

The London Evening Free Press

WESTERN ONTARIO'S FOREMOST NEWSPAPER

THE WEATHER: Probabilities—Fine and Warm.

LONDON, ONTARIO, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1925.—16 PAGES

THREE CENTS.

TREE DIE AS STEAMER COLLISION BURNS

LABOR CONVENTION APPROVES WALK-OUT OF ANTHRACITE MEN

CANADIAN CONGRESS BACKS U. S. STRIKERS

Telegram To Mine Workers' President Extends "Moral Support."

WIDER POWERS FOR COMMONS ADVOCATED

"Block Vote" System Rejected—No Charters For General Laborers.

OTTAWA, Sept. 1.—(By Canadian Press.)—The executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada was instructed by the national convention here to-day to send a telegram to John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, extending the sympathy and moral support of the Trades and Labor Congress to the striking anthracite miners in the United States.

Amendments to the British North America Act were advocated in the report of the executive of the conference. The following was the report of the committee as passed: "The time has arrived when amendments to the British North America Act should be secured which would give greater authority to the Dominion Parliament and bring about more centralization of our laws which vitally affect the conditions of wage earners in this country, and that it is only by such a step that any essential social reform can be brought about and made equally applicable to all citizens of Canada."

The delegates went on record favoring the complete prohibition of the sale and manufacture of narcotic drugs, except for medical purposes. REJECT "BLOCK VOTE." A resolution to alter the basis of representation at the annual convention was rejected by the congress this morning. The proposed change would have permitted the "block vote" system, by which votes could be cast on the per capita basis of payments to the congress by various organizations, instead of by the actual delegates at the convention.

P. M. Draper, secretary of the congress, said if the change was made it would alter the democratic basis of the organization. This block vote system, he said, was to be seen at its worst in the constitution of the American Federation of Labor, where, in convention, single groups could control the entire organization.

Bert Merson, Toronto, also opposed the suggested change, which, he said, would encourage the party. James Simpson, Toronto, opposed the block vote principle.

Without debate the congress threw out a proposed resolution to the contrary which would permit the issuing of charters to general laborers.

The remainder of the morning was taken up with the receiving of officers' reports. (See also Page 14.) (Continued on Page Fourteen)

MIDDLESEX WILL EXPORT ABOUT 150 CARS OF APPLES

Crop This Year of Better Quality Than Ever Before; Due To Increase In Spraying.

Middlesex farmers will export close to 150 car loads of apples during the next few weeks, according to the estimate of T. E. Bogue, fruit inspector for this county. He states the 1925 apple crop on the whole is of a better quality than previous years and although the crop cannot be considered a bumper one the various species of apples are of exceptional good quality.

Holidays Over and Back To School Once More



By The London Free Press Photographer. Girls seemed more happy than the boys at the opening of the schools to-day as may be seen by the photo, for nearly every little lady is wearing a smile. These are only a few of the 10,000 children who to-day returned to their classrooms in the various city schools. The photo shows members of one of the city's kindergarten classes. It is their first day at school and they are all anxious to start their little studies which will make up their first year of work.

DR. D. M. GORDON, OF QUEEN'S, DIES

Principal Emeritus Succumbs To Brief Illness.

RETIREE EIGHT YEARS AGO

KINGSTON, Sept. 1.—(By Canadian Press.)—Very Rev. Dr. Daniel Miner Gordon, principal emeritus of Queen's University, passed away peacefully during the night after a very brief illness. Dr. Gordon, who was principal of Queen's from 1902 to 1917, was apparently in good health yesterday, and there was nothing to indicate that he was near death. He was in his 81st year.

Dr. Gordon was responsible for many changes which made for the betterment of the university. He was the first of the W. F. N. Nicksle, wife of Attorney-General Nicksle, is a daughter of Dr. Gordon. He is survived by one other daughter, Miss Wilhelmina, at home and by three sons, Lieut.-Col. (Rev.) A. M. Gordon, Montreal; M. G. Gordon, Toronto; and G. H. Gordon, Hamilton. Mrs. Gordon passed away in January, 1910. FORMER MODERATOR.

Rev. Dr. Gordon was born in Pitou, N. S., in 1845, and was educated at Glasgow and Berlin universities. He received degrees from a number of Canadian institutions. Dr. Gordon was pastor in turn of churches at Truro, N. S.; St. Andrew's, Halifax, and was professor of systematic theology at Halifax College, until his appointment in 1902 as principal of Queen's University, Kingston, which post he held until eight years ago.

\$40,000 IS PORTION OF BRIDGE FALLS ON STAIRS AFTER PLEADING FOR WIFE AND LANDS IN POLICE CELLS

John Pork Comes To Court Intoxicated—Wife Goes To Jail For Month.

VICE-PRESIDENT.

City Is Not Building Any Structures For Privately-Owned, Prosperous Company.

That the City of London should not consider any proposition for a new bridge at Riddow street except one in which the London Street Railway Company will pay its share of the cost in cash was the opinion expressed by several aldermen recently. It was suggested that the company be asked to pay an amount equal to the cost of a separate street railway bridge as its share of the joint structure. It is estimated that a street railway bridge would cost approximately \$40,000, while a separate highway bridge would cost from \$60,000 up, according to the design and material used.

"We are not building any bridges for the city and let us build a combination highway and railway bridge. If the company will not pay for its share of the work, the railway bridge will not be built." That is the stand I will take at any rate.

"The ratemakers of the city have no right to finance the building of a street railway bridge," Ald. Douglas declared. "They are other firms in the city, doubtless, who would like the city to assist them to make some extensions, but we are not doing it, and we have no right to assist the Street Railway Company to build its bridges."

John Pork, 35 years old, of 527 Simcoe street, presented himself in city police court to-day to plead for his wife, who was charged with selling liquor, and after falling down the stairs at police headquarters as he was leaving the building, was himself arrested for being drunk. Mrs. Pork, 34, mother of seven small children, in whose case judgment yesterday was reserved for a month in jail and a fine of \$200 or a further three months.

The episode involving the husband and father occurred after the regular court session had ended. As Magistrate Graydon was about to leave, Pork appeared accompanied by W. B. Henderson, whom he had just retained. While Mr. Henderson and the magistrate were engaged in consultation in the latter's office, Pork held a discussion with himself in the courtroom, talking in an undertone, and emphasizing his remarks now and then with waves of his arm.

PLACED IN CELL. Counsel's conference with the court concluded, the result was made known to Pork, and he walked out of the courtroom. As he proceeded out of the police station entrance to the street, he fell and went sprawling on to the cement sidewalk. He was arrested immediately and placed in a cell.

A second brief court session was held, when the woman was brought in. Magistrate Graydon told her she had to do all in his power to assist her in view of her children, but that he had been unable to do very much. It was Mrs. Pork who told her she had to do all in his power to assist her in view of her children, but that he had been unable to do very much. It was Mrs. Pork who told her she had to do all in his power to assist her in view of her children, but that he had been unable to do very much.

"What is wanted is not more places to sell 4.4 per cent beer. That is needed is someone to buy it." This was the declaration to-day of a Londoner identified with one of the city breweries and in close touch with the beer situation throughout the province as it affects the brewer. He was commenting upon Premier Ferguson's announcement that the sale of 4.4 per cent beer would in the near future be enlarged by the more widespread issuance of permits.

VALUABLE CURIOUS LOST. The biggest loss will be felt by Green, who this morning could not estimate his loss. His stock consisted of old relics, curios, old furniture, jewelry and many other articles which can never be replaced. Included in the loss were many steel engravings and color prints which were worth considerable money.

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LIFEBOATS AFIRE, MEN DON BELTS AND JUMP

Seventeen Members of Crew Picked Up After Many Hours In Water.

WOMAN TIED TO PLANK IS THROWN INTO LAKE

Pleasure Steamer Ran This Season To Port Dover; Last Year To Port Stanley.

WESTFIELD, N. Y., Sept. 1.—(By Canadian Press.)—The excursion steamer Colonial was destroyed by fire with the loss of three lives about a mile and a half off Barcelona Harbor, near here, last week dawn this morning.

The missing men, who are believed to have been drowned, were: Thomas McJannet, of Cleveland, assistant engineer of the vessel; Earl Duncan, Erie, Pa., second cook; and Paul Bryan, Cleveland, wheelman.

Sixteen men and one woman were rescued by a coast guard boat. Only the crew were aboard the vessel, which was bound from Erie, Pa., her home port, for Dunkirk, to take an excursion party to Crystal Beach, Ont., to-day.

When the coast guard boat reached the scene some of the crew had been in the water several hours. Many had received burns in fighting the fire. The cause of the fire is not known.

LIFEBOATS ON FIRE. Within a quarter of an hour after the fire was discovered it was found it had gained such headway that there was no hope of saving the vessel. Before the lifeboats could be launched they had caught fire and the crew were forced to don life preservers and jump overboard, making moonlight trips. Robert Parsons tied her to a plank and threw her overboard.

Three men who were clinging to the anchor chain of the burning boat were rescued by the skipper of a Barcelona fishing vessel. The vessel was towed into Dunkirk Harbor this afternoon.

The vessel was on its way to Dunkirk from Erie to make an excursion party to Crystal Beach, Ont., to-day. The Colonial had a capacity of 1,200 passengers and was in use as an excursion steamer, making moonlight trips.

All Dunkirk's fishing fleet and the coast guard crew from that place rushed to the scene when the steamer was reported afloat.

NO CANADIANS. PORT DOVER, Sept. 1.—No Canadian were among the crew of the steamer Colonial, destroyed by fire to-day. The vessel called here on her regular schedule, Sunday evening, and was due back to-morrow. The Erie-Port Dover trips were inaugurated this season, and a good traffic was enjoyed.

The Colonial ran last year between Port Stanley and Cleveland, being replaced this season by the larger steamer, City of St. Ignace. The Colonial was to have been used again, starting next week, for the remainder of this season.

CHINESE BANDITS FREE BISHOP MOWLL'S PARTY

SHANGHAI, Sept. 1.—Bishop H. W. K. Mowll, his wife and six other members of the Church Missionary Society, captured by bandits near Chengtu, Szechwan Province on August 6, have been released. This news was contained in a telegram received to-day by the local office of the Church Missionary Society.

THE WEATHER

FINE AND WARM.

Forecasts: Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay: Light to moderate winds; fine and warm to-day and on Wednesday.

UTILITIES WILL HEAR CHARGES

Claim Losses In Wiring Not Met By Taxes.

The Public Utilities Commission will be prepared to hear facts sustaining the charge of the local Builders' Exchange that losses in the Hydro Commission's wiring department were being met out of taxes, on Thursday of this week. On that day the commission will hold its first session since the summer adjournment in June.

The Builders' Exchange wrote the commission stating that the wiring department of the Utilities Commission should be abolished. The charge was made that losses in some of the jobs taken on by this department were being met out of the city taxes, and as a consequence every citizen had to share in these losses.

The exchange was advised by the commission that no action had been taken pending some substantiation of these charges. The secretary was asked to appear before the commission and give details of any such case that had become known. The secretary wrote back stating that such facts could not be given at that time. This is the first meeting since that, and the complainants stated that they would discuss the charges with the commissioners at any date in the future.

Officials of the department deny any such charge and are willing to submit to an investigation.

DEPOSITORS GET CASH TO-MORROW

Ready To Pay Home Bank Depositors.

Payments will be made to Home Bank depositors to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock in the market branch of the Bank of Montreal here. The list of depositors who are eligible for payment has been received from the Government and checked over by the local staff.

The total amount to be paid out is less than \$50,000, although there was about \$120,000 on deposit when the Home Bank closed its doors. The reason is that only depositors with \$500 and less are eligible for payment. There are four classes, as follows, which are eligible for payment:

1. Where deposits have been reduced to \$500 or less by set-offs.
2. Where a depositor has two or more accounts that brings the total in excess of \$500.
3. Where a depositor has a trust account or accounts, a joint account, or claims for drafts or checks the amount of which added to deposit makes the total over \$500.
4. Where account has been assigned to anyone barred by act. Members of the House of Commons and of the Senate are also barred.

EXPECT MANY CLAIMS. The bank expects many claims for payment to-morrow in cases where the amount of the deposit was in excess of \$500. These are cases where there are special reasons for the claim. The depositors in these cases must fill in a special form to be sent to the liquidators for settlement and decision. Thirty-five per cent, on the deposits will be paid.

Almost a full year is allowed in which this payment may be claimed, the time being from to-morrow to June 27, 1926. After this date no claims will be honored. Depositors who had money in the three London branches of the defunct bank and the Komoka branch will only receive payment to-morrow from the bank.

Support the Hotel By-Laws In Election On Saturday

ON SATURDAY, September 5, the ratemakers of London will be asked to vote on two by-laws, which are the first steps towards the construction of a modern hotel in this city.

One by-law proposes an exchange of the property on the corner of Dundas and Wellington streets, known as the Federal Square, now owned by the city, for the site on Richmond street, opposite the customhouse, purchased several years ago by the original hotel company, and the second by-law asks for a fixed assessment of \$200,000 for a period of 10 years on the new hotel building.

The promoters of the new hotel, after looking over the situation, have decided that they would prefer the federal site property as a location for a hotel rather than the Richmond street property, hence the request for an exchange. It is hard to see how any citizen can oppose this by-law.

The Dundas street property was purchased a number of years ago for a site for the various municipal buildings. The Dominion Government at the time was also to locate its buildings on the same square. The Dominion changed its mind and there is no question to-day that the site is not suitable for a city hall.

For years the city has been paying interest on the cost of the land at the same time losing taxes on the property. It is a dead loss to the city, and an unsightly piece of vacant land in the heart of London. It is holding up the progress of the city eastward along Dundas. The exchange, particularly as the city gets to boot \$25,000, is in the interests of the ratemakers.

On principle, objection might be taken to the second by-law. However, the fixed assessment is for only a brief period. If there is not a fixed assessment then the whole scheme falls through. In nearly every large Canadian city modern hotels have been regarded as such municipal necessities that fixed assessments on a much more generous scale than now requested have been granted. The fixed assessment applies only to a general rate; school taxes must be paid on the full assessment of the land and building. In addition, there will be an increase in the value of the property now held by the city in the vicinity.

The arguments in favor of a modern hotel in London are so obvious that they do not need repeating. It will bring tourists and conventions to London and both mean cash to the city. The municipality is not asked to put up one cent or to guarantee a solitary bond. It will reduce rather than add to the taxation. In view of this situation and the urgent need for better hotel accommodation, the Free Press has no hesitation in urging the ratemakers to go to the polls on Saturday and vote in the affirmative on both ballots.

THREE STORES IN GODERICH BURN; FIREMEN INJURED

"Old Curiosity Shop" Destroyed. With Many Relics of Value.

McKINNON, GREEN AND BOWMAN STORES GONE

Firemen. By Hard Work, Save Adjoining Buildings On Hamilton Street.

GODERICH, Sept. 1.—One of the worst conflagrations that Goderich has had for a number of years early this morning destroyed Bowman's paint shop, John McKinnon's second-hand store and G. Green's "Old Curiosity Shop," all on Hamilton street.

A nearby resident returning from work noticed the fire in McKinnon's store, the center one, and turned in the alarm. Three lines of hose and good work by the firemen aided by excellent water pressure helped to confine the fire to the three stores.

Fisher's harness and auto repair shop, adjoining Bowman's and Patridge harness shop, separated from Green's by an alley, were prevented from catching fire only by the hardest work on the part of the firemen.

The absence of wind helped to prevent numerous other buildings from being consumed. The buildings burned were all of wood and with the inflammable contents proved an easy prey to the flames.

The biggest loss will be felt by Green, who this morning could not estimate his loss. His stock consisted of old relics, curios, old furniture, jewelry and many other articles which can never be replaced. Included in the loss were many steel engravings and color prints which were worth considerable money.

McKinnon's stock consisted of second-hand furniture and other household fittings. There is some insurance. However, his loss will not be so heavy, as he had no cars being painted and not a heavy stock of paints and varnish was carried.

COL. CHRISTIE SENTENCED FOR TRAFFICKING IN ARMS

SHANGHAI, Sept. 1.—Col. James Christie, British army (retired), was sentenced in the British police court to-day to three months' imprisonment with hard labor and a fine of \$200, on a charge of trafficking in arms.

Christie, with Brig.-Gen. Charles K. Krausch, alias Charles A. Nelson, an American, Otto Crist, former German customs officer, and a Chinese, reported to be secretary to the Gen. Wong Tschua, were arrested by the French police on August 25 when arms and ammunition valued at \$46,000 were seized. Each was to be tried in the court of his own country.

HOLES IN CADDY'S POCKET

DES MOINES, Iowa, Sept. 1.—Norman Chapman initiated his own variety of the "hole in one" club when he lifted his golf ball 188 yards into a caddy's pocket.



CHARLES E. WHEELER, elected vice-president of the Canadian College of Organists at annual conference held in Toronto.

NEED TO BE PEOPLE TO DRINK THE 4.4

Not More Places To Sell It In.

Price Too High, Is Claim of Manufacturers.

"What is wanted is not more places to sell 4.4 per cent beer. That is needed is someone to buy it." This was the declaration to-day of a Londoner identified with one of the city breweries and in close touch with the beer situation throughout the province as it affects the brewer.

He was commenting upon Premier Ferguson's announcement that the sale of 4.4 per cent beer would in the near future be enlarged by the more widespread issuance of permits.

Claiming that the price of 4.4 per cent beer is too high to make it a workingman's drink as it was designed to be, he declared that the taxes imposed upon the beverage both by the Provincial and Federal Governments just about double the cost of production.

He asserted that if those taxes were removed, 4.4 per cent beer could be sold at little more than 10 cents the bottle.

The taxes he referred to included the 10 cents per gallon imposed by the province, the 12 1/2 cents tax, the 1 per cent sales tax and the tax of 2 cents per pound on malt, all three of which are federal levies. These taxes combined, he alleged, were responsible for the high price of the beverage and he claimed that the sale will not be greater with many permits holders.

According to dispatches from Toronto, a steady stream of applications from permit seekers has been dealt with by the license board. Of these there are apparently few from London. License Inspector Walter Bolton said that since the initial rush there had been but a few stragglers.

Doug. Fairbanks Pays \$182,190, Chaplin Kicks In With \$345; Surprises In U. S. Income Tax

Arbuckle, Believed Nearly Broke, Contributes \$6,116, Leading Cross-Eyed Ben By a Few Dollars.

Los Angeles, Sept. 1.—A motion picture comedian and a former movie comedian picture leaders of federal income tax lists with one of their biggest surprises to-day. Charles Spender Chaplin, believed by many to have one of the largest incomes in the world, paid a \$246 personal income tax, while Roscoe C. Arbuckle, generally re-