

GAS COMPANY AGREES TO PURIFY GAS FOR BRANTFORD

Apparatus Sufficient To Handle All
Supply Is To Be Installed Within
Three Weeks—A Victory For City.

LONDON MAY GET PURIFIER IF IT CAN BE WORKED OUT.

[Canadian Press.]
Brantford, Dec. 30.—At the police court this morning the Brantford Gas Company promised to have a purifier sufficient to handle all Brantford's supply of gas installed and in operation within three weeks here.

The case against them for menacing public health was then adjourned. At the last hearing the company stated that they could not purify the gas, and the only solution was for them to cut off the supply.

They have now made a direct volte face on the matter, and thanks to the strong stand taken by the civic authorities, have decided to purify the sulphuretted hydrogen Tilbury gas supply before putting it in the local mains.

In reference to the probability of a gas purifier being installed in Brantford, J. C. Duffield, of the City Gas Company, stated this afternoon there was a possibility of such a step being taken in London if it was found that it could be worked out in the Telephone City, although he was inclined to believe that the idea was almost impracticable.

STORM SWEEPS OVER ENGLAND

Cunard Liner Lusitania Is Pre-
vented From Landing Pas-
sengers at Fish Guard.

SWITZERLAND IS ALSO HIT

[Canadian Press.]
New York, Dec. 30.—A cable from London to the Tribune says:

The mild weather prevailing until Christmas was replaced yesterday by a storm spreading over England, Wales and Scotland, accompanied by snow and coast storms, one of which prevented the Lusitania landing her passengers at Fish Guard, and she had to go to Liverpool. This is only the second time this year that the Cunard Line has been prevented from landing at Fish Guard because of bad weather. The boat train will probably reach Paddington station about noon today. Iframcombe was visited by one of the fiercest gales in years, beginning Sunday morning. It veered to the northeast, bringing rain, and unroofing houses and uprooting trees.

Telegrams received from Swiss resorts say that there are 40 inches of snow at Andermat, Kloster and Arosa, and 27 inches at Davos. France also had heavy snowfalls.

COMPANY SECURES EXTENSION OF TIME

Street Railway Will Have Another
Month to Try Out Schedule.

The city council, at a final meeting in the mayor's office at noon today, decided to give the London Street Railway Company further opportunity to work out the schedule of speed and service prepared by City Engineer W. N. Ashplant. Manager C. B. King, who appeared with Vice-President T. H. Smallman and Superintendent H. H. Hummel, asked that the company be allowed the month of January to make comparisons and see what the new schedule would do.

City Clerk Samuel Baker had a bylaw ready to compel the company to accept the engineer's schedule, and the discussion took place after its first reading. Ald. Wm. Spittal moved the second reading, but Ald. J. P. Moore and Ald. Hubert Ashplant fathered an amendment to give the company more time.

When the vote was taken on the amendment it was four to four, and the mayor cast the deciding vote against it. The amendment was declared lost. But when the motion to give the bylaw its third and final reading was submitted, it was also defeated, a two-thirds vote of the entire council being necessary.

The new procedure bylaw governing the rates of the city's public utilities, the regulation of meetings, etc., was passed after one or two minor changes had been made. The bylaw authorizing the issue of debentures for all the local improvements during the year was also put through.

THE WEATHER.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
The following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London for the 24 hours preceding 8 a.m. today: Highest, 32; lowest, 27.

The official temperatures for the 24 hours preceding 8 p.m. Monday were: Highest, 30; lowest, 22.

TOMORROW—FAIR.

Toronto, Dec. 30.—8 a.m.
Moderate to fresh westerly winds; fair today and Wednesday; not much change in temperature.

Temperatures.
The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today: Weather: Stations: High: Low: Cloud: Victoria: 48: 40: Cloudy: Calgary: 35: 25: Clear: Winnipeg: 25: 15: Cloudy: Port Arthur: 25: 15: Cloudy: Parry Sound: 25: 15: Cloudy: Toronto: 33: 23: Cloudy: Ottawa: 25: 15: Cloudy: Montreal: 25: 15: Cloudy: Quebec: 25: 15: Cloudy: Father Point: 25: 15: Cloudy.

Weather Notes.
The shallow area of low pressure which was north of Ontario yesterday is now passing across the Gulf, and a moderate area of high pressure moving across the Great Lakes and Middle States. The weather is comparatively mild and mostly fair throughout the Dominion.

Ald. Richter On Electrification.

To the Electors of London:

In order to clear up any misunderstanding that may exist in regard to my attitude on the electrification of the London and Port Stanley Railway, I wish to state clearly through The Advertiser that in connection with this undertaking, as with all others, I shall work for the best interests of the people as a whole.

Before the vote was taken, electrification was a matter for discussion and criticism. Now, it is the plain duty of every public man to give his best effort toward making the project a success. No act of mine will ever militate against the interests of the people of London as represented by their investment of \$890,000 in this undertaking, if elected to the office of mayor I shall consider it my sacred trust to forward London's interests in this matter and in all others, maintaining always a sense of the duty to the city and of sound businesslike procedure. Yours truly,
JOHN G. RICHTER.

CHAIRMAN DINES SCHOOL TRUSTEES ON RETIREMENT

E. R. Dennis Acts as Host to
Board of Education After
Final Meeting.

SCHOOLS ARE IMPORTANT
Annual Report Comment Is
Made on Their Paramount
Needs.

The 1913 board of education held its final meeting on Monday afternoon, and wound up the business of the year. The retiring chairman, E. R. Dennis, presented his annual report and reviewed, showing what had been accomplished and pointing out things that were to be taken up in the future. In view of the fact that over 90 per cent of the pupils who attend the city schools do not enter the Collegiate, the retiring chairman pointed out that the public school was a paramount necessity in the future. He was recognized by the board of 1913 in providing increased and better accommodation.

During the year the board carried out the most extensive building program in the history of the city, including New Aberdeen school, \$70,000; addition to Chesley avenue, \$23,000; new heating and ventilating equipment for the new kindergarten room at Talbot street, \$11,000; new temporary two-room school on Empress avenue, \$2,500.

1,000 More Pupils.
The increase in public school attendance during the year, exclusive of the annexed schools, was nearly 1,000, and the chairman pointed out the necessity of replacing obsolete and unsatisfactory school plants with up-to-date buildings. When the schools reopen after the Christmas vacation, there will be a total of 180 rooms, 112 of which are already heated. The board now has under its charge more than 10,000 pupils, and 250 teachers, officials and other employees.

Principal H. B. Denison, who presided at the London Art and Industrial school during December as follows: Day classes—Average daily, 54; aggregate 814; special day classes, average daily 28, aggregate 418; Evening classes, average 154, aggregate 1,567. There were 291 certificates granted for the fall term. Trustees A. M. Hunt and John M. Gunn fathered a vote of thanks to the retiring chairman for his work.

Chairman Entertains.
Later, members of the board, several officials and newspapermen were entertained by Chairman Dennis at dinner at the Travelers' Club. Speeches were made by several of the guests, and not the least important part of the program was the presentation of a miniature to Miss Lisa to the host. Trustee W. T. Strong made the presentation.

Those present were: Chairman E. R. Dennis, Trustee A. M. Hunt, L. H. Martyn, Dr. H. W. Shaw, Dr. J. P. Teasdale, Dr. J. P. Muggan, W. T. Strong, W. W. Cunnage, Principal H. B. Denison of the London Art and Industrial school, Inspector C. B. Denison, Secretary R. M. McElhennan, City Hall Supervisor Harry Merritt and Principal Rogers.

OBSERVE ANNIVERSARY

Winnipeg Couple Married Here Fifty
Years Ago Will Observe Golden
Wedding.

Married fifty years ago in London, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Calder, pioneer residents of Winnipeg, on New Year's day will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary in that city. They left London in 1861, residing in Winnipeg ever since. Mr. Calder is a pioneer ticket agent of Western Canada, and has been president of the Canadian Ticket Association.

Mr. Calder was born in Scotland 73 years ago, and spent last summer in revisiting the land of his birth. Mrs. Calder was formerly a Miss Williams, of this city.

The members of their family are: Fred, in British Columbia; Arthur, of Winnipeg; Miss Rose Calder at home, and Mrs. George Webster, of Calgary. A. G. Calder, 693 Talbot street, of one firm of MacMillan, Calder & Co., this city, is a nephew, and is on a recent trip to Western Canada found his uncle hale and hearty, despite his advanced years.

Diphtheria Victim.—Loretta White, the 8-year-old daughter of Patrick White, 198 John street, died at Victoria Hospital Monday evening from diphtheria. The funeral was private, and was held this morning to St. Peter's Cemetery. Rev. Father Harding conducted the funeral services.

STEAMER TASMAN AFLOAT.

Thursday Island, Australia, Dec. 30.—The steamer Tasman, which had been ashore for several days in the Gulf of Papua, was floated today with the assistance of the Japanese steamer Inaho Maru. She is said to have 15 feet of water in her hold, but with her own pumps is keeping it from rising.

Ex-Ald. T.J. Murphy Strongly Indorses Richter as Mayor

Tells Auditorium Audience It
Will Be No Mistake to Elect
Him—Opposes Natural Gas.

Natural gas has not a friend in ex-Ald. T. J. Murphy, and the message in the Auditorium Monday night he came out strongly against the project to bring natural gas to London, declaring that he would never vote for it, because the city would gain nothing, and the citizens would be put to great expense in changing fixtures, etc.

"According to the manifesto of the gas people published recently in the daily papers, who would gain nothing," he said. "Then they tell me that I cannot use my present gas stove, and that the cost of changing it to suit the requirements of natural gas will be from \$5 to \$25, that an ordinary stove will not last more than three or four years with natural gas being burned in the house; that it's not fit for lighting purposes."

"According to my own present gas fixtures are useless," he continued. "I cannot use my gas stove, and if I have no stove in my kitchen I must build one which is three or four years will be useless. I'm not going to be lured into signing for that." He declared that he would vote against it, for when the price is set by the gas company itself, there's no bargain at all.

"I'm another," and "So am I," greeted his announcement that he would vote against natural gas. He endorsed the candidature of Ald. Richter in glowing terms. "You will be told that Ald. Richter is too particular," he said. "But he is not. He is making after your funds be too particular? (Loud applause.) I always found that Ald. Richter was a fine man, open to reason and argument, and a man who was willing to take anything in the dark. If he is not returned at the polls the city will be the loser."

He closed his remarks by saying that the people of London have never been in the city council. (Applause.) If he is elected, the people will have a man who will take whatever, and if I can help it his services will not be lost to the city of London.

PROBE TO ASCERTAIN CAUSE OF BIG FIRES

Inquest Instigated by Owners of
Bow Park Farm—Night Watch-
man Hints Suspicion.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Brantford, Dec. 30.—At the request of the Dominion Cannery, Limited, of Hamilton, an inquest has been opened into the cause of the disastrous conflagration at the farm during the month of March last, when a fire broke out in each case amounting to something over \$50,000, including the value of much live stock, which perished in the flames.

The officers of the Dominion Cannery state that while they are satisfied that fires were of incendiary origin, they have no suspicion of who started them.

The first sitting of the inquest was held last night. There were no startling developments. Several of the employees at the farm and others gave evidence, but while all were satisfied in their minds that the conflagrations were the work of firebugs, none could definitely place the blame.

The inquest was adjourned for two weeks. County Constable Kerr, who is working on the case, also promises to produce other important evidence. F. J. Schenk, of Hamilton, chief auditor for the company, was one of the witnesses of last night's inquest, but his evidence was unimportant, being based on suspicions.

JAIL BURNS—TRAMP RESCUED.
St. Thomas, Ont., Dec. 30.—The village of Highgate, in which a "Wandering Willie" was sheltered for the night, took fire from the gas stove, and the inmate had a narrow escape from being cremated. Firemen rescued him in time and saved the building.

Badly Burned.—George Dodd, a middle-aged man living at 141 York street, was severely burned about the face and hands by a fire which started in his premises from unknown causes this morning. Dodd, when the department arrived on the scene, was attempting to get out of the burning structure, and in doing so he became so badly burned that it was necessary to take him to Victoria Hospital. The amount of damage by fire was slight.

Struck by a Car.—In walking around a car, which unexpectedly started, a young man had his head badly bumped at the corner of Adelaide and Dundas streets this morning. He was, however, able to leave without assistance.

RICHTER REVIEWS WORK AS PEOPLE'S SERVANT IN GREAT FIGHTING SPEECH

For Woman Suffrage

In a manner that could leave no doubt in the minds of those who heard him, Ald. Richter declared himself in favor of woman suffrage at the meeting in the Auditorium Monday night.

He had concluded his remarks, was about to leave his seat, when a voice from the audience inquired as to his attitude in regard to votes for women in civic matters.

"The question has never come before the city council," he replied, "but I have always held that a lady has the qualifications that are gentlemen have the right to vote, she should have a right to vote. And I see no reason why a woman, because she marries, should lose the right to vote."

DIES IN DOCTOR'S OFFICE AFTER ATTENDING DANCE

John Sigel Was Under going Med-
ical Examination When
Death Came.

John Sigel, the 20-year-old son of H. Sigel, of Horton street, died in the office of Dr. C. H. Cline on Monday night, after attending a dance. Returning from a dance in the Dominion Savings building, he complained to his parents that he was not feeling well. It was on their advice that he consulted the doctor.

Doctor Cline was examining him when he suddenly threw up his arms, and without a word slipped off a chair he had been sitting on and passed away.

To the Advertiser this afternoon Dr. Cline stated that heart disease has caused the young man's death.

The body was removed from the office to the parents' residence, 388 Horton street, in Griffiths' and Williams' ambulance.

Girl Identifies Man Suspected of Bank Robbery

Jack Krafchenko Seen Wearing
False Moustache Before Bur-
glary and Murder Happened.

[Canadian Press.]
Winnipeg, Dec. 30.—Eleven-year-old Mary Derksen, of Plum Coulee, Man., last night at the preliminary hearing of charges of murder and robbery against Jack Krafchenko, identified Krafchenko as the man she saw wearing a false moustache in Plum Coulee a few minutes before the Bank of Montreal was robbed and Manager Arnold murdered.

She knew him well, and was positive of the identity. Nearly twenty witnesses were examined, and as many more will be heard at the resumption of the hearing today. The evidence clearly established that only one man robbed the bank, and that the same man slew the manager.

INTEREST CENTRES IN MOYER INVESTIGATION

Calumet Grand Jury Is Probing
Circumstances of W. of F. M.
President's Ejection.

[Canadian Press.]
Calumet, Mich., December 30.—Chief interest in the labor troubles of the miners of the Michigan copper country was transferred today from Calumet to Hancock, where the special investigation of the assault of last Friday night on President Charles H. Moyer, of the Western Federation of Miners, and his forcible expulsion from the district, continued.

The examination of witnesses, who were in Italian Hall attending the Christmas Eve festivities when the panic was caused by the false cry of "fire," continued today. Union men continued their search for the unknown man, whose witnesses said gave the shout of "fire!" and then disappeared.

CHAIR FOR DR. CAMPBELL

The employees of the postoffice, inspectors and superintendent of railway mail service offices remembered the former inspector, Dr. C. I. Campbell, with the handsomest chair that could be procured in the city. Mr. Campbell also received a magnificent floral basket. That after a year's absence from the Government service he still retains the love and esteem of his old associates must be very gratifying to Dr. Campbell.

The Hans Schmidt Jury Divided.

New York, Dec. 30.—The jury in the case of Hans Schmidt, the priest, who killed Anna Amulder, after having been out since 1:25 p.m. yesterday, had failed to reach an agreement up to 11 o'clock this morning. It was reported that the jurors were hopelessly deadlocked on the question of the prisoner's sanity. Schmidt spent a restless night.

Carries Big Audience With Him as He Compre-
hensively Deals With Many Civic Problems
and Scores Present Misrule Administration.

PEOPLE'S WILL HIS ONLY MANDATE IN ELECTRIFICATION QUESTION.

Shows Utter Absurdity of Claim That He Could
Oppose Scheme With L. and P. S. Commission
Having Four Members Pledged To It.

EXPOSES WATER BOARD'S "SURPLUS"

Alleged Obstructionist Tactics Shown to Have Been
Mere Common-sense That Has Been Justified
By Succeeding Events.

TRIBUTES FROM HIS COLLEAGUES

A crowd of over 200 voters was present in the Auditorium on Monday evening to hear Ald. J. G. Richter and other candidates for civic honors in the coming elections speak on municipal questions. Ald. Richter, in a forceful address, gave an account of his stewardship during the four years he has served the citizens of London as not only a scathing indictment of civic extravagance in the past resulting in the highest tax rate the city has ever known, but set forth in a clear light some of the civic problems which the citizens are facing today in regard to municipal finances, and showed the solution of them.

Ald. Richter carried his audience with him as he scored point after point in his review of civic misrule in the past, and his remarks were frequently interrupted by loud applause. Many eloquent tributes to Alderman Richter's ability were paid by other speakers of the evening. Ald. B. W. Bennett had high words of praise to say for the man with whom he has been associated in the City Council during the past three years.

An Independent Platform.
"I am again on the platform with Mr. Richter," he said, "and you will, perhaps, ask why I am here. I am on this platform with him because the platform he is on is an independent platform, and that's the kind of platform I will go on."

He asserted that he did not believe in politics in municipal affairs, and he had never known Ald. Richter to display any party spirit in his work for the people of London. "I could not tell you what his politics are, if he has any," he asserted, "and I don't think that he could tell you what mine are."

Speaking of his ability as a financier, the speaker said: "Ald. Richter is a fair man, very exact, and one who will go to the bottom of anything he undertakes. He's the greatest critic that the finance committee has. Never was a bylaw passed or contract let by the committee that he did not get to the bottom of, and I appreciate that."

Reviews Sidewalks Scandal.
Ald. Bennett reviewed the facts of the recent sidewalk scandal which he was instrumental in having investigated. Providence had helped him at a critical stage of his efforts when, just as it seemed that the affair was going to be given a liberal coat of whitewash by the committee appointed to investigate it, Ald. Richter came home from the West, and two slabs of the sidewalk fell in. Seeing the condition of affairs Ald. Richter joined hands with the grand jury, which was properly investigated, with the result that the defects in the construction of the walks were shown and the contractor compelled to remedy them.

The disclosures were proof of the necessity of day labor in doing municipal work of this kind, so that the citizens would know that they were getting what they were paying for, Alderman Bennett said.

Two Years the Limit.
"I'm satisfied that Ald. Richter will be mayor in 1914," he remarked in concluding. "When a man plays the hog at any game it's time to turn him down. When the mayor has occupied the chair for two years, that's the limit, unless he's exceptionally good, and the present mayor is no exception."

Ex-Ald. W. A. Wilson referred to Mr. Richter as the best alderman London has ever had. "Pretty nearly all that the present council knows it learned from Alderman Richter," he said.

"I served on the council with him, and I learned to like him because he was the fairest man I ever knew and the most courteous. You'll make no mistake in electing him."

Ald. Ashplant's Tribute.
Ald. Hubert Ashplant also paid glowing tributes to the personal worth and executive ability of the mayor-elect candidate. "I tell you, friends, he told you the truth tonight," he said, referring to Mr. Richter's speech, "but he did not tell you the half of what he did. He's the kind of man you want. I've known him for 30 years, and if the people who have criticised him knew him as those who have associated with him, they would shut their mouths."

J. C. Mottashed, president of the Progressive Federation, who is seeking election as school trustee, also spoke briefly, and reaffirmed his statement

that if elected he would do everything possible to eliminate military training from the public schools.

J. A. McDonald, who is seeking election as alderman, was the last speaker of the evening, and he occupied only a few minutes in introducing himself to the voters.

T. B. Escott presided at the meeting in most capable manner.

Richter Thanks Electors.
In commencing his address Ald. Richter thanked the electors for the certain victory he had won in the past. Evidence of the people's confidence in him was found in the increased majorities they had given him each successive year. He was glad to say that he had returned him at the head of the polls last January.

"I had fully intended retiring at the end of this year," said Ald. Richter, "but number of citizens presented me with a largely signed petition to allow my name to go before the public, and after deep consideration I consented to run. I will be vastly better off if you do not elect me on Jan. 1. However, I am in the field, and if you will elect me I will do my utmost to serve you."

Boosts From Free Press.
He then reviewed briefly some of the reforms he had attempted during the first three years he was in the council. That was before the election of the present mayor, and during those years he had received many flattering notices in the Free Press, and until electrification came along it had seemed to regard him as a capable civic officer.

"A little over a year ago I said, 'My views regarding the certain matter of the sidewalk scandal, with the views of certain persons in the city, who were much interested in a certain project, and as a consequence the good work has been previously held by these persons vanished, as by magic, and from that time on nothing has been too petty, too mean, too vindictive, to be given utterance to from day to day. In short, I have suddenly become, in their estimation, a fiend incarnate, seeking to drag the city down to perdition in order that I might revel in the saturnalia of this sudden and complete volte face, this mud-slinging, these calumnies and lies, this tremendous effort to put me out of municipal life? Is it me, because I have not been able to have an opinion of my own in regard to a matter which I have gone into very carefully and had, because of that fact, as good as a right to my opinion as theirs? Is it because I have grievously offended someone's dignity and must be punished therefore? Or is there something hidden away in the recesses of my heart which I do not bear the light of day, and fear of exposure is prompting these desperate tactics? Whatever the explanation, I am not consciously guilty of any wrongdoing, and am content to await the indication which time will bring, if I was right in my opinion."

Has Done His Share.
As regards my work in the council, I would prefer not to be personal. As a rule the work is carried on by committee, or by the council as a whole, and is, therefore, collective rather than individual. Nevertheless, I have usually originated in someone's brain before being taken up collectively, and without wishing to take undue credit to myself I think I can fairly lay claim to having done my share in this connection.

As chairman of the finance committee the first year of my municipal career, it was only natural that I should pay a good deal of attention to the financial aspect of the city's affairs and I was impressed with the fact that the city was living beyond its income. From the consolidation of the debenture debt of the city in 1901 at which time the tax rate was 19 mills, the rate steadily increased until 23 mills was reached in 1905. In 1906 a second consolidation of debt took place, and the rate was reduced to 20 1/2 mills, increasing to 21 1/2 mills for 1907, 22 1/2 mills for 1908, and 23 1/2 mills for 1909. At this rate of progression the rate for 1913, my first year in the council, would have been 24 1/2 mills, and in a couple more years would have reached the limit of taxation, 20 mills, plus the school rate.

Walks to Blame.
There being no question as to the facts I naturally looked about to discover the cause, and it did not take long to discover what was primarily at the root of the trouble. Some ten years prior cement sidewalks began to take the place of plank walks, and as an inducement for the property owners to petition for these walks as local improvements, the council assumed a considerable share of the costs of the walks in addition to paying for the street extensions and

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