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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1925.

Talking About \$500,000.

Schoolhouse meetings for the discussion of civic problems have brought out several references to some \$500,000 that could be saved to London by a different form of city management, probably the doing away with the council entirely, and in its place have three or four commissioners and a city manager. It is a large claim to make that \$500,000 could be saved even over a period of years by doing things in a different way. The city already has a very effective form of city management in the manner in which responsibility is distributed between the city clerk, city treasurer and city engineer. When the council strictly addresses itself to the business of deciding on matters of policy and leaves these department heads to attend to all executive details, we have a very fine balance between these two functions.

The manner in which any such sum as \$500,000 could be saved in any period is being discussed in a very general way, so general that it lacks point and adds nothing to the information ratepayers are supposed to receive from attending these pre-election meetings. If a voter were to sit down some evening with a copy of that informative document, "City of London Estimates for 1925," he could probably learn more about where the money goes and what chances there are of cutting off any considerable portion of it than in any other way.

The total assessment for the city in 1925 is \$71,463,218; and the total taxation \$2,352,330. That is a fairly large amount of money to spend in a year and at first sight one might assume that there would be plenty of room to make ample reductions. At the outset it will be necessary to remove from that total certain sums over which the council has no control. It would make no difference whether the council voted yes or no:

Provincial highways.....	\$ 16,610
County of Middlesex roads.....	19,430
Board of health.....	18,642
Debt service rate (net).....	26,926
Public library.....	33,700
Mothers' pensions.....	21,000
School rates.....	999,556
War tax.....	4,900
Total.....	\$1,474,864

So at the outset that places \$1,474,864 outside the reach of the council, or about 55 per cent of the total amount spent. The next class taken will be those over which council exercises only nominal control, representing services that are established and necessary:

Fire department.....	\$133,810
Police department.....	102,234
Parks fund rate.....	159,383
Hospital trust.....	22,500
Sanatorium.....	55,000
Western university.....	10,880
Housing commission.....	40,500
Relief to city poor.....	18,750
Hydrants.....	42,500
Street lighting.....	74,535
City employees' salaries.....	\$68,598

The reason for placing these amounts in a class where council can exercise only a nominal control is this: Take the fire department for an example. It is necessary, it is neither over-staffed nor overpaid. Of the total \$133,810 wages and pension fund take up \$117,000, leaving \$16,810 for uniforms, upkeep of buildings, motor apparatus, etc. The police department is on about the same proportion. The hospital trust is a well-managed board, carrying on a work for city indigent patients that could not be curtailed. City hall salaries must be paid, so must street lighting and hydrant rentals. The amount paid the sanatorium is for city patients.

This list added to the previous one amounts to \$2,611,462 of the total \$2,352,330 collected in taxes. The engineering department has an appropriation of \$162,129. There is nothing wasted here in looking after street-cleaning, sewers, culverts, disposal plants, street work and improvements, garbage collection, etc. All material is bought on the basis of the lowest competitive tender.

If any person can show the present or the 1926 council where any considerable amount of the \$500,000 spoken of can be taken off, the aldermen will no doubt be willing to listen. The failure of the city to collect the \$15,000 in taxes from east end factories is the only thing that can cause any doubt as to an even break in finances at the end of the year. The finance committee has done very well, and it had the co-operation of the whole council in a course that can be described only as good handling of an important problem.

The Late Howard Clark.

The deadly head crossing takes on a more sinister form when it comes into a community and takes the life of as bright and promising a young man as Howard Clark, who met death at the St. George street crossing of the C. P. R. yesterday.

That is not a safe crossing, no matter from which direction it is approached. St. George street crosses the C. P. R. tracks at an angle and so does Piccadilly. Approaching from Piccadilly on the east, as the car in which the late Mr. Clark was riding did, there is no view of a train approaching from the west. There is a short left turn and the tracks are immediately reached. Once in that position it would be almost humanly impossible to do anything to prevent a crash with a train coming rapidly.

Howard Clark was standing on the threshold

of life. Although only twenty-one years of age he had studied and travelled, having spent the last year at the Wembley exhibition in England in charge of a Canadian exhibit there. Life at twenty-one is very bright and full of promise, and Howard Clark was no exception to other young men of that age who have already begun to build plans for a life work.

Only a few days ago there were gathered at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Clark, relatives from United States and England and there were hours of happy reunion. The tragic event of yesterday that took away a son to whom any parents might well point with pride will call from the heart of Londoners profound regret and a sympathy that is genuine and heartfelt.

Much Better.

Hon. Arthur Meighen is now in the federal constituency of Bagot, Quebec, where he will speak in the interests of the Conservative candidate, Hon. Andre Fautoux, in the by-election. Bagot is fairly good fighting ground, since confederation being won eight times by the Conservatives and on six occasions by Liberals.

Mr. Meighen's decision to go into Quebec now is more to his credit than his acceptance of his party's orders to stay out of it when the general election was on. It was a tactical blunder for him to have become a chronic absentee and trust to Mr. Patenaude and the schemers associated with him to bring forth results.

Economy or Lotteries.

The suggestion, apparently made in all seriousness by the Republican group of ninety-five senators in France, that the national lottery be restored to a period in French history of four centuries ago. It was then that Francis I, in 1539, granted letters patent, and for a time the lottery as a method of national finance became popular because it was a sure and easy way of raising money. It capitalized on the fact that there are always those who will take a chance and swallow their losses without complaint, whereas they would object seriously to a similar amount for taxation.

The government lottery became so popular in France that there were many private imitators, as well as several departments of the field exclusively for the state, by the decree of 1776 the Royal lottery was started and all others maintained. The basis was a division of the total purse into twenty-four parts, of which the government got five and the winners nineteen.

There is no particular reason why France should have to resort to lottery financing. For the past five years that country has been prosperous, more so than any of her European neighbors. Tenants and small farmers, of whom there are many in France, have paid off their debts and increased their holdings. The trouble has been that the government has carried on heavy expenditures for naval and military programs; a tremendous air fleet was built; two wars, one in Morocco and another in Syria, have been carried on; there have been enormous outlays on war-devastated areas, always on the assurance that Germany would pay; there was the invasion of the Ruhr district, which, instead of hastening payment from Germany, actually retarded it.

France has a large volume of short-date securities coming due in December, and holders of these are anxious to have them settled before France undertakes the payment of her debt to United States, which they fear might be regarded as a prior claim. The national debt is twenty-one billion dollars on a gold basis; the external debt is seven billions owing to Britain and United States.

The position of French currency is a feature that makes the question more acute for France. At par it is worth 19.30 cents, but the latest quotation puts it as being worth 3.59 cents. France has a population of 40,000,000, and a per capita debt of \$520. National lotteries are as good as an instrument for lifting this as a national government that will cut the bills for national wars and national armament.

Note and Comment.

Ten degrees below zero at Cobalt is enough to freeze out some of the little shareholders.

It has been demonstrated that 11,000 tenants in a new building in New York can get out in 11 minutes. London landlords say this is not a record.

Detroit man charged with murder silenced the only witness against him by marrying her, and folks here can't figure out where he improved his condition.

The international chess masters' tournament at Moscow is now headed by Bogoljubow. There's one fine thing about chess: the players don't have to talk.

Mother and daughter at Sioux Falls confessed they committed robbery together. This entire agreement between mother and daughter is what makes home life worth while.

Great Britain now has moving picture shows where the actors talk. But when the villain finds that the hero has him cornered under the barn, will the language be fit to hear?

The man who invented tanks wants a million and a half for the idea. The Winnipeg Free Press man has been digging into history to find out what they gave the guy who brought out the wooden horse at Troy.

Speaker at a Rotary dinner was trying to name Chicago as the birthplace of the order. He asked: "Do you know what came out of Chicago?" "Water," responded one of the local Rotarians, and the storm broke loose.

What's going to become of the four vacant chairs when they reduce the council from twelve to eight members? And the four inkwells and the four drinking-glasses? These items should figure in some of the election platforms.

The Gentle Sex

By ARK.

I've often wondered how it was that women folks could go around, and keep on wearin' their thin duds when slush is lyin' on the ground.

When comes the winter time along I put red flannel on my chest, and if the wind is from the east I stick newspaper 'neath my vest. I get on itchy underwear and hang a quilt about my throat, I'm dressed to breast the northern wind, am snuggler than a billy-goat.

And clad like this I tramp along and walk upon the village street, and see the women paddlin' too with paper slippers on their feet.

And on my hide lays wool three times to save my shins from gettin' froze, and there the women go along just wearin' giddy summer hose. While on my windpipes piles more wool, most certain how those tubes won't freeze, I see the women with their necks wide open to the winter breeze.

We speak about the gentler sex and how gallant us men should be, but how them gentler ones cavorts has been a puzzle unto me. I figure I'm an average jay, as rugged as most any man, but still it seems the women folks are ruggedier than what I am.

(Copyright.)

The Once-Over

At a dinner given him by his wife last evening, Hoax N. Spooner, whose whirlwind campaign for mayor is making the writer of this column dizzy, declared that while some of the planks in his platform may seem a bit thin, he himself is a lightweight, so it's all right.

In an interview this morning he announced that one of his main planks will be to secure an elevator for the city hall. "This will raise the whole council to a higher level," he pointed out. "Young aldermen can commence at the bottom and gradually rise to the top. It will be most up-lifting. Besides, whenever the council may want to give some troublesome question a hoist the means will be at hand. It will also be a start on our new city hall. To the elevator shaft we can gradually add new wings until the whole is completed."



BLANK VERSE.
To have some things go higher turfs,
But we don't mind the higher—
—Cincinnati Enquirer.
The coal bin lower makes us frown,
But we don't mind the lower—
—Warren Tribune.
A blossomed nose is something shocking,
But we don't mind the flowered—
—Macon Telegraph.

While lipstick lips our souls displease,
We do not mind the painted—
—Houston Post-Dispatch.
The styles are daily growing smarter,
We rather like the fancy—
—

But, here! here! This joke has gone about far enough, as the chap said to the sheriff who was adjusting the noose.

Springbank zoo gets a pair of swans. Just in time for some members of the council to get a real idea of what a swan-song should be like.

Yes, Florida is a fine country. It rained so hard in Miami yesterday that workers put their clothing in waterproof bundles and went to work in bathing-suits.

Few men have been accorded such high praise as some of the present aldermanic candidates have received from themselves lately.

Add doubtful similes: "It's perfectly safe. Safe as the Ridout street bridge."

No, Theodora, you're wrong. A mandate has nothing to do with keeping an appointment with a boy friend.

Isn't it the Truth?

Civilization: Making the other fellow behave. No opinion is worth more than the man who entertains it.

"Charity" to a beggar: Investing a dime in a sense of virtue.

Friends are those who praise you even when they don't want anything.

When citizens guaranteed the right to bear arms it wasn't the rule to shoot one another for target practice.

All France has to do is pacify mandates, creditors and the taxpayers at home.

What did men fight about before they learned to sanctify words and phrases?

Usually villagers are too poor to visit winter resorts, but they have the barber shop.

Old way: "Be decent if you would be respected." New way: "Be good or get swatted."

Still, the new flivver has that same supercilious cough as it goes by on a hill.

"The path is blocked," moaned the weakling. "Aha!" cried the winner. "This is opportunity."

True neutrality is the feeling you have when one part of the Balkans is swatting another part.

Cheerful loser: A good pretender who thus robs the winner of half his well-earned satisfaction.

Another shortcoming of a correspondence school is that it has no way to soak distinguished graduates.

Correct this sentence: "Well, well," said the man joyously; "rice pudding again!" R. Q.

Editorial Opinion

DID NOT ADVERTISE.

From the Fergus News-Record.

MR. R. W. WADE, secretary of the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, Guilford, which closed last Thursday night, figures the receipts \$800 short of those last year, some 3,000 less people being in attendance than in 1924. We could easily tell some of its officials one good reason for its failure—lack of proper advertising.

Many people phoned and inquired at this office what the dates were, but we carried no advertising, yet we cover the most important ground from which the management could expect patronage. The use of printer's ink always pays.

Testing the Diving Board



Is he going in?

Manning Doherty's Move

Revision of Press Opinions.

THE resignation of Manning Doherty as member for East Kent in the provincial legislature in order that he may support Mr. Meighen in federal politics is variously interpreted by the Ontario press. The *Hamilton Spectator* sees in it a hard blow for the attempt of the Liberals to bring the Progressives to their camp. The *Spectator* says: "The strenuous efforts of the Liberal party during the general election campaign to swing the Progressives of Ontario into line behind Premier Mackenzie King having gone for naught, a still more smashing blow is delivered to its disappointed hopes by the resignation of Manning Doherty. . . . Mr. Doherty finds himself out of sympathy with the policies of Premier King and attracted by the policies of Mr. Meighen. . . . Mr. Doherty's action is a disturbing development for the federal government, whose hold on existence grows feeble as the time approaches for the crucial test in the house."

The *Hamilton Herald* sees in Mr. Doherty's move the handwriting on the wall telling of the end of the Progressive party. The *Herald*, in an article headed "Doherty Turns Tory," believes Mr. Meighen has secured an important recruit in the justification for leaving the U. F. O., and "that the party yoke sat lighter upon him, as it did upon his former leader, Mr. Drury. . . . It is clear that the Farmers' party is rapidly disintegrating. Indeed Mr. Doherty candidly that that party has accomplished the purposes for which it was organized, and the problems of Ontario agriculture are economic rather than political."

THE *Guelp Mercury* is even more emphatic in its view about the day of the U. F. O. in political circles being spent. It says in referring to his declaration that the Farmers' party has accomplished its purpose: "There will be those who doubt whether the U. F. O. accomplished anything worth while by their venture into politics other than calling the attention of the province to the fact that they exist and have many grievances; also to the too palpable fact that the venture brought the group into political disrepute on account of the shortcomings of some of its members. The organization has now been largely wiped out as far as being a political entity is concerned, and the assumption will be that Hon. Manning Doherty prefers much to be identified with some live organization rather than one that is becoming defunct. . . . Speculation is also active as to whether he has had a call from Mr. Meighen to come into

up with his government he must do it through a lawyer? Is a lawyer the only person who can place a dispute before a department and get justice and prompt action? If it does, possibly the president will have to depart to the old monarchical system of setting aside a day when the common people can be heard, same lawyers.

Direct Action

(From the Worcester Evening Post.)

In the olden days, before law schools started turning out a goodly crop of lawyers each June, the king set aside several days each year to hear the grievances of the common people. Then democracy was established, the common people were supposed to have a direct avenue to their government.

An interesting bit of news comes out of this nation's capital. It is that Washington has 1,500 lawyers. That's twice as many as in Pittsburgh, which is much larger; one-third more than in Detroit, which is more than twice as large, and not many less than in Philadelphia, the third largest city.

Does this indicate that almost every time a citizen has something to take

the inner fold of the party's council. Most of the remaining members of the U. F. O. will follow his lead and promote a return to the two-party idea in the province." The *Toronto Globe* says: "Just what the full significance of Mr. Doherty's latest move may be is not quite clear. It was once rumored that he was offered the position of minister of agriculture in the Meighen cabinet of 1921. Has he the offer of that post in the future if Mr. Meighen gets a summons from Rideau Hall?" Simply going back home, is the way the *Woodstock Sentinel-Review* sees Mr. Doherty's latest step, adding "He was originally a Conservative and in going to the support of the Conservative party he is simply going home. Just why he has taken the notion to go back to the Conservatives is not clear. The explanation is good enough as far as it goes, but it leaves something to the imagination."

THAT there is nothing illogical in Mr. Doherty's resignation and his intimation of what he intends to do in the future, is the opinion of the *St. Thomas Times-Journal*, which claims "Mr. Doherty cannot justly be charged with being a renegade. The provincial government has nothing to do with tariff questions, and a member may, as Mr. Drury and Mr. Doherty did, hold views upon the wider questions without conflicting with Progressive ideas in running the provincial machine. The *Peterborough Examiner* claims to hear in Mr. Doherty's announcement something akin to the swan song of the third party movement in Ontario. It says: "His resignation now is merely another sign that the Progressive party in this province has run its race. With such leaders as Manning Doherty leaving the party, the agrarian political move in Ontario may be considered as at an end—unless the rumor from Toronto that Premier Ferguson intends to go to the country on a policy of government control proves to be correct. In this event the dry sentiment in rural Ontario may serve the Progressives in good stead and prolong their existence."

The *Stratford Beacon-Herald* takes the ground that this "is supposed to be a free country, and whether it is or not, Mr. Doherty has a right to his own opinion." The *Brantford Expositor*, while not indulging in any speculation, pays tribute to Mr. Doherty as "one of the most influential leaders of the Progressive party. He is an acquisition to any legislative body because of his business ability and knowledge of agricultural affairs."

up with his government he must do it through a lawyer? Is a lawyer the only person who can place a dispute before a department and get justice and prompt action? If it does, possibly the president will have to depart to the old monarchical system of setting aside a day when the common people can be heard, same lawyers.

YES, HE KNEW HER.

1: Talk about women, look at that woman crossing the street. "A rag, a bone and a hank of hair" is right. Painted face, bare knees, boyish hair.

2: Well, I'll speak to her about it. 1: Do you know her? 2: She's my wife.

"So Bill was arrested last night for being drunk and driving without lights." "Yes, Bill was lit up and the car wasn't."

25 Years Ago

From The Advertiser, Dec. 2, 1900.

City council had a long session, one matter that provoked considerable discussion being the changing over to a plan of electing aldermen by a general vote instead of the ward system. The general vote carried on the following division: Against, Ald. Winder, Jenkins, Douglass, Jolly, Cooper, Garratt, Dreaney, Barnes, S. For, Ald. Pritchard, Brenner, Ross, Malloch, Winnett, Bartlett, Geary, Wray and Stevenson, 9.

The following deputy returning officers were named for municipal elections: No. 1 ward—H. Smyth, James C. Grant, W. F. Howell, Wm. Reid, Thomas Cousins, Alfred Davis, Frank Smith, Duke Palmer, James Shaw, Wm. Kennedy, George North, J. Weston. Ward 2—John Fletcher, Abraham Dawson, W. T. Peel, Morris Dillon, S. Friendship, W. H. Smith, H. B. Gaban, Charles Nicholls. Ward 3—Wm. Wilson, John Whittaker, Frank McVean, S. J. Bell, James M. Pirie, Thomas Cole, Frank Wright, Charles A. Moorhead, Arnold Isaac, John E. Showler. Ward 4—W. H. Irvine, H. Howie, Wm. Johnson, Henry Pratt, Charles Webster, W. R. Garner, John McDonald, Charles Bartlett, Peter Toll, Thomas Tuxford.

The annual election of officers took place for Court Exchequer, A. J. West, London, and results as follows: P.C.R., Bert Kennedy; C.R., David Berry; S.C.R., Arthur Johnson; secretary, W. T. Duff; assistant, H. McPherson; treasurer, George Finegan; S.W., John Golby; J.W., E. Elliott; S.B., A. R. Magee; J.B., Fred Hodgkins; trustees, R. Berry, T. Glover, D. Berry, auditors, W. Kennedy, S. Impey and W. Nicholls; medical officer, Dr. James Wilson; juvenile committee, W. R. Kennedy, H. McPherson, W. Trott.

make the things interesting, but on this score I've been out of luck so far, for there has been nothing stormy about the sessions.

Failing that I like to sit back and hear if the candidates have anything new to suggest, and I must confess that on that score, too, I am somewhat of a loser. I don't see how I can think of it, what can a man say in about three or four minutes? Suppose, for instance, a man has been an alderman for a year and wants to give a review of what he has done, and also what were the reasons that other things were not done, how much can he get off in that time.

It gives a new man a chance to show himself and let the people have an idea of what he looks like and how he goes about what he has to do, but that's about the chief value there is in the whole performance.

Still I keep on going because it's not a bad way to spend an evening and see some of the folks in the district, but as far as being a place where a man can go and make up his mind as to how he should vote for him of the opinion that the meetings are not a success. I can make up my mind just about as effectively from reading the news announcements in our paper, and noting what they have to say there.

FAITHFUL FOLLOWER.

London, Dec. 1.

Boys' Parliament.

Editor of The Advertiser:

Sir,—You would be doing a great service to a large number of citizens if you would be good enough to give us information on the following subject: I may say that I have asked half a dozen prominent citizens and all of them profess absolute ignorance about the matter.

1. What is the "Older Boys' Parliament," which the papers have recently been referring to?

2. When was it established?

3. By whom?

4. Is it a government affair or a private enterprise?

5. Who pays the expenses? Do they come out of the people's taxes?

6. What are the buildings at Toronto?

7. The members seem to be composed of the upper grade of schoolboys. What becomes of the boys who are not attending this parliament?

How long does it last? INQUIRER.

Answer—1. The older boys' parliament is a gathering of boys elected from the various groups in Ontario that follow the C. S. E. T. program, which aims at physical, mental and spiritual development. They are associated with most of the churches and school and headquarters generally in the Y. M. C. A.

2. It was established in 1920.

3. By the National Boys' Work council.

4. Is answered in a general way by No. 1.

5. The expenses are raised by the boys' own efforts, an assessment of about \$8.50 being put on each riding sending a member. No money is paid by taxpayers.

6. Yes, the sessions are held in the parliament buildings at Toronto.

7. The dates this year are from December 28 to 30, so that no conflict takes place with regular school work.

GIVING BRIDE AWAY. A minister, like his father before him, had often officiated at marriage ceremonies, but this was his first experience at giving away the bride.

He was a young man, and his church was small, his salary meager and his family numerous. This daughter had been especially expensive.

"Who gives this woman to be married to this man?" droned the preacher. Gently the father placed the slender hand of the bride in that of the embarrassed groom.

"Take her, my boy," he exclaimed, his face aglow. "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

"I Can Now Do My Work Without Feeling Tired"

Mrs. Thally, St. Paul, Alta., writes—

"For two years I suffered from pain in the back. For three months I could not walk. The doctor told me I had severe kidney trouble, and that it would take a long time to get better. I tried everything I could get, but was not improving. Then I saw Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills advertised in your Almanac. I tried one box, and they did me good, so I took six, and in less than a month I was feeling fine and could do my work."

DR. CHASE'S KIDNEY-LIVER PILLS

35 Cents a Box, All Dealers, or
The Dr. A. W. Chase Medicine Co., Ltd., Toronto, Canada