

F.F.C. SELECTS RANEY AS LEADER IN LEGISLATURE

LONDONERS READ 380,000 VOLUMES DURING THE YEAR

City Library Leads in Number of Books Circulated Per Capita.

REVIEWS ACTIVITIES

In comparison with figures from other libraries, the London public library circulates more books per capita than any other library in Canada or the United States.

This was demonstrated last night at a meeting of the library board. More than 380,000 volumes were read by Londoners during the past year and there are in the city 23,173 people who have taken out library cards. This record, according to Secretary Richard Crouch, is one that no other city in North America can boast of. The books are also circulated at less expense than in any other city library.

Dr. C. H. Ziegler, chairman of the board gave an address to members of the library board last night and summed up the work done by the library during the past year.

Dr. Ziegler pointed out that during 1923 the activities of the library have been toward expansion and organization of the branches. He lauded the splendid work done by the board and said that by close co-operation with the Central Collegiate and the public schools thousands of students of the city have been afforded the privilege of the library during the past year. "Splendid work has been done by Miss D. Nelles in the special reference department for students in the South London branch," Dr. Ziegler said.

According to Dr. Ziegler the children's department in the South East branch has grown to such an extent that it will be necessary in the near future to expand. Every Saturday morning 80 or 90 children assemble for the story hour.

An interesting fact in the public library work in the city was brought out last night by the chairman in his address. Of the thousands of children in the city who are taking advantage of the library's departments of foreign languages, of the study of English literature, said Dr. Ziegler, and the library has done much to foster their desire for learning.

"In the children's department alone more than 40,000 books have been circulated among public school children for supplementary reading."

Dr. Ziegler talked for a short time on the crowded condition of the main branch of the library. "Even in the cellars there is not enough room to stack old books and the library board will shortly have to do away with the ladies' reading room in order to find space for old files and literature. The present building is old fashioned and not being fire proof much historical information of the city is greatly jeopardized. London will soon need a new building."

PROPERTY PROTECTION PROPOSAL IS URGED

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thing should be done immediately to avoid that possibility in London.

Major T. J. Murphy is another member who is taking up the property protection proposal in London with marked vigor. The aims of the chamber are to zone the city, through the council, to prevent the city's boundaries, and for some distance outside. Powers to properly protect a city building, when completed, require some amendment but London has the authority to go quite a long way to prevent many of the things which will cause trouble and unnecessary expenditure in the future.

Public Meetings. It is planned to hold public meetings in various subdivisions, where the general opinion regarding town planning may be ascertained. A hazard building development is desired in any one division it will be classified under the "industrial area." If the residents wish their district preserved from such encroachment, their wishes will be heeded.

"The ratepayers of London in January, 1920, voted for the preparation of a plan for London's future growth, and we claim the council should take the necessary steps to bring this about," said a member of the chamber said this morning. "The first thing to do is to appoint good men on the town planning commission who will act, under the statutes, in an advisory capacity only, to the council."

"The second essential is to co-operate with the Dominion Geodetic Survey Department in the completion of an accurate topographical plan."

"This commission should be provided with sufficient money to prepare plans with such expert advice as they require, for the approval of the council and ratepayers."

REMOVING GLAZING. Slowly but surely the work of removing the double glazing in the windows of Alexandra School is being carried out. More than half of the windows have been done, and independent of Works Captain Simpson stated that, while it was necessarily a slow job, it was proceeding satisfactorily. The glass removed equals in value the cost of labor in taking it out, as it can be used again, either to repair windows or in new schools.

Raney Appointed Leader of United Farmer Party in Ontario Legislature

Former Attorney-General Is Officially Named At Caucus of Members.

WILL BE OPPOSITION

Will Pick Ontario Chieftain At Convention—Drury May Consent.

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Jan. 3.—Official announcement was made after a caucus of United Farmer members of the Ontario Legislature today that Hon. W. E. Raney has been chosen as party leader in the legislature for the coming session.

The caucus decided to leave the appointment of the official leader of the Ontario Progressive Party for the general convention which has been called for June 5 and 6 next. It is understood that E. C. Drury intimated to the meeting that he would be prepared to accept the task of leading the party.

Stand as Opposition.

There were two angles to the day's proceedings. In the afternoon there was a session in camera of 25 or 30 members of the Ontario and Dominion houses, with certain other citizens interested in the Progressive movement, and there they decided that the Progressive party of Ontario must be recognized as the official opposition in the legislature, and that Hon. W. E. Raney is to have the first say at the leadership in the house. Hon. Mr. Raney heard the offer, which, according to the official statement given out afterwards, was unanimous, then he asked for a few days to think it over. But the official also went on to say that "it is confidentially believed that Hon. Mr. Raney will accept."

The afternoon session was a strictly private one, not even the representative of the Farmers' Sun being permitted to get past the doorways. J. J. Morrison, secretary of the U. F. O., and recognized as the leader of the anti-political wing of the United Farmers, was not present. At the time the Progressives were meeting in camera, the directors of the United Farmers were also holding a meeting at the headquarters on George street.

The second phase of the day's proceedings came in the evening at an open banquet, when seventy five or a hundred Progressives gathered. Among the speakers were E. C. Drury, who at the close of his speech said: "My services, either as a private citizen, or in any other capacity, will always be at the disposal of the party."

Still Confident. The vote of the people on June 25, he stated, did not shake his confidence in himself and in the cause of the Progressives.

Hon. Mr. Drury pointed with pride to some of his government's deeds, particularly steps taken in the direction of forest conservation, and he added in this connection that "not even the childish vindictiveness of our successors can or dare undo our work."

The ex-premier went on to say that he was "more amused than critical at the performances of the Ferguson government so far," and then he frowned on any suggestion that the James Bay Railway should be stopped. He said he had gained the impression that the Ferguson government intended to introduce vocational training into the public schools. This, he feared, would be an educational failure.

LOMBARDS HEARD FROM CLEVELAND

Hundreds of Telegrams Congratulate Musicians' Radio Concert.

Many London radio fans tuned in on WCX, the Union Trust radio station in Cleveland, last night to hear the Lombardo orchestra play a special program of popular music for Western Ontario people.

Although the program was arranged for Londoners, it was broadcasted all over the United States. Proof of the popularity of the Lombardo orchestra was shown in the hundreds of congratulatory telegrams which were sent from London, were read over the radio.

At the commencement of the program the speaker announced that the Lombardo Canadian Orchestra from London, Ontario, would play. One of the telegrams received read: "You're putting London on the map. Keep it up."

Next week the Lombardo Orchestra will be playing in Detroit and it is expected they will broadcast another concert from WWJ.

M'CORMICK TRAVELLERS HOLD ROUND TABLE TALK

A round table conference of travellers of the McCormick Manufacturing Company was held yesterday and today when more than 35 representatives from all parts of Ontario met at the McCormick Manufacturing Company and discussed problems and plans for the future. Last night the travellers were entertained by the company at the Grand Opera House where they witnessed the performance of the "Maid of the Mountains." This afternoon at one o'clock they enjoyed a turkey dinner in the McCormick dining hall.

Sarcophagus of King Tut Found

Associated Press Despatch. Luxor, Egypt, Jan. 4.—The sarcophagus of the Pharaoh Tutankhamen has been found in that monarch's tomb in the Valley of the Kings, it was announced today. The long sought treasure of antiquity lay within the fourth casket. It is of white and red granite.

TAXI OWNERS URGE MISHAP INSURANCE BE COMPULSORY

Denounce Allowing 'Part Time' Drivers Being Given Licenses.

RULINGS NOT MODERN

That all taxi owners should carry liability insurance, and that all taxi contracts should contain a clause making full-time day and night service imperative, is the opinion of some of London's taxi owners. At the present time, according to them, many men who own a car take out a taxi license and make use of it only at the busy times of the year and on public holidays. They carry no liability insurance, and if anyone gets hurt while driving in the cars, they have no chance of collecting from the drivers or owners, who themselves have no financial backing beyond their ownship in the cars.

A. J. Bouchier, proprietor of the Yellow Taxi-Cab Company, states that the present contract force dealing with taxi licenses is not up-to-date and suggests that the addition of a full-time service clause and also a clause making carrying liability insurance imperative would render an invaluable service both to the general public and to the taxi owners who are giving day and night service to the public.

"People hardly realize," he said, "that when they use a taxi they are entirely unprotected unless the owners carry such a policy. In our business we carry a \$10,000 liability on every car. As for the part-time taxi, I think it is unfair competition and that we should be protected from this."

C. H. Tinsley, manager of the Blue Bonnet Taxi Service, agrees with Bouchier and adds that the solution of the question is up to the police commissioners. He said: "Not only should all men who take taxi licenses be made to give day and night service, but they should be compelled to operate enough cars to give a certain definite standard of service. Taking out a taxi license for Fair Week for example as is done every year constitutes a decidedly unfair competition."

COLD SNAP CHECKS FLOOD IN OHIO

High Water Mark Is Reached in Upper Valley Sections This Morning.

Associated Press Despatch. Pittsburgh, Pa., Jan. 4.—Flood waters of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers, pouring into the Ohio, reached the crest at 9:45 o'clock this morning, when a stage of 27.3 feet was reported at the point bridge over the river. It was expected the Ohio would remain stationary until noon, when the stream would begin to fall.

The timely arrival of a cold snap during the night prevented what the weather bureau expected would be one of the most disastrous floods in the history of the upper Ohio Valley. With the mercury at 18 degrees in Pittsburgh, and much lower at points along the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers, the flow of water was checked from countless little streams, leaving nothing but the flood water already in the rivers to run out.

So far, as reported to the police there was no loss of life.

SAMPLES OF TECH. WORK NOW BEING DISPLAYED

Samples of the work done by the students at the night classes held at the Technical School are being exhibited in the window of the Hydro Ship. The exhibit includes samples of woodwork, cabinet-making, machine work, millinery, dressmaking, embroidery, cooking, etc., and will be on display up to a week. Principal H. B. Beal has adopted this means of showing the sort of work accomplished and the efficiency attained by the students at the classes, which reopen on Monday.

APPOINTED JANITOR.

A. C. Stiel has been appointed janitor at the new Trafalgar School, which opened yesterday. Mr. Stiel was formerly in the employ of the public utilities commission and is fully qualified for the new work.

SCORE OF BODIES ARE STILL BURIED IN RUINS OF PLANT

Dust Explosion Believed To Have Been Caused by Spark From Drivewheel.

RESCUERS SEARCH RUINS

Associated Press Despatch. Pekin, Ill., Jan. 4.—More than a score of bodies still are buried in the ruins of part of the plant of the Corn Products plant here where an explosion early yesterday morning caused the deaths of upwards of 40 employees and serious injuries to 25 more. Rescuers, working in the ice-covered debris of the wrecked buildings are in constant danger from tottering walls and it may take days to recover all the bodies.

One building of the \$20,000,000 plant collapsed and two adjoining buildings were partly wrecked and swept by fire which still was being fought early today. Streams of water directed at the smouldering ruins of the company said, and it may take days to recover all the bodies.

A further check is being made to identify the men missing from their homes. Most of the bodies when recovered are expected to be unrecognizable Superintendent Lavon of the company said, and it would be impossible to definitely fix the number of the dead until the bodies were all recovered as no check was made of the men leaving the plant after the blast.

Several explanations of the explosion are offered. A spark from a drivewheel igniting dust from starch was the cause, in the opinion of R. S. Sherwin, chief chemist for the company. John G. Gamber, state fire marshal, attributes it to an explosion of accumulated dust similar to recent explosions in plants of the same company at Argo, Illinois, and Des Moines, Pa.

LICKER CAUSES ARREST OF GENEROUS CITIZEN

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I took the bottle from him. It smelled of whiskey.

"I asked him where he got it, and he said 'From a taxi driver.' I asked him how much he paid for it, and he didn't answer me. I told him he had got it illegally and would have to come to the police station with me."

"I didn't want to cause any disturbance in the hotel if I could possibly avoid it, so when he suggested we go out on the street and drink it, I agreed. We got to Talbot and Carling street, and he wanted to go west on Carling. I insisted we go the other way, and walked him into the police station."

"How many men were there in the room when we got up there?" asked the prisoner.

"Two," said Lay.

"I beg your pardon: there were three," gently contradicted the prisoner, an automobile salesman from the home of real beer licenses.

"When I went into the room, didn't I say: 'Gentleman, this officer is a friend of mine. Give him a drink.' Didn't I say that I fetched it out and told you to help yourself, and you said no, we would drink it on the street?"

"No, I didn't say that," declared Lay.

"Was I talking loud?" demanded the prisoner.

"Yes, you were talking loud. I thought your suggestion was good and drank it with you."

Constable Langford said he had talked to Pat this morning. The prisoner told him he had gone to the Grigg House when he arrived on the midnight train from Kitchener. He called a taxi driver, and asked him to take him to the hotel. The taxi driver, he said, was a ten-dollar bill. He got no change.

"Do you want to ask the constable any questions?" asked Chief Birrell.

"No, thanks."

Giving evidence on his own behalf, Pat told his story frankly and with conviction. He said he had a bottle of whiskey and the train and gave drinks to two chance acquaintances. When he got to London the bottle had disappeared, but not the friends. More whiskey, he wanted, so he went to the office for a good one, where he procured and paid for three rooms for himself and friends.

"I came down stairs to leave word at the office for my morning call when I saw the constable standing there," related the young man from the "land of Shamrocks."

"I said, 'Happy New Year, officer,' as far as I can recollect, and asked him if he would like a drink. He said he wouldn't mind, so I took him upstairs. There were two men on the bed, and I asked them to give my friend a drink. They took one look at him and said there wasn't any liquor there."

"I said, 'Sure, and he's a friend of mine. He's all right, give him a drink.' They wouldn't do it, so I hunted around till I found the bottle and a glass. It was the first time I ever did such a thing."

"It will probably be the last," murmured a constable, regretfully. "You must have been blind drunk to do such a thing," was the emphatic conclusion of Mr. Graydon. "Men who get the money" should leave liquor alone."

"I've always made a good fellow of myself. Too good, I guess," confessed Patrick. "If a motor car salesman from Kitchener."

"I must fine you \$200," explained the magistrate kindly. "Have you any way of getting the money?"

"That won't do," stated the court. "The officer will help you locate the money," Chief Birrell offered in hospitable tones.

"I've been told, but I

Man's Traditional Vocations Have Yet To Be Invaded By Gentler Sex In Forest City

Women Fail To Master Commercial Course at "U." Officials Say.

ARE BETTER IN DETAIL

College Teachers Declare Girls Not Creative Enough For Business World.

While women in other centers receive constant publicity for their new "emancipation" and achievements in the realms of business, London girls, it appears, do not aspire to a career. They incline toward recognition on the stage and in social work, but the urge to match wits with men in the industrial world seems completely lacking.

This deduction is based on the number of girls taking the commercial course at the University of Western Ontario. The number is exactly nil. Some have tried to master the intricacies of business and other subjects, but have concentrated courageously on salesmanship and the principles of transportation, but all have come to grief. No college girl, in fact, has ever managed to survive the University of Western Ontario commerce course.

"They are literally swamped," Dr. K. F. Neville explains. "A woman cannot keep up with the work."

Yet the university is willing to teach any young woman in those lines of business usually followed by men. In other cities, where the flare for feminism has become epidemic, one will find at least 30 per cent of all commercial courses comprised of fair students. They study and toil, confident in the belief that the female brain is as suited by nature to wrestle with the problems of industry as male brains. And a few—very few—emerge triumphant from the test.

These invariably get obscure jobs as secretaries and many become stenographers. Feminism in London, however, is virtually an unknown thing. If it were not, many more girls would seek admittance into the commercial courses. Hundreds of course take courses in shorthand and typewriting, but that is not considered business in the true sense of the word.

The few girls who have started the course and failed have demonstrated one thing—that women are superior to men in detail. That is to say, they are thorough. They do a great deal of smaller things, which are nevertheless vital in the conduct of any successful business. But to be a manager of small detail is very far from the main requisites. Canadian colleges, in fact, eliminate detail as much as possible, leaving tuition in the hands of the few who are picked up by practical experience. The course is designed to make business executives.

College teachers give the fair sex the palm for painstaking study, conscientious work and unwavering fidelity to principles taught them. But they are not creative, and seldom have the courage to throw aside these principles when the emergency arises and formulate new ones for themselves. Man's age-old dominance is said to have lowered the creative instinct in woman.

And so, what do college girls do when they graduate? Well, London college girls seldom follow the careers. With all their training, with all the expense involved in giving them a fine education, they end up by marrying. The women students—of which there were three or four—marry, too. The percentage of women who use their knowledge in a professional way, according to college officials, is less than 20 per cent.

In the professions there are less than a dozen women. There is only one female lawyer in the city. There are three female doctors, and two are married. Of course, there are numerous teachers, but vocations which traditionally belong to men have yet to be invaded by the gentle sex in London.

LONDON LIBERALS TO HONOR ROBSON

Brackin and Raymond Will Speak at Tonight's Gathering.

London Liberals will gather at the Tecumseh House tonight to honor Andrew Robson, for many years president of the Liberal Club and who retired from that office recently.

The meeting will take the form of a banquet, scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m. and several prominent Liberals will deliver addresses, among them being W. G. Raymond, M.P., Brackin and R. L. Brackin, M.P., Chatham.

Mr. Robson, the guest of honor, has been prominent in Liberal circles for many years, having been an ardent worker in the interests of the party and one of the mainstays of Liberalism in this section of Ontario. For several years past he has been president of the local Liberal Club and it is as a token of appreciation of his services that the banquet is being held.

"Don't know how I can raise the rest," "You shouldn't have spent so much last night," admonished the clerk who was undoubtedly thinking of the outrageous cost of one bottle of Seagram's 42.

"I'll get that poor fellow," whispered Clerk Moutie to the reporters.

"Take him down stairs and give him any way of getting the money," ordered the magistrate.

Pat regained his freedom within an hour, a London salesman for the firm came to the rescue, and the Kitchener man rescue with a bank roll.

Will Appear For Probe

In all probability, the Ruggles' shareholders will appear to Attorney-General W. F. Nickle for a general investigation, Mayor Wenise states.

The committee appointed last night to consider the question and of which the mayor is chairman, will meet tomorrow, it is proposed. The creditors are meeting this afternoon in the Middlesex County courthouse.

HOLT ELECTED DIRECTOR.

Associated Press Despatch. Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 4.—Sir Herbert S. Holt, president of the Royal Bank of Canada, Montreal, was elected to the board of directors of the Soo line, at a meeting here yesterday. He will succeed the late Lord Shaughnessy, former president of the Canadian Pacific, who died last month.

WHITE RIVER AGAIN THE COLDEST SPOT

Mercury Goes to 43 Degrees Below Zero Last Night.

Toronto, Jan. 4.—After two weeks of preliminary skirmishing, Jack Frost gathered all his forces together last night and by 8 o'clock this morning had made his presence felt at every station, with the exception of Prince Rupert, B. C., reporting to the Dominion meteorological bureau here. Below-zero weather prevails from Kamloops, B. C., where the mercury fell to 10 below zero, throughout the prairie provinces, Northern Ontario and Quebec.

White River, Ont., with 43 below at 8 o'clock this morning, easily carried off the honors in the first of the winter sweepstakes. Chapleau, Ont., was a good second, with 36 below, closely followed by Prince Albert, Sask., with 34 below, the coldest spot in the prairies.

ISSUES FIRST WRIT. Jarvis & Vining today issued the first court writ in the history of the half of the London Lumber Company against the Arnprior Cabinet Company, Limited, for \$363.45 for goods sold and delivered.

PRINCIPALS REPORT GOOD ATTENDANCE

Students Buckle Down to Work After the Holiday Festivities.

The attendance on the opening day of school at the collegiate institutes was more than satisfactory, according to the principals of the various units.

Principal Miller of Central Collegiate said that while there were a few who had not yet come back, owing undoubtedly to a continuance of holiday festivities in their homes, he expected that Monday would see them all back.

A. E. O'Neill, principal of London East, also expressed pleasure at the attendance yesterday and today. He said that the students had buckled right down to their work and were wasting no time in getting ready for the examinations, although they are still five months away.

At London South the same story is told. The students returned ready for work and without any hesitation stood right in to carry on as in 1923.



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"His Master's Voice"—Victor Record 19156

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"His Master's Voice"—Victor Record 19145

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