The Advertiser

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THE WESTERN ADVERTISER. Gy mail, per annum.....

JOHN CAMERON, President and Manager.

London, Saturday, Dec. 31.

DITY FACTORIES, FIXED ASSESS MENTS AND TAX EXEMPTIONS. A good deal has been said in the presen municipal campaign about the tax exemptions, or fixed assessments, which have peen extended to various manufacturers in London. It has been with reluctance that our civic authorities have acquiesced in the principle of exemptions, because it 's not always possible to apply it equitably. The trouble has been that the aldermen though averse to the principle, have been compelled to resort to it in order to protect the interests of the taxpayers, while the manufacturers have sought for it because their competitors in other cities, being exempted from taxation, in whole or in part, had a distinct advantage over hem in point of ability to produce and

If London could prevail upon other municipalities in Ontario and Quebec to retain taxes on machinery and personal property, or, what is much the same thing, to refrain from granting fixed assessments it would be easy for our municipal authorities to tax manufacturers up to the limit. If all cities and towns were agreed not to coax manufacturers from other places by offers of free buildings, free land, partial or complete exemption from civic taxation, no one would welcome the stand more than would the average alderman in this city.

market their wares.

We have, however, to face the facts and to meet them as best we can. We desire to retain the factories now established and to see established other manufactories, provided they can be brought here without sacrificing the general interest. This was the motive which impelled the City Council to offer the Grand Trunk \$100,000 bonus and a fixed assessment if it would concentrate all its car shops here and guarantee that an average of 500 men would be constantly employed. It would have pleased us all better if the Grand Trunk Company, conceding the splendid situation of London as a railway center, had agreed to bring all it shops west of Toronto to London without a bonus. But so long as this company, or any other company, knows that it can obtain certain advantages elsewhere we may expect to have to make some sacrifice

may expect to have to make some sacrine to attain what seems most desirable.

It is true that the McClary Manufacturing Company, of this city, a few years ago, bought out the Burn-Robinson Company's machinery and stock, and brought it from Hamilton to London. By this means the McClary Company was able to add to its works and increase the number of its employes by engaging in the production of all kinds of pressed tinthe production of all kinds of pressed tin-ware, brass, etc. It was convenient for the company so to do, because it already had its works here. But if the McClary Company had chosen it could have taken the works to Woodstock, St. Thomas, or any one of a dozen other places in the any one of a dozen other places in the Province, and have been rewarded by a bonus, free water and tax exemption. In some cases, even a factory building was offered, rent free, for a term of years! Reid Bros. & Co. pursued an identical course when the firm, a year or two since, established its featherbone corset factory in this city. It preferred a concentra tion of its interests in London, where the expense of management could be minimized, to a substantial bonus and tax exemption offered it by St. Thomas and several other cities. Stevens, Clarke & Stevens, boot and shoe manufacturers, have also been subjected to coaxing by the neighboring municipality, and so it has gone on all along the line.

The Legislature has moved in the direc-The Legislature has moved in the dression of preventing the granting of bonuses, but it is difficult to restrain competing municipalities from trying to boom themselves. If tax exemption of themselves. themselves. If tax exemption of every kind were denied, Ontario manufacturers, it would place some of our employers of labor at a serious disadvantage, and might result in the transfer of machinery to other provinces. An instance of this is found in the bonus given to Messrs. Glendenning & Co., the rich Montreal stove manufacturers, by a suburb of treal stove manufacturers, by a suburb of that city. The company has been voted \$35,000 in cash, free land and complete immunity from payment of taxes. It thus has a distinct advantage over local competitors and a very decided advantage over the manufacturers of Western Ontario. Not only does this rival to the McClary Manuonly does this rival to the McClary Manufacturing Company enjoy these privileges, granted, it is alleged, on a business basis, but it can obtain better terms in its purchase of coal and iron and other raw material. The McClary Company sells one third of its entire output to customers living east of Kingdon, to that this Montageneral country of the state of the customers in the state of the customers in the state of the customers. tors. To meet its rival the McClary Company some time ago had in contemplation the establishment of a branch factory at or near Montreal. Instead of doing so, how. ever, the McClary Company has been moved to extend its works here, and to give employment to 50 or more additional states as top in the right direction.

John Friend, People's Confectioner.—Remodeled store and lunch rooms; business on more extensive scale. Everything best quality. Cocked hams always on hands that. The epinion of all the electors on the propriety of civic ownership of electric lighting, bowever, will be assertained, and that is a step in the right direction. living east of Kingston, so that this Mon-

hands. Two considerations influenced the

ompany in this step:
1. The fact that the members of the con pany all live in London, and are interested in many ways in building up and improving this beautiful commercial me ropolis of the West.

2. The City Council unanimously resolved to grant the company a fixed assessment of \$100,000 a year for ten years to come, thereby, to some extent, putting it on a with its keen competitors in the

One does not need to concede the rightfulness of the system to acknowledge that, on the face of it, the aldermen effected a business transaction of a thoroughly de-tensible character when it met the situation in the only way open to it under all

the circumstances.

The council had previously granted fixed ients, without demur on the part of myone, to other employers of labor, and in this instance it acted consistently as well as for what, it must now be conceded, is for the best interests of the taxpayers.

We are all anxious that the city shall boom, not in the sense of becoming inflated by land speculation, but by the steady progress of legitimately established and operated industrial enterprises. Let that pe provided for, and the merchant, the land use owner, as well as the wage-earner, will obtain a fair share in the incidental prosperity. But we have not reached the ideal method of taxation. It would emancipate all improvements, including buildings, stock and machinery from the control of the assessor and collect taxes on land values alone. The only loser from such a system would be the land speculator, who holds vacant property till his neighwho notes were properly that he steps in and collects the profits that their labors have rendered possible. We would discourage vacant lot holding and encourage the employment of labor by leaving mathematical the steps of the contract of the steps of t chinery, stocks, factories, and dwelling houses untaxed. At present, however, we are confronted with facts, not a theory; and the system, not the men, must be blamed if equity is not always established by the eration of the law.

Toronto has taken a step forward in Toronto has taken a step forward in providing that for ten years to come stock in-trade and machinery in all factories shall be exempt from taxation. This places the manufacturers there in a better positive to the foreign of the foreign taxation. tion than that occupied by the London manufacturers who have been conceded a fixed assessment on their buildings, machinery and stock in trade. Hamilton promises to follow the example set by Toranto Woodstock recently secured the old-established Hamilton stove manufactory of James Stewart & Co. by a free grant of land on which to erect buildings, a bonus to construct buildings, and exemption from taxes. It is with such opposition as that we are confronted, and which has been met by the council as we have indicated. Often, as Mayor Spencer truthfully pointed out at the mayoralty nomination, it is a question of whether of not we shall grant tax exemption for a few years, and induce capitalists to occupy vacant factory buildings, or have the buildings remain tenantless. That was done in the case of the Globe works, which were beginning to tumble to pieces, and which now are a hive of industry, employing from 80 to 100 hands. Is it better that they should be so operated, or that we should have nailed on the doors of the buildings "No tax exemptions?"

At the present time the attention of a number of manufacturers is being directed to London as a good business and railway center, and it will be for the incoming ouncil not to rave against the city doing everything reasonable to induce the newomers to invest their money and establish their industries here, but to be constantly watchful for opportunities to promote nego-tiations. We understand that in all probability the McCormick Harvesting Company, of Chicago, will be induced to establish a branch factory in London; that new car works will be set going; and that lead works, cut nail works, steel, saw, and tile works are among the possible additions to the industries of London. Ald. Garthand the long is companication with the shore has been in communication with the interested capitalists, and there are many reasons for the belief that good to London will, in the ensuing year, flow from the negotiations. We have faith in London. Would any taxpayer in London, no matter what his vocation, sick very hard if one or all of these proposed new industries could be established here on the same terms as those granted to Stevens & Burns, to the McClary Manufacturing Company, to the London Tool Company, to the London Furniture Company, to the Globe Casket Factory and other city factories? Honestly taking all the circumstances into consideration, it is not probable that an intelligent elector would raise a finger against the establishment of a new injustry on such a basis. Would any taxpayer in Lor dustry on such a basis.

THE POPULAR VOTE COMMENDED.

Municipal elections will take place throughout Ontario next Monday. In several places the principle of the referendum will be applied by requiring the people to vote on questions or municipal government. This plan has worked so well that every year it grows in favor, and when any proposition of more than usual importance is made the reference of it to the popular vote is considered the best way of dealing with it. Take the city of London, for instance. The questions as to assisting new industries, making important changes in the management of civie monopoles, and the restriction of the liquor traffic were all satisfactorily decided by the vote of the citizens. Next Monday the Londoners again will decide in the same way whether the city shall own its own electric light plant, establish a free library, closs all bar-rooms at 7 o'clock p.m., every day in the week, and reduce the number of city wards from six to four. These are all reforms that would make for good, economical, city government and are likely to be carried. We in Montreal might study this eystem of popular civic legislation with profit and advantage.—[Montreal Witness. Our contemporary takes its stand on solid THE POPULAR VOTE COMMENDED.

Our contemporary takes its stand on solid

THE CITIZEN CANDIDATE.

the London mayoralty, is a thorough-going Canadian. He was born in the town of Dundas, where his father was for many years a manufacturer, being a pioneer in the production of steam engines in that of Ontario. At an early age the junior Gartshore deemed it wise to leave his native town, and look for an enlarged sphere for his talents. His inherited shrewdness and discrimination very naturally drew him to London. Having accepted a position of trust with the McClary Bros., he speedily demonstrated the possession of a business acumen push that strongly commended to his employers. An able and ful employe, it was natural and him faithful employe, it was natural that as the business grew the firm should advance his fortunes, and for years Ald. Gartshore has been one of the moving faithful spirits in the development of the large manufacturing concern

Though ardent in business, Ald. Gart shore has never been a selfish citizen. H was for many years an officer of the Seventh Battalion, and when the regiment Seventh Battainen, and when the egistatives was ordered to the Northwest to aid in suppressing the rebellion, he promptly responded and proved one of the most capable as well as one of the most popular officers in the expedition. The Citizen Candidate, believing that when he had served his country for a prolonged term, and had honestly earned the nigh rank of major, withdrew from the old Seventh. But his ability as a citizen soldier so com mended him to the militia authorities and to his fellow-countrymen that when the cavalry troop of this district was reorganized a year ago he was offered the command, and after passing a most credit-able examination was promoted to the rank

of colonel.

Of the coming mayor's municipal record little need here be said. Returned at the head of the poll as one of the representatives for No. 3 ward two years ago, Aid. Gartshore at once took a front rank in the promotion of the city's interests. This year, his fellow members saw fit to appoint him civic finance minister, a most responsible position as well as one demending a sible position, as well as one demanding a great deal of earnest attention. That his work at the board has been honestly, conscientiously and on the whole successfully performed, is made evident by the utter lack of criticism of his actions. When his acts have been called in question, indeed, his opponents have been compelled to misrepresent them in order to make their point, as he has again and again de-

constrated on the public platform.

With a pust record unassailable, and with all the qualities necessary to make an efficient, level-headed chief magistrate, it does not astonish us to hear that the consensus of opinion is that Ald. Gartshore will be elected mayor for 1893 by a very decisive majority.

SQUEEZED OUT.

Several columns of letters on both sides of the 7 o'clock closing movement, on mayoraity and aldermanic affairs, are held over through lack of space. We are always willing to oblige our friends, but there is a limit to our opportunities. However, the questions at issue have been well threshed out. Stories circulated and innuendoes in-dulged in privately may very well be dis-regarded by voters. Let the taxpayers lect the best business men offering to conduct their business.

Polling begins at 9 a.m. on Monday and closes at 5 p.m. Let every elector vote as early and as often as he or she is entitled to

A WORD WITH VOTERS. Send men successful in their own busiess to manage civic affairs.

The city is a co-operative company, and he mayor and aldermen are its directors. Do joint stock companies select the un-balanced shareholders to conduct their

Why should the city do so?

THE Free Library bylaw should be

CAREFULLY drawn statistics of 4,000 criminals who have passed through Elmira Reformatory, New York, shows drunkenness clearly existing in the parents of 38.7 per cent., and probably in 11.1 per cent. more. Out of 71 criminals, whose ancestry Rossi was able to trace, the father was a drunkard in 20, and the mother in 11 cases drunkard in 20, and the mother in 11 cases (43.6 per cent.). Maseo found that on an average 41 per cent. of the eriminals he examined had a drunken parent. Dr. Laurent, in his valuable work on the habitues of the Paris prisons, asserts that drunkenness alone, or combined with some other neurotic condition, is to be found almost constantly in the parents of drinfin. almost constantly in the parents of criminals; and Dr. Tarnowski, who has made careful inquiry into the mental and physicial condition of the prostitutes in her native land, found an alcoholic parentage in no less than 82.60 per cent. of the 150 woman of this class whose family histories she was able to fellow.

Away! Away! There is danger here! A ferrible phantom is bending near, thin no human look, with no human breath, He stands beside thee—the haunter—Death He stards beside thee—the haunter—beath

If there is one disease more than another
that comes like the unbidden guest at a
banquet, it is Catarrh. Insidiously it
steals upon you; "with no human breath"
it gradually, like the octopus, winds its
coils about you and crushes you. But
there is a medicine, called Dr. Sago's
Catarrh Remedy, that can tear you away
from the monster, and turn the scythe's
point of the reaper. The makers of this
wonderful remedy offer, in good faith, a
standing reward of \$500 for an incurable
case of Catarrh in the head.

John Friend, People's Confectioner.—Re-

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Terrible Sufferings of Little Eaby—Seven Doctors and Two Hospitals Fail —Cured by Cuticura.



Cuticura Remedies

AT Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases 6: pages, 50 illustrations and 100 testimonials PIMPLES, black-heads, red, rough, chapped and oily skin cured by CUTICURA SOA

OLD FOLKS' PAINS. Full of comfort for all Pains, Information and Weskness of the Aged is the Cuttoura Anti-Pais Plastor, the first and only paintenance and infollible.

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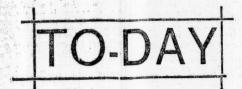
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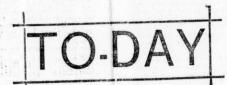
Iridescent Serge Dress Goods worth \$1, today 69c; 54 inches wide.

Broche Dress Goods, all wool, worth 75c, today 35c,

Black Dress Trimmings worth 35c, 40c, and 50c per yard, to-day 10c.

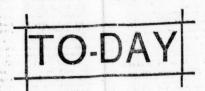
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Beautiful All-Linen Towels 30c pair, worth



Heavy Shaker Flannels, plain colors, only 620 Heavy Black Fur Boas, regular bargains, to-

Great Big Heavy Cloth Shawls, \$5 ones for \$3 75, \$4 ones for \$3, \$2 ones for \$150;



ARGAINS

--AT--

CHAPMAN'S

126 to 128 Dundas St., London.