

CHINESE CIVIL WAR NEAR END

Gen Chi Decides to Discontinue Resistance to Peking Government.

Associated Press Despatch.
Shanghai, Dec. 15.—The end of civil war in China after four months of fighting was virtually assured today when the abandonment of further resistance to the regime of Tzu Chi Jui on the part of the Yangtze river provinces was made certain by arrival here of the family of Chi Shieh-Yuan, military governor of this province, and the report that Gen. Chi was preparing to follow.

Gen. Chi was one of the leaders of the forces which besieged Shanghai in September and October, has been at Nanjing, recently, and is reported to have a special train set out on the tracks there ready to bring him to this city.

Han Kuo-Chun, the military governor of the province, officially took over the reins of government at Tzu Chi Jui on the morning of Dec. 10 at 10 o'clock.

The decision on the part of Gen. Chi to quit his resistance to the newly-instituted government at Peking is declared due to the defection of virtually all of his troops, and the move is recognized as marking complete cessation of fighting in all of China.

FRENCH CATHOLICS RISE AGAINST GOVT. POLICY

Thousands Gather and Protest Curtailing of Religious Freedom.

Associated Press Despatch.
Paris, Dec. 15.—The movement among the organized opposition parties in protest against the government's religious policy, which they declare is a menace to the freedom of creed, continues active.

General Desbroux presided yesterday over a meeting at Avignon of 7,000 Catholics, who adopted a resolution demanding retention of the French embassy at the Vatican, respect for promises made to Alsace-Lorraine, freedom for all religious congregations, and abolition of all laws limiting the rights and freedom of Catholics.

At Bordeaux four meetings were organized, with an attendance altogether of about 15,000 persons. The meetings were addressed by deputies from Alsace-Lorraine, Brittany, Maine-et-Loire and the Basque and Béarn countries, who appealed to public opinion in order, they said, that France might be spared domestic strife prejudicial to the dignity and safety of the country.

CITY FIRE REGULATION COMMITTEE WILL MEET

At noon tomorrow the special committee on fire regulations will meet to review the present regulations. Mayor Wenck, Ald. L. H. Douglas, Ald. Frank McKay, Fire Chief Aitken and City Clerk Baker comprise the committee, and have authority from the council to act.

Chief procedure is to revise the wording of the regulations in any place where clarity is needed, and to change clauses affected by resolutions of the council during the present year. The fire bylaws have already been passed on by the council, and will not need to be touched.

ADJ. HOLLAND SPEAKS.
Adj. Holland, master of Bethesda hospital, and Ensign Robinson conducted the young people's meetings at St. Thomas corps of the Salvation Army yesterday. The crowd was crowded with enthusiastic soldiers. The young people took a prominent part in the services. Adj. Holland took for her evening subject, "Life's Ideals."

SNAPSHOTS OF A FATH R DRESSING JUNIOR.



News From City Churches

ST. JAMES' ANGLICAN.

The choir of St. James' Anglican church recently held an election of officers, with the following results: Hon. president, Rev. G. E. Forsythe; hon. vice-presidents, H. J. Clarke; vice-president, Miss H. J. Clarke; secretary, Miss H. J. Clarke; representative on church council, Mrs. H. Buzler; vestment committee, Mrs. H. Buzler; and Mrs. W. J. Stevens. A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring officers.

ASKIN STREET ORCHESTRA.

The orchestra of the Askin street Methodist church, under the direction of Dr. J. Smith, attended the service in St. James' Anglican church last evening, and delighted the congregation with their music. Rev. W. Anderson spoke in appreciation of their coming to add to the beauty of the service, and hoped that it would prove a blessing to both the church and the orchestra of Askin street church. During the offertory, A. R. McCulloch sang "Consider, Hear Me" (Woods). The choir sang "Mauder's Evening Service." Mrs. Herman Westland, Miss A. L. Green and H. J. Anderson took the quartet, with A. W. Anderson presiding at the organ.

KNOX-ST. PAUL'S DEBATE.

The debate arranged between Knox Presbyterian church and St. Paul's Presbyterian church took place last evening at St. Paul's. The topic, "Resolved, that the pioneer women have contributed more to the home than men," was ably taken by both sides. Miss Haylock and Mr. Sterling upheld the affirmative for Knox church, and Miss McGay and Miss Wilcox debated for St. Paul's. A short program consisted of a solo by Miss Ruth Flanagan and readings by Miss Marion McGay.

ST. JOHN'S W. A.

Bishop Williams was in attendance at the annual meeting of the women's auxiliary of the Church of St. John's, the Evangelical church, recently held at the residence of Mrs. J. G. Clarke. The members, presented Mrs. A. L. G. Clarke with a life membership in the organization, and a bouquet of flowers. The bishop commended Mrs. Clarke on her work in the society, when he made the presentation. During the meeting the members took place, and the new executive including the following: president, Mrs. A. L. G. Clarke; vice-presidents, Mrs. R. J. Bowen, Mrs. (Mrs.) Tolson; secretary, Mrs. A. L. G. Clarke; treasurer, Mrs. E. J. Levey; Dorcas committee, Mrs. E. J. Levey, and Mrs. E. W. Tolson; and secretary, Mrs. George Wright; secretary of babies' work, Mrs. Bueley; flower committee, Mrs. E. Harding.

At the conclusion of the meeting a social hour was enjoyed, when afternoon tea was served, with Mrs. Connor and Mrs. Lindley presiding over the tea. There was a large attendance.

DOMINION, FEARING PLAGUE, TIGHTENS STRAW IMPORTS

The importation of merchandise packed in hay or straw is prohibited from Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Louisiana, Mississippi, California, Nevada and Oregon.

For some time past there has been a ban on straw coming in from the middle western and Pacific coast states. This was deemed advisable by the department of agriculture owing to the prevalence of foot and mouth disease across the line.

At this conclusion of the Ottawa under the signature of J. H. Grisdale, deputy minister of agriculture, received at the customs office today. The date after Jan. 1 the importation of merchandise packed in hay or straw or other fodders is prohibited from all countries except United States, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, with the exception of those states already prohibited owing to the existence of the disease.

MILITARY EXAMS. PLANNED IN THEORY, OF COURSE

A board of military officers will assemble at the armories next Sunday for the purpose of conducting examinations in the theoretical portion of the militia staff course. The subjects will be strategy, map reading and field sketching. Lieut.-Col. Gilman has announced.

The members of the board are: Lieut.-Col. F. B. Ware, D.S.O., A.A. and C.M.G., military district No. 1, president; Captain S. V. Cooke, D.S.O., and an officer not below the rank of captain, detailed from the Royal Canadian regiment.

TRAVELLERS TO MEET.

The annual meeting of the Ontario Commercial Travellers' association will be held Saturday afternoon in the offices of the Association in the Dominion Savings building. As all the officers for the year were given acclamations at the nomination meeting a month ago, there will be little business outside the reports for the year to be given by the various officers.

ICE ON LAKE.

With two inches of ice on the river at Port Stanley and nearly a quarter of an inch on the lake, skaters at the port are fully assured of good skating for Christmas. This is much earlier than last year, the first skating being on Jan. 1.

MEMORIAL WINDOW AT ST. PAUL'S DEDICATED

Beautiful Stained Glass Window Placed in Memory of Dr. Moorhouse.

The beautiful stained glass window placed in the chancel of St. Paul's cathedral by Mrs. Moorhouse, in memory of her husband, the late Walter H. Moorhouse, M.D., was dedicated yesterday morning with fitting ceremony.

The Rev. Dean L. Norman Tucker, rector of St. Paul's, officiated. Though the window was erected last September, Mrs. Moorhouse, who was out of town at the time, asked that the dedication service be postponed until she could be present.

The window, entitled "Jesus in the midst of the Doctors," bears the inscription: "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. Erected to the glory of God in loving memory of Walter H. Moorhouse, M.D."

I dedicating the window, Dean Tucker dwelt at some length upon the service Dr. Moorhouse had rendered in the community. He commented upon this deep interest in Huron college, the medical school and the University of Western Ontario. "He was a conspicuous and noble man," declared the dean. "A devout communicant and warden of this church for nearly fifty years. His service to the community was an engagement, and he never took a holiday. He spent his entire life in the community in doing good on behalf of church and state."

Touching upon the loss St. Paul's cathedral had suffered lately in the removal of a large number of its stalwart members of past years, Dean Tucker pleaded that the men and women of the church would come forward to fill the gaps.

"The church minister," he said, "is becoming impoverished, but the church triumphant enriched, through the death of people of such faithfulness."

MAN REMANDED TO ALLOW MEDICAL EXAMINATION

Frank Kempster, one of London's best known characters, appeared in police court this morning after he had been taken to the police station by officers who found him alone on the streets. Kempster had a black eye which, he said, was received when he was struck by a bed post. No definite charge was laid against the man, although he said he had been drinking. He was remanded to jail for one week, after which he will undergo a medical examination.

TURTLE DONOR CHANGES NAME OF LIBRARY PET

Another turtle was presented to the children's department of the public library the other day. He is a much larger fellow than his little brother who have been there for some time. He is rather sluggish, for although the water is warm in the aquarium he knows that the winter is the time for rest.

The little chap who brought him in named him Jim, and that was the name it was intended he should go by, but it was only for a short time. A few days ago the donor came back and announced his intention of changing the turtle's name. Jim was too common. The new name is Pete. But to tell the truth Pete doesn't seem to care much what he is called. He spends most of his time sleeping on the sandy bottom of the aquarium.

REVISE SPELLER.

Toronto Inspector V. Greer is in charge of a committee of the board of education appointed by the provincial department of education at the beginning of the year to revise the revision of his time sleeping. The committee, under S. J. Stubbs, chief editor of text books for the department of education, has met at frequent intervals throughout the past twelve months.

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WORK REFLECTS BETTER BUSINESS

Report of London Life Greeted as Sign of Dominion Improvement.

Anticipating the closing of a record year's business, the managers and agents of the London Life have placed on the books of the company for the week of Dec. 8 to 13 a total that will amount to almost \$3,250,000, making a new high-water mark for the business of this company.

This is the fiftieth year of the company's business, and General manager E. E. Reid and his associates decided to make it a record one as well, setting as an objective "one million new work" for the year. March has set aside by those in charge of the campaign as a month for writing business as a tribute to Mr. Reid, and in that one month a total of 6,250,000 was turned in, running well above the objective of a million a week.

The climax came in what was termed "loyalty week," when just for one measure, managers and agents set out to make a new mark for business. The result was not only a surprise to the most optimistic, but can be taken as an indication of a return to better business era all around.

Last year the total business written by the London Life was \$4,400,000, while for 1924 the total will be at \$4,900,000, a straight increase of \$500,000.

To mark, in a fitting way, the close of the fiftieth year, the company intends to make its annual meeting on Jan. 19 an affair of more than usual interest. They will bring together their managers and superintendents from all over Canada, together with the 49 members of the 24-Karat club, membership of which is composed of the best producers for the company.

There will be several days of entertainment and conference, complete plans for which are now being made at the head office of the company.

SEARCH FOR LODGINGS BRINGS WINTER HOME

Policeman Smells Liquor and Hamilton Man Lands in Cell.

John Chisholm arrived in London from Hamilton yesterday. He was not familiar with the best lodging places of the city and so inquired of a policeman where a comfortable place at reasonable expense could be found. The constable suggested the police station, upon smelling Chisholm's breath, and even invited him to spend the night there when a large bulge in his overcoat pocket revealed the fact that he carried a bottle of liquor.

Chisholm came to the city to help grow hair on Londoners' heads. He sells hair restorer and has evidence throughout the London district, where he has been working, and will continue during the week and will conclude the end of the month. A feature of the coming meetings will be the awarding of prizes to the most efficient in the various young people's activities.

London No. 3 corps will have a special meeting on Thursday, while No. 4 corps will have a big rally on Monday night. The other two London corps will have their special meetings after Christmas.

RETURN TO CITY.
Brigadier McManis of the Salvation Army, Clarence street, returned from Exeter today, where he has been conducting the annual services of the young people of that corps.

"You were doing your best," the magistrate replied.
"I know I'm doing your worship," Chisholm continued. "I may have smelt of liquor, but I had some beer to drink in Hamilton and the good stuff there. Can you make the good stuff as possible? I am willing to pay \$50, but no more."

"I will make the fine as small as possible," said the magistrate. "Two hundred dollars and costs for three months in jail."

Chisholm searched his pocketbook and upon discovering he did not have the necessary amount to pay for his freedom was forced to take the jail term.

SUMMER FAILS TO AID CAUSE OF UNEMPLOYED

Unemployment figures for the year issued by the government employment bureau show that there were as many men out of work in June as there were last January, thereby exploding the popular opinion that there is more unemployment in the winter than summer.

In January, 1924, there were 215 men and 32 women registered at the local bureau for work, while in June there were 216 men and 33 women. In September the number had increased to 236 men, and in December, 611.

POTS OF SALVATION ARMY YIELD \$150 SATURDAY

Contributions to the Salvation Army Christmas relief funds through the street corner pots amounted to \$150 on Saturday. Adjutant Spooner of the Clarence street citadel said that the response was fair, but he hoped for more generous gifts as the next few days. The first day amount, this year, considerably below that of the 1923 offerings.

The pots will not appear again until Wednesday when they will be on the street corners continually until Christmas. On Saturday there were nine pots out. Six of these were in the downtown district and three on the outskirts.

PLAN REFINERY.

Plans are being put through to establish an oil refinery at Tilsonburg. The Royal Oil Company is negotiating with the board of trade and the city to bring the company there.

A bylaw will be submitted on Dec. 23 regarding a fixed assessment. If it is low enough the company will likely locate there. At present the firm has an option on lot bordering on the C. P. R. It is understood.

NINETY-FIVE FIND WORK.
J. C. Spencer of the government employment bureau stated that 95 men who had been seeking jobs were now employed by the city in work on city sewers and road work at Springbank park.

PRINCESS STATES HOTEL TO BE FIRST IN LONDON

Soothsayer States Station and City Hall Will Come Next.

TEAM WILL LOSE
London's Mayor Will Be Elected For Fourth Term, She States.

London will get a new C. N. R. station, a new hotel and a new city hall. Its hockey team, however, will not win the Ontario honors, but to make up for this Mayor Wenck will run for a fourth term and be elected.

So says Princess Wahletka, the green-eyed Indian princess, soothsayer extraordinary and prophetess of talent and charm. Princess Wahletka, who is paying a week's visit to the city, appears this week at Loew's theatre. She readily made these prognostications to The Advertiser in an interview this morning.

Since she was eight years old Princess Wahletka has been foretelling the future, straightening out domestic grievances, and aiding the public in general through her powers of telepathy. She is one of the few in the world today who are recognized as having true psychic ability.

American Indian.
Princess Wahletka is a true American Indian. She loves the snow and outdoors. She is enjoying every minute of her stay in Canada and feels sure that if the cold weather continues she will find London one of the most attractive cities she has visited during her Canadian tour.

"I never wear a hat, you know," she said. "I was stopped on the streets three times this morning, and I don't think I am crazy. It is the proper way to live, though."

Princess Wahletka never tires of her work. She has seen so many of the hardened you become to her vaudeville acts twice a day are always sure to be most interesting. Men ask where they can buy a drink. Women inquire of their husbands' activities. Some desire to know the date of their death, and flappers besiege her for descriptions of their future husbands.

Past, Present Easy.
Although Princess Wahletka does not profess to be able to foretell the future with absolute accuracy, her past and present are accurate. Incidents of the past and present are always revealed through thought and are carried in the brain of each individual, she says. And to one who is a student of mental telepathy, everyone's mind is an open book.

"London will have three new buildings within the next three weeks," she said this morning. "The station, she said this morning, is in the course of construction in 1925, but the city hall will come a little later."

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES.
Services for the young people of the Salvation Army have been held throughout the London district during the past week and will conclude the end of the month. A feature of the coming meetings will be the awarding of prizes to the most efficient in the various young people's activities.

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Poison Liquor Takes Six Lives

Associated Press Despatch.
New York, Dec. 15.—Six persons, one of them a woman, died, and several other persons, unconscious, and all said to be in a serious condition, were taken to Bellevue hospital during the past 24 hours, as a result of what the police and hospital surgeons report as a pre-holiday epidemic of poisonous liquor cases.

ASH SIFTING IS SEEN AS AID TO JOBLESS

J. C. Spencer Declares Great Quantities of Coal Are Being Wasted.

That much coal is being wasted in the ash cans of the city and that employment could be provided for many of the jobless through an organization to sift ashes, is the contention of J. C. Spencer, government employment agent in London.

About one-third of the coal supplies of Londoners is wasted and tossed out in the ash heap, Mr. Spencer says. A little sifting would provide good quantities of fuel.

If permission could be secured to go round to homes a man with a sifter could shake out considerable fuel, save the consumer money and at the same time cut down the ranks of the unemployed. W. C. Dodd, superintendent of garbage collection for the city, states that few families now use the ash sifter as in the old days, and coal could be reclaimed if folks took the time to do so.

LIQUOR FINES OF \$1,200 PAID, TWO GO TO JAIL

Four of the six Londoners charged in city and county police courts on Friday by special provincial officers with selling liquor, paid fines amounting to \$1,200 on Saturday and today. This amount will be forwarded to the Ontario government.

The two others who were found guilty were unable to pay their fines and will be sent to the Ontario reformatory for a five-month term each.

WESTMINSTER COUNCIL MEMBERS AGAIN IN RING

Every member of Westminster township council will be in the political ring once more for election, deputy reeve William Boler stated today.

"Will there be an acclamation in Westminster this year?" Mr. Boler was asked.

"I don't think so. I haven't heard anything definite, but I am pretty sure that there will be an election," replied the deputy reeve.

The council as at present constituted is composed of: Reeve Walter Boler; deputy reeve, Wm. Laidlaw; first deputy reeve, Wm. Johnston; and councillors, Harvey Davis and W. J. Grieve.

MANY COUNTRY DANCES.

Country dances are coming fast and thickly now. Practically every night in the week, but particularly on Wednesdays and Fridays, there are innumerable rural dances in Middlesex county. The position of "caller-off" is getting back in its own again, one champion holding the enviable record of having called off 149 dances last season.

YOUTH REMANDED.

A youth, arrested some time ago on a charge of indecency, appeared in court today, but was remanded for another week upon application of his counsel.

DERAILMENT WORK CAUSES INJURY

W. Smith, of Stratford Auxiliary, Has Leg Broken—Main Lines Blocked.

W. Smith, member of the Stratford auxiliary crew of the Canadian National railways, suffered a broken leg when a rail broke and struck him while he was working on a derailment near Paris yesterday.

Running into heavy weather a mile from Paris, an extra freight bound from London to Toronto was derailed at 11:30 a.m., caused by a broken axle on one of the cars. Eight cars of coal, a car of canned goods and three cars of hogs left the rails. Twelve hogs were killed. The damage to rolling stock amounts to \$3,000. The hog cars were demolished.

Both main lines were blocked. The westbound track was clear at 5:30 last night. The eastbound was cleared today. The 12:20 eastbound train out of London and the train due here at 5:30 last night were routed via Stratford.

The auxiliaries from London, Stratford and Hamilton were called out and put in a heavy 24 hours work. Superintendent C. Forrester, Assistant Supt. A. F. Sharpe and Chief Dispatcher W. Doherty were on duty until the early hours this morning.

RANCH, MINE FLOODED AS RIVER DYKES BREAK

Overflowing of Veeder River in B. C. Does Great Damage.

New Westminster, B.C., Dec. 15.—The Cheryville Orchard ranch, owned by E. C. McBride of this city, including an eight-room dwelling house, fruit and vegetable stores, stable and outbuildings, was swept away Sunday morning by floods which broke down the dykes on the side of the Veeder river, and converted the passage into a swirling mass of turbulent water that took toll of all that came in its way.

The Red Mountain mine, 40 miles north of Chilliwack, has been flooded and the power house washed away. All mining work has ceased, and the miners are fleeing into Chilliwack and other towns in the district with their belongings, it is reported.

FRANKNESS SAVES \$10 IN TRAFFIC ACTION

Frankness in the giving of evidence at police court this morning saved a Londoner, charged with a breach of the highway traffic act, ten dollars, when he told the magistrate the whole story of his misadventure.

He was a demonstrator of motor cars in a local garage, and he lost plate of his auto in which he was about to drive about the city. He left the car standing for more than half an hour on a main street, and was summoned to the police station. Payment of the court costs was the only penalty imposed.

WILL SELECT PANELS.

Sheriff Donald Graham announced this morning that grand and petit jury panels for the supreme court will be selected for the coming year at a meeting in the office of Crown Attorney Albert Judd on the morning of Dec. 15.

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Philip Morris Navy Cut Cigarettes
10-10s in Christmas wrapping \$1.40
Tins of 5070
Tins of 100 1.40

HERBERT TAREYTON
Cigarettes
Tins of 50 \$0.85

Melachirino Cigarettes
Known the world over for their exceptional quality, their delicate aroma and flavor.
10-10s in Christmas wrapper \$2.50
In tins of 50 1.25
In tins of 100 2.50

If something unusually select is desired we recommend Melachirino No. 4.
Tins of 50 \$2.25
Tins of 100 4.50
Melachirino Individuals, each cigarette individually wrapped in tin foil. Put up in tins of 50 with Christmas ribbon and label, a very attractive package, \$2.50.

1847 Roger Bros.

—AND—

Oneida Community SILVERWARE

Now! Right before Christmas comes the most startling Price - Reduction Sale of Silverware ever held in Western Ontario.

25% Off Everything

LESS THAN WHOLESALE PRICES. SALE INCLUDES Adams Pattern Teaspoons, 1847 Roger Bros. Old Colony Teaspoons, 1847 Roger Bros. Dessert Spoons, 1847 Roger Bros. Dessert Forks, 1847 Roger Bros. Knives and Forks, solid handle, Community Dessert Spoons. All Other Pieces of Above Makes at Same Reduction! Postage must accompany all mail orders. We reserve the right to limit the amount to any one customer.

SALE IN FULL SWING TODAY

COWAN HARDWARE

Limited
125-127 DUNDAS ST. :: PHONES, 3461-3462.
Mail Orders Promptly Attended To.