

CITIES DURING WAR TIMES.

"Cities During War Times," will be the dominant theme of the annual meeting of the National Municipal League at Detroit, in November (21-24.) One entire session will be devoted to the topic "Feeding Our Cities in War Time," the principal speaker being George W. Perkins, chairman of the New York Market Commission, who will address himself to the subject of state organization for food supply. President Marcus M. Marks, of the Borough of Manhattan, will speak on wholesale and retail markets, and a representative of the National Food Commission on "How the Cities Can Effectively Assist in the Food Crisis." Still another subject will be "Agents for Better Local Distribution of Food."

A session will be devoted to the "War Time Experiences of English and Canadian Cities," over which W. D. Light-hall, K.C., Hon. Secretary of the Union of Canadian Municipalities, will preside. Among the speakers arranged for this meeting are Sir George Gibbons, Mrs. H. P. Plumptre, Secretary of the Canadian Red Cross Society, and Mayor Church, of Toronto.

The annual review of the Secretary, Clinton Rogers Woodruff, of Philadelphia, will deal with "American Cities during War Time and Their Problems."

Underlying all the sessions will be the thought, "What must we do to make our cities effective during and after the war?" Consequently, budget making and training for public service will come in for a large share of attention.

One of the questions to be discussed in conjunction with the City Managers' Association, which will meet in Detroit at the same time, is "Will the City Manager Form of Government Fit All Cities." President Lawson Purdy will preside at this meeting, and the speakers will include Richard S. Childs of the National Snort Banot Organization, City Manager Cummins, of Grand Rapids, George B. Harris, chairman of the Republican City Committee of Cleveland, L. D. Upson, of the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research, City Manager Carr, and Commissioner George W. Knox, of Niagara Falls, and City Manager Waite, of Dayton.

The question of executive or legislative budgets will be the theme of another session, to be held in conjunction with the bureaus of governmental research, likewise meeting at the same time in Detroit. The discussion will be opened by Dr. Frederic A. Cleveland, of Boston, formerly director of the New York Bureau of Municipal Research, and Dr. E. A. Fitzpatrick, of the University of Wisconsin, the former maintaining that the executive should frame the budget and the latter that the legislature should.

Judge Connelly, of Detroit, will preside over a luncheon at which Alderman (Professor) Charles E. Merriam, of the University of Chicago, who will discuss the question, "Can We Have Non-partizan City Government." Speakers from leading cities like Cleveland, Detroit, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston and Toledo, will consider the question of whether the non-partizan ballot eliminates the party machine in large cities.

At the dinner on Thursday evening the executive budget will come in for further consideration at the hands of Governor Cox, of Ohio. The important administrative re-organizations in Illinois and Kansas will, it is expected, be discussed by Governor Lowden, of Illinois, and Governor Capper, of Kansas.

"The City and County" will be the subject of another session, at which will be considered the experiences of Baltimore, Denver and California. Among the speakers will be City Solicitor S. S. Field, of Baltimore; George C. Sikes, of Chicago, and William B. Guthrie, of New York.

"Selling Good Government to the People," will be the theme of a luncheon presided over by J. Horace McFarland of Harrisburg, who will himself speak on this theme along with Dr. D. F. Garland, the director of welfare in Dayton, who will speak on "Humanizing Welfare Reports."

A session on training for public service will be presided over by President Hutchins, of the University of Michigan, at which the speakers will be City Manager Gaylord C. Cummins, of Grand Rapids; Dr. William H. Allen, director of the Institute for Public Service, New York City, and Richard H. Dana, president of the National Civil Service Reform League, and a representative of organized labor.

President Lawson Purdy's annual address will deal with the highly important subject of "Municipal Pensions."

Meeting in conjunction with the National Municipal

THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.

Dr. John Reade in one of his recent sketches, which appear week by week in the Montreal Gazette under the general title of "Old and New" takes up, in his own delightful way, Canada's connection with the Lord Mayoralty of London; the article being inspired by the election of Mr. Chas. Hanson, of Montreal and London, to the great position. In referring to Mr. Hanson's election in last month's Journal the name was incorrectly spelled as Hansen. This, we regret, though the association of the name with the well known bond house of Hanson Bros. was sufficient to most of our readers to identify London's chief magistrate. Dr. Reade's article reads as follows:

The first Canadian Lord Mayor of London was a Nova Scotian named Watson, whose career was quite curious and eventful. We gave a fairly full account of him some years ago in "Old and New." Mr. Hanson has a special interest for Montrealers and his course in the Guildhall will be followed with more than ordinary interest by all who are proud when Canada's sons or daughters distinguish themselves. The record of London's Lord Mayors appeals to the historic imagination with a force that compels our sympathy. From the days of the Conqueror, the Sovereigns of England, Great Britain and the Empire have been desirous of conciliating the rulers of the city. They looked upon the Lord Mayor as a brother potentate. Some of the most stirring pages of British history are identified with the relations between the King or the Queen and the Lord Mayor. Again and again the Sovereign depended on the merchants of London, mainly represented by the Mayor and Aldermen of the city. In the time of Queen Elizabeth, the concord between the Queen and the merchants was deemed one of the happiest features of what Ian Colvin calls the national policy, as then inaugurated. The Company of Merchant Adventurers had, indeed, begun with a mistake, which they afterwards did all in their power to make amends for. When the Duke of Alva had severed the ties of goodwill that had long prevailed between the Kings of England and the City of Antwerp, the Queen was in great want of money. She applied to the Company of Merchant Adventurers of the City of London for a loan, but through some inadvertency her plea was rejected. The affair had been brought before a general court of the company, and a show of hands proved adverse. But, when the Privy Council had shown very real and not unreasonable resentment, some thirteen of the Aldermen and other merchants of London had negotiated a loan for Her Majesty, which satisfied her so well that she did not fail to express her gratitude. Henceforth an excellent understanding prevailed between Queen Elizabeth and the merchants of London who, as Maitland writes, "practically financed the Crown." The accession of a Lord Mayor has always been marked by ceremonies that were intended to emphasize the dignity and influence of his position as the ruler of the Empire's metropolis. In the year 1575, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, five years after the unhappy incident above related and its happy reparation, William Smythe, citizen and haberdasher of London, wrote an account of the entry into office of the Lord Mayor of the royal city of London, capital of the realm of England. The day of St. Simon and St. Jude (he says) the Mayor enters into his state and office. Next day he goes by water to Westminster in the most triumph-like manner—his barge being garnished with the arms of the city, and near it a vessel of Her Majesty, rigged like a ship of war, with ordnance, standards, pennons and targets of the proper arms of the Mayor, his company and the merchant adventurers. Landing at Westminster, he takes his oath in the Exchequer, before the judge, and then returns by water and lands at Paul's Wharf, where he and the Aldermen take their horses and in great pomp pass through Cheapside.

MAYOR FOR FORTY YEARS.

By the recent death of Mr. Matthew J. Strong, who was for forty years without interruption, mayor of the municipality of Mille Isle, Canada loses one of its oldest municipal executives. He was 77 years of age, born at Gore, Argenteuil County, P.Q., and for twenty years was warden for the county. Surely a record of continuous civic life.

League will be the Civic Secretaries' Committee, and the Intercollegiate Division of the League, the City Managers' Association, the Bureaus of Governmental Research and the Society for Promotion of Training for the Public Service.