

Alderman John G. Richter On the Vital Needs of London

Storm Sewers, New Sewers in Annexed Districts, Two New Sewage Disposal Plants, Payment On \$300,000 for Federal Square Before a Brick Is Laid, Good Roads in All Parts of City, a New Collegiate Institute and New Schools—A Total Expenditure Which Will Probably Run Into Several Millions of Dollars.



ALD. J. G. RICHTER.

LONDON'S NECESSITIES LISTED BY ALD. RICHTER

A new city hall on the Federal Square.
The payment of interest on \$300,000 for Federal Square purposes before a brick is laid.
A storm sewer system that will cost \$400,000, and which the Provincial Board of Health, will require the city to provide.
A West London breakwater, "in the interests of common humanity."
A new system of bacteria beds for the disposal of sewage for the old section of the city.
A new sewage disposal plant for the newly-annexed portion of the city.
A complete new sewer system in the newly-annexed districts which the provincial authorities will require the city to provide.
Good roads in all parts of the city old and new, which the city must finance, and one-third of the cost of which must be paid out of the general rate.
Roads, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, in the newly-annexed district, one-third of the cost of which must be paid by the city at large.
A new Collegiate Institute within a short time and a number of school buildings.
The whole involving the expenditure of several million dollars.

In an interview dictated to The Advertiser, Alderman John G. Richter has outlined the municipal outlook in the city of London at the present time. He believes that the situation is grave, and unless more careful work is done by the men elected to guide the civic ship in the future, that there are shoals and dangerous reefs to be encountered.

The service Ald. Richter has given to the city of London could not have been secured from him by a private corporation for many thousands of dollars. He has spent many hours daily for weeks at a time on the city's business. The city officials will testify to the results of his labors. Systems have been entirely changed, so that the city's financial condition may be ascertained at a glance through the synoptical statement which he caused to be issued when chairman of the finance committee, and the printed assessment roll now available to citizens was put in its present form under his direction.

The Sidewalks Probe Brought About by Him.

The recently-concluded sidewalk investigation, as a result of which it was discovered that a large portion of the new downtown sidewalks were faulty in construction, would not have been proceeded with had it not been for the aid given to Ald. Bennett by Ald. Richter.

No man has served London with such assiduity and ability for many years, and it was with a view of ascertaining his opinion on the many important matters now before the ratepayers that The Advertiser asked him for an interview.

In reply to this request Ald. Richter began:

"The city of London is at a juncture where a great deal of money will have to be spent in the next few years. For example, the sanitary sewers, on account of the use made of them in allowing storm water to be deliberately drained into them contrary to the advice of the consulting engineer, are now so frightfully clogged up with silt that a large amount of money must be spent to put them in shape. This is without considering the necessity for building storm sewers at once, in addition.

Bacteria Beds Used Up New System Must Be Had.

"Going then to the outlet of the sewers, we find that the bacteria beds, installed some years ago at a large cost to the city, are practically used up. These beds have become clogged up, as a sieve would become clogged if it were not washed out and cleaned after being used, and because of neglect, the city will now have to spend considerable money in replacing them. What is more, the beds were never half large enough for the city at the time they were installed, and the renewal of them will have to be made sufficiently ample to place the sewage system on a perfectly sanitary basis; otherwise the provincial board of health will, in all likelihood, order the work done and charge it up to the city as it has the power to do.

"The annexation of the new district to the east and north of the city will necessitate not only the building of additional sewers because of the lower levels of a part of the district as compared with the intervening ground and the main outlet, but another treatment plant such as the city proper has, will have to be installed. The city must do this at once. A bylaw for this work is not being submitted to the ratepayers, as it is likely that the work will be ordered done by the provincial board of health.

A Second Disposal Plant at the End of Egerton Street.

"When the old eight-inch sewer in the eastern section of the city was constructed, there was no thought of further annexation in that direction, and because of its inadequacy the sewage from the new district simply cannot be drained into it, even if the levels admitted of such being done. The McCormick plant alone requires a twelve-inch outlet for its drainage, and it would not be possible to drain this plant alone into the present outlet. Beside the McCormick factory, other factories are being built or are under contemplation of building, as well as all the houses in the district, present or prospective. The only thing to be done, therefore, is to build a new sewer system for that section of the city, including a disposal plant somewhere about the south end of Egerton street. This will cost many thousands of dollars, and at least a third of the cost of this and lateral sewers will have to be met out of the general rate, in addition to the cost of the treatment plant, which will have to be installed for the final disposition of the sewage.

Many Other Necessities Required in New District.

"In addition to the sanitary and storm sewers, sidewalks and roads and curbs and gutters will be required in these new districts, the city's share of the cost of which will amount to at least one-third of the whole cost as local improvements. These are all requisites, and will have to be undertaken in the near future in order to carry out in good faith the bargain which was entered into by the city with the annexed districts.

"In regard to storm sewers in general. Unless the storm sewer bylaw for \$400,000, now being submitted for the approval of the ratepayers, carries, the work will undoubtedly be ordered done by the health authorities on the ground that the overflow of the sanitary sewers into downtown buildings is a menace to the health of the people, and cannot be permitted to go on indefinitely.

The Good Roads Problem Among the Most Serious.

"As to roads in the city of London, the situation has been one of chaos for the past two or three years. This good roads question dovetails with storm sewers. Until we have provided storm sewers, we have no way of getting rid of the storm water, and it would be folly to spend money on permanent pavements throughout the city until the matter of drainage is first satisfactorily settled.

"If the storm water bylaw carries, the good roads program will, as a matter of course, be proceeded with in due time, and a large number of permanent pavements will be laid as local improvements, about one-third of the cost of which will have to be borne by the city at large. A point that must not be lost sight of is that no matter whether the cost of any of these works is borne by the city at large, or by the city in part and the property owners as a whole, as a local improvement, the city has to find the money with which to finance the outlay.

The Federal Square Will Cost \$300,000 Before Brick Is Laid.

"The Federal Square is another matter that will have to be financed. This will mean a large sum of money to be paid for wholly by the city. For some years prior to the erection of a new city hall, we will have to pay, I should say, the interest on about \$300,000 for the site alone, a large part of which, probably, will lie idle for a good many years before anything is done. The annual charges for interest and sinking fund will be in the neighborhood of \$20,000 a year, or about two-thirds of a mill yearly before a brick is laid.

"The increased requirements for public education will be another very extensive outlay. We will have to have a new Collegiate building in the near future. There seems to be no doubt of that. The authorities at Toronto won't put up with the old one much longer, and we must do as they wish in the matter or shut up shop. Besides the Collegiate, a number of new schools are necessary. At present more than one-third of our taxes is paid for schools.

West London's Breakwater Matter of Common Humanity.

"The West London breakwater grant, while involving only a small amount, is one that should be voted through in the interests of common humanity. Otherwise the city will awaken to a dreadful calamity some day.

"Take all these expenditures, which sensible people will agree are necessary, and add to them \$700,000 for the electrification of the L. and P. S. Railway (and that won't end it)—I don't think it requires any financier to realize where we are heading for.

"If we had these many necessary expenditures referred to out of the way, and in ten or fifteen years from now we found ourselves in a position to undertake extraordinary expenditures without crippling the city's credit, it would be a different matter. At the present time we cannot afford to take chances, and we would certainly be taking the greatest risk if we spent \$700,000 in electrifying the London and Port Stanley Railway under existing conditions.

Assurance Given the Citizens Proved To Be Misleading.

"For instance, let the Grand Trunk Railway take away its

Continued on Page Nine.

LET ADAM BECK PRODUCE HIS PROOFS

In a letter received Saturday, Chairman H. B. Ledyard, of the board of directors of the Michigan Central Railway, stated that the Michigan Central had not altered its attitude since last December, when it made the unqualified statement that it would not use the London and Port Stanley Railway if electrified.

Adam Beck says that the Michigan Central will use the London and Port Stanley Railway. He also says he is "not at liberty to divulge the source of his information."

From Mr. Beck the citizens of London must have something more than mere anonymous promises.

There is no higher authority on the Michigan Central than H. B. Ledyard. He says definitely the Michigan Central will not use the railway if electrified.

Let Adam Beck produce his proofs.

LITTLE TEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL KILLED FATHER WITH PISTOL

Harvey McDowell, of East Wawanosh, Shot by His Eldest Daughter—Child Ran to Him Calling "Hold Up Your Hands, Papa," When Trigger Suddenly Snapped.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Blyth, Oct. 13.—Harvey McDowell, aged 34, of East Wawanosh Township, died at his home today as a result of being accidentally shot on Sunday afternoon by his 10-year-old daughter Irene.

Two doctors worked over him all night, and did everything possible to try and save his life, but without avail. The little girl who did the shooting is nearly insane with grief.

Mother Was Dead.

McDowell lost his wife about a year ago, and Irene, the eldest of his three children, had been keeping house for him and looking after the two younger children. All three had been away all last week for a holiday at their grandparents'.

On Saturday night Mr. McDowell secured a big revolver, intending to use it for hunting coons. He put it

on the table, and apparently forgot all about it.

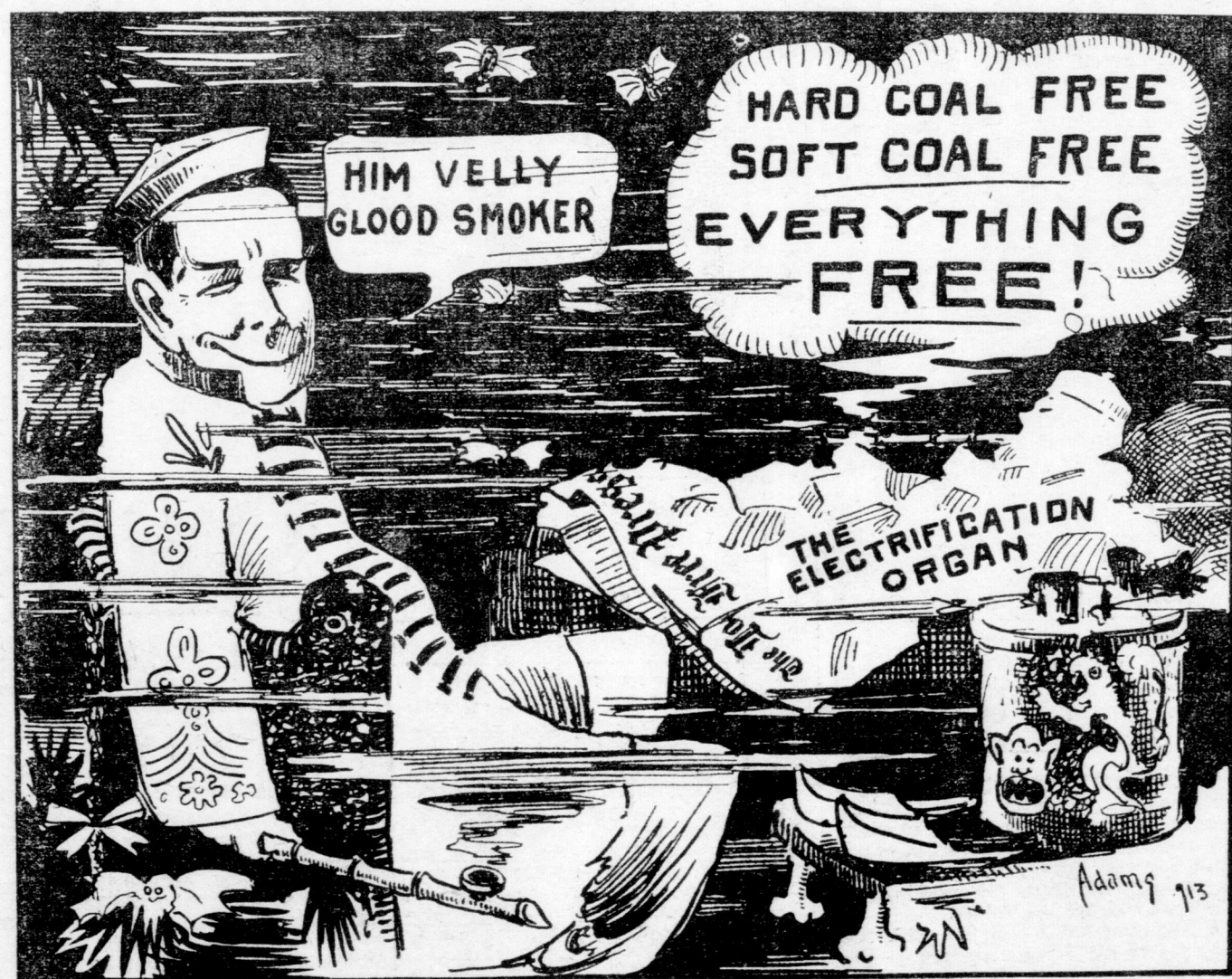
On Sunday he went to bring his little ones home, and after getting back with them, went upstairs to change his clothes.

In Great Glee.

As he was coming downstairs he saw Irene running about with the revolver. In great glee she ran toward her father, calling: "Papa, hold up your hands! Hold up your hands!"

Before Mr. McDowell could warn her the trigger snapped and he fell on the stairs with a bullet through his head. The terrified little girl called help as quickly as possible. When Dr. Weir, of Auburn, arrived he found Mr. McDowell still living. With the assistance of another physician, Dr. Weir worked all night, but Mr. McDowell died about 6 o'clock this morning without recovering consciousness.

Hitting the Pipe in the Mayor's Dream Factory



THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—FAIR AND COLD.

Forecast: Toronto, Oct. 13—8 a.m.

Today—Fine; frost tonight.

Tuesday—Southerly winds; fair.

Temperatures.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
LONDON	49	37	Clear
Victoria	48	36	Cloudy
Calgary	48	30	Clear
Winnipeg	50	38	Clear
Port Arthur	48	38	Cloudy
Toronto	48	40	Clear
Ottawa	58	42	Cloudy
Montreal	58	44	Cloudy
Quebec	58	48	Clear
Father Point	50	36	Foggy

TWO-YEAR-OLD BOY BURNED TO DEATH

Played With Matches While His Parents Were Absent.

[Canadian Press.]

St. Thomas, Oct. 13.—Playing with matches today, Charles Percy Agar, the 2-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Agar, set fire to the house, a frame building, and was burned to death in the flames, which totally destroyed the house and contents. The father was away at work, and the mother also absent working, six children were left at home. The other five escaped.

Mrs. Reeves, a neighbor, made a

desperate attempt to rescue the unfortunate child, but the whole interior of the dwelling was a raging furnace.

CUT TO PIECES

Thomas Turner Fell Under Train in Brockville Yards.

[Canadian Press.]

Brockville, Oct. 13.—The second fatal accident in the Grand Trunk Railway yards within a week, due to boys riding trains, occurred last night, when Thomas Turner, an English lad of 18, was jolted from the tender of an engine hauling an incoming freight from Belleville. Turner fell across the rails and was literally cut to pieces.

MAYOR GRAHAM SAYS HE WAS MISQUOTED BY THE FREE PRESS

Expert Reports Not Delivered to The Advertiser Job Department Until Saturday Afternoon, and Cannot Be Printed Before Wednesday—A Malicious Untruth.

The copy for reports on electrification for distribution to the ratepayers of London was received in the office of The London Advertiser Job Department on Saturday afternoon. They will be printed with the Union Label by Wednesday morning.

The copy was brought to The Advertiser after a mistake had been found by Lawson & Jones, who were awarded the contract, in reference to their tender. Their price put in was much too low, so the printing was then brought to The Advertiser.

He Was Misquoted.

The malicious representation of this matter appearing in a local newspaper this morning is even disowned by Mayor Graham, who said to The Advertiser that if it was stated that he had said these reports for public distribution had been printed in The Advertiser without the Union Label, he had been misquoted.

When it was learned that the contract had been given to Lawson & Jones, an open shop, on Saturday, a delegation of printers, including Ald. Stein, a Free Press employee, a w the mayor. A few hours after the reports were brought to The Advertiser and ordered to be printed with the Union Label.

An Utterly False Statement.

The statement that electrification reports for distribution were printed by The Advertiser without the Union Label, is utterly false.

"Printing that does not go to the

public is sent out often without the Union Label, at the direction of city officials," said Mr. Edward Hayden, manager of The Advertiser Job Department. "The Union Label is placed on everything for which it is requested. That has been the understanding with the city officials. It is as easy to put it on as to leave it off. For instance, on bylaws and the mayor's writing paper it has never been specified."

Not for Distribution.

Two hundred copies of the Eastman and Marshall reports printed on bylaw paper were printed earlier, with no instructions to place the label upon them. They were not for public distribution.

Mayor Graham, at the east and meeting, did not mention the Union Label in connection with the expert reports.

When called on by The Advertiser this morning, Mayor Graham said he had not yet read the Free Press, but if they had credited such a statement to him he had been misquoted.

Instructions From Officials.

Specific instructions have been received by The Advertiser from city officials that only on such printing as is to be sent to the public should the Union Label appear.

Mr. Baker was called on by The Advertiser this morning.

"What time did you deliver the copy for the expert reports to The Advertiser?" was asked.

"At 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon," he replied.

"They have not been printed yet?" was another question.

"No, they could not have been printed by this time," said Mr. Baker.

"There was some mistake in figuring by another firm so that we changed the work to The Advertiser."