50th Year, No.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## VALIDITY OF THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION MAY BE BROUGHT INTO QUESTION

City Clerk Notifies Ald. Blandford, Ald. Coles and Ald. Donnelly to Qualify and Take Their Places On the Council.

#### CITY SOLICITOR MEREDITH APPEARS TO THINK THE VOTING WAS ALL RIGHT

Situation Is Most Peculiar, and Is Unique in the History of London-Speculation as to What Will Be the Result of the Mix-Up.

The discovery that the citizens should have voted for fifteen aldermen, instead of twelve, at the recent municipal elections, has created somewhat of a sensation in the city, and the matter is being widely commented upon throughout the city today.

The validity of the election of the aldermen has been called in question. The opinion of some members of the legal fraternity in the city is that the election of the aldermen is invalid, and that a new election would have to be taken. It is pointed out that the voters were instructed to vote for twelve candidates only.

Printed circulars were placed in each polling place, with these instructions, and the deputy returning officers, if asked, told the electors that twelve was the limit of their voting powers. If a ballot happened to be marked for thirteen aldermen it was marked a spoiled

It is further explained that the officials have no right to declare elected three of the remaining twelve candidates. Had the electors been allowed to vote for fifteen men, a change might have taken place. These are the arguments offered against allowing the fifteen aldermen to take their seats. It is maintained that there is no council elected, as the ballot was not put to the people in a proper form CITY SOLICITOR'S OPINION.

However, that does not seem to be the prevailing opinion at the city hall. City Solicitor Meredith has notified City Clerk Baker that ex-Ald, James Donnelly, Ald, W. G. Coles and Ald, R. F. Blandford are elected. Official notification has been sent out to these gentlemen, telling them to qualify before the inauguration meeting on Monday next. They have received these instructions, and will act ac-

No written opinion as to the validity of the election has been received at the city hall, and Mr. Meredith's opinion could not be learned. It is understood, however, that he considers the election valid, and that it is the duty of others to take steps to invalidate it. Then it will be up to the courts to decide who was elected or whether or not the election was valid. The city officials or members of the council are of the opinion that it is not their duty to have the election declared void, particularly in view of the fact that a new election will entail much expense on themselves.

#### A RUMOR.

It is not known definitely that any of the defeated candidates will take any such action. A rumor was in circulation that ex-Ald. Neil Cooper would endeavor to have the election upset, but is denied that he would do so. He maintained that the election was absolutely illegal, in his mind, and he fully expected some person to endeavor to

upset the whole thirg, but he personally would not do so.

None of the other candidates would take the initiative is possible that some citizen, whose name has not yet been used in connection with the affair, might take the necessary proceedings.

#### THE OTHER BODIES. The validity of the election of the members of the board of education and water commission, or the money bylaws, is not questioned. They were voted on according to law, and according to the

best legal opinion in the city, they are perfectly legal.

"The council will organize on Monday," declared Mayor Graham.

"There will be fifteen alsermen on the board. Each standing committee will consist of five members instead of four, under the old system. Acting under instructions from City Solicitor Meredith, we have notified ex-Ald. Donnelly, Ald. Coles and Ald. Blandford that they have been elected, and requesting them to take the oath prior to the meeting. That is all I have to say on the matter,"

ALD. RICHTER SPEAKS. "I have not gone into the question of the validity of the election," declared Ald. Richter. "It may or may not be invalid. I cannot say until I have further investigated it. However, I fancy that any of the defeated aldermen could demand a recount of the ballots. If he considers that the ballots, marked for fifteen men, might have improved

his standing, he has a right to apply for it. On the broader question of the validity of the election, I cannot say at the present moment." The situation is rather unique, nothing like it having occurred in London before. The outcome is being awaited with a great deal of interest, and developments are expected.

# MUNICIPAL COMEDY OF ERRORS: WHAT ABOUT THOSE TERMINALS?

Sir James upon the club, which he conceives to be the baton of leader-The Proposed Electrified Road Without a London Terminus ship, is constantly growing weaker. Without in the least apologizing for its actions in this matter, the Citizen Even on Paper-No Arrangement With Grand again declares that the interests of the Conservative party in Ontario demand Trunk as Alleged. either a radical change in the attitude of Sir James toward the irresistible reform in the Ontario assessment act, or

The comedy of errors over the ter- beek discreedy avoided reference to a spe minals of the London and Port Stan- this embarrassing question, but the ship." ley Railway is still being played. Gabey and Storer, the electrical en- that an agreement had already been

present users. Then it was discovered that the M. terminals are still in the air. A Discovery. R. had an option on the property at \$75,000, which they could exercise at

the electrification scheme. trification camp. Mayor Graham tried the \$890,000 already estimated. There was consternation in the election all along. But Engineers Gabey and Storer, and Mr. Philip Pocock, were candid enough to admit they had no knowledge of any option diff.

Announcement appeared in The Advertiser, and that they had planned to use there, and that they had planned to use the they had planned to use they they are terminals for the electrified line.

The snow was not exceptionally deep, would speak out at the proper mothers terminals for the electrified line. no knowledge of any option until the these terminals for the electrified line.

A Difference of Opinion. The mayor stated that it had been planned to use the M.C.R. terminals, anyway, and that the line would be run over the Grand Trunk tracks to Richmond street. The mayor further ffirmed that it would be an easy matter to secure rights to run over the extreme south track, although the Grand Trunk paid thousands to secure the help came down the London, Huron and

Mr. Pocock does not agree with freight, snowbound two miles north of Mayor Graham in the matter. He Ilderton. thinks that the terminals should be built on Dundas street, after the fashion of Hamilton's. These, by the way,

The comedy of errors over the ter- | Beck discreetly avoided reference to London Free Press published an article It will be remembered that Messrs. which sought to give the impression gineers, based their report on the as- reached with the Grand Trunk for the sumption that an electrified road would use of the latter's terminals by the use the M. C. R. station and terminals, city. There is the best of reasons for which are city property, leased by the saying that this is absolutely untrue

The Grand Trunk has assented to no such arrangement, and the electrified

any time up to the end of the year were correct as to the cost of the un-1913. And the M. C. R. is opposed to dertaking, would have to be revised to provide for terminal facilities. And a

Lonodn, Jan. 8.—The marriage took place today of Max Green, chairman of the Irish prisons board, and formerly pri-As the situation is, the estimates of vate secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Messrs. Gabey and Storer, even if they Ireland, and Miss Johanna Redmond, the youngest daughter of John E. Redmond leader of the Irish Nationalist party. The bridal pair received many provide for terminal facilities. And a some gifts from members of the Irisl large sum would have to be added to party and other members of the House

#### notion that any plans had been upset. He asserted that he knew of the op-ON THE L., H. AND B. LAST NIGHT

Maudsley Was Snowbound at Ilderton.

The first snow troubles of the season ame to the railways in Western Unario last night, and while the interference was not very serious, a wail for Bruce during the evening from a way-

but being of a granulated heavy variety, proved a serious hindrance.

While the Bruce and the London and Port Stanley usually vie with each other in winter perils, neither the Pere Marquette nor the Michigan Central had trouble in operating last night,

Hand Was Crushed. Mr. George Waggott, of 190 Rectory street, a tinsmith, employed at Mc-Clary's foundry, had his left hand se-Mayor Graham in the matter. He hinks that the terminals should be wilt on Dundas street, after the fashon of Hamilton's. These, by the way, ost \$250,000.

No Arrangement With G. T. R.

During the municipal campaign Mr. to the station, London was communi
Mayor Graham in the matter. He hinks that the terminals should be was repairing a tin pipe and was the pipe and was leader. If any resolution calling for a referendum on food taxes or for a wising a heavy pair of tongs. While forcing these they slipped and his hand was caught between the tongs and the pipe. He went to Victoria Hospital, Bonar Law will resign.

Bonar Law will resign.

Quebec ...... 18 2 Snow Minus (-) means below zero.

Weather Notes.

The depression which has been hovering in the Mississippi Valley is now passing to the Atlantic coast with increasing effort, and a member of the crew walked effort, and a member of the station. London was communigott was repairing a tin pipe and was leader. If any resolution calling for Quebec

#### LATEST LOCAL OPTION RETURNS

Toronto, Jan. 7.—With the town of Renfrew and eleven others yet to be heard from, the returns received today at the local offices of the Domin.on Alliance show that with those carried in Monday's voting there are now at least 488 dry mu-nicipalities in the province of Ontario, leaving 340 with licenses. According to the latest returns at least 80 licenses were annulled by last Monday's voting.

The summary of municipalities up to Dry in 1912 ..... Contests this year ..... Defeated on majority .....

## ALBION'S WARSHIP BUILDING WILL SEE A NEW RECORD

Feared That There Will Be Serious Delay in Construction of Enormous Fleet—Old Land Ship-Owners Rejoicing at the Prosperous Times.

The present year will see a new rely completed. In addition to this there

CITY SOLICITOR MEREDITH.

LEADERSHIP GRIP.

Must Step Out or Be More

Progressive.

Assn. Executive in Praising

Premier Not Feeling

of Ranks.

[Canadian Press.]

"The action of the executive com-

the Ottawa Journal and other Conserv-

opinion of the rank and file of the

party. If it did, there would be noth-

Whitney Unprogressive.

"The man who possesses the confidence of his followers and inspires

to any kind of progressive endeavor,

insisting rather on permanently camp-

may and must be taken.

to stay, an entirely different attitude

"As a matter of fact, the resolution

assed by the executive of the Con-

ervative Association does not in any

way reflect the views of the Conserv-

atives of this city or of the province,

as is easily seen by the recent vote in

Toronto of four to one in favor of this

hange. The demand for progressive

action in the matter of tax reform is

insistent and general, and the hold of

a speedy change in the party leader-

MISS REDMOND WEDS

ried to Mr. Max Green.

[Canadian Press.]

ing short of party suicide ahead.

orm It says in part:

PARTY'S INTERESTS

WHITNEY LOSING

SAYS THE CITIZEN building in this country, with a displacement of over 650,000 tons. Declares Conservative Leader

The completion of this enormous English shipping industry will fleet will demand most careful organ- tinue.

lization. It is feared that there must be New York, Jan. 8. - A London cable serious delay in construction. Already the recent British programs are heavily in arrears.

The naval dockyards and great The difficulty which confronts both shipbuilding firms have already twelve dockyards and private firms is to obbattleships and battle cruisers in hand tain the skilled labor required for ship for the navy, apart from vessels near-construction. There is an insufficiency of workers at the dockyards, where day are six battleships or battle cruisers and night shifts, as well as overtime, building in England for foreign pow- are being worked. All indications suggest that the admiralty will have to re-If ten new British ships are ordered vise its calculation that the largest this year, as is expected, there will be battleship can be built in two years. 28 armored ships of the largest size Shipowners are rejoicing in prosperous times, and there is every likelihood that the flourishing conditions in the

DEMAND A CHANGE Action of Ottawa Conservative

Engineer Will Take Up Residence in City If Company Gets Fair Treatment-How the Building of Stewart Line Was Blocked.

That six radial lines into the city toward Windsor and linking up with Ottawa, Jan. 8.—"Partisan suicide" of London are planned by the Canadian Northern with a period of five day, in which it reaffirms its position of London sees fit to open the day. years, if London sees fit to open the doors to the company, is the information that has leaked out as a result of recent visits of C. N. R. engineers to ing his line to Arkona and Sarnia, the commissioners will expend consideragainst Premier Whitney on tax re- doors to the company, is the informarecent visits of C. N. R. engineers to

the city. It is said that one of the C. N. R. of this city in censuring the Citizen, engineers who has in charge the radial mon property. Mr. Stewart asked the department of the company's opera- hydro-electric commission to quote him tions in Ontario, has notified relatives a price for power. This price was so in this city that in the event that Lon- high that it could not be taken advanative papers for daring to impugn the wisdom and oppose the stand of Sir don can make a satisfactory arrange- tage of, and the promoters planned to James Whitney in the matter of tax ment with the company, that he will develop their power from the Aux reform, is a bit of puerile partisan-ship which cannot, in all reason, be the company's radial plans in this diagram and developing supposed to represent the intelligent trict.

A Network of Radials.

That a network of lines throughout they secured the power to expropriate Western Ontario, converging at Lon- any new power development, and as a don, and having shops and terminals in result it was not possible to go ahead this city, will be constructed if the with the development at Arkona. These company is treated with consideration, Czar-like methods had a considerable them to victorious endeavor, deserves is the statement that comes from a citi- influence on the people of Arkona, all praise and support. But when, on zen who is in some measure interested where the people had already secured The company already has a number stream not much larger than Kettle the contrary, he ceases to lead them in the matter.

of radial lines in Western Ontario. It Creek. ing upon the road, driving in his stakes is said to be a practical certainty that since the city of Stratford has bid the company welcome by granting a 25year franchise to the street railway, that a line will be built from the Classic City to London, and that a number of others will be constructed, including the line to Arkona, Forest and Sarnia; a line from Lucan and northern points; a line to operate with the Sarnia line, to touch Lake Huron in said, it "would make London a second the vicinity of Grand Bend, and a line Toronto.

## BONAR LAW'S FATE IS IN THE BALANCE

Lancashire Conference Likely to Decide Fate of Unionist Leader.

Daughter of Nationalist Leader Mar- DERBY TO SPEAK OUT

If Resolution Is Passed Criticising Management of Party, Law Is Certai. to Resign.

[Canadian Fress.] New York, Jan. 8 .- A cable to the Tribune from London says:

The adjourned conference of Lanashire Unionists, which had been fixed for next Saturday, has been postponed until Jan. 18. A week ago Lord Derby advocated the silence cure for the dissensions which were rending ment, and indicated Saturday's conference as a proper time for making

statement. At the previous meeting of Lancashire Unionists all reporters were excluded, while the party differences

were being discussed. In Unionist circles it is admitted that the Lancashire meeting will decide the fate of Mr. Bonar Law as

### BRITISH COMMONERS FORM "CHINA GROUP"

charter for which has been sold to the

C. N. R., has gradually become com

move was made, the hydro-electric in-

terests introduced legislation whereby

Ready to Pay Good Price.

Mr. Stewart was embarrassed in his

plans, though he was willing to pay the

price at which hydro is now being sold,

it is said. The C. N. R. are certain to

construct this line in their program

What the C. N. R. means to London

is only being realized at the present

time. As a Toronto morning paper

for a chain of radials in this district.

Propose to Watch and Conserve the Interests of the New Republic.

[Canadian Press. New York, Jan. 8 .- A cable from Lon

don says:

The recently organized "China group" of members of parliament, writers, scientists and other distinguished persons, for the purpose of watching and conserving the interests of the new Republic of China, includes T. P. O'Connor, member of Parliament for the Scotland division of Liverpool; Joseph Pointer, a labor member of Parliament from Sheffield; Joseph King, member of Parliament for North Somerset, a prominent barrister and author, and Edgar Jones, radical orth Somerset, a prominent barrister of author, and Edgar Jones, radical tember of Parliament for Merthyr Tyd-

one of the objects of the group is to correct and keep a check on misstatements in the public press concerning China.

#### THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW-DECIDEDLY COLD. Toronto, Jan. 8-8 a.m. Fresh to strong northwest to we winds; some light snow, but mostly fair and decidedly cold today and on Thurs-

Temperatures. The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:
Stations. High. Low. Weather.
LONDON ..... 31.5 23.5 Clear LONDON Victoria ..... Calgary Winnipeg ... Port Arthur. Parry Sound.

# \$3,000,000 THE PRESENT YEAR

A Partial List Which Has Been Prepared Exceeds These Figures -City Appears To Be in for a Real Advancement-Hundreds of Thousands of Dollars Worth of Work Will Be Commenced in the Spring.

#### NEW BUILDINGS FOR LONDON

	1 000 000
Ordinary building, usual estimate	450,000
Deatatice	100,000
New buildings to replace those removed by	300,000
Fadanal Square, estimated	
Roman Catholic Seminary, Sunshine Park	250,000
New City Hall	250,000
McCormick Manufacturing Company	250,000
Unculine Academy	100,000
Royal Motor Car Company factory	100,000
Military offices at armories	10,000
Redemptorist Monastery, Dundas street	10,000
Western University	75,000
Aberdeen School	70,000
St. Joseph's Hospital, addition	50,000
St. Joseph's Hospital, addition	50,000
Plant next to McCormick's	50,000
Box factory, East End	50,000
Dennis Wire and Iron Works, addition	F0 000
Greene-Swift & Co	
Guelph Tool Company, Pall Mall street	
D C Canarate School, north end	20,000
Danie Centre Methodist Sunday School	20,000
n c Canarata School. Lyle street	20,000
Centennial Methodist Church Sunday School.	20,000
Total	\$3,385,000
total	

st point in the city's history.

most imposing. The total will run ell over \$3,000,000, and there are nany buildings contemplated, of which nothing has been said as yet.

Among the buildings certain to erected are those in the above list. A Brilliant Prospect.

This is a great prospect, and it has already made its influence felt in the city. The spirit of optimism prevails to an extraordinary degree, and the next five years." city seems to be on the threshold of a very prosperous era.

The building operations of the pres- table money on extensions this year nt year will probably reach the high- The added territory in the east end will have to be furnished with light A partial list of those likely to be and water, and an expenditure of at commenced has been prepared, and it least \$100,000 will have to be set aside to cover this territory.

Men Are Wanted. Manufacturers are preparing for a heavy season. They all have plenty of orders, but find difficulty in securing men. One prominent man stated that at least 1,000 good men could find employment in London's manufacturing establishments.

"Building will boom," declared Ald. Coles, father of the Federal Square "London is on the move, and I want you to watch this city for the

In regar dto the ne wpostoffice it is hardly likely that work will be commenced in 1913, although the sum of In addition, there will be a great \$150,000 has been placed in the estideal of work in other lines. The water mates by the Government to com-

# EXPLOSION OF GAS SHOOK LOCAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH

Plumber Looking for Escaping Fluid With a Torch Found It Most Unexpectedly - Glass Was Smashed and the Ceiling of One Room Fell.

A lighted torch, coming into contact | The gas had accumulated in large with gas, generally causes trouble, and quantities between the ceiling of the this morning it shook the London In- Peel was on the second floor, and stitute of Public Health on Ottaway thrust his torch into an opening to find avenue from top to bottom, smashed if the gas was escaping there. score of windows, and tore large ieces from the ceiling of the lecture-

oom. Outside of that the damage was Mr. Chris. Peel, a plumber in the emloy of Noble & Rich, was at one end of the torch, and fortunately was out gave way, scattering plaster and tim-The ber in every direction. of the range of the explosion. fire department were called, but the building did not ignite, and they had blown out, and several on the west.

When the building was opened this morning, Dr. Hill discovered that the department arrived there was no trace gas main was leaking some place, the of fire. lecture-room being filled with gas. A plumber was sent for, and Mr. Peel ture-room," said Fire Chief Aitken. "It was dispatched to locate the leak. was dispatched to locate the leak.

The windows on the east side were side were shattered. An alarm was sent in, but when the "It made quite a wreck of the lec-

## LONDON TOWNSHIP'S APPEAL JUSTIFIED, SAYS THE JUDGE

Decision Handed Down in the Equalization of Assessment of the County of Middlesex by His Honor Judge Macbeth.

Judge Macbeth has handed in his buildings, being 781/2 per cent, thereof, eport on the equalization of the as- and he took the municipal assessmen essment of Middlesex County, and in of West Nissouri as the standard. He states that the appeal of London therefore added to the other municipal Cownship from the equalization as assessments an amount sufficient to fixed by the county council last June raise the same to 78\* per cent. The municipal was justified, and he has prepared anwas justined, and he has prepared and other schedule of the equalization of Strathroy and Glencoe were 75

he assessment.

ment of West Nissouri, among the accordingly the assessment was de-townships, was the highest in propor- creased by 11 per cent. In Newbury tion to the actual value of lands and

assessments

An Explosion.

In an instant, there was a terrific

eport, and the sound of crashing glass

The floor on the second story with-

stood the strain, but the ceiling below

ould be heard some distance.

cent, of the actual value of lands and In the report the judge states that buildings, of Ailsa Craig, 76\* per cent., he examined all the records of sales and Lucan, 70 per cent. All the assessof property in the 22 municipalities ments of these places were raised to included in the county during the year preceding July 1, 1912.

Highest Assessment.

Highest Assessment.

Hughest Assessment. Parkhill, the majority of sales during the past year showed that the assess-In his investigation, Judge Macbeth ment was almost 90 per cent. of the liscovered that the municipal assess-(Continued on Page Eleven.)

#### PTOMAINE POISONING TIES. UP A STREET RAILWAY SYSTEM

[Canadian Press.] South Norwalk, Conn., Jan. 8 .- The street car service here was practically tied up by ptomaine poisoning yesterday, and 's still crippled today. A full hundred conductors and motormen lay at home groaning with attacks of the poisoning, the result of their annual turkey feast on Monday night street car service here was practically

They had a gobbler that weighed 45 pounds-the largest ever brought to town-which investigation proved tohave been kept in storage since Thanksgiving time.

Health Officer Tracey believes all of the men will survive, but he wonders that many of the men were not