

43RD YEAR NO. 19005

THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1907—TEN PAGES.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## Twenty Burned to Death In a 'Frisco Hotel Fire

### Scores of Sleeping Italian Laborers Trapped by Flames and Buried Beneath Falling Walls.

San Francisco, April 4.—Twenty men were burned to death and twenty others injured in a fire which destroyed an Italian hotel at Seventeenth and Connecticut streets, in the Potrero district, early today. The injured were of the laboring class, and were asleep in their rooms when the fire started. Before they could be aroused, the flames had spread through the building. The walls fell, and the inmates were buried in the ruins, twenty being taken out dead and dying. People from other hotels in the vicinity rushed to the assistance of the buried victims and succeeded in rescuing all of them from the flaming timbers. Teams were hurriedly harnessed and automobiles brought into service, and the injured were rushed to the Potrero Emergency Hospital, where several died while awaiting treatment.

The majority of the injured were hurt in leaping from the upper windows. A number of women are reported to have been in the building, and all of them are believed to have perished.

One of the women who met death is said to be Mrs. Filipo, wife of the proprietor.

An adjoining lodging-house at 118 Kentucky street also was destroyed. There were 45 men sleeping in this place, but all of them are believed to have escaped.

The property loss is estimated at \$40,000. Besides the known dead, there are missing: The cook, Mrs. Rosa Bezola, an unknown woman, and a boy of 4, and a girl of 8 years of age.

## THAW COMMISSION DUST IS FLYING HAVE DISAGREED STILL NO WATER

### Lay Members Say He Is Sane, But Expert Putzel Thinks Otherwise.

New York, April 4.—When Justice Fitzgerald called the Thaw jury into court at 11:30 a.m. today the commission in lunacy appointed to inquire into the present conditions, had not been able to agree upon a verdict. The jury was excused until 2 p.m., by which time Justice Fitzgerald said he hoped he would have something definite before him.

The commission sat until after 2 o'clock this morning trying to agree upon a report, but failed. It went into session again in Justice Fitzgerald's chambers at 10:30 a.m. today. It was reported that there was a serious division of sentiment among the three members of the commission, the two laymen being arraigned against the medical member, Justice Fitzgerald is anxious to have a unanimous report from the commission, and it was for this reason that he decided to give them more time.

Dr. Putzel has withdrawn from the conference with Justice Fitzgerald and has left the criminal courts building. He refused to discuss the matter in any way, but it is thought he believes Thaw to be insane.

## STRAPHANGERS MUST GO

### British Government Moves to Secure a Better Tramway Service.

London, April 4.—The Liberal Government has started a campaign against the overcrowding of railroad cars.

The subject was forcibly brought to the Government's notice during a recent session of the House of Commons by complaints of its democratic followers, who utilize the underground and suburban railroads to reach their residences in distant suburbs. A bill will be introduced at the reassembling of Parliament, giving the board of trade and the railway commissioners power to order the companies to run more frequent or longer trains, and to impose penalties in order to prevent overcrowding. The president of the board of trade, Mr. Lloyd George, declares that the straphangers nuisance and danger must go.

## STEAMERS ARRIVED.

| April 3.       | Reported at. | From.     |
|----------------|--------------|-----------|
| Bohemian       | Boston       | Liverpool |
| Oceanic        | Queensdown   | New York  |
| Patricia       | Plymouth     | New York  |
| C. F. Roisen   | Copenhagen   | New York  |
| La Gasconne    | Havre        | New York  |
| Liguria        | Genoa        | New York  |
| Nord America   | Naples       | New York  |
| Monteum        | St. John     | Antwerp   |
| Englishman     | Ayrmouth     | Portland  |
| Caronia        | New York     | Liverpool |
| Friedrich der  | Grosse       | New York  |
| Kaiser Wilhelm | H. ....      | New York  |
| II             | New York     | Bremen    |
| Pretorian      | Halifax      | Glasgow   |

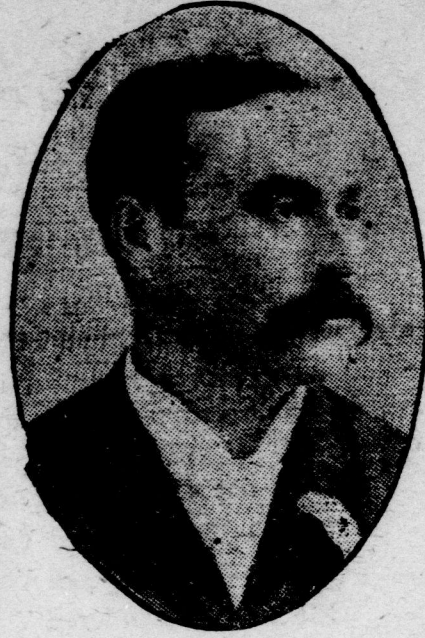
## East Middlesex Liberals Annual Meeting Saturday

The Liberals of the east riding of Middlesex should bear in mind the annual meeting of the association to be held in Hyman Hall, corner of Queen's and Park avenues, at 1:30 o'clock on Saturday next.

The officers of the association for the ensuing twelve months are to be elected, and some other very important business transacted. Several prominent members of the party are to be present and deliver addresses, among them Messrs. G. C. Gibbons, K.C., T. H. Purdon, K.C., J. M. McEvoy, Dr. McWilliam and Dr. Routledge.

An effort was made to secure the presence of Hon. George P. Graham, the leader of the Ontario Opposition, but this was impossible. Mr. Graham having a previous engagement to attend a meeting in West Durham. However, in a letter to Mr. J. R. Vining, the Liberal leader, says he will visit London at the earliest opportunity.

All Liberals throughout the riding should make it a point to be present.



DR. DRUMMOND,  
The "Habitant" Poet, Who Lies Critically Ill at Cobalt.

## FIRE AT ARMORIES BUT DAMAGE SLIGHT

### Discovery by Policeman at Early Hour Prevents Serious Blaze.

A discovery by Police Constable Fysh undoubtedly saved the Armories from serious damage by fire at an early hour this morning.

While walking west on Dundas street, near the corner of Waterloo street, the attention of the officer was attracted by clouds of smoke which were escaping from a room on the southeast corner of the Armories. An alarm was sent in from the box at the corner of Wellington and Dundas streets, and in a very short time the firemen were on the scene.

The caretaker of the Armories lives on the third floor, over the Dundas street entrance, and all efforts to arouse him were for a time futile. The firemen hoisted ladders to the windows of the room where the fire was in progress, and by this means they fought the flames with the chemical apparatus.

The fire was confined to the one room, which is occupied by the army medical corps. Some of the furniture was completely destroyed, and the walls and floor were damaged, but not to any great extent. A piano escaped injury. The total loss will not exceed \$150.

A cigarette or cigar, thrown down by a member of the corps during the evening, is supposed to have caused the fire.

## FIVE MILLION DOLLAR BOOST IN ASSESSMENT IS WARRANTED

### Commissioner Grant Makes Statement to That Effect.

"If the assessment department were to increase the assessment of the city of London by \$5,000,000, we would then be well within the mark as regards value."

This was the statement made by Assessment Commissioner Grant today.

Mr. Grant is well warranted in making the assertion, big though it seems, by the figures of the real estate returns for the first three months of this year, and of the three previous years.

In January, February and March of 1904 there were 138 sales in London. The assessed value of the properties was \$204,125, and they sold for \$251,172, showing that the assessed value was only 82 per cent of the real value.

In the first three months of the present year, 1907, there were 292 sales. The assessed value of the property was \$238,528, and they sold for \$501,323. Thus the assessed value was only 66.8 per cent of the real value.

The above comparison shows that property in London is increasing in value at a much more rapid rate than the assessments have increased, and the assessment department feels that

| Year. | Sales | Assessed value. | Consideration. | P.C. |
|-------|-------|-----------------|----------------|------|
| 1904  | 138   | \$204,125       | \$251,172      | 82.5 |
| 1905  | 215   | 161,111         | 240,483        | 63.  |
| 1906  | 249   | 291,677         | 409,921        | 71.9 |
| 1907  | 292   | 328,528         | 501,323        | 66.8 |

## COMPETING WITH GOVT.

### Cobalt Electric Line Good for the T. and N. O. Railway.

Toronto, April 4.—"The Government should not be protected any more than a private individual. Competition is as good for the Government as for anyone else," said Hon. Dr. Reame before the railway committee of the Legislature this morning, when speaking in respect to the Silver Bell Railway Company's bill, introduced by Mr. W. B. Smythe. The proposed route of the railway from New Liskeard to Haliburton, Cobalt and Latchford parallels the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, the Government line. The bill, with amendments confining the railway absolutely to the provisions of the act, was passed.

## PREMIER OFF FOR CONFERENCE

### Hon. Mr. Fielding to Lead the House, Which Prorogues About End of Month.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Toronto, April 4.—A Government caucus was held this morning before the meeting of the House. It was purely a family gathering to say goodbye to the Premier and his two colleagues, who leave this afternoon for the colonial conference in London, England. The leadership in the House will devolve upon Hon. Mr. Fielding, and Senior Privy Councillor Cartwright will be acting premier. This is the standing rule.

Sir Wilfrid announced that no contentious legislation would be pressed, and that the session would likely be brought to a close about the 29th of the month. On the 22nd Parliament will have been in session five months. Among the bills to be held over will be the Dominion lands act. Mr. Templeman's proprietary medicine bill will not be pressed, should it meet with much opposition. Indeed, all legislation will be held over until next session, and it is expected that by the end of the month at the very latest prorogation will be reached.

The House rose until 4 o'clock to permit the members seeing Sir Wilfrid Laurier off. He leaves by special train at 2:50 p.m.

## MR. ELLIS APPOINTED

### Named to Manage Ontario Labor Bureau in This City.

Mr. Andrew Ellis, of this city, has been officially notified of his appointment as manager of the Ontario Labor Bureau, which is shortly to be opened in London.

Mr. Armstrong, the head of the labor department, Toronto, will shortly come here to instruct Mr. Ellis in his duties.

Mr. Ellis is being congratulated on his appointment.

## KILLS HIS CHILDREN

### Hudson Heights Farmer Under Arrest in the Hospital.

Montreal, April 4.—Wm. Simpson, the young farmer of Hudson Heights who shot his two infant children and then tried to kill himself, has been placed under arrest on a charge of murder at the Notre Dame Hospital where he lies hovering between life and death. He was reported as somewhat better this morning.

## Mr. Emmerson Never Ejected From the St. Lawrence Hall

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Montreal, Que., April 4.—Lo Canada this morning publishes a letter signed by W. H. Brown, manager of the St. Lawrence Hall, and John Humphrey, an official of the same hotel, in which it is stated that "as the name of their hotel has been mentioned in connection with the accusation recently made against Hon. Mr. Emmerson, we wish to officially declare that never for the twenty years that we have known him has Hon. Mr. Emmerson been put out of the St. Lawrence Hall under any pretext whatever. This accusation is absolutely false from the beginning to the end in so far as it concerns us."

## AVOID THE USE OF RIVER WATER IS HIS ADVICE TO LONDONERS

## NEW ONTARIO FOR SECESSION

### A Big Mass Meeting of Both Parties—Would Form a New Province.

Fort Francis, Ont., April 4.—A big mass meeting of both political parties was held at Emo last evening to inaugurate a movement in New Ontario for secession from the old Province, and forming a new province, embracing Algoma, Nipissing, Thunder Bay and Rainy River districts.

After a number of speeches had been made by the reserves of the several municipalities and other leading citizens of both parties, a strong resolution, moved by Dr. F. H. Bethune, secretary of the district Conservative association, and seconded by W. I. Price, a leading Liberal, of Huronia, endorsing the movement, was carried by a standing vote. A strong committee was also appointed to confer with the other districts.

## THIS FIGHT WAS DUE TO JEALOUSY

### Peanut Vendor Attacked by Competitors Because He Had Biggest Sales.

The fight which took place last Sunday morning in the peanut vendors' colony at the rear of the Abbott block on Dundas street, had its sequel in the police court this morning, when the three participants, Michael Douras and James and George Lampous, appeared on a charge of being disorderly on the public street. All three were bound over for six months to keep the peace.

It was apparent from the evidence taken that the row started over this jockeying for the best position for the peanuts on Saturday night, which is a regular occurrence, and which sometimes causes bad blood among the vendors. Douras had evidently been most successful, and had sold the most peanuts, and the Lampous brothers did not appreciate it. In the fight they used a large stone and an empty bottle as weapons. Douras stood his ground for a time, but was eventually driven on to Queen's avenue, where the fight was continued until several passersby stopped hostilities by sending for the patrol wagon.

The fight was not the only trouble for which the members of the peanut brigade had to answer. George Strathopoulos and Michael Douras had a charge of obstructing the street to answer, which cost them \$2 each.

Two men were each fined \$2 or 5 days for fighting on the street.

## A Drunk's Close Call.

John Johnston appeared on a charge of being drunk, but was allowed to go, as the magistrate thought that he had been sufficiently punished while suffering from the effects of his jaundice. Johnston was unconscious for five hours after being taken to the police station, and the court informed him that he had a close call, for very little more liquor would have killed him.

John McGinnis, an old-timer, who had not been up for some time, was allowed to go, as was a first-time drunk.

James Osborne and Ralph Heard were charged with trespass and damage to property, and were allowed to go on paying the cost of repairs. It appears that the accused had been at a dance and demolished a few windows.

The owner of a vicious dog was to have appeared in court, but could not on account of being ill, so the case was enlarged for one week.

One disorderly was allowed to go.

## PHILLIPS NOW A TAILOR

### Ex-President of York Loan Assigned to Shop in Penitentiary.

Kingston, Ont., April 4.—Joseph Phillips has been assigned to the tailor shop in the penitentiary, and is at work with needle and thread. Duncan, the other bank manager, may go to the blacksmith shop.

## Mr. Thomas Martindale Says Filtration System Would Be a Fatal Mistake.

Mr. Thomas Martindale, the Philadelphia merchant, and former Londoner, to The Advertiser today, made a significant statement regarding river water as a means of increasing London's supply. In a nutshell, Mr. Martindale, who has had experience with river water in Philadelphia, where its use has resulted in outbreaks of typhoid fever each summer, says to the people of London, "Have nothing to do with it. River water may be clarified, but the germs of disease cannot be removed."

Mr. Martindale also pointed out that the city of Camden, N. J., just across the Delaware River from Philadelphia, has a water supply from artesian wells, and the people of Philadelphia carried water across from Camden until New Jersey passed a law against the exportation of water. This law is now backed up by a local ordinance of Camden, which makes it an offense to carry a pail of water from Camden to Philadelphia.

The latter city, Mr. Martindale says, for the past seven years has been

Continued on Page Eight.

## ARE HANDICAPPED BY LACK OF HELP

### Cigar Manufacturers Find It Im- possible to Keep Up With Their Orders.

The inland revenue returns for the London division show a falling off of over \$2,800 for March, as compared with the same month a year ago. For March, 1906, the collections amounted to \$33,251.41, while for the month just ended they totaled \$30,416.16, a decrease of \$2,835.25. The items were:

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Spirits, ex-warehouse  | \$ 5,668.34 |
| Malt, ex-warehouse     | 4,788.45    |
| Raw leaf, ex-warehouse | 4,549.84    |
| Cigars, ex-factory     | 11,816.20   |
| Cigars, ex-warehouse   | 4,108.89    |
| Methylated spirits     | 202.55      |
| Licenses               | 9.38        |
| Other revenue          | 32.00       |
| Total                  | \$30,416.16 |

A decrease was looked for by the officers of the inland revenue department, because of the closing of the offices for a couple of days at Easter, which last year was observed in April.

The decrease may also be partly accounted for by the inability of some cigar manufacturers to fill their orders as promptly as they desire. Stocks of goods have run very low, in some cases being all but exhausted.

A member of a leading firm of manufacturers stated to The Advertiser today that although February and March are usually quiet months with the trade, the local factories had been busy.

The cigar trade is certainly getting its share of the good times," he said. "Since last midsummer we have been behind with our orders. It was impossible to keep up with them, as they kept coming in, while we have not been able to get cigarmakers. The latter are very scarce, and cannot be had."

During February and March we kept out entire staff working full time in order to get a stock ahead. Other firms did likewise, but as far as we are concerned we will just be living from hand to mouth again by the 1st of June. If you hear of any cigarmakers looking for work, send them around. We need them badly."

## MR. ST. JOHN'S CONDITION.

Toronto, April 4.—Hon. J. W. St. John, it is announced this morning, passed a fairly good night, but there is no change in his condition.

## RUSSIA BARS BEHRING BORE

### KILLS RAIL ROUTE TO EUROPE

St. Petersburg, April 4.—The cabinet yesterday rejected a proposal made on behalf of an American syndicate for the construction of a railroad tunnel under Behring Straits, by which it was hoped ultimately to connect the Trans-Siberian with the Canadian Pacific Railroad.

The scheme for a tunnel under Behring Straits and an all-rail route from America to Europe has been under consideration for some time, and the matter has been pressed in Russia by Baron Loebe De Lobel, who represented the American-Trans-Atlantic-Siberian Company. A year ago dispatched from St. Petersburg said the Russian Government was disposed to consider this plan favorably.

## WHITNEY WRATHY WITH OTTAWA GOVT.

### Declares Federal Authorities Are Overriding Province.

## A BOOST IN CABINET SALARIES

### Whitney Introduces Measure to Give Himself \$9,000 a Year and Col- leagues \$2,000.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Toronto, April 4.—Yesterday's brief but busy session of the Legislature was marked by several important features. The Premier introduced his bill to raise his own salary to \$9,000 and that of each minister to \$6,000, an increase of \$2,000 in each case. Mr. Graham approved of the measure. Mr. Hendrie's bill to prevent companies seeking blanket charters at Ottawa was put through committee, after being amended in an important detail. To his measure also Mr. Graham gave his assent. The annual report of the Temiskaming Railway board was brought down, and some routine business was transacted.

Boost in Salaries.

Hon. Mr. Whitney introduced a bill respecting the salaries of the members of the executive council. He said he did not propose to make a long address on the bill. The Government had not consulted the Opposition before preparing the bill, because in accordance with British practice the Government took full responsibility for appropriations of public moneys. It would have been wrong to consult the Opposition, for such consultations gave rise to suppositions that some underhand dealing was under way. Mr. Whitney believed the people of the Province were willing that their servants should receive a reasonable remuneration. The Government on taking office, had found the public servants in the Parliament Buildings receiving insufficient salaries. That condition had been remedied. The increasing of the ministers' salaries had been a matter requiring more care and consideration, but the Government believed the present a suitable time to make the increase. Under the bill, the Premier will receive \$9,000 per year, and the ministers \$5,000 each, which sums were not too great, considering the decreased purchasing power of a dollar.

Nothing for Opposition Leader.

As for a salary to the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Whitney said it would be difficult under British practice to deal with the subject. It had been suggested in the time of Sir Oliver Mowat that the leader of the Opposition should receive a salary of \$2,000, but nothing was done. Mr. Whitney hoped that some day the subject could be dealt with by itself, but at present the Government felt it could not assume the responsibility of paying the leader a salary.

Mr. Graham Approves.

"I think that possibly the country should have ministers who would earn their salaries better," said Mr. Graham amid laughter. "It may be that I am not altogether unselfish when I refrain from opposing these increases." Mr. Graham said that in the days of big business salaries, the Government was justified in introducing such a bill.

Theoretically, he thought that the payment of a salary to the leader of the Opposition would not be inimical to the discharge of the duties of the position. Practically, he could not bring himself to accept such a salary. In the government of the country the Opposition leader counted only as a member of the House, and was not entitled to any extra remuneration.

Studholme Opposes.

Mr. Studholme (Labor member, East Hamilton) said he would oppose the bill because he had promised to do so before he was elected. He admitted that he had been known more about the work of the ministers he would probably not have given the promise.

Clash With Ottawa.

The House went into committee on Mr. Hendrie's bill to deprive of provincial privileges any companies which sought to evade provincial control by securing blanket charters at Ottawa (Continued on Page Two.)

BISHOP FITZGERALD DEAD.

New York, April 4.—News of the death at Hong Kong of Bishop James N. Fitzgerald of the Methodist Episcopal Church was received today by Methodist book concern in this city. Pleurisy was the cause of death. The bishop's home was in St. Louis.