

THE WEATHER: Probabilities—Mild—Rain.

## BUILDING OFFICE ON SITE OF PRESENT CITY HALL

If Tax Rate Is Low Enough Work Will Be Undertaken This Year.

### ABANDON THE FEDERAL SQUARE PROPOSAL

Less Than \$300,000 Would Furnish Building Sufficient For City's Needs.

That the erection of an up-to-date office building on the site of the present city hall, which will be used for the civic offices, will be undertaken this year by the Council is the consensus of opinion today. For some weeks the agitation to this end has again been noticed, and it is confidently expected that some definite proposition will be considered by the Council within the next month or so. While the aldermen deny that there is anything moving in this direction now, it is well-known fact that strong pressure is being brought to bear on the city trustees. It is more than probable that something will be accomplished this summer.

In this connection it is pointed out that nothing is likely to be taken up until after the tax rate is settled. If this is reasonably low, and there is every indication that it will be down, the new city hall will be undertaken this spring.

**COSTS ARE DOWN.**

Those who are in favor of the proposition call attention to the fact that building costs are now down, and the new hall could be erected at a comparatively small expense. Last year the plan was taken up, but the costs were too high to permit the work being carried out. It was estimated that an expenditure of nearly \$1,000,000 would have been necessary last year to complete the building. This year the same structure can be put up for something less than \$300,000. It is believed that one of the causes in the delay thus far has been the controversy over the site of the new hall. While the citizens some years ago voted in favor of the Federal Square plan, in fact, they voted more than once—it is the general opinion that the hall should be placed on the old site, next to the Public Utilities building. Money has been approved for the erection of the hall on the site of the old hall, but it cannot be used on any other site. It would also be necessary to secure the assent of the electric board, the hall could be erected on the north side of the street. But it is assured there would be no difficulty in this now in view of the fact that the Federal Square plan has been abandoned.

**HAVE AUTHORITY.**

The Council already has the authority to issue debentures to the amount of \$132,000. This was voted some years ago, but there is no restriction as to where this shall be expended. It could be used for the erection of the new office building. In addition to this the city owns more than \$200,000 worth of property on the block on the south side of Dundas street, which could be sold and the proceeds would be ample, with what is now on hand, to complete the new city hall.

Practically the same plans as were drawn up last year will be followed. The building will be five stories high of a design to conform to others in the city. Two stories would be added to the latter building at an early date in this event. While the Council has not yet voted some years ago, yet it is more than probable that something will be brought before it at an early date. This will be immediately after the estimates are disposed of it is believed.

**INFANTILE MORTALITY**

### STATISTICS MAKE GOOD BAROMETER OF HEALTH

HAMILTON, Feb. 1.—Dr. Roberts, M. D., H., regards the statistics of infant mortality as a barometer of the health conditions in the city. He has found that the death rate among children who are born alive is 77.6 per thousand. In 1920 it was 44.7 per thousand. He attributes the great reduction to the good work of various organizations that have undertaken welfare work.

**WILL DIVIDE \$150,000.**

HAMILTON, Feb. 1.—Twelve heirs, including Bert Corner, Hamilton, and J. W. and Isiah Anderson, Toronto, will divide the \$150,000 estate left by Mrs. Beer.

## Welfare Workers Find Eight Reasons Why Men Are Deserting Wives

### Public Fund To Use In Tracing Deserters Is Advocated—Interference By Relatives Chief Cause.

Eight reasons have been discovered for men deserting their wives. Welfare workers have conducted an investigation into the causes of the increasing number of family desertions and report the great need of a social clinic in London. The report is a study of the necessity of men leaving home to seek employment; willingness of wife to do outside work to augment the family income; poor health as a result of too large a family; sex incompatibility and early marriage.

## Here is Plan to Please Everyone

Editor Free Press: I was much pleased with the suggestion made by one of your correspondents to open the collegiate with prayer. Now, if the trustees of the collegiate allow the dance I am sure they would be pleased to have all the ministers of the city to hold a prayer meeting at the same time and place. Let the first round be prayers, then a dance, and so on until the close. I would like to see a test made something like one by the Prophet Elijah. If God be our God, serve him; if I believe in the pleasures of sin be best for the city, serve him. The trouble with the world to-day is both money and pleasure first, leaving prayer and earnest supplication to God as a secondary matter.

WILLIAM CHARLTON, Hinton, Ont., January 31.

## H. W. KENNEDY IS GIVEN PROMOTION

### Perrin's Saleman Made Manager of New Toronto Branch.

### DIRECTOR OF O. C. T. A.

### Local Manufacturing Company Now Has 14 Branches.

H. W. Kennedy, for the past six years salesman at D. S. Perrin & Co., has been promoted to manager of the company's new Toronto branch office and warehouse. Mr. Kennedy was in charge of the company's branch office in London, Ontario, and was in charge of the opening of the branch office in Toronto. Mr. Kennedy's promotion gives him many friends deep pleasure. Fellow officials state that he is one of the most popular men in London and that his record as a salesman has been very brilliant.

Mr. Kennedy was recently elected a director of the Ontario Commercial Travellers' Association by a large majority.

This new office will cover a territory containing 700,000 people and is expected to become another booster for made-in-London goods.

## TAKE NO BLAME IN MURDER CASE DELAY

TORONTO, Feb. 1.—Officials of Toronto police headquarters will not be drawn into any controversy in connection with the alleged delay of the Hamilton police in communicating to the fact that Miss Carrie Robinson had typed a "beauty powder" circular similar to that which enclosed the strychnine sent to Mrs. Jessie Buchanan.

The delay that the first information they had on the matter from Hamilton police was at noon on Friday, January 27.

Nothing to add to what has been already stated by this department," said one of the officials this morning.

## JAP PRINCE DIES.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—Field Marshal Prince Yamagata, one of the few remaining of Japan's "Genro" or elder statesmen, died at his home in Tokyo today, says an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Tokyo. He was in his 84th year.

## DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT.

The Social Service Council which is instrumental in getting information on the subject is in favor of a domestic relations court in Toronto. The most promising solution of the problem. The officer in charge of such a tribunal would act primarily as a counselor, friend and mediator, but would, nevertheless, be vested with authority to bring to the courts of law any flagrant case. In connection with this court would be a probation department that would treat wives and husbands in a lenient manner provided they agreed to a reconciliation.

The offense of desertion of wife or family calls for a fine of \$500 or a year's imprisonment. The difficulty, however, is that there is neither the machinery nor revenue providing for tracing the errant husband. What is declared to be needed is not only a public fund, but also legislation that will permit interprovincial extradition and extradition between different countries. Authority is also desired that will allow outside agencies to issue summons without consulting the wife, who may be constrained by fear of her husband.

## STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.

Steamer	Arrived At	From
La Plouffe	New York	Antwerp
La Touraine	New York	Havre
Hellig Olav	New York	Copenhagen
E. of Scotland	New York	Southampton
Norman	Plymouth	New York
Zealand	Halifax	New York
Arabic	Halifax	New York
Stavangerford	Christiana	New York

## MINISTER HERE ON FIRST VISIT

### Hon. W. C. Kennedy In City On First Inspection.

### PRESIDENT OF G. T. ALONG

### Says Business Conditions Have Already Improved.

Hon. W. C. Kennedy, of Windsor, the new minister of railways and canals, made his first official visit to the city this afternoon, and accompanied by President Howard G. Kelly, Sir Joseph Flavell, General Superintendent of C. J. Bowker, Chief Engineer F. J. C. Bond, Vice-President Robb and J. C. Garden, general superintendent of motive power, made an inspection of the car shops and the company's other property in London.

Mr. Kennedy had little comment to make beyond pointing out that it was his first trip and that he was merely going over the system with a view to getting a general idea of everything. President Howard Kelly, of the G. T. R., stated to the Free Press that he can see an improvement in business conditions and that he expects it will be maintained.

"There is a perceptible change for the better," he said. "Nothing very big as yet, but it is a start and I believe it will gradually strengthen. Unquestionably there are more cars moving now than for some months. This is due to the movement of grain from the West. This is largely export business and is creating a nice amount of through traffic, which is very welcome at the present time."

Questioned regarding improvements for London and district, the president indicated that no more money than is absolutely necessary will be expended until business conditions are greatly improved.

London and district are concerned, he pointed out that things are in pretty good shape.

The officials came from Toronto this morning and on their way stopped over at Stratford, where an inspection was made. This afternoon they are going on to Sarnia and from there to Detroit.

The special train is in charge of Conductor Barlow, of Toronto, with Engineer McLurty at the throttle.

## SAYS MAN WAS "FIRED" WITHOUT DUE CAUSE

### Ald. May Wants Investigation Into Case of Garbage Employee.

Ald. May has requested an investigation into the summary dismissal of an employee of the garbage department by Superintendent Dodd. The alderman claims the man was "fired" without due cause. He was dismissed yesterday after a garbage wagon which he was driving upset on the breakwater opposite the city's educational system. There was no serious damage done by the upset.

Superintendent Dodd asserts that the man was justly discharged.

"He deliberately drove his team in a spot where no driver with judgment would think of going," said Superintendent Dodd. "The wagon upset and it is a wonder that the wagon team all were not precipitated down the steep embankment into the river."

"It is almost a miracle that the team was not killed. At any rate he was a spare man, on for a few days, while one of the regular drivers was sick."

## PROPERTY SALES WERE ACTIVE IN JANUARY

### Eighty-Six Properties Transferred Since First of Year.

Some \$260,000 of properties changed hands in London during the past month, assessment office reports show to-day. Eighty-six properties were transferred during January and it is unusually high for this period of the year.

## The Weather

### MILD — RAIN.

**PROBABILITIES.** Strong southeast and south winds, mild with rain during the night and on Thursday.

## INTERESTING CASE

A decision favorable to that contention would be of the widest possible interest. Locally the civil tax rate would be reduced by a large sum each year owing to greater distribution of taxes.

Under provincial laws the general tax rate of a city may at no time amount to more than 25 mills, but there is no limit of school tax rates beyond the exercise of official judgment.

Granting that the general tax rate for London proper is this year 20 mills and the school rate 12 mills, then the four city wards, not including the annexed district, would have a 32-mill tax rate.

If the contention is upheld that the annexed district should pay school rates in addition to the fixed general tax rate, then that district would have a 32-mill tax rate, the fixed general rate and 12 mills for school taxes. The district would still be enjoying a 5-mill lower rate than the rest of the city.

## SEWERS ON COUNTY AND CITY BOUNDARIES CAUSE ALDERMEN SOME WORRY

### Outside Residents Must Pay Full Share of Construction Cost Or Be Barred From Use of Sewer.

## Goes To Parliament Without Opposition

### Viscountess Windsor, wife of the Earl of Plymouth, has been elected by acclamation to the British House of Commons in the Ludlow division of Shropshire. She is a Conservative and was formerly Lady Irene Charteris.



## MAY ADD SCHOOL TAXES TO ANNEXED DISTRICT

### FIXED 15-MILL RATE

### Proposal Is Coming Before Council Finance Committee To-Day.

The annexed district of the City of London, which has a fixed rate of 15 mills until 1922, may this year be asked to pay its full quota of school taxes in addition to the fixed rate.

To date the city assessment department has held that the fixed tax rate included both school and general taxes. But at to-day's session of the finance committee the 1922 aldermen composing the body will be asked to make a separate investigation to determine whether such inclusion of school tax rates in the fixed rate is not contrary to the laws providing for such cases.

It will be pointed out that many factories in London are given a fixed assessment and some have exemption from taxation. But those having a fixed assessment are required to pay school taxes and those exempted from general taxation are required to pay for the upkeep of the city's educational system.

The contention is that the annexed district, when joined to the city, was given a 15-year guaranteed 15-mill tax rate, but that guarantee applied only to general taxes, which provide street lighting, police protection, fire protection and all other services additional to maintenance of schools.

This matter will come to the attention of the finance committee through a decision favorable to that contention.

## RAID BY O'LEARY NOT SO HEROIC AS ONE DURING WAR

### HAMILTON, Ont., Feb. 1.—A petition is being circulated at Dunnville for the release of J. J. O'Leary, aged 26, who was fined \$300 or three months for having a rifle. Unable to pay the fine, he is serving the term. He was convicted as the result of a raid headed by Michael O'Leary, V. C.

## ESSEX SHOOTING MAY BE ACCIDENT

### Theory of Suicide May Be Discarded At Inquest.

### STRANGE WEAPON USED

### Death of E. C. Dusty Is Cause of Much Speculation.

WINDSOR, Ont., Feb. 1.—Statements made by those in touch with the fatal shooting of E. C. Dusty in Essex yesterday to-night may not uphold the suicide theory in the occurrence. There is more than a possibility that a verdict of accidental death will be brought in.

According to Ed. Sandler, brother of the proprietor of the store in which the fatality occurred, reports first given out were misleading, as to detail.

Sandler's version of the affair is that he and Dusty were examining an automatic pistol and Dusty had removed the magazine and laid it on a table. Sandler was called away to another part of the store and just after he left Dusty heard a shot and turned in time to see him fall with a bullet through his head.

The gun which was being examined was an unusual type, and one in which one round remains in the chamber after the magazine has been removed. It was unknown to either Sandler or Dusty, and Sandler's belief is that the ignorance was the accidental cause of Dusty's death.

## DR. WALLACE CRAWFORD ON WAY HOME FROM CHINA

### London Missionary Will Reach Canada Some Time in April.

Word was received by relatives to-day that Dr. Wallace Crawford, the well-known London missionary, is on his way home and is expected to reach Canada in April. He has been granted a year's furlough and plans to spend the time with relatives here. It is almost 10 years since Dr. Crawford was home and since that time he has been through several Chinese disturbances, and for a time was in considerable danger. Dr. and Mrs. Crawford have been in charge of the medical mission at Tzeitzeung, China, for many years.

## DEMAND VOTE ON LIQUOR CONTROL

### Plea For Referendum In Manitoba Again Urged.

### 53,800 ON THE PETITION

### J. T. Haig Moves For Immediate Action In the Matter.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 1.—Bent on extracting the Moderation League's petition for a referendum on Government controlled liquor from the tangle into which it had got in the Legislature, J. T. Haig, at yesterday's meeting, moved another amendment which he claimed, put the paper issue right before the House.

The amendment provided that, as 53,800 had signed it, the petition should be granted and the question referred to the people for decision. The Conservative leader maintained that the position substantially complied with the provisions of the Initiative and Referendum Act and having recalled the election attitude of the various groups regarding the legislation, declared they would not be true to their platforms if they refused to grant this referendum.

Hon. Edward Brown, provincial treasurer, took the same stand as Mr. Haig, saying there was only one question before the House and that was whether the petition should be granted or refused, had no right to differentiate between classes and the petition of the Moderate Service Council, the brewers and distillers or any other class.

Though several members demanded that the fate of the petition should be settled at once, the debate was adjourned by H. R. Richardson.

## GUT DEBENTURE INTEREST RATES

### Mayor and Treasurer Make University Bonds 5 1/2 Per Cent.

### EXPECT BETTER MARKET

### Notification Will Be Sent To Ontario Legislature.

The city will save approximately \$40,000 interest on the Western University debentures as the result of watchfulness on the part of Mayor Wilson and City Treasurer Bell. After a conference yesterday on the question, in which the treasurer pointed out that money is now "easier" than when the debenture by-law was passed, the mayor decided to ask the Legislature to reduce the rate of interest in the debentures from 6 to 5 1/2 per cent. This will mean a saving of more than \$1,250 annually for 30 years.

This question will be placed before the Legislature at the time ratification of the by-law is asked. Provision has already been made in the City of London bill for the ratification. It is not considered necessary to give any further notice to the Legislature on this change until the bill comes up for discussion.

## FARMERS EXPECT A BUSY SESSION

### Members of Legislature Hold Important Caucus At Toronto.

### BIG TOPICS ON DECK

### Include Radicals, Sheriffs and Separate School Demands.

TORONTO, Feb. 1.—(Canadian Press Dispatch).—The caucus of Government supporters in the Provincial Legislature opened this afternoon with M. L. A.'s from the four corners of the province present. It has for many years been the custom to hold a meeting of the members on the Government side of the House a short time before the Legislature opens, so that to-day's caucus is quite in keeping with past usage, although it is probably the most important pre-session conference that has been held since the Farmer-Labor party took control at Queen's Park. On the threshold of what nearly everyone anticipates will be a fighting session, Premier Duggan's following assembly of day, evidently determined to lay their plans to meet their opponents across the water and at the same time expected confidence that they would be successful in the interesting weeks which are to come.

This was a busy afternoon for the members of the Cabinet. The M. L. A.'s brought with them the views of their constituents relative to the many questions up for discussion this afternoon and were eager to impart their views to the ministers. The departments most directly affected. The result was that the time of the department meetings was at a premium to-day, with waiting rooms crowded with visitors.

## OHIO WELL DRILLING COMPANY HAS INVESTIGATED

### Report Will Show If City Can Depend On Wells.

### UTILITIES MEET THURSDAY

### Whether London may depend on wells for its water supply during the next 10 years will probably be decided at to-morrow's meeting of the Public Utilities Commission, at which engineers of the Ohio Well Drilling Company are expected to make formal reports.

The report will go into details as to the subsurface geological features, with special reference to underground streams and storehouses. Whether such water supply is sufficient to supply the city during the next decade or longer is the point to be determined.

The Ohio Well Drilling Company was brought to London by the utilities commission. They agreed to make a complete survey of the city's potential water supply from wells at a depth of 200 to 300 feet, and to indicate wells which would supply more than one million gallons daily. A fixed charge for their investigation was decided upon, and a search for wells giving the specified million gallons. Where wells sunk develop less than the required amount, the city may withhold payment.

So far optimistic reports made indicate that at least two wells capable of supplying a million or more gallons each daily have been located.

## OTTAWA STAFFS WILL BE REDUCED

### But No Department Will See "Wholesale Dismissals."

### SAVE BY AMALGAMATION

### OTTAWA, Feb. 1.—(Canadian Press Dispatch).—Rumors current in Ottawa to the effect that at the end of the present fiscal year, March 31, there are to be wholesale dismissals of employees in some of the Government departments are given little credence in official circles here. One of the departments mentioned is militia and defense, from which it had been reported that upwards of 700 employees were to be discharged. This rumor is stated to be without foundation.

Article two then provides that, on the coming into force of the treaty, all other capital ships "built or building" by the five premiers shall be disposed of as follows:—(a) Canada, two; (b) two, the reference being to the extensive "rules for scrapping vessels of war" carried in the part two mentioned.

## FINISHED TREATY IS PRESENTED AT ARMS

### Navies of Great Powers Are Voluntarily Slashed As Contribution To General Peace.

### FIFTH OPEN SESSION OF ARMS CONFERENCE HELD

### Treaties On Use of Submarines and Poison Gas Also To Be Presented.

### FORMAL ASSENT GIVEN.

### WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 1.—Formal assent of the five powers to the naval limitation treaty was given at the plenary sessions of the Washington conference to-day. The separate treaty regarding submarines and poison gas was then presented.

Chairman Hughes announced, and applauded, that he had been informed that the Shantung controversy "had been settled."

The naval treaty was not read, but Secretary Hughes declared that the far from capital ships are concerned "the integrity of the plan proposed on behalf of the United States Government has been maintained."

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 1.—(Canadian Press Dispatch).—The fifth open session of the arms conference was called to order just after 11 o'clock to-day for the presentation of the naval limitation treaty, and the special treaties limiting the use of submarines and poison gases.

At 12:20 p. m. Secretary Hughes presented to the arms conference the text of the treaty for limitation of naval armaments.

The draft treaty for limitation of naval armaments contains only the following preamble in explanation of the purposes of the five contracting Governments in reaching the agreements set forth:

"Desiring to contribute to the maintenance of the general peace, and to reduce the burdens of competition in armaments;

"Having resolved, with a view to accomplishing these purposes, to conclude a treaty to limit their respective naval armaments;

"The treaty is divided into three chapters. Article one contains the general language of the agreements, covered in 20 separate articles.

Chapter two contains the detailed, specific agreements on naval matters, many of them in complicated tabular form, which amplify and complete the meaning of the general agreements of chapter one.

Chapter three is devoted to "miscellaneous provisions" and contains four additional articles of the treaty.

Article one thereof is merely the government of the naval armament as provided in the treaty.

Article two provides that the contracting powers may retain respectively capital ships specified in article two, part one. The ships thus named in part one are as follows:

UNITED STATES—Maryland, California, Tennessee, New Mexico, Mississippi, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Nevada, New York, Texas, Arkansas, Wyoming, Florida, Utah, North Dakota, Delaware—total tonnage 500,000.

GREAT BRITAIN—Royal Sovereign, Royal Oak, Revenge, Resolution, Marlborough, Queen Elizabeth, Barham, Emperor of India, Iron Duke, Marlborough, Hood, Renown, Repulse, Tiger, Thunderer, King George V., Ajax, Centurion—total tonnage 180,000.

FRANCE—Bretagne, Lorraine, Provence, Paris, France, Jean Bart, Courbet, Diderot, Voltaire—total tonnage 231,170.

ITA—Caesar, Duilio, Carlo Duilio, Conte Di Cavour, Gullio Cesare, Leonardo Di Vinci, Dante Alighieri, Roma, Napoli, Vittorio Emanuele, Regina Elena—total tonnage 182,000.

JAPAN—Mutsu, Nagato, Hanga, Ise, Yamashiro, Fu-So, Kirishima, Haruna, Hiyel, Yamato—total tonnage 301,320.

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Article one then provides that in addition to the specified capital ship "the United States may complete and retain two ships of the West Virginia class, now under construction," and on their completion dispose of the North Dakota and Delaware under the scrapping rules, while Great Britain may, (Continued on Page Thirty-Five)

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