

LOCAL OPTION SPEAKERS AFTER "ANTI" CIRCULARS

Galt and Meaford Speakers Deny Representative Citizens Signed.

MEETING AT VICTORIA HALL Mr. Harold Jarvis Gave Several Selections in Splendid Voice.

Victoria Hall was comfortably filled last night at the local option rally which was addressed by Mr. Rutherford and ex-Mayor Patterson, of Galt, and Mr. Kent, Mayor of Meaford.

A further feature of the affair was the singing of Mr. Harold Jarvis. The celebrated tenor was in wonderful voice, and he chose as his selections varied types of compositions.

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AUSTRIA CLIMBS DOWN; NOTE TO UNITED STATES HAS GRANTED DEMANDS

Washington, Dec. 31.—American demands on Austro-Hungary in connection with the destruction of the steamer Ancona have been met in the new note on its way from Vienna to Washington.

The official text of the note from the submarine commander who torpedoed the steamer, had been punished only one phase of the incident remains to be cleared.

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VOTING FACTS FOR MONDAY

Where to Vote and How Many Times on Each Question.

For the elections on Monday voting of those qualified takes place as follows: Mayor—Once.

POLLING PLACES WARD 1. 1—4 Spring Street. 2—43 Egerton.

WARD 2. 7—82 Dundas. 8—32 Niagara. 9—Corner Pearl and Waterloo.

WARD 3. 12—City Hall. 13—Fire Hall. 14—Court House.

WARD 4. 17—170 Park Avenue. 18—210 Darling.

WARD 5. 22—155 Park. 23—53 Arthur.

WARD 6. 27—106 Erie Avenue.

WARD 7. 32—106 Erie Avenue.

WARD 8. 37—106 Erie Avenue.

WARD 9. 42—106 Erie Avenue.

ASQUITH HAS TRIUMPHED CABINET TO REMAIN AND COMPULSION ADOPTED

New York, Dec. 31.—The London correspondent of The New York Herald this morning cables: The king's cabinet has triumphed yesterday and immediately received the premier, Mr. Asquith, Buckingham Palace, where they discussed the provisions of the bill which is to be introduced in parliament to enforce compulsory service.

The king was delighted when told that the Labor Unionists and Irish Nationalists are falling in line in support of the Asquith bill which is designed to reach only those single men who are fit to fight and will not.

The Labor trades will hold a national conference next Thursday, to consider that action is to be taken against the bill.

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To the Editor

MR. GEORGE WEDLAKE AND THE RAILWAY.

The Editor Courier: Dear Sir,—Brantford being my native town I take interest in whatever pertains to her advancement and pride in her achievements.

Mr. A. K. Bunnell in arranging terms of payment for equipment, etc. which allowed of city bonds being placed on the market at opportune times, effected a saving of thousands of dollars to the city.

Commissioners Bunnell and Turnbull were strong advocates of the joint management of the Municipal Railway and the Hydro Electric system, and the linking of interests wherever possible, and which has worked out so satisfactorily and to the benefit of the city financially; a splendid saving having been effected by this arrangement.

I recently stated in the press that I favored the sale of the Paris-Galt end of our Municipal Railway and against the by-law no arguments have since been advanced to make me change my views.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, let me say that there is still much to be done in connection with our railway that requires the careful attention of the best men available, and I believe we can at this juncture afford to lose the valuable services of Mr. Bunnell as Railway Commissioner.

Yours faithfully, GEO. WEDLAKE.

MR. HEYD AND THE BY-LAW. The Editor, Courier. Dear Sir:—My attention has been directed to the preliminary report of the Water Commissioners as presented in your issue of Tuesday last.

Now we are up against another \$50,000 a year proposition, for the dead end of our Street Railway system from Paris to Galt.

British Cruiser Natal Sunk After Explosion

LONDON, Dec. 31, 12.24 p.m.—The Natal was sunk yesterday afternoon while in harbor, as the result of an internal explosion. There are about 400 survivors.

The Natal's normal complement was 24 men. Her displacement was 23,500 tons. She was 480 feet long and 73 feet beam.

The Natal brought to New York from Portsmouth, the body of White-law Reid, U. S. ambassador at London after his death in 1914, remaining at New York for two weeks.

YOUNG BOY ESCAPED FROM POLICE STATION

The young fourteen-year-old house-breaker, who was arrested a few days ago by the police, George Lloyd, of Toronto, escaped from the police station last night.

When he received his evening meal at six o'clock after he had disposed of it, the knife he had used gave him an inspiration. He examined the door and set to work upon the task of loosening one of the heavy panels.

It was evidently hard work for him with the blunt knife, so he finished the work by kicking the panel out. Then he collected all the shavings he had made and put them out of sight under the mattress of his bed.

RESIGNATIONS MAY FOLLOW NEW POLICY

Out-and-Out Conscriptivists Not Satisfied With Compromise. CABINET TO-DAY CONSIDERS DRAFT Believed That Labor Will Not Oppose the New Arrangement.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—There is still gossip of the possible resignation of the Earl of Selborne, president of the board of agriculture, Earl Curzon of Kedleston, lord of the privy seal, and one or two other cabinet ministers, who demand out-and-out conscription, but according to the Daily Express, which is likely to be well informed in this matter, this difficulty has been removed and there is no longer an expectancy that the conscriptionists will resign.

Much will depend upon the reception by the cabinet as a whole at the day's meeting of the draft of the bill providing for conscription, but the fact that Sir John Simon, secretary of state for home affairs and Sir Thomas Porters, secretary of the board of education, are on the drafting committee, is regarded as assurance that the bill will prove a compromise which will be generally acceptable.

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Des Moines' Record.

The following is the effect of prohibition in our city: "I have to report that our first eight months' experience has in every way been immensely beneficial. The few who still oppose the closing of saloons has not been realized; practically all desirable places were almost immediately occupied by other lines of business. The money which went into the channels of the liquor trade has gone into the channels of legitimate business. Our expenditures last year for liquor were estimated at about \$2,000,000 and careful tabulation of shipments so far this year are estimated at about one-tenth of that amount. This \$1,800,000 difference is going to pay for groceries, fuel, clothing, lumber for home building, payments on town lots and a thousand other things making for the welfare of those who bore the burden of expense in this business.

It is nonsense to argue that a city of 100,000 can throw away \$2,000,000 each year for something that in no way conduces to the actual needs or comforts of life without paying the penalty. Our police records, pauper records and charity records all show this clearly, thus early. The superintendent of our public schools reports a decided improvement in the attendance and the efficiency of the large class of pupils from families affected by the liquor business.

James D. Hanna, Mayor, "Des Moines, Ia., Oct. 11."

The Booze Vendors in a New Role

The whiskey vendors pass as moral reformers. They are interested in our city, in its morals, in our boys, in illegal sale and perjury in law-breaking, illicit stills. Does anyone believe that the heartless boys-damning whiskey business has any interest but a fat bank account? No man who had any heart which was not smothered for the desire for gain would ever sell another drop of whiskey. What has the whiskey business ever done but rob and damn and break the law? All

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NOT ALL BONA FIDE A third matter Mr. Rutherford took up was the signed statement of Galt employers, affirming local option was a failure.

Two of these signatories were out on bail for embezzling and arson; a third, Martin N. Todd, listed as an employer of 120 men, was himself really an employee of the C. P. R., and the C. P. R. employed those

120 men, not Mr. Todd. Puthermore these 120 men did not live in Galt and Mr. Todd was a heavy shareholder in a brewery at Berlin.

Another signatory was also listed as an employer of 120 men. These were the same 120 men as Mr. Todd was supposed to employ; and this gentleman also had an interest in a malting house.

Against this, Mr. Rutherford showed a statement signed by over 100 Galt business men, declaring that under local option, business in Galt was never better.

Mr. Rutherford had decreased 95 per cent, the consumption of liquor 75 per cent under local option. Drunkenness was never seen on the streets of Galt; 31 convictions and arrests in 5 years was the record. Of these 31, not one was made drunk in Galt.

There is a wet town, but of every 500 who went from Galt to Preston to obtain liquor 5 years ago, only 10 go now. Over 7000 people went into hotels in Berlin in a few hours. During the same period of time, 100 went from Galt to Preston. Therefore, affirmed Mr. Rutherford, Galt people do not go to other towns to any extent for liquor.

Every prediction of the liquor people had been falsified by the results. Farmers came to the town as much, if not more, than ever. In conclusion, Mr. Rutherford appealed to the young men who took an occasional drink, to go out and vote against the traffic. All we asked was to be allowed to have our boys soberly.

EX-MAYOR PATTERSON. Galt, stated Mr. Patterson, was a very busy city. Galt had gone dry six years ago, and was going to stay dry. If the anti-wish, this was the year to try out a repeal. He had asked one of the anti-wish, "I was going to try out a repeal." There is nothing doing," was the reply.

Local option to-day was not on trial. It was on trial, said Mr. Patterson, when as Mayor of Galt, Galt tried to repeal. But our municipalities were dry and only one repeal being attempted.

There had been two battalions of soldiers in Galt, and not one soldier of them had ever been under the influence of liquor. The nine barrooms could be taken out of Brantford and it would only do good. Any city that had for its only support nine barrooms ought to go down. Had the bar-room ever made any one happier? Even if you had no boy to be affected, think of your neighbor's boy. Thinking of others had put Britain into this war. When the day came when we had to live for ourselves, then it was time for us to move off.

NO CHARITY NOW. Hundreds of dollars of Galt city money had been expended to keep families whose fathers were known to be bar room frequenters. After local option carried not a dollar had to be paid over. We marked the graves of those who fell in Flanders to hold the line. But who marked the graves of the 8,000 who go down yearly in Canada to a drunkard's grave? The bar, an "ill" vile, evil devil, which ever way you like to take it," declared Mr. Patterson in making his final appeal to vote out the traffic. Not a hotel in Galt had closed down, and the bar-room part, and the traveling public was better served. Not a farmer's trade had been lost. Not an enterprising citizen had put up a farmer's barn, with waiting rooms, so that the wives could await their husbands in comfort, knowing that they were not drunk.

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