

THE WEATHER:
SNOW FLURRIES AND COLDER.
SATURDAY—SNOW.
FIRST YEAR. NO. 23844

London Evening Advertiser

LONDON, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1923. —EIGHTEEN PAGES.

"SPORTING GREEN"
ON THE STREET AT 6:00
WITH LATE NEWS.
THREE CENTS.

FISHERMEN FIND BODY OF AIRSHIP COMMANDER

Homuth Must Show Why Election Be Not Invalidated

STUDENT TAX BLAMED FOR U.S. EXODUS BY MURPHY

Points Out Revenue Insignificant Compared With Loss Involved.

PREJUDICES PARENTS Declares Other Cities are Giving Students Every Advantage.

Imposition of a poll tax on students is one of the contributing causes of the exodus of young men and women to the United States for their education, Major T. J. Murphy, member of the University of Western Ontario board of governors, believes.

Major Murphy points out that the revenue obtained through a student tax is insignificant compared with the loss which the tax involves when it prejudices parents of potential students against the university.

"No wonder our young people go to the United States for their education," he said. "Cleveland, Detroit and other American cities do not impose any tax. In my opinion it is had business for London to treat students this way."

"It is all right to tax a dog, but it is good business to tax a student who remains the greatest of the city as long as he stays here."

"There is no tax in Toronto. As a matter of fact I don't think the city has authority to tax students because they are not residents of the city. Although the assessment is very small it nevertheless antagonizes the students' parents when they read about it and I have no doubt that many have already decided to send their children to American colleges instead of Western for this very reason."

Major Murphy stated the average amount spent in the city by an individual. Please See Page 15, Column 5.

COST REASONABLE, DECLARES NEAR

Engineer Says the Additional Sewer Expenditures Not Excessive.

The additional costs for Wellington-High street sewer project, by reason of the work being undertaken at this period of the year are by no means excessive, the city engineer states, although the precise figures are not available now.

He sets 10 or perhaps 15 per cent as the extra cost, which is a very favorable showing, in comparison with winter work undertaken in other years as a relief measure. The open weather has been the big asset to the engineering department in this respect, however, as the cold weather would necessarily increase the excessive cost. This is not anticipated, though.

MEXICAN SENATE RATIFIES U. S. CLAIMS CONVENTION

Associated Press Despatch. Mexico City, Dec. 28.—The Mexican Senate today ratified the special United States Mexican claims convention by a vote of 42 to 5. The general claims convention was approved as a whole, 38 against 1.

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS.
Today—Strong westerly winds; local snow flurries and becoming somewhat colder.
Saturday—Mostly cloudy, with local snow flurries.
The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations	High	Low	Weather
Victoria	46	36	Rain
Calgary	42	10	Cloudy
Winnipeg	40	4	Show
Port Arthur	24	12	Snow
Perry Sound	24	22	Snow
Toronto	36	32	Cloudy
Kingston	26	24	Cloudy
Ottawa	24	12	Snow
Montreal	22	10	Snow
Quebec	16	4	Cloudy
Father-Point	16	14	Cloudy
St. John	26	8	Cloudy
Halifax	34	14	Cloudy

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 35; lowest, 24. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 35; lowest, 30. Barometric Readings.
8 a.m.—28.69.
5 p.m.—28.57.



LONDONERS MENTIONED FOR JUDGESHIP.
(Left) J. C. Elliott, K.C., prominent criminal lawyer, and (right) J. C. Elliott, K.C., who recently resigned as crown attorney for London and Middlesex. Both lawyers are in the running for the Ontario Supreme Court vacancy, which occurs next week with the resignation of Justice MacLaren.

The Statute Labor Tax Should Be Removed Now

An Irritation to All Classes—A Trivial Source of Revenue—And a Producer of Ill-Will—The Council Should Act.

London should be ever eager and ready to encourage newcomers to the city, whether they come to settle permanently or to attend university. One sure way to discourage them is by "unfair and unwarranted taxation," and the levy of the statute labor tax upon all males between the age of 21 and 60 years is a case in point.

DISLIKED BY EVERYONE.
Labor condemns the statute labor assessment. The Britain report urged its removal. The Chamber of Commerce is equally opposed, citing as instance of poor advertisement for the community the move on foot to collect it from students at the University of Western Ontario.

The city of London collects in a year about \$5,000 by this method, according to city officials. No blame or criticism can be levelled in their direction, because they have no alternative but to adhere to the law.

THE COUNCIL SHOULD ACT QUICKLY.

But Mayor George Wenige and the members of the 1924 council have the power to act, and to act speedily, after they assume office in January.

The Province of Ontario states explicitly that the municipality "may" impose this taxation, not "shall," and already city councils in Toronto, Hamilton, and other centers have eliminated the tax as "trivial" and "unwarranted in view of the time and effort expended by city authorities in collection."

Mayor Wenige and his colleagues should rescind the statute labor tax.

Any obstacle standing in the path of a greater London should be removed. And the statute labor tax has been characterized by all thoughtful persons as "excess baggage."

COUNCIL'S MOVE, ASSERTS WENIGE

Holds Assessment Department Should Not Be Criticized in Tax Matter.

"It is up to the new council to deal with the statute labor tax," Mayor Wenige stated. "No criticism should be directed at the assessment department in this regard he reminds, pointing out that Commissioner Bennett is merely acting in accordance with the wishes of former city councillors who passed the bylaw compelling the collection. "He is doing his duty and the assessment should not interfere," the mayor stated. "If the city councillors want to rescind this legislation they can do so in 1924. In the meanwhile there should be no criticism of the department."

It is pointed out, however, that there has been no criticism in this direction; the principle only being attacked from all quarters.

FEDERALS LEAVE PUEBLA AFTER CHIGNAHUAPAN LOSS

Associated Press Despatch. Vera Cruz, Dec. 28.—It became known here late last night that the federal forces abandoned the city of Puebla, following a defeat at Chignahuapan, south of Puebla. The battle at this place was fought between a federal contingent and rebels under General Cabazos, who had been ordered to advance over the Mexican railway lines.

COUPE IS STOLEN.

Another automobile was stolen in the city last night. The missing car is a coupe, license number 228-253, belonging to Charles Craig of 834 Colborne street. It was taken from Bathurst street, east of Talbot, between 8 and 10:30 p.m.

JUDGES RULE THAT ONUS OF PROOF ON HOMUTH

Petitioner's Counsel in South Waterloo Election Protest Calls For Decision.

ACT IS CONSIDERED Opposing Lawyers Place Different Interpretations on Clauses of Election Law.

Canadian Press Despatch. Kitchener, Dec. 28.—Counsel for the petitioner R. H. Greer, K.C., in the South Waterloo election protest trial at the county buildings today asked the judges to declare the election of Karl Homuth invalid.

"Having finished his case covering alleged irregularities in the way of 21 votes by people who did not have the right to vote, Mr. Greer said the onus was on the respondent to show why the election should not be declared invalid. Justices Kelly and Masten concurred in the view. Mr. Widdifield, counsel for Homuth, then opened an argument which extended over two hours. He claimed that no election could be declared invalid owing to irregularities.

The court had to govern itself by the controverted elections act under which corruption had to be proven as regards the voter. Under this section the votes would be stricken from the total from the candidate involved in the corruption and the other candidate declared elected. Parts one and two of the petition which were under consideration and on which evidence had been given had nothing to do with the charges of corruption which followed in subsequent sections of the petition. Mr. Widdifield quoted a number of decisions by judges on similar cases. Justices Kelly and Masten, however, doubted whether the facts that there was such a small majority and that there were 21 illegal votes, six more than the majority would not alter the situation.

Counsel for Homuth further maintained that as ballots had been put into the box without any objections by any of the scrutineers they had to be counted and it was beyond the jurisdiction of the court to raise any questions as to their validity.

"POKE" COSTS \$5 IN POLICE COURT

H. J. Algrove Fined For Hitting Harry Cambridge, Dec. 22.

H. J. Algrove paid \$5 and costs in police court today for taking a poke at Harry Cambridge on December 22 at Adelaide and Dundas streets. Cambridge stated Algrove was proceeding along the street in a motor car, while he was riding a motor cycle. Algrove went to make a turn without holding out his hand, nearly causing an accident. There were a few "words" and Algrove who had stopped his car stepped out and walked Cambridge on the jaw, according to Constable Knight who hurried up to the scene and stopped the fight. "There is no justification for your conduct," the court told Algrove, in imposing the fine.

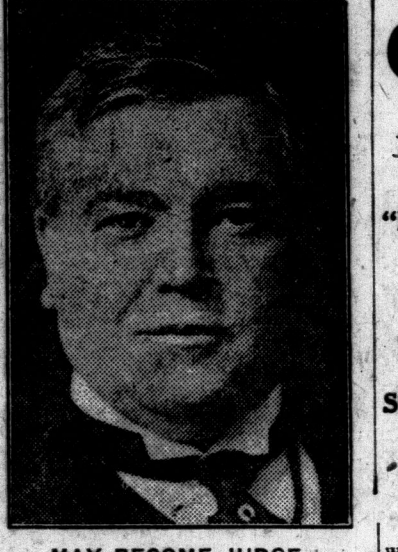
FOUR ESCAPE DEATH IN FIRE

Mother and Children Found in Smoke-Filled Room in Toronto Bakeshop.

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Dec. 28.—Although little damage was done, four people had narrow escapes when fire broke out in a bakeshop on College street, this morning. Mrs. J. Gordon, wife of the owner of the bakery, was found by the firemen while groping through the smoke-filled rooms endeavoring to arouse her daughter. She was carried to the street, where she collapsed. Three children, who were huddled in one of the smoke-filled rooms, were carried down ladders from the second floor to the street by the firemen.

TO BE CHIEF SPEAKER

Brig.-Gen. W. B. M. King, officer commanding M. D. No. 1, who will address a big New Year's party planned by the London command of the G. W. V. A.



MAY BECOME JUDGE.
Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, whose name is mentioned in connection with filling the vacancy on the supreme court bench.

PROPERTY VALUES TO STAY SAME

Assessors Not Planning General Increase For Coming Year.

WILL REACH \$1,250,000

There will be no general assessment "boost" in 1924, according to City Assessment Commissioner Harry Bennett, outlining his policy for the coming year.

The assessors are not going out with instructions to elevate property assessments in every direction, states the commissioner. "Nothing but a normal increase will be noted," he said. "New buildings and improvements to present structures."

Commissioner Bennett estimated roughly at this moment that the increased assessment in 1924 will therefore, only reach the \$1,250,000 mark.

An earlier start is planned for the coming year, however, the commissioner explains, and from present indications the assessors will go out through the wards a month earlier than in past years. The middle of January should note their approach with the book and pencil.

Two Intoxicated Motorists Smash Aged Man's Buggy, Attack Victim and Rescuer

Brothers Imbued Too Freely On Christmas Day and Appear in Court.

ONE GIVEN REMAND

John and Ernest Lampman imbibed too freely on Christmas day, and night time found them driving a motor car along Adelaide street. Philip Windling was being driven via good old Dobbin to his work at the gas house, and remonstrated with the motorists when they almost ran him down. When Windling turned on to Grey street they came along, stopped, and the two occupants proceeded to make things nasty, to such an extent that Windling, who is an old man with gray hair, received a bad beating round the head.

C. Griffin, who saw the assault, ran over to get the number of the car, and got a wallop from Ernest Lampman, while his brother was punching the old man.

"I don't remember hitting the old man," said John Lampman. "I was so drunk I don't remember it at all. I am ashamed to think I ever did it, especially a gray-haired man."

"That the trouble liquor gets you into," declared the court, in imposing a fine of \$20 or three months in jail on Lampman.

The court told Ernest Lampman that the charge against him might have been more serious, and that he could be sent for trial at a higher court.

"I'm just considering whether I should do this," said the magistrate, who finally remanded Lampman for a week, during which time his family will be given a chance to make restitution to Windling for his broken buggy.

Mr. Windling said Lampman had struck him on the nose and mouth, loosening his teeth.

"I'm not asking anything for myself," said Mr. Windling. "I can take the blows as a man, and have never thought of putting in any claim for my own injuries, although I lost one day at work. My buggy was smashed up pretty badly."

"Restitution will have to be made you, and I will remand Lampman for a week," decided Mr. Graydon. "The fine will depend on what has been done for you. Mr. Windling, in that time."

GIRLS URGED TO MAKE MOST OF LEAP YEAR

"Heart Throb" Writer Declares Backwardness Produces a Host of Old Maids.

MAKE START IN 1924

States Women Bound by Cobwebbed Conventions Long Enough.

Girls! If you let leap year slip by without corraling a man you are not doing your duty.

That, according to Mrs. Janette Millson, "heart-throb" writer for the Des Moines Times, who stayed at the Tecumseh House with her husband yesterday. Mrs. Millson is better known as "Bertha," the Beatrice Fairfax of Iowa. This morning she left for Toronto to give a speech before the Women's Canadian Club.

Mrs. Millson is an advocate of emancipation, so far as women are concerned. In an interview she declared the gentle sex had not yet broken the bonds of silly tradition, and appeals to all young women to make sure that they are smashed to the proverbial smithereens during 1924.

"It is ridiculous to forbid any girl asking a man to marry her," Bertha said. "Why should we do all the pursuing? Many a girl remains an old maid through this crazy custom. In my column in the Times I have been urging that girls propose to their beaux and the results have been remarkable. Every day I receive letters from young women who are happily married because they took my cue. Often a man is too backward to propose."

Leap year is the psychological year, so to speak for maids to pop the question. "If a few thousand do it in 1924, the habit will spread over into other years," Mrs. Millson explained, and finally it will not be considered out of place for women to do the proposing on an equal footing with men.

"I have yet to see the girl who cannot get a husband," the heart-throb writer said. "But most girls are not forward enough. A woman should have as great a right to pick and choose as a man, and when she finds the perfect mate she is foolish if she does not go after him. Women have been bound by cobwebbed conventions long enough."

Mrs. Millson admits she did not propose to her own husband, but she does not go after him. Women have been bound by cobwebbed conventions long enough.

Please See Page 4, Column 8.

LABOR, C. OF C. CO-OPERATION SAYS M'KAY

Strongly Advocates Appointing Trade Council Representatives to Chamber.

PROPOSED LAST NIGHT

Ald. Frank McKay, Labor councillor from ward three, favors an attempt for a closer co-operation between the Chamber of Commerce and the Labor forces of the city.

As suggested by Mayor Wenige, he advocates strongly the appointment of two representatives of the Trades and Labor Council to sit on the Chamber of Commerce directorate. This proposal was brought at last night's gathering of public officials and Chamber of Commerce directors, and appeared to meet with general approval from the latter, upon whom now rests the responsibility for issuing the invitation.

Gordon Ingram, president, stated that this question had been considered several other years, and while representatives of the Trades Council had been invited, they never took their seats.

Ald. McKay recalls distinctly that several years ago when the Board of Trade became extinct and the Chamber of Commerce replaced it, such an offer was extended to the Trades Council. He was a member of the latter body at that time, and favored the proposal, as he does today.

It is his opinion that a better understanding upon numerous questions would result between the two elements, if Labor sent a couple of delegates to the chamber. He would heartily support such a move.

The next step is now up to the directorate, however, he points out, who could extend a formal invitation to the Trades and Labor Council.

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DIXMUDE IS LOST AT SEA, CAPTAIN'S BODY FOUND

Official Announcement of Loss of Giant Dirigible Made by French Authorities.

IDENTIFIED BY TAG

All Available Craft Despatched to Sicilian Waters to Continue Search.

Associated Press Despatch. Rome, Dec. 28.—A message received by the minister of marine from Sciacca, Sicily, was to the effect that the identification of the body of the Dixmude's commander, says a thorough search along the coast nearby has as yet yielded no trace of any other body or of any aeronautical material.

Paris, Dec. 28.—An official announcement made this noon said that the dirigible Dixmude has been lost at sea.

The receipt of a telegram from the French naval attaché in Rome, announcing that the body of Lieut. Grendan, commander of the missing dirigible, had been found in Sicilian waters, caused all hopes of the safety of the Dixmude to be abandoned. These hopes had flared up last evening on receipt of reports from Lieut. Grendan, commander of the missing dirigible, had been found in Sicilian waters, caused all hopes of the safety of the Dixmude to be abandoned.

The Rome advices convinced the officials there could be no possible doubt as to the identity of the body picked up as Lieut. Grendan, whose identification tag attached to his wrist on all his trips.

Fishermen Find Body. Italian fishermen hauling in their nets at the end of their day's task last evening brought the body to the surface. It was a man, and was taken from the meshes it was found to be that of a French naval officer in full uniform. It was rushed to Gigli, on the southwestern shore of Sicily. None of the fishermen was able to read the identification tag, and the identity of the dead man was only made a certainty when the mayor and the school teacher of the village viewed the body which was then taken to Sciacca.

The message reached the French Please See Page 4, Column 1.

V. K. GREER DENIES SUPERVISOR TALE

W. E. Opper Will Probably Act Till Spring; Says Inspector.

V. K. Greer, chief inspector of the public schools, denied this morning that William E. Opper, principal of Lorne Avenue School, was a manual training supervisor in place of S. R. White, who has resigned to accept a position with the Technical School.

Mr. Greer stated that Mr. Opper held a manual training certificate, but that he was not acting as a supervisor. He would rank the same as the other male assistants, and would in all probability hold the position of manual training supervisor, when a new supervisor will be appointed. In the meantime, Mr. Opper will instruct in manual training, and his office of principal of Lorne Avenue will be temporarily filled by a woman teacher.

BUCHANAN WILL SPEAK TO CLUB

"Round Table" Members To Hear Address on City's Water Supply.

"London's Water Supply" will be the subject of an address before the Round Table Club tonight and the speaker will be E. V. Buchanan, general manager of the public utilities commission. Mr. Buchanan has said he will speak from a hitherto unpublished report on this question. Arthur Ford will be in the chair and the dinner will start at 6:15 sharp in the Blue Dragon Tea Rooms on Dundas street. This is the second meeting of the club and it is the hope of the executive that as many as turned out last time some 50 members will be on hand tonight to hear the address.

POLYGRAPH HAILED AS BIG DISCOVERY

Dr. R. H. Waud, Inventor of Electrical Device, Continues Research Work.

Dr. R. A. Waud, Highgate physician, whose invention of the electric polygraph has been hailed as a most useful discovery to the medical profession, has been carrying on exhaustive research work for the past month in the University of Western Ontario. Dr. Waud accepted a position as instructor in physiology to the university, and he took over his new duties recently.

It is expected that the complete development of Dr. Waud's new electric polygraph for the diagnosing of diseases will take place in London, now that he has become a permanent resident of this city.

"SHORT" IN ELECTRIC SIGN CAUSES MORNING FIRE

A short circuit in the wiring of an electric sign in front of Young's Jewelry Store, East London, gave the firemen a run at 3:35 this morning. The fire was extinguished with no loss.

HOCKEY FANS' AUTO RECOVERED BY POLICE

A Maxwell car, owned by Charles Craig, 836 Colborne street, was stolen last night from Bathurst and Talbot streets, while the owner was attending the hockey match at the arena. Later in the evening it was recovered on Brick street, police officials stated today.

BANQUET "Y" OFFICIAL

The Y's Men's Club, of the Y. M. C. A., are giving a supper this afternoon for J. G. Hoffer, of the Chicago Y. M. C. A. College, who is in the city today with the Chicago basketball team. Mr. Hoffer is to give an address to the members of the club.