WEEDING OF MIDDLEMEN IS ORGANIZATION'S AIM

Non-Political Association Being Formed in Western Canada Will Do Buying and Selling For Farmers—Secure Needs at Net Prices.

From two miles under the ocean on the eastern boundary of Canada, to Victoria on the west, is the scope of a trip just completed by E. E. Reid, general manager of the London Life. Mr. Reid has visited practically every important center in Canada east and west, his business being to hold conferences with the superintendents and agents of the company at these points.

"There was no actual coal strike in the east at the time I was there," said Mr. Reid, "although there was talk of it, and it was not hard to see that there were conditions there that were gradually leading up to the point where it would be very easy for a strike or lockout to take place. The coal business is the backbone of trade and commerce of nearly every kind in that section of the east, and the depression that comes from a cessation in the mines is very quickly felt. I was not there long enough to speak definitely on the causes, but it does seem to me that there is a lack on the part of the management in recognizing anything approaching a Canadian spirit. Of course there are some of the leaders of the miners who are of the radical sort, but from unbiased sources I gathered that the fault was largely in the way mines had been managed. The people of Nova Scotia in general would welcome a real wide-open investigation of the whole business, and things will not get much better until this takes place.

Quebec Is Busy.

"It was quite easy to notice the difference in the way in which the people of Quebec were working. It could be seen even from a railway that the people were busy, and that the residents of the small centero, as well as those in the larger places, were employed and living comfortably.

"How about the west?" asked the Advertiser.

"In a general way it is better this year than last, and last year it was better than the year before. It is not necessary to be on the prairie provinces very long before you see that the people there, for the most part, have had their lesson about getting into debt, and they are doing their best to keep away from it. For years the farmers have had to sell their grain almost as soon as they got it threshed, because they had so many obligations to meet, and their creditors were pressing for their money. The result was that as soon as the farmer sold his grain he had to part with most of his cash, and would then have to proceed to look for credit again to carry him through to another crop. They have overcome this in many places by departing from the idea of growing wheat and nothing else. I believe that the desire to have a little money coming in during all the months is what has made mixed farming more popular in the west.

Not Asking For Credit.

"It is a fact that many of them do not care to bother with cows and chickens around the place, and a good crop of wheat at a high price might make a difference in their attitude toward mixed farming, but for the present it has become quite general, and it has turned out to be a good thing. One general merchant told me that he would not object to giving credit to a number of the farmers in his district, but now they were not asking for it, and were keeping themselves off his books through their changed method of farming.

"There is a movement in the west, and it is spreading toward the east," continued Mr. Reid, "that aims to build up a great economic organization outside of politics entirely. The movement seems to be centered around Saskatoon, and it was there that I met the secretary of the organization, and the claim was made that they were taking on membership at the rate of over a thousand a week. So far they are not saying very much in the open about it, but if I judged the spirit of the thing aright the idea was to weed out as many of the middlemen as possible, and build up a great organization that would do the buying and selling for the farmers. They will, I believe, try to handle everything the farmer needs and secure their goods at net prices."

"Will this new organization enter the political field?"

Not a Political Move.

"From what I could gather, the idea was to keep out of politics entirely, because those who are at the back of the scheme hold that if they entered politics it would wreck the business entirely. Whether they will support any political candidates I can't say, but the idea seemed to be an enlargement of the wheat pool idea, and it is entirely separate and independent of existing societies. They hold that if they get sufficient strength the existing organizations and co-operative societies will have to come to them, and they seemed to believe that the Grain Growers' Guide would have to do the same."

Regarding conditions in the near-west, Winnipeg, to be exact, Mr. Reid said that city and the district around it had not yet recovered from the storm that struck it when the bottom fell out of the wheat market. "Speculation in wheat was very general in that city, more so than an outsider can imagine. There were a few who seemed to sense the movement of the market and they got out early, and kept their money, but the great majority of the speculators were right in when the slump came, and they were cleaned out thoroughly. There were farmers who last year had made enough money from their crops to clean up all their debts, and were in good shape, but they got caught up with the idea of following the wheat from their farms into the wheat pit and speculated heavily. Many of these were the chief losers, and it is going to take them some time to recover. Winnipeg was also badly bitten on the Hearst Music Company, and in a couple of oil flotations that were put across there.

Business Moves in Alberta.

"I was surprised with the manner in which business is moving in Southern Alberta, and we found evidence of it in the records of our own company, for that section led the entire field force for the dominion in the amount of business written for the month of March, and it was nearly altogether on a cash basis. The coal fields there and west also through the Crow's Nest country are working more steadily than they have been for some time. It seems that there has been some change made at several places whereby the miners have formed local unions, and make their contracts direct with the coal companies instead of through the international as formerly. Business has been much better since the mines were operating more steadily.

"Vancouver is not booming as I thought it would, nor yet to the same extent as the rest of the west thinks it is going to. There can be no doubt that it is going to be a great city and the port that will take out a great deal of the grain from the far west and the Peace River country, but apparently Vancouver itself is the one place that has not been affected by the big idea to any remarkable extent.

Lumber Not So Good.

"The lumber business has been flat for a couple of months, and many of the residents of the coast city can't see over the hump yet to the big developments that every other person says are sure to take place. Some of the merchants there told me that the amount of money the people were spending on liquor was making too great an inroad on the cash resources of the people, and that there was not enough money left in many cases to take care of other purchases which should be made. I saw some of the beer gardens there, and Ontario can only hope it never has any of them."

Mr. Reid added in conclusion that in all his travels through the west he had heard nothing at all about the secession talk indulged in at times by Mr. Hooey and a few of his friends, adding that the new non-political organization in the west had precedence over political gossip at present.

LONDON PAYS LAST RESPECTS TO FRANK GLASS.

Under Masonic auspices, the funeral of Frank Glass, former member of Parliament for East Middlesex, was held yesterday afternoon from First Presbyterian church of this city. Hundreds of citizens, who had known Mr. Glass as a true friend and an unselfish public servant, attended the impressive services at the church, conducted by Rev William Beattie, D.S.O., C.M.G.

The honorary pallbearers were Fred Landon, Arthur Ford, Dean W. Sherwood Fox, H. J. Childs, T. W. Scandrett and J. P. Moore.

The pallbearers were Very Wor. Bro. Ed. Flock, Very Wor. Bro. J. E. Keays, Wor. Bro. George F. Copeland, Wor. Bro. J. T. May, Bro. R. D. McDonald, Bro. S. F. Lawrason.

FOUR CITY S. A. BANDS WILL PARADE STREETS

To Hold Good Friday Services at Clarence Street Citadel.

Four city bands of the Salvation Army here will parade the downtown section of the city before attending Good Friday services at the Clarence street citadel. The services, which will begin at 10:45, will be the most impressive of the army year.

All the officers in the city will take part in the service. Songster brigades of the four corps, supported by the young people and members of the scouts and guides will lead in the singing.

Brig. McAmmond, chief of staff, will speak. Other officers who will take part are: Adj. Spooner, Mrs. Spooner, Commandant Chaplin, Adj. Smith, Commandant Hurd, Ensign Stokes, Adj. Ursaki, Ensign Chittenden, Ensign Luxton and Ensign Foster.

Tableaus will be a feature of the evening services. The young people and adults of the army will give a series of expressions of the spirit of Calvary. There will be eight tableaus, among them "The Spirit of Sacrifice," "The Spirit of Love," "The Spirit of vangelism," "The Vicarious Sacrifice."

Brig. McAmmond will address the congregation. Adjutant Spooner is in charge of the arrangements.

BISHOP SUBMITS NAME TO ST. JAMES OFFICIALS

Successor to Rev. W. Leslie Armitage Will Soon Be Appointed.

Rt. Rev. David Williams, D.D., bishop of Huron, conferred this morning with officials of St. James' Anglican church, South London, regarding the appointment of a successor to Rev. W. Leslie Armitage, M.A.

Those present at the conference with Bishop Williams this morning were: Chris Hodgins and George Forsyth, church wardens; H. R. Franks and R. Smith, lay delegates; Bert Wood, H. Clarke, F. Hessel, substitute lay delegates. F. Lawson, lay delegate, was unable to be present, owing to illness.

REPRIEVE TO BE ASKED FOR RUSSELL SCOTT

Associated Press Despatch.

Chicago, April 9.—Governor Small was to be asked today to reprieve Russell Scott, former Toronto, Ont., promoter, under sentence to be hanged April 17. Charles P. R. Macaulay, counsel for Scott, announced today.

Are You Tortured With Eczema?

Eczema, or Salt Rheum, as it is commonly called, is one of the most agonizing of all skin diseases.

The intense burning, itching and smarting, especially at night or when the parts are exposed to heat, are almost unbearable and relief is greatly welcomed.

The most reliable and effective remedy for this trouble is

BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS

Mrs. J. R. Johnson, R.R. No. 1, Oshawa, Ont., writes:—"For years I was troubled with eczema, and had that terrible itching and burning sensation, and could find no relief for it. Finally, I was advised to use B.B.B., and after my second bottle I began to see a great difference, and I can now advise anyone troubled as I was to use this wonderful remedy."

For sale at all druggists and dealers; put up only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.—Advt.

APPEAL IS MADE FOR LOVE IN LIFE

Monseignor O'Connor Delivers Stirring Address Before Kiwanians.

Ending a stirring appeal to the Christian world for sympathy and love in life, Monseignor O'Connor, vicar-general of the Roman Catholic dioecese of London, stated: "Love rules the world and love is pain."

Addressing the Kiwanis club members at their weekly luncheon, Monseignor O'Connor made the urge for a widespread observance of Holy Week and outlined his vision of the reason for Christ's crucifixion.

Stating that Jesus came to the world in human form, the speaker gave as that reason the desire for recognition. Coming to a world "lost to God" and "God lost to the world," the Christ used human nature to bridge the difficulty.

"He chose that means of suffering," stated Monseignor O'Connor, "to win our recognition. He faced the shame and humility, the torture on the cross at Calvary to win a world's sympathy and from that sympathy he knew the love of mankind would spring. Since sympathy and love are so closely related, the Lord knew what his sacrifice meant to the world."

The speaker stated that the crucifixion was the greatest crime in the world and, recognized as such, stood forever in the mind of man. He pointed to Christ's death as the end of one world and the beginning of another, which has lasted down through the ages.

Albert Murphy, in introducing the speaker to his fellow Kiwanians, paid a glowing tribute to the work of Monseignor O'Connor in London. At the conclusion, Kiwanian Rev. William Beattie, D.D., rose to extend the thanks of the club members to Monseignor O'Connor, and added his praise to the hearty applause the speaker received.

During the luncheon Miss Marlin Pocock sang three splendid solos and was accompanied by Mrs. Muriel Featherstone.

WAR VETERAN BURIED AT MOUNT PLEASANT

Late Thomas Carson Died on Friday After Seven Weeks' Illness.

Funeral services for Thomas Carson, an ex-imperial soldier and veteran of the great war, who died Friday at Victoria hospital, following a seven-weeks' illness, were held yesterday afternoon from the A. L. Oatman funeral home. Rev. Dr. William Beattie of the First Presbyterian church officiated.

Mr. Carson came to London two years ago. He was a former member of the Royal Scots Fusiliers. His wife and son survive. Six brothers and a sister live in Glasgow.

Interment was made in Mount Pleasant cemetery. The pallbearers included Messrs. Gray, Hay, McIntyre, Slater, Pritty and Cloake.

PASSENGER HURT ON TRAIN ATTENDED BY CITY DOCTOR

While train No. 6, Canadian National railways, was approaching London this morning, Mrs. Richardson, a through passenger from Detroit, fell in one of the coaches and suffered slight head injuries.

The conductor wired London officials to have a doctor meet the train, which arrived at 12:20, noon. Dr. Edwin Seaborn met the train, and rendered medical air. The patient was able to continue to her destination.

REGULAR FIRE SURVEYS ARE PLANNED BY CHIEF

Inspection of local buildings in the interests of fire protection, commenced several months ago by members of the fire marshal's department at Toronto, is being carried on by members of the London fire department.

Three firemen have been detailed by Chief John Aitken to make regular surveys of city buildings. Within the past week several hundred inspections have been made.

Emir Will Be Deported

Associated Press Despatch.

New York, April 9.—Henry H. Curran, commissioner of immigration at Ellis Island, said yesterday that officials at the detention station were arranging for the early deportation of Prince Mohammed Said Serdechino, who calls himself "Emir of Kurdistan." The self-styled Emir has not appealed his case to Washington, the commissioner said.

STUDENT TRAFFIC ADDS TO THE RUSH

Both Railway Lines Make Arrangements For Crowd of Holiday Passengers.

Easter traffic began early this morning on the Canadian National railway here when an extra coach was put on the Detroit train out at 11:15. There will be two extra trains today. They are first No. 1 from Toronto through to Detroit. It will leave Toronto at 5:45 p.m., and arrive here at 8:45, leaving for Detroit at 9.

The first section of train 16, Windsor to Toronto, leaves Windsor at 4:20, arrives here at 7 p.m., and goes through to Toronto, without going into Hamilton.

The C. N. R. expects to handle six special cars of students of the university and normal school over the week-end. It is expected that extra coaches will be used on all trains between now and Monday.

There will be an extra section of No. 15, Toronto Windsor, Sunday. It will leave Toronto at 5:45, and arrive as known.

Officials of the C. P. R. said today their lines. They will use extra that the Easter rush has started on coaches on trains where necessary. No extra trains will operate as far rive here at 8:45.

SAVING OF $500 SEEN IN TAX NOTICE PLAN

Assessment Papers To Be Mailed This Year for First Time in History.

A saving of $500 has been effected by the city tax department through a recent measure ordered in the mailing of tax notices. With some 50,000 various assessments to be taxed, the tax office requested that owners of numbers of parcels of property secure their notices under one cover.

Co-operation from ratepayers has been encouraging and when tax notices are mailed next month, the doubling up process will cut off $500 from the postage bill. Collector Ed. Houghton's department will, for the first time in history, send out tax notices by mail this year. However, the cost of mailing will not be prohibitive and will eliminate the necessity of special messengers to make house to house delivery.

CITY HALL TO STAY CLOSED ON BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

City hall officies will remain closed on Goo Friday and Easter Monday this year and no business will be transacted with the public on those days. Notices were put up today at the offices of the treasurer and the clerk that doors would be closed on these two days.

"Bank Holiday" reads the heading on the notices.

"We can't get on witnout the banks," City Treasurer Bell declared today. "If the books are closed we can't do business with the public. Instructions have been given that any of the city hall offices may remain closed on both Good Friday and Easter Monday."

MINERS TO DEBATE RUSSIAN OFFER

Question of Acceptance Will Be Considered at Meeting This Afternoon.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Sydney, N. S., April 9.—Announcement that at a mass meeting in Glace Bay this afternoon the acceptance of the $5,000 placed by Russian miners in the hands of James B. McLachlan, editor of the Labor Herald, for relief purposes, would be considered by the men, were the chief developments in the labor situation this morning.

Regarding the progress of the dispute that has for five weeks completely suspended coal mining in all the collieries operated by the British Empire Steel corporation in Nova Scotia and left more than 12,000 men idle, the officials of both patiers were silent.

Removal of 50 pit ponies from Sydney Mines to Sydney was taken by the men to indicate that the Scotia pits were being prepared for a long period of idleness.

TOM MOORE CRITICIZES RELIEF FUND HANDLING

Red Cross and N. S. Government Accused of Narrowness.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, April 8.—Tom Moore, president of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, today criticized the Nova Scotia government and also "the narrow interpretation" of the Red Cross Society regarding the use of the $20,000 recently granted by the government for the relief of Cape Breton miners.

"It seems deplorable," said Mr. Moore, "that the Red Cross should have so narrowly interpreted their duties as to consider that the grant of the Nova Scotia government could only be extended after sickness has occurred."

Mr. Moore said the Nova Scotia government had apparently lent itself to such interpretation.

UTILITIES PROTESTS "WALKING THE PLANK"

"Live Wire" Article Bemoans Council's Cut in Playground Figures.

In a story entitled, "Starving Parks and Playgrounds," in the current issue of "The Live Wire," the public utilities commission protests strongly against having been made "to walk the plank" by the city council.

The article bemoans the fact that despite $60,000 more taxes this year because of increased assessment the council should cut the playgrounds estimates by $9,000 and the parks estimates by $8,000, "higner percentage cuts than those made in any other city department."

The balance of the issue is entirely taken up with the annual report given by Manager E. V. Buchanan and the heads of the different departments at the annual commission banquet early in March.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OFF UNTIL TUESDAY

University students will have a brief holiday this Easter. Lectures came to a close this afternoon. They will begin early Tuesday morning.

Many of the students were preparing to get away this morning, but most stayed through the day. The nearness of the examinations made many unwilling to sacrifice very much time at present.

DISTRICT MASTER SMITH VISITS THORNDALE LODGE

Thorndale, April 8.—A special event in connection with Mount Olivet lodge, No. 300, A., F. and A. M., was held Tuesday evening. Rt. Wor. Bernie Smith of London, D.D.G.M., paid his official visit to the lodge.

COURT WARNING CALMS LAWYER

Magistrate Refuses To Permit Certain Methods Used in Examining Witness.

Very seldom is Magistrate Graydon's comfortable code of court ethics ruffled to the point where he threatens to exclude a lawyer from the daily sessions. This morning saw one of these unusual clashes and the foreign touch to the routine entertained spectators and court attaches as they have not been entertained in some months.

Edward C. Reid, 448 South street, was charged with the theft of radio supplies valued at $297 from the Radio Electric Company here, and his counsel, Howard Cluff, while admitting partial guilt, was trying to disassociate his client from the bulk of the evidence. The repartee between the counsel and Philip T. Fleischer of Ingersoll, to whom Reid sold the goods, had been growing warmer each minute, when the lawyer demanded in a loud tone why the witness would not give coherent evidence.

"If you don't conduct this case properly, and as a counsel should conduct it, Mr. Cluff, I'll have to ask you to retire," the magistrate cut in, and the heat wave was again reduced to a simmer.

But the witness refused to be cajoled into admitting that he should be able to quote serial numbers and other manifold radio data from memory, and blurtly told his questioner that if he had been listening before he would have no need to repeat his queries.

"Don't give me any more of your impudence," and Mr. Cluff's face was within a foot of the flashing eyes of the aroused witness.

Tolerance had given way to calm anger, and the magistrate's second threat kept peace during the rest of the trial.

"Now look here, Mr. Cluff," he snapped, "I am not oblized to take that sort of conduct from you or any other counsel, and if you don't quit yelling and act decently, you must retire."

No defense was offered and prolonged protests were made that Reid only stole a $42 outfit, but the court maintained that the young man's guilt in all charges was evident and sentenced him from one to two years, less one day, in the Ontario reformatory. Crown Attorney Judd prosecuted.

Sentenced For Theft.

A warning of prison terms to all embryo bicycle thieves was sounded by the magistrate when he gave Louis Roberts, 17, thirty days in jail for taking a wheel worth $13 from a machine parked at McClary's. Roberts, who has appeared in juvenile court, could give no reason for the deed.

"The only way to stop the stealing of wheels and autos is to send the thieves to prison, and we may as well start with you," is the way Magistrate Graydon feels about the epidemic of late weeks.

Rubbing Alcohol Again.

Rubbing alcohol, one of the most ardent of court visitors, was back today as tsorn gas ever, but an orphan. Both Thomas Burton, 33, and Elizabeth Chhiolm, 43, denied any affinity with the bottle found in Mrs. Chisolm's home at 522 Talbot street, last night. Convicting evidence was rather scanty, th ecourt admitted, so each was freed with $10 fines for being disorderly.

Released in Custody.

William John Henderson, convicted a week ago for an indecent assault, was released in his brother's custody this morning for one month. The brother supplied $100 bail, insuring the man's good behavior during that period. Pointing out that Henderson was in danger of losing his army pension if a sentence was pronounced on him, Counsel Cluff asked the leniency of the court, claiming that the nature of the offense warranted the man being given another chance.

City Churches

RIDOUT STREET L. A.

The annual meeting of the ladies aid of the Ridout street Methodist church was held yesterday afternoon. Mrs. E. M. Russell, the president, presided and the Scripture lesson was read by Mrs. Maloney.

The election of officers then took place and the following will hold office for this year: President, Mrs. E. M. Russell; first vice-president Mrs. E. Perrin; second vice-president, Mrs. Maloney; secretary, Mrs. J. Wilson; treasurer, Mrs. P. Taylor; pianist, Mrs. W. Blackmore; press reporter, Mrs. C. A. Mann; flower committee, Mrs. J. Monahan and Mrs. P. Taylor; and parsonage committee, Mrs. C. A. Mann and Mrs. E. Johnston.

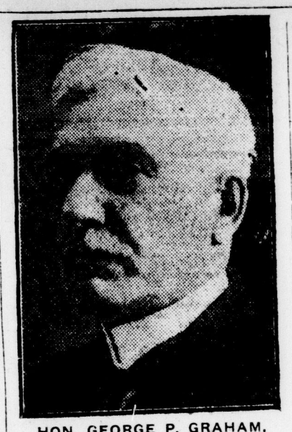
During the afternoon Mrs. Brown delighted the ladies with a vocal solo, accompanied by Mrs. Russell Harding. A social half hour was then enjoyed, when afternoon tea was served, Mrs. G. Monahan, Mrs. A. Austin, Mrs. S. Floyd and Mrs Evans acted as hostesses

WELLINTON W. M. S.

The annual meeting of the W. M. S. of the Wellington street Methodist church was held yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Filmore and Mrs. G. Kerr led in the devotional period, the latter giving a leaflet on "Prayer and Thanksgiving in Prayer." Mrs. Ed. Brady and Mrs. R. Booth also gave short prayers. Mrs. F. Morris gave the last chapter of the study book on "America and China's Revolution," after which letters of thanks were read by Mrs. G. Watts, the corresponding secretary.

The election of officers then took place, and resulted as follows: Honorary president, Mrs. E. Colling; vice-president, Mrs. J. Holiday; first vice-president, Mrs. M. Brady; second vice-president, Mrs. J. Luney; third vice-president, Mrs. Delaney; secretary, Mrs. E. Brady; corresponding secretary, Mrs. G. Kerr; treasurer, Miss Clare Adams; superintendent of systematic giving, Miss Mary Tagg; strangers' secretary, Mrs. John Wallace; pianist, Mrs. H. Luney; assistant pianist, Mrs. F. Bullis; assistant helper, Mrs. Cross, and press reporter Mrs. A. Bunett.

Following the election the women adjourned to the basement of the church, where a social half hour was enjoyed and also a chat over the teacups. The hostesses of the afternoon were Mrs. A. Woollatt, convener, assisted by Mrs. T. Brown, Mrs. Aldis and Mrs. J. Bailey.



HON. GEORGE P. GRAHAM, minister of railways and canals, who is rapidly recovering from an attack of influenza. The minister's illness was brought on by overwork when he assumed the premier's tasks when the latter departed recently for a holiday.

WHITE DEFENDS FRIEND ARTHUR

London Member Carefully Outlines All the Sins of the Liberal Government.

London East Conservatives held a social evening last night in the east end town hall at which Frank White, M.P., gave an impressionistic sketch of the Hon. Arthur Meighen in his latest burlesque, "The Man Without a Country," with the original wolf-howl orchestra accompaniment.

Mr. White delved into the mysteries of high finance and explained in a lucid manner to the assembled Tories the iniquities of Mackenzie King and all things Liberal. He had the staunch backing and the hale and hearty support of A. K. Hodgins of Lucan, the Conservative nominee for East Middlesex.

Secondary entertainment for the evening included songs by Fred Gill, comedian, accompanied by Mrs. R. A. Cowan; violin solos by Mrs. Conway; and songs by Bruce Wells, Mrs. J. Balch, F. Horler, Henry Lavender, Leonard Cooper, Miss Ada Horler, and Maurice O. Scott.

FAMOUS DIVINE WILL COME HERE

Dr. W. C. Poole, Head of the World's Sunday Schools, Expected Tomorrow.

Rev. W. C. Poole, Ph.D., London, Eng., world famous Sunday school worker, will visit London tomorrow and address a public meeting in St. Andrew's hall at 8 p.m.

Dr. Poole, who is president of the world's Sunday school association for the quadrennium 1924-28, is both a great thinker and a most forceful speaker, and accordingly his address tomorrow night should draw a big congregation.

Always a student as he travels, Dr. Poole has made three trips around the world. He played a prominent part in the eighth convention of the world's association held in Tokio in 1921, and is now for the second time chairman of the British committee of the association. During the war Dr. Poole went overseas as a representative of the Y. M. C. A. and at its close lectured in the British empire on temperance. He is at present the pastor of Christ church, Westminster Bridge road, London. He has held American pastorates in San Francisco and Dorchester, Mass.

Dr. Poole is being brought to London by the religious educational council. In addition to the address in St. Andrew's hall, Dr. Poole will speak at a banquet at the Y. M. C. A tomorrow night at 6 o'clock

WOMAN ASKS DAMAGES FOR ALLEGED LIBEL

Three County Writs Are Filed at the Court House This Morning.

Three county court writs were filed at the court house this morning, including an action by Jennie Watson of this city against J. C. Nichol of Westminster township. The plaintiff asks unstated damage for an alleged libel contained in a letter written by the defendant to Charles Lawson on March 17 last. The writ was filed by F. H. Curran.

William J. Blair, Provost, Alta., has issued a writ through Winnett, Morehouse & Neely against Basil Cornell, Westminster township farmer, for a judgment debt amounting to $260.18 secured in the Alberta courts against Cornell on Sept. 12, 1922.

The Hobbs Hardware Company, through Gibbons, Harper & Braden, have issued a writ against Samuel Willis for $319.77 for goods sold and delivered to the defendant.

MISSIONARY EVENING HELD IN BEACHVILLE CHURCH

Beachville, April 8.—An entertaining, as well as instructive evening, was held in Methodist church, April 7, under the auspices of the women's missionary society.

The program given by the mission band was excellent, consisting of a dialogue by eight girls, an exercist by ten small boys and girls, a recitation by Margaret Forden, a piano solo by Jean Sutherland, and chorus by the band.

Rev. G. C. Raymer gave an address illustrated with views of their own mission work carried on in Japan. A social half-hour brought the evening to a close.

SCHOOLS HAVE ORCHESTRA OF 70

First Permanent Organization of Its Kind in Canada To Appear Monday.

E. W. G. Quantz, musical supervisor in the city schools, stated this morning that there are now 70 players enrolled in the London public school orchestra.

The orchestra, which is the first permanent organization of its kind in Canada, will make its debut before the London public on Monday night next at a grand musical festival being held in the arena in connection with the Rotary club Hobby Fair.

The orchestra, which is composed of about 25 girls and 45 boys from the higher grades of the public schools, varying in age from nine to fifteen years, embraces two flutes, three violoncellos, 12 first violins, 20 second violins, 12 third violins, and 18 fourth violins. Mr. Quantz personally directs the orchestra and Miss Ethel Wildern, Victoria school, presides at the piano.

The selections to be rendered by the orchestra include "Minuet" from "Berenice," by Handel, and a group by Bach, including "Minuet," "Sarabande" and "March in C."

In addition the orchestra will play the accompaniments for the national songs being sung by a chorus composed of 850 school children in connection with the pageant, "Rotary Around the World," to be given by 150 pupils in costume.

The numbers to be given by the massed choir, accompanied by the orchestra, are as follows: "Rule, Britannia," Britain; "O Canada," Canada; "The Star Spangled Banner," United States; "Le Marseillaise," France; "Kimi Ga Yo Wa," Japan, and "Garibaldi's Hymn," Italy. The choir will sing also "God Save the King" as composed by Sir Michael Costa of England.

Mr. Quantz states that the orchestra has been practicing faithfully during the past six weeks and as a result will be able to present a musical program which will take the public by storm next Monday night.

O. M. L. LAUNCHES ESSAY CONTEST

League Opens Educational Campaign To Include the Schools—$300 in Prizes.

Realizing that the children of today are the motorists of tomorrow the Ontario motor league has launched another educational campaign to include the schools, and has offered $300 in prizes for compositions on "How Children May Help to Avoid Motor Accidents." The contest is sponsored by the Ontario safety league, and will close on May 15. Two hundred and forty cash prizes will be distributed.

Any school child in Ontario is eligible to compete in this year's event, and the compositions may be written in either prose or verse, but the subject designed by the motor league must be adhered to.

The competitors will be divided into two classes, 12 years and under and 13 years and over. The principals and teachers of schools are asked to co-operate with the league in its efforts to preach the gospel of safety, and they are asked to prescribe the subject for class compositions, if possible.

HOUSES AND STORES THREATENED IN FIRE

Second Squad Called to Extinguish Charles Street Blaze —Boys Blamed.

Six houses and stores in the vicinity of 35 Charles street were threatened by fire yesterday afternoon when a plot of long grass became ignited. The fire spread with startling rapidity, and two acres of property were swept by the flames. A garage, owned by Walter Flynn at 35 Charles street, caught fire and was slightly damaged.

No. 3 fire station responded to the first alarm shortly after 4 o'clock. The blaze soon got beyond control and central station was summoned fifteen minutes later. Several water lines were laid and used before the fire could be extinguished.

A bonfire, started by small boys on their way home from school was the cause of the fire.

OPERATION PROVES FATAL TO MISS F. POLLARD

Miss Francis Pollard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Pollard of 32 Hope street, died early this morning in Victoria hospital following an operation.

Before her illness, Miss Pollard was employed at Penman's Limited. She was a prominent member of St. Paul's cathedral choir. She was born in England 25 years ago and came to Canada in 1914.

Besides her parents she is survived by two brothers, William and Edward; five sisters, Mrs. W. S. Waite, Mrs. Percy Phillips, the Misses Elizabeth, Hannah and Myrtle.

The funeral service will be held from the family residence on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Very Rev. Dean L. Norman Tucker will have charge. Interment is to be made at Mount Pleasant cemetery.

GLADSTONE BLACKSMITH PAYS FINE FOR ASSAULT

Thomas Wilcox, Gladstone blacksmith, pleaded guilty to assaulting Alfred Hunter the village storekeeper on April 1, paying a fine of $10 and costs to Magistrate Hawkshaw this morning without any evidence being taken.

It was no April fool joke for Wilcox, as the fine and costs totalled $16.75.