**Final Markets**
Race Reports on Financial Page.

# London Evening Advertiser

**Night Extra**
Final Markets on Financial Page.

60TH YEAR. NO. 23601. LONDON, ONTARIO, TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1923.—EIGHTEEN PAGES. THREE CENTS.

# MAYOR KEEPS PROMISE; TAX RATE BELOW 1922

## EXPERTS START DRIVE FOR MORE EFFICIENCY IN VICTORIA HOSPITAL

### Dr. Horace Brittain, With Two Assistants, Now in Charge of Big Institution and Will Probe Everything But Medical Administration—Work Will Take Two Weeks.

### HOPE TO SAVE THOUSANDS BY NEW SYSTEM

In a drive for economy and greater efficiency, the administration and financial affairs of Victoria Hospital are being investigated, with a view to possible reorganization.

This morning, Dr. Horace Brittain of Toronto, director of the Canadian Citizens' Research Institute, with two assistants, R. F. Armstrong, M.C., C.E., late town manager of Woodstock, N. B., and C. C. Wyatt, auditor, of Toronto, took complete charge of affairs at the hospital to seek out weak spots in the conduct of that institution.

At a meeting of the hospital trust one month ago, Mayor Wenige asked that Dr. Brittain be employed to make a thorough investigation of the business affairs of the hospital, and to prove that they had nothing to hide, the other three members of the board agreed unanimously.

The mayor and members of the city council are confident that Victoria Hospital can be carried on more efficiently and at less cost if a new system involving every department except the medical administration is introduced. Dr. Brittain will be asked to make recommendations with this purpose in view.

**Will Probe Thoroughly.**

Dr. Brittain, accompanied by his assistant, and James Gray, chairman of the hospital trust, were discovered by The Advertiser making a survey of the new Sick Children's Hospital, which will also be included in the investigations.

"You can say that I will make a thorough investigation of the entire administration of the hospital, except the medical end, in an effort to work out a more efficient business system," said Dr. Brittain. "I am acting at the request of the hospital board."

**No Charges Made.**

"Has any charge of inefficiency been made against the hospital or its staff," the reporter asked.

"None whatever. Our work is merely to see if the affairs of the hospital can be administered so that greater efficiency and economy may be effected."

"How long will be the work take?"

"We will be here two weeks at least and then after that another two weeks will be required to prepare a report."

"You say the medical administration of the hospital will be exempt from your investigation; does that include the nursing staff?"

"The nurses to a certain extent come under the business administration of the hospital, so I suppose they will be affected," Dr. Britain replied.

James Gray denied that direct charges of inefficiency had been made against the hospital or its staff. Dr. Brittain was here, he said, not because the hospital trust deemed it necessary, but because the request had been made by the city council.

**Experts at Work.**

Dr. Brittain is not a medical doctor. He is a specialist in municipal administration, and because of his efficiency he was employed to head the Citizens Research Institute when it was founded by a number of men in Toronto several years ago. The activities of the institute have since spread to all parts of Canada.

Hospital administration is included in the work of the organization. In fact, according to Mayor Wenige, the efficiency of the Toronto general hospital is due directly to the reorganization work of Dr. Brittain and his staff.

Dr. Brittain carried on an investigation at the hospital in Toronto a few years ago, and made a large number of recommendations. The hospital board was so impressed with the report that Dr. Brittain was invited to act as superintendent until the changes suggested by him had been made. He accepted the appointment and served in that capacity for eighteen months.

At the present time T. H. Heard, superintendent of the hospital, is on an extended sick leave. Doubt has been expressed in many quarters whether he will return.

Mayor Wenige is so confident that many thousands of dollars will be saved through the work of Dr. Brittain that he and his council cut $26,000 from the estimates of that institution for this year at a meeting this morning.

**PROBING VICTORIA HOSPITAL.**

The Advertiser photographer visited Victoria Hospital this morning and caught Dr. Brittain and staff of experts, who are making a survey of that institution for greater economy and more efficiency. The figures in the picture are (left to right)—Dr. Horace Brittain, director of the Canadian Citizens' Research Institute; James Gray, chairman of the hospital trust; R. F. Armstrong, M.C., C.E., late town manager of Woodstock, N. B., who recently joined the staff of the Institute, and C. G. Wyatt of Toronto, auditor.

## TAX RATE FIXED FOR YEAR AT 34.7, WITH NEW SCHOOL

### Conference This Morning Brings Rate Well Below 1922 Figures.

### W. LONDON SCHOOL

### Money Expected To Be Available To Meet Demand From That Section.

The 1923 tax rate stands below 1922—34.7 points, "with the possibility that it may be lower." This will include the new school in London West.

This was the final announcement after a special session at noon today, at which attended the mayor, Ald. Judd, chairman of the finance committee; Ald. Douglass, chairman of the board of works; the city engineer and the city treasurer.

The 1922 rate was 34.9 mills. "We have that figure beaten now," declared the mayor. "The rate is set at 34.7 points."

This morning's session was a veritable ninth inning rally. Mayor Wenige wielded the axe, and thousands of dollars dropped off the estimates, with spectacular regularity. More than $60,000 was slashed from different spending bodies, the greater sacrifices being made by the board of works and the hospital trust.

The city council convenes in special session tonight, and assurance is freely given that the aldermen will put their stamp of commendation upon the mayor's recommendation.

"I'm agreeable toward a further reduction of several thousands of dollars," declared Ald. Douglass, chairman of the board of works, to The Advertiser following the mayor's announcement and it is believed that he voices the general opinion of his colleagues.

**Town Planning Wiped Out.**

To all intents and purposes the London Town Planning Commission ceases to exist. At one stroke of the pen the mayor reduced this estimate from $5,250 to $250. "That leaves enough to clean up the odds and ends," he explained. "This is 1923 and we'll do just what is the most important."

The Victoria Hospital came under the axe to the extent of $21,000, exclusive of the $5,000 for an x-ray machine, lopped off at the last session of the hospital trust.

This is how the mayor proposes it shall be accomplished:

| | Reduction. |
|---|---|
| Furnishings to the hospital | $4,000 |
| Medical appliances | 3,000 |
| Laundry | 3,000 |
| Repairs extraordinary | 3,000 |
| Salary increases | 8,000 |
| X-ray machine | 5,000 |
| Total | $25,000 |

These figures do not mean that the proposed appropriation has been eliminated in every instance. Provision is still allowed for the first four items, furnishings, appliances, laundry and repairs. The mayor has merely struck out the increases over 1922.

"That was the agreement we made at the first of the year," he stated. "All spending bodies must come down to their 1922 estimates. This will still leave the hospital with an added amount over last year."

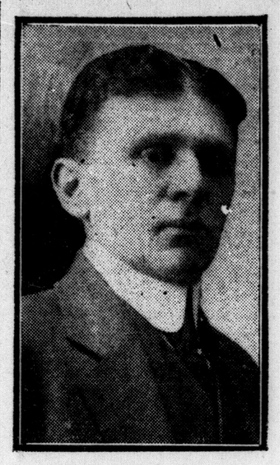
The mayor reduced the board of works program by $25,000, the proposed expenditure for general street improvements, it being his contention that with the addition of paved street the cost of maintenance should be lowered each year in proportion.

He cites figures in this respect to show that since 1918 the reverse has been true, as follows: 1918—$23,656; 1919—$32,511; 1920—$45,513; 1921—$51,743; 1922—$48,577, and for 1923, $69,683.

From the last amount the mayor substracts $25,000.

The mothers' pensions allowance was trimmed by another $2,000, it being the mayor's belief that these cases should be "drained through a finer sieve."

Even with the rate cut as stated there still is money for the new West London school.



**HE KEPT HIS PROMISE.**

Mayor Wenige, with Committee Chairmen Judd and Douglass, chopped so vigorously at the estimates of London's spending bodies that today the 1923 tax rate as set is 34.7 mills, or two points below last year.

## FIRE CHIEF ASKS EIGHT MORE MEN; MAYOR OBJECTS

### Necessary If North End Fire Hall Is To Be Reopened, Says Chief Aitken.

### COST OF $15,000

### Chief Feels Department None Too Large Now; Opposes Idea of Transfers.

Mayor Wenige opposes the addition of eight men to the London fire department, as requested by Fire Chief John Aitken, who contends that they will be necessary if it is proposed to reopen the north end fire hall.

The hall will be opened, the mayor declares, in accordance with his pledge to the electors in December last, and while he stated at last night's city council session that provision had already been made in the estimates for this he learned this morning that such was not altogether the case.

While the council has approved of the purchase, at a cost of $8,000, of two motor combination hose trucks, they have not considered any increase in the personnel of the brigade.

**More Men Needed.**

Questioned in this connection today by the city treasurer, the chief stated that, in his opinion, it would be imperative to increase the staff from 52 to 60 men.

Early in 1922, when the north end hall was closed, the force was reduced accordingly, and while Mayor Wenige was under the impression that certain of these men were retained at the central fire station, he was informed today that such was not the case.

"Six men were relieved of duty at the north end hall," the chief explained, "while two others were taken from the strength at the central."

**Means $15,000 More.**

The return of these men would mean another expenditure of roughly $15,000 for pay and clothing allowances, the city treasurer points out, which has not been incorporated in the 1923 estimates.

Mayor Wenige adheres to a contrary view. It is his opinion that with both No. 4 and No. 5 fire halls motorized, as contemplated, the expenditures can be substantially reduced.

Fire Chief Aitken contends, however, that while the efficiency will be increased manifold by means of the replacement of motor apparatus for horse-drawn equipment, the cost of maintenance would not vary to any large degree.

**Would Not Transfer.**

In reply to Mayor Wenige, he did not deem it expedient to transfer any men from the central fire station to No. 4 fire hall, nor did he think that the motorization of No. 5 hall (southeast London) would afford any wise reduction in the latter station.

"It's not right," stated the mayor decisively. "There should be a reduction of expenditures in No. 5 if that hall is motorized."

His worship gave further assurance that there would be no $15,000 provision in the fire department estimates for additional men for No. 4 Hall.

"That is a question to be defined by Fire Chief Aitken," he concluded. "He is supposed to be the boss, and he'll have to arrange for the personnel of that department as he deems fitting."

**Comparative Expenditures.**

Fire Chief Aitken maintains that there must be at least six men to a hall. Attention was also called to the fact that the Fire Underwriters' Association have set a certain regulation to the effect that London must have at least one fireman for every 1,000 population.

"I want to see that in print," declared the mayor. "If it is so, then the 1922 city council was not right when it allowed but 52 firemen for London, with the specified population."

The fire department expenditures of the past three years have been as follows:

1920—$128,000.
1921—$129,000.
1922—$113,900.
1923 (estimated)—$114,160.

## BRANTFORD BOY WITH U. S. STILL HELD BY POLICE

### Damaged Parcel Reveals Contents to Customs on Investigation.

### SAW MAGAZINE "AD"

### Youth Arrested as Soon as He Came From the Building.

Special to The Advertiser.

Brantford, March 20.—Having a parcel passed by the local customs office and then being arrested by the inland revenue department for having it in his possession was the experience of a lad of 17 years of age yesterday.

According to John Spence, collector of customs and inland revenue, the department was notified by the express company that a parcel had been received in a damaged condition. The customs officials opened it and found inside a beautiful copper four-gallon still, shipped by a firm in Chicago to a local man. Steps were immediately taken to insure the attendance of the consignee at the customs office.

**Claimed Ownership.**

The story told Mr. Spence by the boy, who claimed ownership of the parcel, although it was addressed to his father, was that he had seen an advertisement in an American magazine and that he had answered.

The advertisement laid forth the benefits of possessing a copper container, in any gallon capacity, all soldering on the outside, with a goose neck and other parts, as a fine thing to contain liquids.

The boy also thought the same way, at least he told Mr. Spence he did. He asserted that he had only purchased it for an oil container, preferring the copper, as it did not rust.

Mr. Spence asked the boy if he had ever seen oil of any kind cause rust on metal. The boy did not know.

**To Make Money.**

After further questioning, he admitted that he had seen an easy way of making money. He had heard of several persons doing this, and decided that he also would try it. He therefore sent the money and the still was forwarded.

Mr. Spence then related how the boy had put the parcel into a bag which he was carrying and left the office. Without warning and as soon as he put his foot on the street he was arrested for being in possession of a still, against the previsions of the inland revenue act. He is now languishing in jail and the still is in Mr. Spence's office.

This is the second time that stills, forwarded in response to advertisements in American magaines, have been seized, one consigned from Boston some weeks ago meeting with a like fate.

## WORLD'S HORSE SUPPLY DECREASES 11 PER CENT

Washington, March 20.—Man's chief beast of burden—the horse—has decreased in numbers in the world at large about 11 per cent in the last ten years. Figures made public by the United States department of agriculture showed a falling off in the total head in 85 countries from 116,500,000 to 103,550,000. The decreases, however, occurred largely in Russia.

## QUELL MILL DISTURBANCE.

Associated Press Despatch.

Pawtucket, R. I., March 20.—Clubs were used by the police today to quell a disturbance in one of the mills of the Royal Weaving Company, when a man who had been discharged refused to leave the weaveroom.

## *Lady Carnarvon Ill In Aeroplane*

### *Wife of Tomb Discoverer on Way to Egypt.*

Special Cable to The Advertiser.

Paris, March 20.—Countess Carnarvon, flying with a doctor to the bedside of her husband, Lord Carnarvon, discoverer of the tomb of Tutankhamen, was taken suddenly ill 3,000 feet over Beauvais during the night.

The three-seater was forced to make a perilous landing in the pitch darkness. The countess announced today she would push on by air to her husband's side at Luxor.

Lord Carnarvon is believed to have been bitten by a peculiar insect while at work in connection with the excavations at the tomb. He is suffering from severe blood poisoning.

## ANNOUNCE VACATION PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES

### Swift's Canadian Company Representatives Reach Agreement With Men.

Special to The Advertiser.

Montreal, March 20.—The directors of Swift's Canadian Company announce to their employees as a result of deliberations carried on between the employees and the management's representatives under the "employees' representation plan," the adoption of a vacation plan for hourly and piece-work employees.

Under this arrangement, all male hourly and piece-work employees will be granted one week's vacation with pay, provided they have been in the service of the company continuously for a period of five years up to and including Oct. 1, 1923.

Also female employees on hourly or piece-work basis will be granted a similar vacation with pay, provided they have been in the service of the company for three years up to and including Oct. 1, 1923.

## BRITISH BANKERS SEEK FRENCH SETTLEMENT

### Believed Agreement in Sight—Do Not Discuss the Reparations.

Associated Press Despatch.

Paris, March 20.—Montagu C. Norman, governor of the Bank of England, conferred yesterday with Minister of Finance Lasteyrie and Georges Robineau, governor of the Bank of France, says the Echo de Paris, on the subject of repaying £65,000,000 in commercial credits extended to the French institution by the British.

The French bankers, the newspaper says, desire that the payments be spread over a period of five or six years. Although the negotiations were not completed, Mr. Norman returned to London, and a solution satisfactory to both parties is now said to be in sight. The British and French bank officials did not discuss reparations, the article adds.

## LARGE LIQUOR SEIZURE IS SHIPPED TO TORONTO

### Provincial Officer Stratton and Inspector Bolton Active During Past Month.

Fifty-two cases of liquor containing from 12 to 16 bottles and one 46 bottles for which confiscation orders had been given by Magistrate A. H. M. Graydon, was forwarded to Toronto at 1:15 o'clock this afternoon, via C. P. R., by Provincial Officer T. Y. Stratton and License Inspector Walter Bolton.

The shipment to the Toronto authorities was the result of the month's work of the provincial officer and the license inspector. The officers made several visits to the C. P. R. freight sheds and other places during the month and seized thousands of dollars worth of the contraband liquor. The bulk of it had been shipped to fictitious addresses. On one occasion the officers seized a $5,000 consignment following an all night vigil.

## REGISTERED MAIL HAS DISAPPEARED FROM NORTH BAY

### Authorities Are Investigating—Two Members of Postoffice Staff Suspended.

### FOUND INTOXICATED

### Mail Clerk Discovered Drunk on Night During Which Loss Occurred.

Special to The Advertiser.

North Bay, Ont., March 20.—A comparatively innocent-looking entry on the North Bay police blotter for the night of March 5 is that of William McMaster, Toronto, charged with being intoxicated in the public place.

Developments surrounding the occurrences of that night, however, have kept federal and local officials of the railway mail serivce, as well as the postoffice department and C. N. R. policemen, busy ever since.

It is reported that the matter is not yet cleared up. Despite an attitude of strict reserve on the part of local postal and mail service officials, it is known that an investigation has been in progress in postal circles for several days, with the result that two suspensions have occurred of members of the local postoffice staff, and other changes may be made in the town of North Bay railway mail service staff.

In the meantime, out of fourteen registered letters and parcels addressed to North Bay on the night of March 5, only three reached their destination, and two more have been since recovered.

**Children Find Letter.**

On the evening of March 5 two little girls, playing in the east end of the town, noticed a letter on the roadway, and, picking it up, recognized the address and delivered it to Dr. Ranney, who found it to contain $25 in payment of an account of a Nipissing Junction patient. Since there was no North Bay postmark on the letter, and owing to the peculiar method of its delivery, he reported the matter to Postmaster McDonald.

Another registered letter, containing a check for deposit in the Royal Bank, has also been recovered.

The investigation which then resulted disclosed the fact that Harris and McMaster, mail clerks on the C. N. R. train from Toronto, due here at 6:20 p.m., did not register at the local postoffice, according to their custom, on the night in question. Instead one of them had returned to the Wye in the mail coach, and, going to sleep, had awakened to find that eleven of his parcel of fourteen registered letters had apparently taken flight.

The other mail had been taken to the postoffice by the regular carrier.

**Found Intoxicated.**

At 8:15 the same night Constable McGovern found William McMaster one of the mail clerks, in an intoxicated condition, and locked him up for the night. Bail was provided at 1 o'clock in the morning, and when the case was called in police court the prisoner failed to appear.

Contrary to reports, there were only two suspensions from the staff of the local postoffice, and these were both for failing to report the neglect of the mail clerks to put in their appearance with the registered mail.

In the meantime investigations are being conducted by federal and local departmental agents, with a view to discovering the identity of the robber, if there was robbery perpetrated. The investigations are closely guarded, and no information is available as to the actual loss resulting from the disappearance of the mail, or actual amount, if any, that has been recovered.

Postal Inspector Ross told The Advertiser that he would issue a statement in a few days.

## COURT MOURNING ORDERED FOR MOTHER OF QUEEN

Associated Press Despatch.

London, March 20.—A despatch to the Times from Rome says a period of six months court mourning for Queen Milena of Montenegro, mother of Queen Helena, has been ordered, but that it will be suspended for the wedding of Princess Yolanda on April 9 and for the visit to Italy early in May of the British sovereigns.

## 37-MILL RATE FOR "SOO."

Canadian Press Despatch.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., March 20.—The council has struck a tax rate for this year at 37 mills, a reduction of three mills from last year's rate and eight mills from the 1921 rate.

## TORONTO CITY COUNCIL STRIKES 1923 TAX RATE

### After Talking Until 4 a.m., Aldermen Agree on Rate of $3.08 on Every $100.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, March 20.—After talking the clock around its twelve-hour circuit, the Toronto city council at four o'clock this morning finally struck the tax rate for 1923 at $3.08 on every $100 of assessment. Last year's rate was $3.23½ to the $100.

Attempts of some sections of the council to cut down the civic estimates so as to permit a rate of $3 to the $100 failed. Last minute decisions of the council included a number of civic salary increases.

One of the eleventh hour economies made by the council was the elimination of a proposed $3,000 grant towards the Canadian Deep Waterways Association. The council decided that other municipalities were not "coming through" as they should in support of the deep waterways association.

## ASKS EXCURSION RATES ON CANADA'S RAILWAYS

### T. L. Church Urges Restoration of Cheaper Week-End Fares.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, March 20.—The restoration of cheap excursion railway rates, at week-ends, public holidays and similar occasions, either by government action or government intervention with the railway commission, is taken up by T. L. Church (Conservative, Toronto North) in a series of questions placed on the order paper of the commons.

Mr. Church asks the government if it intends bringing down legislation this session to restore the special cheap rates which prevailed at week-ends and on public holidays, etc., and if not, whether the government or the minister of railways will not bring influence to bear on the railway commission in order that the pre-war excursion rates may again be effective.

## 100 PEOPLE ARE DRIVEN TO ICE-COVERED STREETS

Associated Press Despatch.

Rochester, March 20.—More than 100 persons were driven in scanty attire to the ice-covered streets last night when fire broke out in a pile of rubbish stored in the rear of a grocery store in an apartment house here. No one was hurt.

## INCREASE U. S. DRY FORCES NEAR BORDER AT DETROIT

Associated Press Despatch.

Washington, March 20.—Early increase of prohibition enforcement forces in Michigan was indicated yesterday by Prohibition Commissioner Haynes, on his return from a tour of that state. The new agents, it was said, are needed particularly to work against liquor smuggling from Canada at and near Detroit.

## THIRTY INJURED AS CARS COLLIDE IN SPRINGFIELD

Associated Press Despatch.

Springfield, Mass., March 20.—More than thirty persons were injured in a head-on collision of trolley cars in East Springfield today. One car contained 90 passengers and the other only a few. The accident occurred on a steep grade.

## URGES ACTION TO PROVE BONNE ENTENTE WANTED

### Le Canada Comments on the Recent Meeting Held at Toronto.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Montreal, March 20.—Le Canada the official organ of French-Canadian Liberalism in Canada, carries the following editorial comment on the Bonne Entente meeting recently in Toronto: "An effective Bonne Entente will be reached, not by repeating from time to time that it should be cultivated, but by proving by action, more significant than eloquence, that there is a desire to really develop it. . . In Quebec, the minority has always been treated with justice, and that is generally recognized as a fact. In this respect we may be regarded as an example for the whole of the Dominion. What our legislators are doing, our people can do equally. Those especially who speak to the people—lecturers and speakers—should make it their business to preach tolerance and the Bonne Entente, instead of flattering prejudices.

"It should not only be in the capitals once a year that the Bonne Entente should be thought of. It ought to be thought of all the time."

## CAUGHT MAKING PLATE FOR LARGE U. S. NOTES

### Alleged Russian Artist Is Arrested in Suburb of Berlin.

Associated Press Despatch.

Berlin, March 20.—While engraving a plate for the production of United States hundred dollar notes, a man, alleged to be a Russian artist, was arrested yesterday at Halensee, a suburb of Berlin. He is believed to be the forger of Bank of England notes which have been circulating in Europe for the past year; these were so skilfully imitated that they deceived many British bankers.

## HOSPITAL STAFFS STRIKE WHEN NUNS EMPLOYED

Vienna, March 20.—The Vienna hospitals were forced to close yesterday, when the non-medical personnel of each institution walked out in protest against the replacement of nurses by nuns at the hospital for government employees. It was necessary for all persons except patients and nurses on duty to get their meals outside. Employment of the nuns was decided upon as a measure of economy.

## S. S. GIULIA IS SINKING JUST EAST OF BOSTON

### American Steamer, Sixty Miles Off, Is Rushing to Her Assistance.

Associated Press Despatch.

Norfolk, Va., March 20.—The Italian steamship Giulia is in a sinking condition 560 miles east of Boston, according to a wireless message received at the coastguard station here. The message said the United States steamer William F. Herrin, 60 miles from the Giulia when it picked up the distress call, was rushing to her assistance, as was also an unidentified Shipping Board steamer.

## BELIEVE THIEF GUILTY MISS KEENAN'S DEATH

### New Theory Is That Chloroform Was Used To Make Safe Getaway.

Associated Press Despatch.

New York, N. Y., March 20.—The police theory today was that it was a thief who chloroformed to death last Thursday, Dorothy Keenan, the model, to make a safe getaway with the jewelry and furs he stole from the apartment where her body was found the following noon.

This thief, in the theory constructed by Police Inspector Coughlin, entered the woman's apartment some time after the departure of the mysterious "Mr. John Marshall," the elderly bearer of gifts. The police hinted that they have a clue to their man.

A complet basis for this theory was not outlined by the inspector, but in general he indicated, that the robbery might have been instigated by other women in the same building who knew Miss Keenan. The police were certain today someone intimate with the woman's affairs was in on the death.

## *Salted Human Flesh Sold As Food In Russian Market?*

### *New York Journalist Quotes Dr. Nansen, Norwegian Explorer, as Authority for Statement.*

Associated Press Despatch.

Denver, Col., March 20.—Hamilton Holt, New York journalist and lecturer, in an address here last night, said: "Dr. Nansen, the Norwegian explorer, told me personally and repeated his statement on the floor of the League of Nations, that salted human flesh is being sold as food in the markets of Russia!"

"Austria is following Russia over the brink of the catastrophe, Germany is following Austria," Mr. Holt added. "Then comes Italy and France, and England is not so far behind. The most profound thinkers in every country united in the statement that the situation in Europe is worse today than at any time since the armistice. Civilization virtually is at stake."

Mr. Holt is touring the west for the purpose of advocating the entry of the U. S. A. into the League of Nations.

## *Ask 900 Bushels of Corn For Rent of Pelee Island*

### *Caldwell Indians State Land Leased to Agent at Six Bushels Per Annum for 999 Years.*

Canadian Press Despatch.

Brantford Ont., March 20.—Efforts to collect 900 bushels of Indian corn, being the rent for 150 years of Pelee Island at the rate of six bushels per annum, will be made by the Caldwell Indians.

The Caldwell tribe as numbering about 100 souls, came into prominence last summer, when, led by Chief Archie Dodge, they endeavored to take possession of Pelee Island and Point Pelee, Lake St. Clair, claiming that the land rightfully belonged to them. After several days the Indians were quietened down by the mounted police and settled near Chatham, where they at present reside.

According to R. H. Abraham, B. S. A. agricultural expert, with the Indian department, who was in Chatham yesterday and in Brantford today the Indians leased the island in 1760 or thereabouts to an Indian agent named McKee for 999 years, at the above rental.

Mr. Abraham states that at a meeting of the tribe held near Chatham yesterday the Indians elected a chief and two councillors as the first step towards negotiating with the Canadian government for the establishment of a reserve.

He also said that he had been looking over certain sections of land and had decided that Walpole Island, Lake St. Clair, would be suitable, being about 1,000 acres of arable land there that could be used satisfactorily. Archie Dodge was elected chief.

## THE WEATHER

**FORECASTS.**

**South and southwest winds; higher temperature; light snow tonight and part of Wednesday.**

The disturbance which was over the Upper St. Lawrence Valley yesterday morning is now over Northern Newfoundland, and another is centred over Minnesota, moving southeastward.

Rain has fallen in the Maritime Provinces, but the weather is now fair and cold from Ontario eastward.

Snow has fallen in many parts of the West.

**Temperatures.**

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

| Stations. | High. | Low. | Weather. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Victoria | 48 | 36 | Clear |
| Calgary | 50 | 24 | Snow |
| Winnipeg | 12 | 8 | Cloudy |
| Sault Ste. Marie | 4 | —16 | Snow |
| Toronto | 12 | 8 | Clear |
| Kingston | 28 | 2 | Clear |
| Ottawa | 14 | — 4 | Clear |
| Montreal | 32 | — 2 | Clear |
| Quebec | 26 | — 8 | Clear |
| Father Point | 22 | — 2 | Cloudy |
| St. John | 36 | 4 | Clear |
| Halifax | 42 | 12 | Fair |

Minus (—) means below zero.

**LOCAL TEMPERATURES.**

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 36; lowest, 7.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 13; lowest, 4.

**Barometric Readings.**

Monday—8 p.m., 29.20.
Today—8 a.m., 29.25.