

WAGE BOOST FOR BUILDING TRADES MEANS 15 PER CENT. EXTRA OUTLAY ON SCHOOLS

serious Problem Confronts Local Board In Their 1923 Construction Program Due To The Recent Increases In the Pay Schedules.

An increase in wages to the various branches of the building trade that will necessitate an approximate advance in all proposed building costs of not less than 15 per cent. is the latest news which members of the local Board of Education will be required to consider in connection with their 1923 program.

Ether Waves From a Rare Atmosphere

In these days when the feminist movement is ending even to conservative cities like London, it seems scarcely conceivable that back in Adam's time woman was only a sex issue.

Some people travel because they have money and others travel because of the opportunity of collecting agencies.

When a person boasts of a full house nowadays it is hard to determine whether the reference is to poker or amateur theatricals.

In the Dollar Day crowds a young woman with a supercilious air suddenly landed on the icy sidewalk. Just a mere slip of a girl!

A converted flapper which is really a reptile.

Marjot, our office antithesis to the Aquilifer, complained to-day of chapped lips. She is still wondering why everyone chuckles when she says "chapped."

Our genial city ed. might be an anti-Castilian dance last night, suggesting that the flapper might be an effective curative. Sounds reasonable, Marjot.

A DUMBLEL is a nonentity who reckons that a taxidermist is a chap who runs an auto for hire.

If this open winter keeps up, owners of closed cars will feel cheated.

High prices on lumber are blamed on the scarcity. Our guess is that the lumber is being used for splints for broken new year's resolutions.

MINUS QUANTITIES Holidays between now and Easter.

Nowadays when one hears firing it is hard to tell whether the sounds come from the furnace or from the police and fire department.

After perusing the city directory our office statistician reported that a letter addressed to John Smith, London, Ont., has about one chance in 459 of reaching the entire mail.

Wolves are more plentiful this year than formerly. This information will encourage some of the Yankee writers to write thrilling tales of whole towns decimated by the ferocious animals.

Never put off till to-morrow what you can do today—especially if its your neighbor.

REPORTERS' CREDO That every time some person dies into some other person's business, a "probe" has commenced.

The publishers ought to start now and gag instead of bind some of the 1923 best-sellers.

Making love doesn't take as long as it used to, but grandfather Mac remarks that it doesn't stay made as long.

We admit that newspapers have their bad sides. Many men hides behind one on a street car to keep from giving his seat to a lady.

The other day a man in a provincial town was fined for winking at a woman. What is a man going to wink at if he doesn't wink at a girl?

ODE BY OLEO (Lack of space alone prohibits Oleo from writing several columns on this subject.)

I see there's flocks and flocks of Smiths in our new city directory. And Browns and Whites and Blacks and Greens.

Some of each are seen. And Johnsons, Joneses and Lees and Kings. And found there in confusion; And yet there's not one "Oleo," I mean.

The sons of far-off China take up quite a large space in the directory. The Lees and Hings and Wangs and Wongs.

And names I cannot say; And there's names of different colors (it's no wonder girls use paint) for Besides the ones I've used there's Pink and Gray.

MacDonalds and MacGregors show up in the directory. And countries and provinces, From north and south as well; And there's many of old Ireland's sons found there beneath their covers. All the way from Burke and Willey to O'Dell.

And they put those names together. And they stand them side by side. This is one place they're treated all alike.

The rich and poor and lame and well. And big and small and others— They're all called "Mr. and Mrs. and Miss," "Blir" or "Miks."

JOLLY SLEIGH RIDE FOR G. T. R. EMPLOYEES

Program of Dancing and Cards included in Later in the Evening.

Employees of the superintendent's office of the Grand Trunk Railway and members of the First Aid Class last night held a jolly sleigh party, which was attended by some 50 persons.

Every employee of the divisional office of the Junior clerk up to the superintendent was in attendance.

The financial standing and prospective work for the ensuing year will be outlined by General Manager G. T. R. at 8 o'clock, and "kick" will be taken about the city the merry makers returned to the chambers, where a program consisting of dancing and cards wound up with a luncheon.

During the evening Charles Forrester, superintendent of the London division of the G. T. R., gave a brief address. The party was attended by D. J. Powers, Montreal, traveling auditor; Charles Forrester, superintendent; S. Munro, freight representative; A. F. Sharpe, train master; William M. Doherty, chief despatcher; Dave McIlroy, car distributor; William Hart, chief clerk, and many others.

MORE TROUBLE DUE. If your work demands a good vision, or causes eyestrain, the sooner they are attended to the better. Much trouble often occurs from negligence, and persistent neglect produces permanent injury. See F. Stoele, Optician, 219 Dundas St. for free consultation and examination. You owe that to your eyes.—Advt.

SITE UNSUITABLE FOR COLLEGIATE

Trafalgar and Oliver Location is Not Favored.

PEITION OF LITTLE WEIGHT Site Must Serve Entire East End Section.

The Trafalgar and Oliver streets school site, which has been the subject of controversy in Board of Education and other civic circles during the latter part of last year, is not suitable for a collegiate site, according to those in close touch with educational affairs of the city.

A new high school for East London would be expected to serve the entire eastern section of the city, possibly as far west as Adelaide street. It would also be expected to accommodate pupils all the way from the north limits through the River Thames boundary east of that dividing line. The Trafalgar and Oliver streets property, however, is situated north of the Hamilton road, or within a very short distance from the river boundary.

The public school which is now being erected on this much-discussed site, only expected to serve that district south of Dundas street, while Chesley Avenue and Ealing schools are also accommodating public school children from sections of the district.

A new high school building would be erected on a site not far from Dundas street and as near to the center of the eastern district as possible. In view of this it is not likely that the proposed site would be suitable for property for a high school will receive any consideration.

Special Committee To Inquire Into Situation. DECIDE SUPERANNUATION Status of Officers To Be Finally Adjusted.

Members of the special committee appointed to deal with the local school attendance department controversy will meet this afternoon to discuss the status of the matter at a meeting to be held next week, according to reports in circulation.

It is the desire of the board members that this matter shall be definitely settled so that when the salary committee meets the matter of superannuation for Dr. Weir, the present chief of the department, may be considered.

The majority of the board members are also anxious to have some definite recommendation for consideration at the regular board meeting next week. The attendance department has been operating under a sort of cloud for many months now. During the latter part of last year Dr. Weir demanded that the board establish one of his assistants as chief. The board, after a long deliberation, decided that Dr. Weir was not the chief. The board, after a long deliberation, decided that Dr. Weir was not the chief.

RESIGNED ESTIMATE. This committee met and recommended that a competent officer be advertised for at an initial salary of \$2,800 per annum. This was later rescinded and the committee asked permission to consider the question. They then recommended that the departments of secretary and attendance officer be amalgamated and that Secretary Tanner be named chief. That recommendation was rejected because it would mean that the entire question might be disposed of early in the year, the position of attendance officer was declared vacant and after December 31. Several attempts have been made to call a meeting of the committee since that date but have failed without result.

Dr. Weir has now submitted a request for superannuation owing to the fact that he has served the board for over 20 years, and there is a strong possibility that his application will be favorably considered. Nothing definite has been said in the matter yet, however, and in the interim Dr. Weir is still carrying on the duties of chief of the department.

ANNUAL BANQUET OF UTILITIES DEPARTMENT Will Take Place Saturday Evening. Statements For Last Year To Be Read.

Extension preparations are under way at the Public Utilities Building to-day for the big annual banquet of employees and officials which takes place on Saturday evening next. Tables are being arranged in the dining-room to accommodate the large group of guests, who will attend and the interior is also being artistically decorated for the occasion.

There are other preparations going on also, matters that are not attracting a great amount of interest except in the case of the individual concerned. In each of the officers, however, from the general manager down to the merest subordinate, annual statements and reports showing the activities of that particular department are being prepared, for each report must be presented at the annual gathering.

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MANY VACANT SEATS IN SCHOOL AS FLU RAGES

HAMILTON, Feb. 1.—Half of the pupils of the Collegiate Institute and many of the teachers are confined to their homes by the epidemic of grippe and influenza that is raging in this city.

"LOYALIST" INDIANS MEET. BRANTFORD, Feb. 1.—The Six Nations Loyalist Association meets at 8 o'clock this afternoon to discuss plans for efforts to secure the election of the council of chiefs now hereditary.

Useless To Argue About Proposing When a Women Has Her Way Anymore

She Will Get It Though the Heavens Fall, Declares H. P., Who Adds That It Makes No Difference If the Girls Do Paint and Powder.

"What's the use of arguing about girls proposing," writes "H. P." "When the female of the species wants anything, whether it be a man, the vote, or a position, she will have it though the heavens fall."

It doesn't make any difference how much powder and paint girls indulge in, according to "H. P." Deep down under all the "dope" they have a deep longing for homes of their own.

"Just One of London's Beauties" is anxious for a beauty contest. She doesn't think that all the beautiful girls in London want the dance halls, and is not sure that the prettiest girl in the city was there on that occasion.

Peggy does not think much of some of the London boys and was glad she picked on one from Bill Sneath's list, according to those in close touch with educational affairs of the city.

"TISN'T A SAFE COUNTRY. Dear Editor: As regards the question of the day, "Should Girls Propose?" I say what I think, and you know what the flapper did for prohibition. We have women magistrates, lawyers, doctors and even policemen. If they are able to do this work with success why worry over not being able to pick the right man for the job? It is the flapper who is the trouble since their mothers went to school; a girl at 16 these days is more like a man than her mother was at 25. If you do not care how bad a girl paints or powders (and thereby gives her gossiping neighbors something to talk about) then let her do it for paint and powders, but this is a free country and there are worse things than painting and powdering going on. Even if they are proposing they can make a worse job of choosing a mate than some of the men do. Of course, I do not mean to say that every day or two's acquaintance, as one young lady in her letter boasted of, but after a month's acquaintance I say let them go to it and good luck to them.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, I remain, H. P. January 26, 1923.

HERE'S A SHRINKING VIOLET. Dr. Editor: As I am a reader of your valuable paper I think it's about time your paper should throw a little light on the subject of shrinking violets. It is the only one of its kind in the world. Now this girl may have been the prettiest girl at the dance hall that evening, but one paper claims that she is the prettiest girl in London.

Now, don't you think it would be fair and just for The Free Press to hold a beauty contest out of London's 62,000 population and have the beauties send their photos to your office? If you could see who was the most beautiful girl in London and not only in the Winter Garden. In doing this you would be doing a service to London's prettiest girls.

Hope to see this in print in the next issue. I am a reader of your paper and I think it's about time your paper should throw a little light on the subject of shrinking violets. It is the only one of its kind in the world. Now this girl may have been the prettiest girl at the dance hall that evening, but one paper claims that she is the prettiest girl in London.

ACCEPT CHANGES IN PRIZE LISTS Western Fair Board To Co-Operate With Government. DISPOSITION OF GRANTS Aim Is To Encourage Raising of Live Stock.

The Western Fair board will cooperate with the federal department of agriculture in the suggested change in prize lists and method of making grants was the assurance given by President J. H. Saunders and Secretary A. M. Galt.

The federal department of agriculture plans to put the grants to large farms on a different basis from formerly and, although the local officials have not yet been definitely apprised of the intention, yet they are expecting that the grants will be made in accordance with the department's wishes.

At the recent gathering of fair secretaries in Toronto for the purpose of changes in prize lists were considered. The federal department desires to encourage the production of cattle, swine, sheep and horses that will be particularly suited to export purposes. Especially in the case of swine, where the idea is to raise hogs that will meet the requirements of the British bacon market; in fact, representatives of the Dominion department suggested to the fair secretaries that the Government idea was to have the prize list restricted and in connection it was urged that in horses there should be three classes for heavy animals and three for light; in cattle, three for dairy and three for beef; in swine but three recognized classes where there are now more than twice as many, and in sheep five classes. Poultry, the classes and divisions of which are legion, was to be restricted to 10. The opinion of breeders is that this can hardly be done as it will be a difficult matter to eliminate specialties to which they have given their attention. The Western Fair board will, however, work along Government lines, and while there may not be a change in the prize list, the changes will be made by degrees until the suggestions have been carried out.

"We are willing and anxious to cooperate," said President Saunders. "At the same time we are expecting that the Government will give us the money from whom we receive our grants and I suppose they have the right to say how their money should be spent."

No more definite pronouncement of policy can be made until the fair officials receive more detailed information as to the departmental requirements.

YOU CAN CERTAINLY GET the same small fixtures for your bathroom from a reliable plumbing shop like ours, and in all probability you can get better ones than you can buy from stores handling plumbing lines. For the plumber knows what is best for the bathroom. Write-Teal Company, Plumbers and Steam Fitters, 80 Dundas St. Phone 7984.—Advt.

SCISSOR BUILDING SYSTEM

Public Utilities To Consider the Mayor's Complaint. METHOD NOT BUSINESS-LIKE?

Wenige Would Have Readjustment By the Province.

Mayor Wenige's complaint regarding the scissor system of billing, as adopted by the Ontario Hydro Commission and effective in this city, will be one of the chief topics for discussion at the regular semi-monthly session of the Utilities Commission, which takes place this afternoon.

Explanations were made by officials of the Utilities Commission, but they were not satisfactory to the mayor and he demanded that the question of making some change be discussed by the commission.

He charged that the present system was not a business-like one, and E. V. Bushanan, general manager of the commission, immediately prepared to bring the matter before the board of directors and demanding a change in the present billing regulations.

Members of the commission and officials of the city were present for the meeting and a spirited discussion is expected.

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City News

BANK CLEARINGS.—Bank clearings for the past week were \$2,254,571, as compared with \$2,549,782 for the corresponding week of last year.

AUDITING SCHOOL ACCOUNTS.—A committee, composed of Reeves J. E. Harrison, A. C. Hodgins and County Clerk John Stuart, was busy engaged to-day in auditing the accounts of the Middlesex County high schools.

WRIT FOR \$250.—Briekenden & McCrimmon have issued a county court writ for \$250 against J. J. Walton, of Galt, for \$250.00, balance of account due the plaintiff for goods sold and delivered.

FRUIT GROWERS MEET.—The London branch of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association held a general meeting in the office of the department of agriculture this afternoon, at which further plans for a co-operative selling organization were discussed at some length.

FORTY HOURS' DEVOTION.—Commencing to-morrow morning a 40 hours' devotion will be held in the Catholic church throughout the district and special services will be held. Rev. Father Brennan, of St. Peter's Seminary, will preach and St. Peter's Cathedral to-morrow evening, and Rt. Rev. Vicar-General O'Connor will preach at the Sunday evening service.

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CRAWFORD WINS RED TROPHY AT ST. THOMAS SPIEL

Fred Sutherland, St. Thomas Rink, Loses To Wingham Skip In Final.

CRAWFORD PLAYS IN ELGIN CUP FINAL

Plays W. H. Smith, of Owen Sound This Afternoon—Out-of-Town Curlers Take Honors.

ST. THOMAS, Feb. 1.—Alex Crawford's Wingham rink won the Red Trophy of the St. Thomas Spiel this morning, defeating Fred W. Sutherland's local rink by 11 to 9 in the final game.

Crawford also has the opportunity of adding the Elgin trophy to his bag this afternoon, as he qualified to meet in the office of the department of agriculture this afternoon, at which further plans for a co-operative selling organization were discussed at some length.

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