LAWYER SCATHED BY CONFRERE FOR TACTICS HE USED

**C. H. Cahan, K. C., Attempts to use Private Conversation to give nasty twist to Bryan's Evidence — Scored by Witness and Attorney.**

"Bryant Izard, by whom I was employed, were correspondents of Logan and Bryan, and that firm was robbed of over one million dollars, by Logan and

### GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS AND THE C.P.R. JOIN FORCES TO REDUCE WORKERS PAY AND IMPOSE DEGRADING CONDITIONS

**Railmen Resist attempt to impoverish them and ask for Conciliation Board.**

#### Bryan!"

The startling statement snapped out by Norris P. Bryant, a Montreal stockbroker, created a sensation in the crowded courtroom. The judge ruled out the latter part of the witness' answer but later allowed a similar statement to pass.

At the close of the day John (continued on page 4)

It appears as if Canada may be flung into the turmoil and trouble of nation-wide railway strikes. The whole of the railway companies of the Dominion, including the Government-owned lines, acting through their association (who said "trust"?), have served notice of reductions of wages and changed conditions of labor upon the men. The men with that patience and statesmanship which is a characteristic of the organized labor movement (we sometimes think it too patient) have asked for a conciliation board. This must be granted and the decreases withheld from becoming effective, if there is anything like fair play for labor in this country, which we begin to doubt.

It looks to us as if the powers of predatory wealth that be are doing their best to goad the workers of Canada into sheer Bolshevism. Compare the wages of the average railway worker with the salary of Mr. Howard Kelley, of the Grand Trunk Railway which is \$52,000 per year. just about \$42-

(continued on page 2)

### What The Man In The Street Wants To Know

Which Montreal Bank was it that had lengthy conferences with two New York lawyers regarding THE AXE about a month ago?

Who was the Montreal multi-millionaire who lately declared at a dinner party that THE AXE not only told the truth but was practically alone among Canadian papers in telling it?

And who was the Bank President at the same function who damned THE AXE but said he had to buy it to see if he was getting the axe?

Why has the blonde young man who drove a Paige Roadster about town sold his car?

Did the young lady with red hair have anything to do with it?

Why this epidemic of labor troubles on the North American Continent?

Is it all part of a conspiracy to reduce wages?

Who is the Craig Street

merchant who lately turned his son out of house and home?

Has he forgotten the old adage that "boys will be boys"?

What fool idea possessed him to go around to the homes of his son's chums and tell their parents that said sons were young degenerates, or words to that effect?

Who is the downtown business man who has two numbers for his automobile, one for general use and one for occasions when it is standing outside his sweetie's apartment house?

Who is the Lady of the Lake Shore who carries on a somewhat more than mild flirtation with a Montreal manufacturer?

Is it not time the Montreal fellow packed his trunks and sought "fresh fields and pastures new"?

Who was the fellow who ruined the life of a seventeen

year old girl in Montreal, then deserted her to marry another girl somewhat prominent in social circles in this city?

Does he forget that the code amongst his fellow-officers during the war was to play the game with the girl and not desert her when trouble comes?

Does he realise that this child wife in name only has been unfitted for future motherhood by reason of the illegal operations to which she submitted at his demand?

If the least reparation he could make would not be to see that this girl is provided for in some way and not left to be a burden on the parents who have so far nobly stood by her?

Is Murray Bay the morally salubrious place it has always been pictured as being?

If THE AXE sent its "special commissioner" down as has been requested would not the story create interest in certain circles?

### COURT OPENS AT TEN O'CLOCK!

In accordance with the suggestion of Judge Amédée Monet, we take pleasure in announcing that the Police Court opens at ten o'clock, sharp, every morning, except Sunday. All persons charged with more or less serious crimes, such as libelling stockbrokers, should be on hand promptly at the hour mentioned. If anybody should find it difficult to get up at so early an hour, it can be arranged for Dan Sullivan to call them up, or perhaps a judge may be persuaded to hear the case in the prisoner's office to save the latter's time and health, the Courts being so unsanitary. Anyhow, the Court opens at ten!

## Why I Publish The Axe

It is amusing at times, and somewhat pitiful as well to note the concern that many good people feel about THE AXE. This past week I had separate conversations with two old friends of mine. Both are Cabinet Ministers; one of the Federal Government, the other at Quebec. Each is interested in me personally, I know, and wishes me well. Their views as expressed to me are typical of those of many people.

One took me to ask for my articles on the Ogilvie-Martin case, holding the viewpoint that the publication of them would not be for the best welfare of many who might read them, especially young people. Now I can fully appreciate and sympathise with my honorable friend's viewpoint (you can see that there are some remnants of snobbery left in me by my evident relish in talking about my highly-placed friends.)

But I have given very careful thought to what he said to me on the matter. And what he said has not changed my viewpoint.

The young people who may read my little paper are probably reading "stuff" in the American magazines, for instance, compared with which the stories in THE AXE about Shirley Ogilvie are Sunday School literature. I admit it was not pleasant reading. But a tremendous wrong had been done to a girl by a man in high position, the greatest wrong a man could do. And to the wrong done was added humiliation, as public as a court record could make it, and the vulgar branding with a foul name. To crown all, the man who had taken his pleasure at the expense of a woman's honor was mean and contemptible enough to take legal means to secure the return of his presents from the girl he had ruined.

My sober judgment, on reflection, is that to defend the wronged woman and to pillory "the man who wanted his money back", is to do something that carries one of Life's most significant lessons for young people, teaching the essential truth that man must be woman's protector not her betrayer and that when a man has stained his soul and a woman's in sin, he must pay the price equally with her, at least, and that any attempt on his part to brand her with a shameful epithet while he returns to his former honor and glory in Society, will not be tolerated in the better day that's dawning. To write what I wrote of Shirley Ogilvie in the white heat of a flaming enthusiasm, in burning indignation at a man's foul deed, the whole surcharged with a passionate fervour in the cause of justice, will never hurt the mind or morals of the youngest of my readers.

My other friend also mentioned the Ogilvie case (it shows how deeply THE AXE'S plain speech in that matter has sunk into the minds of men) But he looked at the question from a different angle again. "Where are you going with your paper?" he asked, "where are you going?" His fears, it turned out, were occasioned by THE AXE'S strong stand against the fact of one law for the rich and another for the poor. "It is a terrible thing" he said, "to teach the people that the rich can get justice in the Courts but the poor cannot; that our judiciary is not impartial". For reply I pointed out three recent cases, mentioning the names in two of the instances cited.

The other case was that of a judge who for five years has had lunch every day with a lawyer friend and who, when the latter had a case before the judge in question, not a case in which he was merely the attorney but one in which he was directly involved, hundreds of thousands of dollars being at stake, would barely listen to the opposing side and gave judgment unhesitatingly in his friend's favor. That judge should never have sat on his friend's case. He was incapable of delivering an impartial judgment!

My friend, equally honorable but not so high as the other friend mentioned, agreed with me. (Most people do agree with me when they listen to me and hear my proofs.)

Don't you see, folks, what was the matter with these two high-souled men? They believed the truth would hurt and the fact is that truth never hurts. If it is true that the rich by reason of their riches and the special influence that wealth gives them can secure favor and consideration that the poor cannot obtain from judges and the Courts, the sooner the people know it the better, because once they know what now they only vaguely feel they will soon give short shrift to such an unspeakably vile system. Either they will elect their own judges or else judges who may be guilty of such conduct will suffer impeachment and dismissal. It will only require one lesson of the kind to right the wrong. Incidentally, in justice to the many judges of unquestioned honor and probity let me say the venal or corrupt judge is the exception not the rule in the Province of Quebec.

JOHN H. ROBERTS.

## THE CZAR ALLOWS LABELLE TO VOTE

The Taschereau Cabinet has decided to take a straw vote, so to speak, to see how the wind blows. A bye-election will be held in Labelle County and if the electors there stand by the Government and return its candidate, the Quebec Braves will try in the other ridings that are vacant just now.

What inestimable courage! What supreme daring!

This almost almighty power is afraid to bring on all the bye-elections at one time, thus absolutely ignoring the democratic principle of all elections on one day. And what is worse, these stalwarts of democracy think so little of the rights of democracy that they will keep the other constituencies without representation until they feel fairly confident they can return their own candidates.

### THANK GOD FOR LABELLE.

Well, Labelle it is! Thank God for Labelle County! It gives us a chance to fight and a fighting chance to drive a nail in the coffin of the Quebec Government. Its going to be a hard fight. Mr. Peron, the Minister of Roads, will go into the county and preside over a convention at which a candidate will be selected. Of course, following the usual practice of the party in power, he will promise the citizens of Labelle County not the moon but good roads aplenty. The million dollars that he has had placed at his disposal out of the profits on booze he will virtually promise holus bolus to Labelle, good roads, macadam roads, asphalt roads, and cement roads will he pledge the Government to build. And lots of the people will fall for his promises. But let us suggest to the electors of Labelle, that before they promise one vote on the basis of good roads they see that the contracts are let and the good roads irrevocably certain. When they have this done, they can vote as they like anyhow.

### PATRONAGE BAIT.

If the Liberal Government elects its candidate in Labelle, there will be great rejoicing amongst Taschereau and his friends. They will claim it as a vote of confidence. But bye-elections in this province usually go with the Government. The patronage bait is too attractive. Its a general election that will tell the tale. And the longer the Government delay their appeal to the electors the more humiliating their defeat will be. To all who want to see the end of the Taschereau tyranny we say, do not get discouraged over delayed victory. The people of the province are sick at heart of the autocratic methods of the party in power. Over-taxation, interference with local autonomy, the immorality of plunging the whole province into partnership in the booze business, the determined enmity to the labor organisations, the scandals of colonization, and all the other crimes of the oligarchy which rules and ruins will meet their just desert. All in good time.

### "OUR IMMORTAL DEAD"

We cannot pass by the burial of the victims of the Herrin occurrence without calling attention to the fine and sympathetic treatment evidenced by the coal company in rendering homage to the deceased.

Press despatches tell us that the strike breakers and gunmen found a last resting place in the potter's field.

That was the measure of appreciation expressed by the coal mine owners for the service rendered by the deluded pawns who had come into the field to break down the working and living conditions of the striking miners.

A potter's field grave, a num-

OUR POLITICAL PLATFORM:  
TURN THE RASCALS OUT.

## RAILWAY WORKERS FIGHT REDUCTION

(continued from page 1)

500 too much, and you will see why the workers on the railways rightly resent this attempt to make the railways into sweat shops and themselves into wage-slaves.

We have not the slightest sympathy with the organised attempts now in progress in Canada to reduce wages. That the word has gone out from the financial masters of Canada to reduce wages there can be no doubt. But in our judgment the fools of high finance are doing the craziest thing for themselves they could possibly do. Canada is only really prosperous when wages are high. The higher the standard of living, the more the common people have to spend, the larger the wage fund, the greater is the buying power of everybody. Low wages means skimpy buying, starved cupboards, and slender comforts. If a worker receives barely sufficient to buy food for his family, how can he rent a decent house, keep his family properly clad, and give them the other reasonable necessities of life? He simply cannot do it. Consequently, every storekeeper suffers, the butcher, the baker, the cabinet maker, the clothier, the shoe dealer, the hatter, the whole crowd of them. Amusement enterprises lack patronage. Railway receipts drop. Every trade or business catering to the wants and needs of the common people, who constitute ninety-five per cent of our population, suffers. This week's wages are next week's store-receipts. When the people are pinched in their pay envelopes they are pinched in their bellies. And the great body of people who live by catering to the needs of the workers suffer with them, because when the workers are earning low wages they cannot live at the rate of high wages.

So it is that to all of us, with the exception of the financial magnates who own our banks and trust companies, our railways, and the basic industries of Canada, reduced wages for the workers of Canada mean a general levelling down of prosperity. That is one reason why THE AXE is with the workers all the time and every time. The workers of Canada produce the wealth of Canada. They are entitled to the biggest share of that wealth. To pay them low wages is to make them discontented, starved in body, soul and spirit, and ready to follow the lure of Bolshevism, beside lowering the level of national prosperity. We therefore take our stand with the railway workers, urge them to resist every attempt to lower their wages, using every legal means within their power to protect themselves from this latest dastardly attempt to enslave them still more in the chains of their would-be-masters. And we ask all those who live by catering to the workers, whose prosperity depends upon working-class prosperity, to realise that their interests and those of the workers are identical and not contradictory. As a last word, we advise the Federal Government that it had better go slow in re-

duced the wages of its railway employees or else it may not fare so well at the polls next time. The C. P. R., as a dividend-producing institution may cynically defy public opinion and play the part of wage-cutter, but the Government must be the model employer or later pay the cost of its betrayal of the workers.

## CIVIC EMPLOYEES DEMAND RIGHTS

It looks very much as if the members of Executive Committee of the City of Montreal, swollen with an exaggerated sense of their own importance, and making themselves look execrably funny by their assumption of a dignity they do not possess, will plunge the city into one of the worst strikes it has ever suffered. The men believe they have grievances. They have done the honest, manly, and respectful thing of ventilating their grievances, and making their demands known before the governing body of the city.

The policemen and firemen went so far as to seek that arbitration which is provided for in the laws of the Province of Quebec. The Executive Committee, however, while pretending to agree to the arbitration, double-crossed their employees and took an injunction to prevent the board of arbitration meeting. This was after they had nominated their own representative on the said board. As a consequence the differences between the policemen and firemen and the City can not be arbitrated upon until the Fall. In the meantime, these loyal and faithful servants of the city, men who daily risk their lives for the protection of their fellow-citizens, are rankling under a sense of injustice, are working for wages which they feel are far too low, and are denied the elementary right of human beings in every British country of agitating for their rights. Sergeant Bouchard, the representative of the policemen and firemen on the Trades and Labor Council, is under suspension for saying something to his fellow-unionists that his superiors (Heaven, save the mark!) don't like because probably it was only too true.

### SERVE NOTICE ON CITY.

Now the Federation of Municipal employees, in mass meeting assembled, has served notice on the city that they want consideration to be given to their reasonable requests and the group of jackasses parading in the skins of lions, that we call the Executive Committee, are so blind to the best interests of the city and its inhabitants, so infatuated with the pomp of power that the accident of civic politics has thrust upon them, and so incapable of considering civic politics apart from the effect they will have upon their own political fortunes, that they are prepared to plunge the City of Montreal into all the horrors and, it may be, tragedies of a colossal civic strike, tying up every municipal service, rather than meet the city's employees in conference and discuss the grievances their servants claim to suffer. Could madness go further? True it is that "Whom the Gods would destroy they first make mad." Even Médéric Martin, from whom we look for better things, talks about calling out the militia.

What folly! What rot!

### OUR GALLANT LEADERS.

Alderman Brodeur, riding on a white horse along St. Catherine Street, waving a tin sword calling on the inhabitants to behave themselves like good children or else he will use the flat of his sword upon them. Turcot as Chief of Staff of Montreal's merry, mad militia! Desroches, he could use his massive intellect and unapproachable intelligence as head of the Intelligence

(continued on page 3)

ducing the wages of its railway employees or else it may not fare so well at the polls next time. The C. P. R., as a dividend-producing institution may cynically defy public opinion and play the part of wage-cutter, but the Government must be the model employer or later pay the cost of its betrayal of the workers.

# TASCHEREAU MOBILISES SPIES

## GOVERNMENT OFFERS HUGE REWARDS TO CITIZENS WHO INFORM ON FRIENDS

"Informers names will be kept secret. You needn't appear in Court", declares dastardly Government offer.

### STAR CHAMBER METHODS

#### Secret Document reveals Government's plans to manufacture Stoolpigeon's in Quebec Province

The Taschereau Government seems likely go down to posterity as the Government which made one half of the inhabitants of Quebec drunkards and the other half stool-pigeons.

They have recently declared a profit of nearly five million dollars on Government booze and the Provincial Treasurer says he expects the profits to increase and the sales to be greater. Logical deduction; increased drunkenness. That settles the point about the drunkard-making character of Taschereau and Co. Regarding the creation of stool-pigeons, we reproduce a document which has come into our hands which shows how these high-minded "gentlemen" who guide the destinies of the Province of Quebec are seeking to convert the other half of us into spotters and stool-pigeons, bribing neighbour to spy upon neighbour, and friend upon friend, until there will not be a trace left in the people of

those sterling qualities that have hitherto marked the people of Quebec, the neighbourliness, the trust and confidence in each other, and the good fellowship the lack of which is death. Think of it. "Informers can rest assured that their identity shall not be divulged and that they will not be required to appear as witnesses in the Courts". A great army of spies, this is what Taschereau is creating, made such by the offer of huge bribes. \$2,520.00 for spying and informing on your neighbour. Good Heavens, what an unspeakable crime this is of which the Quebec Government is guilty. Let our readers ponder the document for themselves and at the polls turn out the gang which wants to trade upon the work of spies and stool-pigeons and turn Quebec into a breeding ground of deceit, depravity, and betrayal. The document follows:

### THE QUEBEC LIQUOR COMMISSION

The figures shown in the following columns represent the amounts which will be paid to Revenue Collectors and persons who will denounce to the Quebec Liquor Commission, liquor either held or sold contrary to law, which shall be seized and confiscated. This tariff will remain in force until further notice.

Information can be conveyed to Brigadier-General E. de B. Panet, 3 East Notre-Dame Street, Mont-

real, either personally or by mail. Informers can rest assured that their identity shall not be divulged, and that they will not be required to appear as witnesses in the Courts.

The payment of the moneys shall be made directly by the Commission separately to the informer and to the collector after judgment has been rendered; all costs incurred in the prosecution of the accused shall first be deducted from the value of the goods confiscated.

	Collector	Informer
Up to and not exceeding ....	\$1000	5%
\$ 1000 and upwards, not exceeding	1250	5%
1250 and upwards, not exceeding	1500	58.75
1500 and upwards, not exceeding	1750	67.50
1750 and upwards, not exceeding	2000	76.25
2000 and upwards, not exceeding	2250	85.00
2250 and upwards, not exceeding	2500	93.75
2500 and upwards, not exceeding	2750	102.50
2750 and upwards, not exceeding	3000	111.25
3000 and upwards, not exceeding	3250	120.00
3250 and upwards, not exceeding	3500	128.75
3500 and upwards, not exceeding	3750	137.50
3750 and upwards, not exceeding	4000	146.25
4000 and upwards, not exceeding	4500	155.00
4500 and upwards, not exceeding	5000	163.75
5000 and upwards, not exceeding	5500	172.50
5500 and upwards, not exceeding	6000	181.25
6000 and upwards, not exceeding	6500	190.00
6500 and upwards, not exceeding	7000	198.75
7000 and upwards, not exceeding	7500	207.50
7500 and upwards, not exceeding	8000	216.25
8000 and upwards, not exceeding	8500	225.00
8500 and upwards, not exceeding	9000	233.75
9000 and upwards, not exceeding	9500	242.50
9500 and upwards, not exceeding	10000	251.25
10000 and upwards, not exceeding	11000	260.00
11000 and upwards, not exceeding	12000	268.75
12000 and upwards, not exceeding	13000	277.50
13000 and upwards, not exceeding	14000	286.25
14000 and upwards, not exceeding	15000	295.00
15000 and upwards, not exceeding	16000	303.75
16000 and upwards, not exceeding	17000	312.50
17000 and upwards, not exceeding	18000	321.25
18000 and upwards, not exceeding	19000	330.00
19000 and upwards, not exceeding	20000	338.75
20000 and upwards, not exceeding	30000	347.50
30000 and upwards, not exceeding	40000	356.25
Over 40000 .....	1% %	6%

OUR POLITICAL PLATFORM : WE WANT A FIVE CENT CAR FARE.

## CIVIC EMPLOYEES DEMAND RIGHTS

(continued from page 2)

Department, while Bédard might be placed in command of the (hot) Air Force. Tom O'Connell is too good a sport to be considered a possibility in the race for military honors, but being Irish there's no telling how a fight will appeal to him. We look to the sober sense of Alderman O'Connell to save the others from making fools of themselves.

Naturally, some of our leading newspapers are outspoken against the men. Let the men be unafraid. These newspapers are always against the workers. They get their circulation, and consequent huge advertising revenues, from

the workers of Montreal, but they are on the side of the exploiters of the workers every time the latter are fighting for their rights. The men have legitimate grievances. All they need to do is to stand firm for their rights and not hesitate to take strong and daring action in fighting for justice.

"They have rights who dare maintain them".

The Executive Committee will have to face their electors by-and-by. The working people of this city are a majority of its inhabitants. None of us wish to see our civic employees underpaid or overworked and we most assuredly do not approve of "the never-ending audacity of the elected persons" we know as the Executive Committee of the City of Montreal. Loyalty to each other, trust in their leaders, frankness and wisdom in placing their case before the public, and determination to win, will bring victory.

OUR POLITICAL PLATFORM : HOME RULE FOR MONTREAL.

## HOW THE SUCKERS WERE FLEECE

"They were the prototype at that time of the sort of brokers that went broke this year by the dozen. The general principles and methods were the same, though the particular devices for fleecing the public differed somewhat, certain details having been changed when the old tricks became too well known.

These people used to send out tips to buy or sell a certain stock—hundreds of telegrams advising the instant purchase of a certain stock and hundreds recommending other customers to sell the same stock, on the old racing-tipster plan. Then orders to buy and sell would come in. The firm would buy and sell, say, a thousand of that stock through a reputable Stock Exchange firm and get a regular report on it. This report they would show to any doubting Thomas who was impolite enough to speak about bucketing customers' orders. "They also used to form discretionary pools in the office and as a great favor allowed their customers to authorize them, in writing, to trade with the customer's money and in the customer's name, as they in their judgment deemed best. That way the most cantankerous customer had no legal redress when his money disappeared. They'd buy a stock, on paper, and put the customers in and then they'd execute one of the old-fashioned bucket-shop drives and wipe out hundreds of shoestring margins. They did not spare anyone, women, school-teachers and old men being their best bet."

EDWIN LEFEBVRE, In Saturday Evening Post.

### THE AMYOT REPORT

Now that we are face to face with a miniature General Election, no less than six bye-elections being just ahead of us, it would be a fitting time for the Taschereau Government to publish the Amyot Report on conditions in the Quebec Jail. This they have promised Mr. Arthur Sauve would be done but so far the Government has not mustered up courage to give it to the world. The fact is that there was such a rotten state of things discovered existing at the Quebec Jail that the Government would rather lose the whole of the coming six bye-elections than let the public know the truth. THE AXE has already pulled aside the curtain a little just a little and the whole Cabinet had stomach cramps as a result. When if ever the Amyot Report finds a place in our columns the members of the Government will have to be operated on for appendicitis.

THE AXE'S 'PHONE NUMBER, MAIN 7934 ADDRESS: 20 ST. JAMES ST. MONTREAL

## HUBBY WALKED IN SLEEP

There are many high and mighty people who are fond of moralising on the immoralities of the poor. But far better for these Society Pecksniffs if they looked at home and concerned themselves with the vices of their own class instead of deploring the lack of virtue in what they disdainfully term "the lower classes". We illustrated our thoughts on this topic a few weeks ago in our article entitled "Is Montreal Society rotten?" to which question we returned an emphatic "yes". Incidentally we have heard that one lady member of Montreal High Society has stated she will take action against THE AXE for libel after Logan and Bryan's case is finished with. Well, well, it's all in the day's work. Now to give added emphasis to the article mentioned comes a little lively story of an aristocratic divorce case in England. It has all the elements that characterise the people we discussed in our Montreal Society article; contempt for the deceptions and proprieties; the unmasculinity of the man and the over-femininity of the woman; and the usual trimmings, dancers, Dagos and depravity. The case in question is one in which John Hugo Russell, heir to Lord Amptill seeks release from his wife. He admitted in his evidence that he masqueraded as a woman and said that he agreed with his wife never to consummate their marriage.

Russell said she explained the birth of their child by saying that he walked in his sleep, which, he averred, was a habit he did not possess. A letter from Mrs. Russell to her husband, written in Switzerland in 1920, was read in court. It read:

"Your wife is so happy, almost to bursting. You will be furiously jealous, but I can't help it. Your wife has a vast following of adoring young men who are fighting to dance with her."

"There are Greeks, slim and silky Argentines, and a professional dancer with whom I tango nightly. I have four young men who are priceless and so naughty. So is your wife."

"I love dearly my Dago young man, whose hair is beautifully marcelled and whose clothes fit him like a glove. He has lovely hands."

Russel admitted having an entire trousseau for dressing like a woman and visiting at a woman's flat, posing as her relative.

Gilbert Bradley is the co-respondent named by Russell, who testified he had carried a day dress to his wife when she had stayed over night at Bradley's flat.

"I found my wife still abed," he testified, "but Bradley was up and looked as though he had spent a cold night."

Russel also mentioned Lionel Cross as a co-respondent, because, he said, his wife had made two trips to Paris with Cross. When Russell objected she replied, he said:

"Why, Lionel's a mere boy."

Now, isn't that a pretty story? Not of Griffintown, Point St-Charles, or the East End of Montreal. No, the people there are too decent for that kind of thing. But of a part of Britain's aristocracy, the people that Montreal's High Society with a big S imitates and emulates. That's why we publish the story. We want to destroy the fetish of Society worship, so powerful in Montreal. We're sick of the righteous airs and attitudes of the Knights and their Ladies, and all the hangers-on who ape their manners and condone their morals, or lack of them. And we are going to rub the lesson in at every opportunity until we get a cleaner atmosphere in Montreal. When we get the higher moral tone in Society circles, we can hope to clean up the Red Light District, not before. Anyhow, there's the story.

The Axe is published by John H. Roberts and printed by The Axe Publishing Co., 20 St. James Street Montreal.

## "LOGAN AND BRYAN STOLE MILLION FROM MY FIRM", SAYS LOCAL BROKER

Local Broker, whose Firm was formerly Logan and Bryan's Correspondent, gives Sensational Evidence.

(continued from page 1)

H. Roberts, Editor of THE AXE, was committed for voluntary statement by Judge Enright on the charge of criminal libel laid by Logan and Bryan, brokers, of New York.

The committal brings to its close another chapter of THE AXE's fight against this Wall Street financial house, a fight which has created as keen interest in the financial district of Los Angeles as it has on St. James Street, Montreal.

C. H. CAHAN, K.C., CRITICISED.

The actions of C. H. Cahan, K. C., counsel for the prosecution, resulted in scathing criticism from Mr. Alban Germain, K. C., for the attorney Editor. Cahan in his examination of Bryant had used as the basis for his examination a private conversation which took place recently between himself (Cahan) and Bryant. Bryant objected to Cahan's methods, "I thought you were a man who would play the game," he said. "I see, now, that I was mistaken."

This was followed by burning criticism of Cahan's actions by Alban Germain, K.C., who decried his confrere's actions as unethical. As a result Cahan endeavoured to clean his slate by offering to take the witness stand himself. His evidence was not heard.

THE ADVERTISING CONTRACT.

Efforts were made throughout the proceedings by the prosecution to show that there had been collusion between Norris P. Bryant and the Editor of THE AXE in the preparation of the series of articles referring to the Logan and Bryan concern. They attempted to show that an advertising contract given to the newspaper by Bryant Bros. Limited, Norris P. Bryant's company, was given for the purpose not of advertising Bryant Brothers, Ltd., but for "advertising Logan and Bryan."

Bryant swore under oath that it was a bona fide contract between his firm and THE AXE; that it was understood that it was to be used only when THE AXE should be increased in size, and that neither he, or his company had paid out one cent to THE AXE or its publisher. Mr. Cahan appeared confused.

To go into the evidence in detail would be to reprint facts which have already been given to the public. It was a Gala Day in Court, a day of sensations by no means the least of which was the cry, "They stole a million dollars."

And Mr. Bryant, it must be remembered, is the prosecution's witness.

### FORMER HEARING

In the opening proceedings on Tuesday afternoon, an amused courtroom heard the first details of the case. Leslie M. Roberts, son of the editor, himself associate editor of THE AXE, was placed in the box, by Peter Bercovitch, K.C., for the prosecution and was asked to identify copies of THE AXE, in which the alleged libels against Logan and Bryan appeared.

### NOT A BROKER

At the close of Tuesday's hearing of the Logan and Bryan libel charge before Judge Enright, in the Enquête Court, a little wordy warfare took place between Messrs. Bercovitch, of the prosecution and Alban Germain, K.C., for the defence.

"I cannot continue on Thursday," said Mr. Germain, "as I shall be out of the city. I have been at the bar for twenty-five years without rest and I need a little holiday."

Mr. Bercovitch: — "When will you be back?"

Mr. Germain: — "On Monday night."

Mr. Bercovitch: — "That's not a very long holiday."

Mr. Germain: — "No I cannot afford long holidays. I am not a broker."

Headings of the now famous Logan and Bryan articles were read to witness, and titters of merriment were heard as counsel asked: "Will you identify a copy of THE AXE of April 1st, on the front page of which appears an article headed 'Logan and Bryan's Suicide Club Has Canadian Member?'"

HEADINGS OF ARTICLES.

Other articles headed "Logan and Bryan get into trouble as result of theft from public pocket-book"; "Strange Story of Logan and Bryan Double X Experts. Further exposures of the Swashbucklers. A Sad case in Regina." "Conspiracy Charge against Logan and Bryan, wire kings. Buckety Ben and his pals may face courts for attempt to ruin broker's business." "Buckety Ben Bryan admits truth of charges made. King of the Confidence Men gumshoes into Montreal. A Fight to the Finish." "Buckety Ben starts to make restitution to Logan and Bryan victims. Insults Montreal citizens by donating \$1,000 of Major Bishop's money to hospital fund." (The heading referring to the hospital fund donation in particular amused and interested those present). "Movement to remove Logan and Bryan's wire from Bank of Montreal here. Buckety Ben's snake-like methods of hiding behind skirts of respectable business organisations must come to an end." "Appeal to Bank of Montreal to remove Logan and Bryan's wire from the bank's premises," were read to witness by Mr. Bercovitch and were identified. After hearing the evidence of an operative of a private detective agency who served the warrant on the editor of THE AXE and the testimony of Deputy High Constable Dan Sullivan as to receipt by him of various documents, postponement was made until Wednesday, at 11.30, as Mr. Norris P. Bryant, a witness for the prosecution, was not present in court.

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN!

John H. Roberts went half way around the world in 1918, the 'emperance people of Canada paying his expenses. He returned to Montreal in 1921, paying his own travelling expenses. Nobody has ever offered, suggested, hinted at, or promised him to pay for a trip around the world for himself

and wife. This first mention of any such suggestion, so far as the Editor knows, came from the lips of C. H. Cahan, K. C., Counsel for Logan and Bryan, in the Libel proceedings on Wednesday last. There's a lot of people who would like to see John H. Roberts leave Montreal but he's here to stay. Montreal being his home.

## SIDELIGHTS ON OUR LIBEL CASE

A noticeable feature of the case was when Mr. Alban Germain, K.C., Mr. Roberts' Counsel, asked Norris P. Bryant about an interview the latter had with C. H. Cahan, K. C., Logan and Bryan's Counsel, and Bryant replied that he would rather not speak about that interview as he had been given to understand that the interview was of a private character and nothing was to be said about what took place there. Mr. Germain at once said, "Very well, then, if the interview was of a private character I will not ask you any questions about it." In contradistinction to this incident may be placed another feature of the trial. C. H. Cahan, K. C., asked Norris P. Bryant as to certain statements the latter had made to Cahan during an interview which the latter sought with Bryant, implying that Bryant had asked for money for himself and a trip around the world for the accused Editor and his wife in order to stop the publication of the attacks on Logan and Bryan. To this Bryant replied, "I NEVER SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT, AND I AM SURPRISED AT YOU SAYING THAT I DID. WHEN I WAS INTRODUCED TO YOU I THOUGHT YOU WERE A MAN THAT WOULD PLAY THE GAME, BUT NOW I SEE THAT I AM MISTAKEN."

At the end of the case the prosecution was asked if there were any more witnesses to be heard, to which Lawyer Cahan replied, "No, unless, I go into the witness box myself. Certain statements have made here to-day reflecting upon my professional honor and if the Court thinks it advisable I will go into the box." The Court took no action in the matter and Mr. Cahan did not go into the witness box.

## "MUST WE GO AND EMPTYHANDED?"

During the trial it transpired that although the operatives of a local detective agency had searched the office of The Axe Publishing Company for evidence and had taken away almost everything they found in the office, files, books, letters and other documents, all that they found by way of evidence was some notes that the editor personally made for his articles on Logan and Bryan, a contract for advertising with the firm of Bryant Brothers, which it was shown was to take effect when THE AXE is enlarged, copies of a letter and bill to a firm of stockbrokers in Los Angeles, referring to copies of THE AXE supplied (showing the continent-wide circulation of THE AXE, by the way), and a statement of 138,000 copies of THE AXE supplied to the Montreal distributor during a brief period, and copies of

## CURSE OF THE BOTTLE - HABIT

While the Taschereau Government is congratulating itself, and seeking applause from the public, because of the huge profit of nearly five millions dollars it has made on the sale of liquor it may be well to think of the price we pay. Take one feature alone, the huge bottle trade that the system of Government ownership of liquor has created. It used to be that a man would go into a restaurant or hotel and buy himself three fingers of Scotch. Perhaps if there were others in the party they had two or three drinks. With most fellows it stopped there.

But now, what happens? Men cannot get a drink of spirits in a hotel or restaurant. So they buy a bottle, take it to their office, or their homes, or carry it in their automobile and drink until it has gone. We know whereof we speak when we say that the amount of spirits consumed to-day in the offices of Montreal is simply staggering in its immensity. Drunkenness is to be seen in offices to-day that was never seen in the old days before Government Control. We know splendid fellows who are simply going to pieces through this practice of keeping a bottle of Scotch in the office to treat their friends and customers with. An employer of labor has complained to us of trouble with his workers on this account, saying that instead of getting one or two drinks on pay night, they call and take a bottle away with them and never stop drinking until the bottle is emptied. This employer said he has had to get one employee's wife to come for the man's wages, because the bottle habit was eating too big a hole into the weekly pay check. The growing danger from automobiles may also be credited to this bottle habit. Motorists who drink, instead of calling somewhere for a drink, take a bottle in the car and drink en route and while alcohol may be a good propelling force it is in its wrong place inside a chauffeur, inducing carelessness, recklessness, and disregard for human life.

A RED HOT PROTEST.

This is not a temperance sermon. It is a red hot protest against something that is making for disaster. The bottle habit is a curse. The Government is profiting by it at the expense of the sobriety of the people, the happiness of many homes, and the safety of the pedestrian public. It makes for the worst kind of drinking, solitary tipping. It takes the bottle into the home where the children suffer from the bad example. It makes men drink more and spend too much on booze. The old way was better. No one will accuse us of being friendly to booze. We hate the damnable stuff. But it was better far in the old days when a man could go and buy one drink where now he must buy a bottle.

Montreal should have no Government liquor stores. At most there should be about three hundred hotels and restaurants, all strictly supervised, and allowed to sell spirits. That is infinitely to be preferred to the present system which breeds and begets private drinking and leads to increased consumption of li-

THE AXE and the weekly bulletins.

## SAUVE NOT ALONE IN DISLIKE OF LIQUOR MONOPOLY

Mr. Taschereau Makes Another of his Habitual Stupendous Blunders.

Hon. L. A. Taschereau  
Premier of Quebec  
Dear Czar:

You are reported as having said that Mr. Sauve is the only person in the Province of Quebec who is dissatisfied with the Quebec Liquor Commission. When you say that, you know that you do not speak the truth. There are thousands of us, just how many thousands you are going to find out for yourself when your bogus government faces the province at the polls. Mr. Sauve is not alone in his dislike of the Liquor Commission nor is he alone in his dislike of the present government at Quebec. The people are becoming more and more disgusted with your crowd of pettifogging pikers every day you stay in office. You are through, Mr. Taschereau. Better take that job on the Bench while you still have the chance.

Never yours

THE AXE

## A NEWFOUNDLAND AXE

Recently we had a visit at THE AXE office from Arthur English, Editor and Proprietor of "Public Opinion" which is published at St. John's, Nfld. Mr. English might well call his paper THE AXE because he is doing a similar work with it to that we are doing here. Perhaps he writes a little more politely than we do but may be he'll grow out of that. But there's no mistaking what Mr. English means and we fully expect he gets under the skin of many of those he attacks. Well that's the stuff. There are "little tin Gods" in Newfoundland as well as in Canada; politicians who are pompous and politicians who are crooks; statesmen who are fools and fools who are statesmen. It does good to prick the bubble of their self-sufficiency and ease the fatty degeneration of their swollen heads. "Public Opinion" is doing this good work well in our neighbouring Dominion and we wish it well. Come again, brother and if we are out of jail we hope to see more of you.

OUR POLITICAL PLATFORM:  
DOWN WITH THE LIQUOR COMMISSION!

liquor. If the Taschereau Government is so enamoured of high profits that it will not grant this much-needed reform let the electors make a change in the Government by electing those who will. We would prefer no booze but between the present system and the old one, properly supervised, we are for the old one.