U. S. WILL STEER CLEAR IN EUROPE

Kellogg Would Not Mind Helping Nations, But Fears Entanglements.

Associated Press Despatch.

New York, Dec. 14.—The foreign policies of the Coolidge administration and the reasons behind them were explained here tonight by Secretary Kellogg of the state department in a speech running the whole scale from the Saklatvala exclusion case to the Locarno security pact.

Using a meeting of the council of foreign relations as his forum, the secretary addressed these pronouncements to United States citizens and to foreign chancellors.

A warning to United States bankers against indiscriminate loans to German states and municipalities, although the state department has not felt itself called upon to object to such loans as against the public interest.

Reaffirmation of the government's desire to co-operate in European rehabilitation, but keep clear of European politics.

A declaration that he set as much store by the spirit of Locarno as upon the treaties of Locarno.

An expression of hope that China will realize her aspirations for freedom from unequal ' aties.

An exposition and reiteration of the United States war debt funding policy.

A defence of his own action in excluding aliens who desire "to teach their pernicious doctrines of communism" in this country.

Mr. Kellogg spoke from a carefully prepared manuscript. It was disclosed that the address was regarded of sufficient importance that the section dealing with foreign debts and that touching upon the United States' attitude toward European conferences, although it contained no direct reference to the Geneva disarmament movement, had been cabled in full by the state department to United States diplomatic missions in Europe.

"The chief distinction" of American policy, and that least understood abroad, the secretary said, was the "fixed determination to avoid participation in purely European political matters."

"Not since 1798 has the United States been a party to any military alliance," he said. "We shall go to the very limit of reasonable co-operation for a legitimate purpose, but we will not under any circumstances commit ourselves to the European system of alliances and counter-alliances to maintain the balance of power upon that continent. x x x It is doubtful if they have ever contributed to the maintenance of peace."

HOUSING BOARD MAY NOT PAY TWO BILLS

Court Action by H. C. McBride and Maj. G. N. Weekes a Possibility.

The London housing commission has called a special meeting for tonight at 7:30 to deal with two bills dating back to 1920.

Major G. N. Weekes, who was employed by the commission as solicitor at that time, and H. C. McBride, architect, both claim substantial amounts for their services at that time.

While members of the commission are rather non-commital on the subject, it is believed that no action will be taken in the matter at tonight's meeting, with the result that a court action will likely follow.

The commission is composed of Harry Wray (chairman); Harold Doldge, E. R. Dennis, R. Hessel and Mayor Wenige.

THEFT AT KOMOKA IS BELIEVED BOYS' WORK

Cigars and Cigarettes to Value of $5 Taken From the Lidden Store.

Breaking a plate glass window in the front of the Lidden store at Komoka on Sunday evening, thieves took cigars and cigarettes to the value of about five dollars.

High Constable Wharton was not notified till Monday evening when, accompanied by Provincial Officer Mennie, he went to the scene of the theft.

Mr. Wharton, who is investigating the case, believes that the theft was the work of young boys.

CITY'S COUNTER CHARGE CUTS RAILWAY'S BILL

Although the street railway has billed the city engineer's department for $1,218 for the installation of a cross-over on the Springbank track, Beaconsfield avenue west of the Wharncliffe road, this amount will be considerably reduced when the city receives credit for the material used in the cross-over when it is taken back by the street railway, Mr. Near states. The bill for material amounts to $847.

The switch was made necessary owing to the city's work in connection with the west end sewage disposal plant which runs along Beaconsfield avenue at this point.

OLD TROUSERS SOUGHT BY RELIEF DEPARTMENT

Thin overalls may be all right in the good old summer time, but they aren't much protection against the frigid blasts of December, three old men who visited the office of Relief Inspector Richard Sanders this morning, stated.

Mr. Sanders viewed the worn and patched overalls and agreed that something should be done to remedy this condition of affairs, and accordingly is asking any citizens who have any old trousers they want to dispose of, to notify him at the city hall or bring their contributions to his office.

SELLS RIDOUT STREET HOUSE.

A. E. Cook has sold his house at 214 Ridout street to J. B. Davis for $9,800.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

LOST—Collie dog, 3 months' old, color brown and white, between Oxford and

NICKLE SEES DIFFERENCE IN SMITH AND PEPALL CASE

Pepall Was Not Tried On Conspiracy Charge On Which the Former Treasurer Was Convicted—Neither Were Guilty of Theft—Fears Wrong Impression Abroad.

Special to The Advertiser.

Toronto, Dec. 15.—"It is apparent from certain newspaper clippings I have read, that there is a harmful misunderstanding regarding the Smith-Jarvis-Pepall prosecutions," declared Attorney-General Nickle this morning.

"Mr. Smith and Mr. Pepall were each found not guilty of theft. Mr. Smith was found guilty of conspiracy to defraud the public. Mr. Pepall was not tried on this charge because no such charge could be laid while he was in Ontario merely under extradition. If he had continued beyond a reasonable time in Canada he could and would, of course, have been tried on a conspiracy charge."

"It is not to be overlooked that large amounts of public moneys were improperly diverted from the coffers of the province to the private benefit of those involved in the bond transactions, and while I had no desire to be revengeful or to take a portion in which prosecutions might tend to be regarded as persecutions, yet it does not seem unreasonable to contend for a return to the treasury of the moneys that should never have been removed from it. To the present I have received nothing from the department of justice in relation to the application that it is alleged is being made on behalf of Mr. Smith, and if and when such application is made I trust it will be accompanied by representations that the department of justice has reason to believe that the funds to which I have referred would be returned to the province."

NEW PLAN CALLS FOR THREE FORMS

Commissioner Announces a Change in Form of Local Assessment Notices.

Assessment notices for next year will be on three forms instead of five, Assessment Commissioner Harry Bennett stated today. There will be one form for use in the annexed district, one for the city proper and the third for income.

Mr. Bennett pointed out that last year there was a separate form for each ward, while this year the same form will be used all over the city. The income tax form will be delivered personally by the assessment department, and each citizen will be shown how much he is assessed for income and how the amount was totalled. Under the old system the amount only was given.

The assessors will start on the job once more on January 2. There is no temporary staff now employed, Mr. Bennett states.

Members of the staff who will visit the various residences and places of business to make the assessments are Alf. Burwell, A. B. Barr, Fred England and W. Gray.

The assessment roll and collector's roll will be typed in duplicate this year, thus saving considerable work in the city clerk's office.

OUTSIDER CAUSE OF HOSPITAL EPIDEMIC

Dr. Clegg Discovers Reason For Outbreak of Measles at War Memorial.

By visiting his invalid brother at the Children's War Memorial hospital when he himself had only recently recovered from an attack of measles, a 15-year-old boy, who evaded hospital authorities and entered the institution without permission, is the cause of a spread of the illness among three child patients.

An investigation into the cause of an outbreak of measles at the Memorial hospital, made by Superintendent Dr. G. G. Clegg, reveals that the hospital itself was in no way responsible for the epidemic. The three cases are of only a mild nature, and it is believed further spread of the outbreak can be stopped.

Until the three affected children are cured of the illness, measures of isolation will be taken, although the hospital will not be placed in total quarantine.

CONDITION OF HAYES GREATLY IMPROVED

Inquest Into Death of Howard Clark Will Be Held Wednesday.

Cyril Hayes, badly injured at a level crossing accident on the St. George street intersection of the C. P. R., when his companion, Howard Clark, was instantly killed as the car which they were driving was struck by a fast passenger train, was discharged from St. Joseph's hospital on Saturday, his improved condition warranting his removal to his home.

An inquest into the fatality, scheduled for last Wednesday, was adjourned owing to Hayes' inability to give evidence. Witnesses of the accident, including Hayes himself, will be heard at the police station next Wednesday night before Coroner Dr. Cameron Wilson.

Not To Quit Work After 52 Years

Arthur Henry Drake Soon To Take First Holiday in Ten Years.

Fifty-two years is a long time to work, particularly if the work is confined to one establishment, with only an occasional holiday. But Arthur Henry Drake, now 68 years of age, can proudly boast of giving 52 years of his life in the employ of John Ferguson & Sons, King street.

With the closing of the Ferguson furniture store, of which Mr. Drake has had charge, he approaches a well-earned holiday, the first in ten years, he says. But he will not quit work.

"What's life without something to do," he will say with a smile. "I'm young yet and I will continue to work, for it keeps me healthy."

Mr. Drake entered the Ferguson company soon after he left school at the age of 16. His friends declare he has had the longest service of employment of any man in the city.

COUNCIL GRAPPLES RAILWAY PROBLEM

Continued From Page One

council to let the city's appeal to the Ontario railway board stand in abeyance pending negotiations between the city council and the railway company. Through what is said to have been a misunderstanding of the importance of the contents of the letter, it was referred to No. 1 committee without being read to the council.

In the ordinary course this would have meant that it would have been dealt with at the first meeting of No. 1 committee of the new council, which takes office Dec. 21st. But in view of what has happened since, it will be brought up at tonight's special meeting.

"If our letter had been read, as we expected it would be, the council would have had plenty of time to stay the proceedings which culminated on Saturday in the order by the railway board which has made necessary suspension of service," stated R. G. Ivey, vice-president of the company, in discussing the letter today.

"We thought it of sufficient importance to ask our manager, Leonard Tait, to deliver it personally to the city clerk, which he did. If it had been read at the meeting it seems hardly likely that the council would have refused to take any action, and the probabilities are that negotiations would have resulted which might have cleared up the situation."

Blames Railway.

City Clerk Baker, on the other hand, contends that the company is in some degree to blame for the council's failure to read the letter. The letter, he states, was handed him by Manager Tait just at 5 o'clock on the evening of the 8th when he was rushed with a lot of other correspondence and detail for the council meeting scheduled for 7:30. The street railway manager made the remark that the letter was a protest against bus competition, Mr. Baker states, and a hasty glance through the first page confirmed this opinion, as it dealt with the question of bus competition.

When the council met the letter was handed to the mayor, who also glanced at the first page only, and apparently concluded that it dealt with bus competition. Neither he nor any of the aldermen raised any objection when it was moved to refer the communication to No. 1 committee.

The form of the letter in question bears out the theory that its importance was not realized. The first page was occupied by a protest against the competition, to which the company was being subjected by the buses. At the top of the second page occurred the following paragraph over the signature of Leonard Tait, manager and secretary-treasurer:

"We would also request that the action which the city is now taking through its solicitor to force the street railway company to sell tickets at the rate of 7 and 9 for 25 cents, be allowed to stand in abeyance pending negotiations between the city council and the railway company."

What the council's reply to that request would have been had it been read is, of course, matter only for conjecture, but there is a strong probability that the application to the railway board would have been held up long enough to allow negotiations to be commenced.

May Effect Truce.

Regardless of what might have happened and what did happen, tonight's session of the two councils promises to be an exceedingly interesting affair, the chief issue being whether an attempt will be made to patch up a truce between the company and the council so as to prevent stoppage of the street cars tomorrow night, or whether it will come down to a test of strength between the city and the company.

The certainty that a bus service will be offered gives to the council an opportunity to stand pat on the question of allowing the cars to go to the barns. If they do it will be an acid test of the comparative merits of buses and street cars, as London will have to ride in buses during the coldest season of the year. If the public, after such a test decides that street cars are preferable to buses, the position of the street railway company will be strengthened in that it will be brought back practically at their own terms, which would be at least a 5-cent fare and no bus competition.

Developments meanwhile include orders to all street car conductors this morning to sell only seven and nine tickets for a quarter. All the strips of five tickets, some of which were offered and accepted yesterday have been called in, and strips of seven and nine tickets substituted.

Chief concern at the cutting off of street car transportation is felt by residents of the neighborhood of Byron and Springbank over a hundred of whom are dependent upon street car service to enter and leave London. Many patients and workers at Byron sanatorium also use the Springbank line, and there is some concern as to whether or not the new bus line, if installed will extend to Byron.

Building of the new bridge at Ridout street is also affected, since if there are to be no street cars in London there is no need of making provision for a street car track in the center of the new structure. Mayor Wenige is of the opinion that the bridge should still be built, with this provision in view. Then if the company wants to use the bridge later the city will be able to charge an annual rental for the privilege.

BRITAIN PLANNING TO PLACATE TURKS

British Will Try To Iron Out Difficulties If They Get Mosul.

Associated Press Despatch.

Geneva, Dec. 14.—Making a definite commitment as to Great Britain's future intentions as concerns Mosul should the league council's decision be favorable to the British thesis, L. C. Amery, secretary of state for the colonies, in a statement to the press tonight, declared that the British government would be only too willing to discuss with Turkey any minor adjustments of the arrangements. This would be, he said, with the idea of making the situation mutually more satisfactory and conducive to the establishment of permanent good relations.

The British spokesman told British press correspondents tonight that Great Britain was quite ready to accept the so-called Brussels line if the council so decided. This line practically gives Mosul in its entirety to Great Britain as mandatory, leaving a narrow strip in the north to Turkey. The spokesman continued:

"Great Britain cannot compromise on the question of principle and is eager to give the best terms possible to Turkey, though not before the issue of right is settled by the council. In the meantime there is no basis for negotiations, because the two viewpoints are so far apart that discussions with Turkey can begin only after the league's decision."

It is expected that announcement of this decision will be made Wednesday. If mediation fails, league circles predict a decision favorable to Great Britain. The league council held another secret session tonight devoted to Mosul. M. Paul Boncour of France, at the conclusion of the meeting remarked: "All is hopeful."

TOWNSHIP CUTS HIGHWAY ACCOUNT

Expenditure in Westminster Drops From $[illegible],000 to $10,000 in [illegible]ear.

From $20,000 to $10,000 is quite a drop for one year, but this reduction has been accomplished by the Westminster township council in their road account for 1925.

In 1924, $20,000 was spent on highway construction and improvement in the township, while for the past year only $8,000 was expended on actual work. Repairs and expenses resulting from accidents brought the amount up to around the $10,000 mark.

This reduction is partly accounted for by the fact that less repairs on the roads were needed, and partly by the economy policies of the present council.

The smaller amount of money spent on roads is reflected in a lower assessment rate on township property, of three mills. This year the township rate is 3 mills, county is 7, and the school rate 3 1-8 mills on the dollar.

PINCHOT TO CONSULT STRIKE AREA CITIES

Governor Will Seek Opinion of Public Before Appealing to Legislature.

Associated Press Despatch.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 15.—His two previous efforts having failed, Governor Pinchot has made another move for settlement of the hard coal strike. In addition to listing the anthracite controversy for consideration by the legislature, which he has called an extra session of January 13, the governor is to discuss the situation in Harrisburg tomorrow with executives of cities and villages in the anthracite region.

Invitations were sent by telegraph to the mayor and burgesses of more than 70 communities in the mining region to confer publicly with the governor at the state capitol. It is understood that one purpose of the meeting is the governor's desire to ascertain sentiment of the mining communities towards his action in submitting the controversy to the legislature.

Major W. W. Inglis, chairman of the anthracite operators' wage negotiations committee, said the governor's latest move had been expected by the operators, and that they were "not at all stampeded." John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers' of America, withheld comment. The miners leader said that so far as he knew the strike situation remained unchanged.

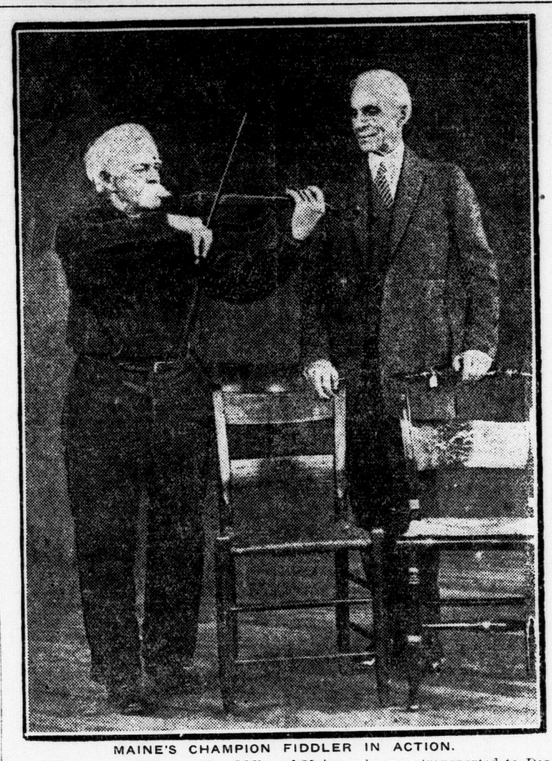
TOURING DAYS PAST FOR STUDENT'S FLIVVER

Rheumatic Petrol Perambulator Reduced to Scrap After Turning Over.

The "collegiate light touring," conspicuous by its rambles around the city since the fall term opened, with its adornments of various signs and warnings, as is the custom of its kind, and operated by the Windsorites attending Western, will now be conspicuous by its absence, due to an accident that occurred this morning while the machine was performing its daily duty of escorting the students to the "U."

Rambling along at a fair rate of speed in order not to be late for the opening exercises, the car was wrecked at the corner of Piccadilly and Waterloo, when the driver in attempting to avert a collision, gave his vehicle a sharp turn, causing it to turn over. The old reliable, weakened by its continuous driving after having seen ten years of service, succumbed to the accident and was almost demolished. The occupants, "Doc" O'Brien and Chas. Dwyer, escaped with a few scrapes and bruises.

Old-Time Tunes Delight Ford



MAINE'S CHAMPION FIDDLER IN ACTION.

"Mellie" Dunham, champion fiddler of Maine, who was transported to Dearborn, Mich., last week to play the fiddle for Henry Ford, is here seen with the motor magnate playing Turkey in the Straw.

CHAIRMAN ASKS COMPROMISE IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE PLAN

Would Have Board Revert to Public and Collegiate Committees.

CHAIRMANSHIP WAR

Support For Cairncross Believed Strongest—Mess Is Talked Also.

There is little doubt but that the necessary majority will be found in the board of education for the adoption of the committee changes proposed by A. R. Cairncross, vice-chairman of the board, when the question comes up for discussion this week.

S. F. Lawrason, chairman of the board this year, is the only trustee, as far as can be learned, who is out and out opposed to Mr. Cairncross' proposal, which, in effect, simmers down to the appointment of a public school and a collegiate institute committee, in addition to the executive committee plan followed this year.

"I am confident that my plan is along proper lines," declared Mr. Cairncross this morning, "and I feel that the board ought to give the plan at least a chance to work itself out. It is not 'a retrograde step' away from the Brittain plan; rather it is a compromise necessary because of the fact that we still have twelve members, together with two separate school representatives, on the board.

"We will still have the executive committee, the abolition of which, as suggested by some, would be indeed getting too far away from the Brittain system. The public school and collegiate committees, whose members will specialize in the work of these two departments, will report to the executive committee, and, what is very important, an opportunity will be afforded every member of the board to be a member of one or more committees.

"I feel that in any event the two special committees for the building of the Beck collegiate institute and the medical examination of public school pupils should be continued this coming year, and that it would be unwise to disturb the personnel of either of those committees in any way.

"Further, the appointment of these two additional committees is solely for the purpose of bringing about smoother working of the board's affairs this year," concluded Mr. Cairncross, "and in no way is it a stumbling block to the reduction in the number of trustees at the close of the year, if such a step is decided upon by the board and permitted by the provincial department of education."

Mess Supports Cairncross.

Trustee Rev. R. D. Mess, who ran second to Mr. Cairncross in the recent elections, though 3,000 votes behind, and who has been mentioned consistently during the past day or two as chairman of the public school committee, admitted today that Mr. Cairncross' proposals are very closely along lines which he himself had been thinking for the past few months.

Trustee F. H. Greenlees is in favor of the two committees being added because he observed at the last meeting of the board that the regulations are going to be changed, and we all know that we're going to change them."

TAKE COLLEGE TO DOCTOR, PURPOSE OF ASSOCIATION

A movement to take the medical college to the doctor instead of taking the doctor to the college for post-graduate work was launched in Canada last night under the auspices of the Canadian medical association.

It has been the custom in Ontario for some time, London doctors state, for lectures to be given practioners who cannot spare the time to go to the college, at a center in some town or county. The medical association of Ontario sends out teams of teachers who give lectures to these men at the central places. But Ontario is the only place that these lectures have been given. It is now the work of the Canadian medical association to make these lectures dominion-wide. Two lectures have already been given by members of the associaiton in St. John, N. B.

Amateur Tennis Bars Teachers

Associated Press Despatch.

London Dec. 15.—Because they taught physcial exercise in school for salary, three young women tennis players have been declared by the lawn tennis association to be professionals and disqualified from competing in amateur matches.

A strong fight was made in their behalf at a meeting of the association yesterday, but the rule which bars professionals in any other sport from playing as amateurs was held to apply to them. A proposal to alter the rule was defeated by a vote of 112 to 54.

DIAMOND TO BE EDITOR OF 1926 YEAR BOOK

Durant To Be Associate Editor and Ken Smith Business Manager.

The year book of the university of Western Ontario will probably be edited by Verne Diamond, student in the class of Arts '28. In an unofficial list of appointments by the university legislative assembly, he is mentioned as the most probable candidate for the office, and J. Eugene Durant, president of the graduating year, is mentioned as associate editor, and Ken Smith of the commerce club as business manager.

The class of '26 is most interested in the publication, as it is the year which graduates in the spring, and the year book contains pictures, and biographies of all the students who are graduating. The class of '26 is holding a meeting tomorrow noon to discuss the book.

The year book has been given an early start this year owing to the great deal of work attached to the collecting of material. In it are accounts of the activities of all the school organizations, such as athletics, societies, social affairs and others.

It will be announced definitely by Prefect C. L. Snyder the exact personnel of the staff of the book.

Montreal Mayor Mere Figurehead

Duquette Claims Office Merely Social—Has No Authority Attached.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Montreal, Dec. 15.—"I do not intend to run at the next election," Mayor Duquette told the men's club of the Church of St. James the Apostle last night. "I am not canvassing, therefore I am at ease to talk about these matters."

His worship described "the tragedy of the mayor of the greatest city of Canada, with power to preside, but powerless to voice an opinion; with authority over none but a secretary and a stenographer—in short, the mayor of Montreal as a social necessity, but an administrative figurehead."

MRS. COOKS ASKS FOR TIME IN FIGHT TO KEEP DAUGHTER

Associated Press Despatch.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Dec. 15.—Efforts to obtain an extension of time were made yesterday by counsel for Mrs. Hilda Betty Cooke, who is fighting her husband, James H. Cooke, Toronto attorney, to retain custody of their six-year-old daughter Shirley. The extension is sought for the purpose of obtaining affidavits from witnesses in Toronto and other Canadian cities.

Judge Matheson, to whom the case was referred, refused to grant the delay motion, declaring that any postponement must come from the supreme court. Application will be made before that tribunal.

COMMUNISTS TO DEFEND PROGRAM

Public Meetings Designed To Justify Sunday School Teachings.

As a reply to recent attacks throughout Canada on the Communist children's Sunday school and the Young Pioneers, the local branch of the Communist party of Canada will hold a public meeting in St. George's hall, 212 Dundas street, on Sunday evening, Dec. 20. Due to the wide publicity given to these schools by attacks by various organizations, the Communist party has decided to hold demonstrations next Sunday throughout Canada in order to show to the workers and the public just what is taught to the children in their Sunday schools.

The local Communist Sunday school meets every Sunday at 473 Ottaway avenue, and although only organized but a few months ago, there are already 50 members. There are also large schools in Toronto which have an attendance of over 200, and one in Winnipeg, the stronghold of the Communist movement.

It is the Winnipeg school that really is the center of the attack. The London school, however, is not run along the same lines. In conversation with L. R. Menzies, secretary of the local branch, he stated that the organization welcomed all those who think an investigation should be made of their activities in regards to the Sunday schools. The matter will be thoroughly dealt with at the Sunday meeting.

W. Philips, president of the local branch, will be the principal speaker, and L. R. Menzies will act as chairman.

NEW OCEAN LINE FOR CATTLE ONLY

Four Vessels Will Be Put Into Service by Live Stock Steamship Company.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—Details of the new cattle boat service between Canada and Great Britain were given here last night by H. P. Kennedy, Toronto cattleman, who originated the plan, with which Albert Jensen, Danish shipowner, is associated.

Mr. Kennedy said the company in charge of the enterprise would be known as the Live Stock Steamship Company of Canada, that it would operate exclusively in the export cattle business between Canada and Great Britain. There will be four ships to start with, he said, each with an average tonnage of 7,000. The first boat to be named "Ontario," will sail from St. John, N. B., early in January.

Mr. Kennedy said the capacity of the boats would be 1,128 head of cattle each, distributed in 282 specially constructed stalls. Steel fittings and other modern appliance will be provided. Cattlemen will be employed on a permanent basis to handle the cargoes.

"Though the ocean freight rate will remain at $20 a head for the time being," Mr. Kennedy said, "the improved conditions will at a conservative estimate save $5 a head in shrinkage alone, if not $10. Mr. Jensen, in fact, considers that shrinkage will be eliminated and that the cattle will gain in weight."

TOWNSHIP FARMER ALLOWED $200 BAIL

Anthonk Stanczak Charged With Driving Car While Intoxicated.

Anthony Stanczak, of R. R. No. 8, London township, was allowed cash bail of $200 in police court this morning, gaining his freedom until Thursday, after his arrest last night on a charge of driving a motor car while under the influence of liquor.

Stanczak is said to have crashed head-on into an Oxford street car on the Hamilton road. He was arrested by Sergt. Mackie and P. C. Glidden, who responded to an ambulance call following the crash, when it was believed Stanczak had been injured. He faces an intoxication charge under the O. T. A.

Fergus Murphy, who defended him in court this morning, asked for a remand that his client might attend to urgent business on his farm. The court agreed only when it was learned that the crown also was unable to proceed with the case. The motorman and conductor of the smashed street car appeared in court to give evidence.

FIVE PEOPLE PERISH IN TENEMENT BLAZE

Charred Bodies Found On Top Floor of New York House.

Associated Press Despatch

New York, Dec. 15.—Five persons, believed to be four women and a child, lost their lives early today in a fire which swept a tenement house in east 14th street. The bodies, charred beyond recognition, were found on the top floor of the house.

ROAD BILL IS PAID.

Road improvements during the month of November cost Westminster township council $504.32. This amount was approved this morning during the sessions of that body in the county buildings.

LI CAPTURES YANGTSUN.

Associated Press Despatch.

The forces of General Li Ching-Ling, civil governor of Chihli, have made an advance in the fighting northwest of Tien-Tsin. They succeeded in driving the troops of General Feng Yu-Hsiang out of Yangtsun, 26 miles northwest of here, after storming their trenches at the point of the bayonet.

ANGERED POLICE SEIZE BARRACKS

Special Constables at Belfast Rebel When Disbandment Order Comes

Associated Press Despatch.

Belfast, Ireland, Dec. 15.—Members of the special constabulary today seized the Princes dock barracks in Belfast, declaring they would hold the buildings pending a satisfactory reply to their demands for compensation for their disbandment under the new Irish agreement. In Derry, 3,500 "A" specials placed armed guards over their stores and arms to prevent the authorities from removing them.

Just as the midnight spell of duty was completed, the special constables in Belfast, acting in concert, seized five city barracks, and are reported to have locked up or otherwise detained officers who did not participate in the revolt.

They placed armed sentries about each building.

Many of the "A's" or whole time specials went on strike at midnight, not only in Belfast, but throughout the six counties of Ulster, and were not performing their usual duties today.

Representatives of the force sent an ultimatum to Premier Sir James Craig pledging themselves to hand in no arms or equipment or any of the barracks until their terms were granted, and refusing to have interviews under any conditions with the premier or his ministers.

The Ulster authorities take a serious view of the situation, but feel that a way will be found to settle the difficulty without resort to drastic disciplinary action.

The special constables are demanding a bonus of £200 for each man, because of the disbandment, and this, if granted, must be borne by the exchequer of the northern Irish government.

The men were surprised by the decision to disband them almost immediately, and the prospect of being thrown out of employment so suddenly was responsible for their present action.

MORE THAN TWELVE ARE SUBPOENAED

Inquest Into Pipe Line Fatality To Be Held Monday Night.

More than a dozen witnesses will be subpoenaed to give evidence next Monday evening at an inquest into the cause of the death of Orville J. Smith, killed when a motor car, driven by Frederickk Field, was ditched on the Pipe Line road on Friday last.

Following a police investigation last Saturday and a round-up of witnesses by Sergeant of Detectives Harry Down, the names of several actual spectators of the fatal mishap have been obtained and they will be called upon to give their version of the accident before Coroner Dr. Robert Ferguson and a jury.

Frederick Field, who was badly injured, has shown gradual improvement at Victoria hospital, where he was taken soon after the accident. Joseph Dutton, another occupant of the car, has recovered from the slight injuries which he received.

CHINESE WAR HINGES ON FIGHT NOW RAGING

Tide of Battle Surges With Victories For Both Sides.

Shanghai, Dec. 15.—Reports from Japanese sources say that the fate of Marshal Chang Tso Lin, Manchurian war lord, probably will be decided by a battle now raging in the Paikipu sector, about forty miles west of Mukden.

LI WINS TWO VICTORIES.

Tientsein, Dec. 15.—General Li Ching-Ling, governor of Chihli, has won victories on two fronts in the vicinity of Tientsein over the Kouminchun, national people's army, the head of which is Marshal Feng Yu-Hsiang, who controls Peking. Foreigners arriving from the eastern front confirm reports that Ching's army at Heptang, 45 miles east of Tientsin, has forced back the center of the Kuominchun army, composed of inferior divisions, while 40 miles to the south of this city another of the governor's armies has defeated the second Kuominchun army at Machang.

Tientsin was beflagged yesterday in celebration of the victories.

Tokyo, Dec. 15.—Official advices from Mukden, capital of Manchuria, report that the troops of Marshl Chang Tso-Lin, Manchurian dictator are retreating from Sinminfu and Mukden and that looting is general. The Japenese residents are panic stricken. It is understood that the war office is planning a hurried replacement of troops if the situation becomes more serious and that additional troops will bring the total to no more than the normal quota which at present is much decreased.

TOWNSHIP COUNCILS HOLD LAST MEETINGS OF YEAR

Township councils throughout Middlesex county are holding the last meetings of the year today.

Each body is bent on finishing up all outstanding business this afternoon, so that the incoming councils will not have to labor over matters properly belonging to the present year.

The Westminster township fathers are in session in the county building on Ridout street with the London township body holding forth at St. Johns.

WAITS ON LONDON STREETS SPREAD CHRISTMAS TIDINGS

The Christmas carols of the Salvation Army are again spreading their Christmas cheer. Last night for the first time this year the waits appeared.

It has been an annual custom of the army to have Christmas music played or the corners for several nights before Christmas.

The bands and singers of each of the four districts in London will serenade Londoners at night from now until Christmas.