

WILL CUT LITIGATION COSTS NEW BILL FOR HIGH COURT

Mr. F. P. Betts Instituted the Movement Which Led To the Demand for the Measure—The Proposed Change Explained.

Local lawyers are greatly interested in the bill read before the House yesterday by Mr. C. C. Hodgins, member for North Middlesex, in regard to establishing a weekly sitting of the court in London, without taking the cases to Toronto, as is now done. It is not generally known that Mr. F. P. Betts, of the firm of Cronyn, Betts & Coleridge initiated the move at a meeting of the legal association. Mr. Betts noticed that such a bill had been passed regarding the weekly courts at Ottawa, and at once suggested to the legal fraternity of this city that a move be made to secure a similar privilege here. All saw the value of the suggestion and Mr. Hodgins was communicated with, with the result that the bill yesterday passed its second reading and will likely become law shortly.

Value of the Measure.

"The chief value of the measure," said Mr. Betts to The Advertiser this morning, "lies in the great saving of time and money to litigants and lawyers in this vicinity."

"The old bill was so circumscribed

with provisions that in a number of cases it was far easier to go to Toronto and serve a notice of motion than to try the matter here.

"All the way from ten days to two weeks would frequently be lost in communication between lawyers to see if they would agree as to where the case should be tried.

"If the notice of motion was served in Toronto, the case was called on a certain day and the lawyers for both parties would have to go there. This involved considerable time and expense, especially for lawyers living a long distance from Toronto.

Same as Toronto.

"Now London will stand in the same position that Toronto does in this respect, and a lawyer can give notice of motion here and have the case tried quickly and with comparatively little expense.

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Acting Mayor Blames Street Railway For Bad Condition of the Streets

Snow Piled Up To Dangerous Heights Along Certain Thoroughfares.

"The streets along the lines of the London Street Railway are a disgrace," said Ald. Rose, who is acting mayor today.

"This is especially true on the Ridout street line.

"The snow is piled up very high, and it is practically impassable for horses and rigs.

"I think it extremely dangerous. In front of the Normal School also there is snow piled up to a height of 5 or 6 feet.

Should Remove It.

"The company should be compelled to remove it in accordance with the bylaw governing this matter.

"In West London it is worse,

especially along the streets leading to the cemetery.

"It is very difficult to conduct funerals along these streets. Something should be done.

"The other city streets are in good condition. If a heavy snow comes down the gutters and such are all in first-class shape to take the water away.

"We will have no trouble on that score, but I am afraid the street railway will cause us a lot of trouble.

Engineer Speaks.

"I have written to them several times, but the company will do nothing," said City Engineer Graydon.

"The only way to make them do what is wanted is to sue them. That would bring them to their senses."

Some Men at Work.

The street railway company had a few men at work taking the ice away, but nothing very extensive was done. Dundas street is in rather bad shape.

It is thought that the company is waiting for the thaw, which is expected almost any day now.

Annual Banquet of Canadian Club Will Be Held Following Easter

Committees Were Appointed and Arrangements Furthered—Other Business.

At a meeting of the executive of the Canadian Club of London, held at the office of the secretary, Masonic Temple, last night, arrangements were set in motion for the annual banquet which will be held during the month of April.

A communication was read from Mr. H. J. Wickham, of the Navy League, in Toronto, asking if the club in London would care to have an address

from Mr. C. F. Hamilton, late war correspondent of the Globe in South Africa, on the subject of Naval Defense.

The matter was referred to the literary committee.

A letter was also received from the Canadian Club of Victoria, B. C., suggesting the adoption by Canadian municipalities of a distinct Canadian uniform for the police of the Canadian towns and cities on the lines of the English, rather than the United States styles. The secretary was instructed to advise the club in Victoria that the police force in London is already equipped with uniforms of the kind suggested.

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Farmers' Institute Gathers at Comber

Special to The Advertiser.)

Comber, Ont., March 5.—A most successful farmers' institute meeting was held here yesterday. A. Beckell, Toronto, A. McLennan, Essex, and John Richardson, Valetta, addressed the afternoon session. The ladies of the town and vicinity were met by Mrs. C.

Campbell and Mrs. J. Holden, of Windsor, and a women's institute was organized, starting off with a membership of twenty-two. Monthly meetings will be held and the future looks bright for the Women's Institute. A joint meeting was held in the evening at which Mr. Beckell and Mrs. Campbell delivered addresses.

British Immigrants Return To Homes

The early morning express on the C. P. R., which goes through here at 3 o'clock, went through in two sections this morning, carrying altogether eleven big coaches of English, Scotch and Irish emigrants, from Chicago and the Western States, who are sailing for their homes on Saturday on the Empress of Ireland.

The majority of these returning stated that they intended remaining

at home, as they could do better there than in the Western States.

Altogether, nearly two thousand people were in the coaches, and they state that they are but the advance guard of a large number of other English, Scotch and Irish people who intend to return shortly.

The C. P. R. reports that many extra trains have been arranged for, and that for the next few weeks they expect to be busy carrying these people to the ports where they will embark for home.

Marble Font in Memory of Dean Innes

A beautiful font in memory of the late Dean Innes, rector of St. Paul's, for many years, is being erected in the front part of the cathedral.

The font, when completed, will be most beautiful, being made of Carrara marble, brought especially from Italy.

It is a gift from the members of the congregation to the memory of their late rector and will cost \$1,000, soon.

Not Enough Exits in the Schools Only Proper Safeguard for Scholars

So Says One Gentleman, While Others Think the Schools Are Perfectly Safe.

The horrible disaster in the school at Collingwood, O., has called the attention of citizens generally to the conditions prevailing in city schools.

The opinion is prevalent that there is not sufficient protection offered the children in schools.

There are not, in fact, sufficient fire exits in the schools.

Not Enough Exits.

"I do not think there are enough exits for any of our schools, and there certainly are not enough fire escapes," said a prominent citizen this morning.

"I know I may not be popular in my belief, but I will give my reasons for my opinion. Let us take the largest and most modern school in London—St. George's.

"There are three exits there, and a

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Residents May Ask for Injunction To Stop Dundas Street Pavement

Unless Broken Stone, as Contract Calls for, is Used.

An injunction may be issued to stop the Dundas street pavement being laid in case the council passes the bylaw sanctioning the use of gravel instead of broken stone for the foundation.

Already a couple of petitions with quite a number of signatures are in the hands of the city clerk, and it is expected that at the next meeting of the council when the question comes up, there will be a large deputation of citizens living on Dundas street on hand to protest against the change.

In case the bylaw is carried then recourse will be made to law.

The contention is that the contract calls for broken stone, and it should be lived up to. There is no good reason, say those against the change,

why gravel should be used instead of broken stone.

The Injunction.

"I understand that such a move is in contemplation," said a prominent resident of Dundas street this morning.

"Some of the residents on the street protest vigorously against the use of gravel, and will make a decided stand against the change.

"A protest will be made to the council, and in case the council does not see its way clear to make the change, an injunction is talked of.

"That will delay the laying of the pavement for some time.

"The most of us are anxious to get this pavement down.

"The residents of the street have quarreled so in the past that the street has been a disgrace for years. Now, when we thought the matter was settled this trouble crops up.

"The council should take the matter in hand and lay whatever pavement it likes, and make the residents stand back and be good. It is hard to say what objections will be made to the pavement before spring."

Property Owners Didn't Get Prices They Thought Reasonable for Lands

Awards Made in the Arbitrations for Portions of Isolation Hospital Site.

The awards in the recent arbitration for the land for the isolation hospital have been made public.

Mr. Charles Woodward is given \$2,500 for his property.

He asked \$6,000 for it, and assessment Commissioner Grant offered him \$3,000, and would probably have given him \$2,500, but Mr. Woodward refused to take less than \$6,000.

Mr. George Slade wanted \$5,000 for his property, and was offered \$3,000 by Mr. Grant. He, too, refused to take less than that.

The arbitrator fixed the value of the property at \$3,600.

The costs of the arbitration amounted to \$270, which the city paid.

The claim of Mrs. Scott was settled for \$1,800 without arbitration, the title being the only matter to arrange in this case.

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Victoria Hospital Overdraft \$3,363 Expenditure for 1907 Was \$60,603

A Statement Showing the Big Increase in Amounts Asked From the City.

A statement issued shows the expenditure at Victoria Hospital for the year just past.

The total amount is \$60,603 45, or more than \$5,000 greater than the year previous.

In 1906 the expenditure amounted to \$55,602 41.

The expenditure has shown a steady increase during the last few years.

The overdraft on last year's accounts amounts to \$3,363 72.

Interesting Figures.

The following table shows the amounts received by the trust from the city, together with a surplus on a year and the overdrafts of several years, from 1902 till 1907.

Estimate, Surplus, Deficit

Year	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907
Amount	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$27,200
Surplus					1,923 57	1,924 66
Deficit						3,363 72

The Expenditure.	
The following table shows the itemized expenditure for 1907:	
Salaries	\$18,645 12
Fuel	5,331 33
Drugs	3,591 76
Meat	3,776 25
General furnishings	3,333 62
Milk	1,138 17
Repairs	2,111 63
Medical appliances	2,848 31
Groceries	2,129 79
Butter	2,107 37
Light	1,825 90
Repairst	1,509 82
Repairst	1,712 76
Contingencies	1,452 49
Flour	1,108 96
Tea and coffee	575 79
Potatoes	807 57
Beer and wines	371 25
Ice	507 51
Taxes	579 75
Water	221 00
Surgical instruments	251 00
Brooms and brushes	980 00
Printing	359 66
Other expenditure	916 83
Total	\$60,603 45

Ottawa Derail May Come Up Again At Meeting of Railway Commission

The fact that the Dominion Railway commission will meet at Ingersoll and Chatham during this month has some interest to Londoners, as the Ottawa avenue derail of the London Street Railway may come up for consideration.

At a former meeting of the commission in Chatham, the London Street Railway applied and was given permission to install a new derail and signals at the Ottawa avenue crossing of the Pere Marquette. As pointed out some time ago in The Advertiser, this derail applied to cars running one way only, and made it practically impossible to run cars both ways as the bylaw governing this line demanded.

For some reason or other the city

was not represented and the commissioners thinking the request was not opposed granted the desired permission.

As soon as the decision was brought to the attention of the council, the city solicitor was instructed to enter a formal protest to the commission on behalf of the council. Mr. Meredith did this, but so far no action has been taken on the matter.

It is expected, however, that the attention of the council, the city solicitor was instructed to enter a formal protest to the commission on behalf of the council. Mr. Meredith did this, but so far no action has been taken on the matter.

So far no notification of the meeting has been received by City Clerk Baker, or the London and Port Stanley Board.

KING PAYS VISIT TO SICK PREMIER

First Time King Has Entered No. 10 Downing St. Since It Was Official Residence.

London, March 4.—King Edward spent half an hour today with Prime Minister Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, previous to his departure for Biarritz, where he is going for his health.

The King's visit to the premier is an example of the numerous little, tactful courtesies on which his majesty's popularity with the nation is largely based. It is the invariable custom for the British premier, on the eve of the sovereign's departure abroad, to seek an official farewell audience at the royal palace. It is usually a mere formality. An omission of the meeting on the present occasion would not have been remarked. Hence, the King's kindness in making the visit, which is unprecedented, and fires the popular imagination.

The King arrived at 10 Downing street, the official residence of the prime minister, in his private brougham. He was not noticed by the passersby. He forbade any ceremony, and sat by the premier's bedside and chatted cheerily on ordinary topics. When he left, the prime minister was noticeably brighter.

It is noteworthy that no British sovereign has ever before entered No. 10 Downing street since it became the official residence of the first lord of the treasury.

MR. ALF. BURWELL HAS BEEN APPOINTED

A Clerk in the Assessment Department for the Summer.

As announced some days ago, in The Advertiser, Mr. Alfred Burwell has been appointed to be the fourth assessment clerk.

He will commence work on Monday next.

The other appointees, Messrs. Black, Doble and Gillen, have been at work all week.

William Peel and Arthur Essery were the other applicants for the position.

FLAMES AMONGST CORKS

A Big Chicago Plant Almost Completely Destroyed.

Chicago, March 5.—Fire, starting on the third floor of a five-story building, occupied by the Armour Cork Company, 20 and 22 Market street, spread to the fourth and fifth floors and to the Muralo Company, 24 and 26 Market street. Several persons are said to be on the upper floors of both buildings.

A UNIQUE PETITION

A Departure From the Usual Plan in Pleading for Prisoner.

Windsor, March 5.—A unique petition was forwarded from Windsor yesterday to the minister of justice at Ottawa. It asked for the release on parole of Walter Fitzgerald, who was sentenced to prison for a term of one year for misappropriating money from the Trussed Concrete Company, of Walkerville, and it bore only two names, those of Fitzgerald's wife and his mother. The usual practice is to obtain the signatures of as many sympathizers as possible, but no attempt was made to do this in this case. The appeal was accompanied by a few strong letters of recommendations from prominent Detroiters.

THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—SLEET OR RAIN.

FORECASTS.

Toronto, March 5—8 a.m. Today—Easterly winds and milder. Friday—Easterly winds, with occasional sleet or rain.

Local Temperatures.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory up to 8 p.m. yesterday were: Highest, 32°; lowest, 3.5° above zero.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Weather.

Station	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather
Calgary	-10	-12	Clear
Winnipeg	-12	-18	Cloudy
Port Arthur	22	29	Cloudy
Perry Sound	16	14	Fair
Toronto	29	16	Cloudy
Ottawa	4	4	Fair
Montreal	16	16	Cloudy
Quebec	6	2	Clear
Father Point	8	2	Cloudy

Minus (-) means below zero.

The first column in the above table records the temperatures at 8 o'clock this morning, and the second column records the minimum temperatures during the 24 hours previous.

WEATHER NOTES.

The low area over the southwestern States is drawing very slowly toward the great lakes, accompanied by sleet and rain.

The weather continues decidedly cold in the Western Provinces, and moderately cold from Ontario to the Maritime Provinces.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 6 below—19; Atlin, 8 below—20; Victoria, 36—45; Vancouver, 28—44; Kamloops, 10—24; Port Simpson, 30—40; Edmonton, 11 below—14; Battleford, 28 below—6; Calgary, 6 below—8; Regina, 12 below—10; Winnipeg, 14—16; Port Arthur, 18—23; Perry Sound, zero—32; Toronto, 8—28; Ottawa, 16—35; Montreal, 16—23; Quebec, 14—24; St. John, 6—22; Halifax, 12—22.

165 Perished in School Holocaust Said To Be Work of Incendiary

Half the Families of Cleveland Suburb Have Been Bereaved.

Cleveland, O., March 5.—One hundred and sixty-five lives, all but two of them children, between the ages of 6 and 15 years, are known to have been lost in the fire which yesterday destroyed the public school in North Collingwood, ten miles east of this city.

Several others still are missing and their bodies may possibly be in the ruins.

It probably will be several days before the exact number of dead is accurately determined.

Of the bodies recovered, 168 have been identified. The remaining bodies are so blackened by fire and smoke, so battered and bruised by trampling feet that it is only by means of some unburned articles of wearing apparel that their names can be ascertained.

The Cause a Mystery.

The cause of the fire which, aided by a frantic panic, a narrow hallway and doors which it is claimed by many were made to open inward, still is a mystery. It was at first supposed that it came from an overheated furnace, or an exploded boiler in the basement of the school house. It has been established that there was no explosion, and the janitor of the school, Fred Herter, three of whose children perished, declares that it could not have come from the furnace.

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Lively Row Over Warton Cement Co.

Many Londoners Held Shares

Charges of Fraud Are Heard—Annual Meeting Here on March 10th.

A dispatch from Detroit to The Advertiser says: The fight being waged between officers and stockholders of the Colonial Portland Cement Company for control of the big plant at Warton, Ont., has resolved itself into a campaign of circular letters, personal abuse and charges of fraud. Although it was decided at the annual meeting, Feb. 25, that no more circulars would be issued, others have made their appearance and the feeling has been intensified.

R. M. Fisher, a medical practitioner and vice-president of the company, ridicules the statement made by President Joseph W. Humphry, in which the latter claims credit for putting the company on its feet. Mr. Fisher has issued a circular in reply to Mr. Humphry.

Charges Made.

E. Y. Jackson, the company's engineer, is also out with a circular in which he makes charges against Humphry.

Mr. Humphry, on the other hand, had Dr. Whittier, 20 Hazelwood avenue, Detroit, Wednesday, issue a circular in which the doctor, over his signature, declares that it was the energy and resourcefulness of President Humphry that had made the plant a success, and that it is in the interest of all the stockholders to see that he is re-elected president at the adjourned meeting in London, March 10.

Many shareholders of the company reside in London.

New Boathouse for Boating Club

To Be Erected on Scarrow Property

Enthusiastic Meeting Held Last Night in the Masonic Temple.

A new clubhouse for the Thames Boating Association is now practically assured.

At the meeting held last evening in the Teutonic House, Mr. Arthur Keene, secretary-treasurer, informed the members that practically two-thirds of the sum needed—\$2,000—had already been subscribed, and that there were many inquiries for the rest, so that in a short time the whole amount would be subscribed.

The shares were \$10 each, and no limit was put to the number of shares purchasable.

The clubhouse will be built on the Scarrow property, just west of the bridge.

It will be a splendid structure, and will do a great deal toward encouraging aquatic sports in the city.

Parks Commissioner Pearce was present, and read a paper on beautifying the Thames. He is in favor of building a drive along the river bank, which was one of the prettiest natural scenes in this part of the country.

He also outlined a plan for beautifying the river by plant beds and such. He advised the association to join the Playground Association and build playground grounds down the river.

Mr. Pearce was given a hearty vote of thanks.

Mr. J. Thorne reported that the membership had been increased a very great deal, and there was considerable enthusiasm for the boathouse project.

The secretary reported that he had estimated the cost of the improvements to the river and dredging to be \$200.

A request had already been made to the city council to do this work, with good prospects of its being done.

At present there are 44 launches, motor boats, canoes and rowboats on the river, with a strong probability that this number would be increased considerably before the year was out.

Mr. Jack Collison was elected president, and Mr. Arthur Keene was elected secretary-treasurer of the new association.

Form an Association, Hold a Picnic

Retail Grocers Discuss These Matters

Both Left Over Until the Next Meeting of the Local Association.

There was a large attendance at the regular meeting of the Grocers' Association last night, when the questions of holding a big union picnic in the city in July, and of forming an interprovincial grocers' association were discussed freely.

The forming of the association depends to a certain extent on when the big union picnic is held, as it is the plan to get grocers from all over the country here, and on the day following the picnic, hold a big convention at which it is hoped the new association will be launched.

The Picnic.

Considerable controversy took place

in regard to holding the picnic, some of the members urged that it should have to be held at the end of the month it would be too close to the week of the Old Boys' celebration.

Others thought it would be advisable to go ahead and hold the picnic and the convention following it and get the new interprovincial association going as soon as possible.

Form Association.

The opinion was practically unanimous that the association should be formed and that it would result in inestimable good to the grocers of the country.

It was finally decided to leave the matter over until the big general meeting next month, when all the members of the association will be present and the matter will be disposed of.

The meeting tendered a very hearty vote of thanks to President Ranshan and the committee in charge for the very excellent arrangements made regarding the recent grocers' banquet.

City League Baseball for London

"There will be a City Baseball League this summer," said a man well-informed on the local sporting situation this morning.