COUNCIL MAY HIRE PERMANENT CITY ACCOUNTANT

CITY TREASURER APPROVES PLAN FOR ACCOUNTANT

tain Report May Be Adopted Soon.

BELL CITES BENEFITS

London may secure the services of a permanent chartered accountant, who, while assigned to the staff of the city treasurer, would be available for all spending bodies, including the board of education, the hospital trust, and the public utilities commission. course was strongly recom his municipal experts who surveyed the city departments last summer, and also finds favor today with City

James Bell. As the city treasurer points out his department must receive the early consideration of the city council. Mrs. Charles Turner is no longer in the tax-collecting department, her resig-nation having taken effect at the

close of 1923.

"Just what the council propose to do in this case I can't say, of course," the treasurer explained. "The new council may view favorably the ant for my office; one who could be for all other spending bodies, as recommended by Dr. Brit

posal, pointing out that he would be of valuable assistance to him, and could relieve him of many duties while he would also be in a position to render excellent service to the other spending bodies and to the city

The treasurer has made no definite recommendation concerning the post vacated by Mrs. Turner. He is

THIRTY ARE KILLED,

Concluded from Page 1.

of dust in the starch plant, and to have destroyed that building. Fire quickly spread to adjoining buildings, one being destroyed. Many of the injured are being brought to Peoria hospitals, according to the first reports.

Injured Rushed to Hospitals.

The explosion occurred at 3 and at 7 o'clock the Pek partment was reported fire virtually under control buildings of the appeared in danger.

The Pekin hospital was filled with

injured and others were rushed to Peoria as fast as they were removed from the wreckage. Immediately a call for help was

sent to Peoria, eleven miles away, and Peoria firemen, doctors and po-lice with ambulances were rushed to

as 35, six of the dead had been identified. Fire kept rescuers from removing bodies which could be seen, and it is feared many bodies may be

Identified Dead.

The identified dead are:
George Harms, Lee Harding, Louis
Schmidt, William Rumler, John
Hooper, William Vogelsang.
The Corn Products plant was the
principal industry of Pekin. It was
built 24 years ago by the Illinois
Sugar Refining Company, but about
18 years ago was sold to the Corn
Products Company, and since has
been enlarged many times. The plant
was said to be equipped with all the was said to be equipped with all the known safety appliances, and the explosion is the first serious accident since it was built.

HARDING MEMORIAL FUND IS NOW NEARLY COMPLETE

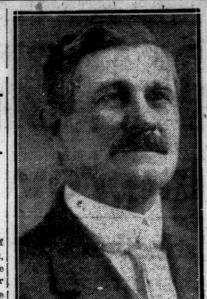
Most of the \$3,000,000 fund being raised to build a memorial to the late President Harding at Marion, Ohio, will be subscribed by the end of the month, President Calvin Coolidge told the American people over radio from Washington last night. Many Londoners with long-range receiving radio sets heard the president's short speech plainty. He president's short speech plainty. He made a plea to the American people to back up the proposed memorial, and told them a last-minute drive would be made in an effort to end the campaign for funds by March 1.

SUES TO RECOVER MONEY. P. A. Gahan of Strathroy has issued county court writ on behalf of ames W. Edwards of Strathroy James W. Edwards of Strating, against Ida Lahr of the township of Adelaide for \$35.20, the amount of



STRONG'S Drug Store

184 DUNDAS STREET.



GOOD ROADS BOOSTER. Reeve T. Frank Hinnegan of Wal laceburg is known as the "daddy of the Kent county good roads sys em. For several years he kept th he saw the system started the yea

CITY CLERK FAILS **BOARD CONFUSION**

Points Out Statutes Are Clear on Question of First Meeting.

LACK CITY COUNCIL

City Clerk Sam Baker fails to un derstand why there should be much obvious confusion as to the proper date for the inaugural session of the board of education.

The clerk points out that the ac governing this and similar questions quite clear. The statutes the school trustees shall hold their initial gathering the third Wednesday of the new year, at 7 o'clock in the evening. It is further stipuated that the board "may," by reso ution, set another hour or place. It is City Clerk Baker's that the act is plain, and he points out that while, technically, the city of London is without a city council

at this moment, it is not causing any due confusior At midnight Dec 31 the 1923 city At midnight Dec, 31 the 1923 city councillors officially went out of office. The 1924 city councillors are not in office technically, until such time as they hold their inaugural session at the time prescribed by the statutes, at 11 o'clock a.m. on the second Monday after the new year. The number of births in the city for the past two years exceeds the deaths by 900, demonstrating that the population of the city is steadily increasing. More children who were horn this year will cele-

This will be Jan. 14, as New Year's Day fell on Tuesday this year.
But while London may be considekin.

At 9 o'clock, with the estimates of the clerk points out, as in the case of grave emergency, the new council would be empowered without further parley to calla special session before the inaugural meeting fixed by law.

Present squabbles as to the opening dates for local spending boards are occasioned by the change in the day of voting, as City Clerk Baker

day of voting, as City Clerk Baker reminds, the people voting a month earlier than was customary, and is still general throughout the country. "It was the original intention, however, when the date of the election was changed" the clerk explains." was changed," the clerk explained "to have the new councillors sit with the old council in the month of December. While they could not vote, they would become conversant with many of the leading issues and more parof the leading issues and more particularly those going over to the new year. Then during the month of January, and until the inaugural session, the old councillors would sit with the new council if occasion demanded a special session, although in that case only the new councillors would vote."

This practice, however, has evidently not been rigidly adhered to.

GERMAN BALD HEADS PROTEST NEW ORDER

Associated Press Despatch.
Brunswick, Germany, Jan. 3.—The
bald-headed row of Brunswick's state opera is much exercised be-cause the management, in compli-ance with government orders for a reduction in the number of employees discharged all the young members o

discharged all the young members of the ballet and chorus.

While the portly old women re-tained are declared by the patrons to be worthy and conscientious in their efforts, the stage Johnnies have threatened to boycott the opera if the management fails to restore some of the youth and beauty which forthe management tails to restore some of the youth and beauty which formerly made the production attractive to those patrons not attending the opera for the music alone.

COMPANY WILL DISTRIBUTE AUSTRALIAN MEAT OUTPUT

Associated Press Despatch.
London, Jan. 3.—The London Daily
Telegraph's Sydney correspondent
cable that much interest has been
aroused in Australia in the scheme

aroused in Australia in the scheme put forth by Sir Henry Jones, a prominent fruit packer for a company with a capital of \$7,500,000 to control the distribution of Australia meat in Great Britain by the purchase of 1,300 retail shops on which options have been secured.

The shops, it is argued, would also be able to assist the sale of butter, fruit and other Australian produce. If the scheme is brought to completion, it is proposed to extend the organization to cover all Australian products which would involve an increase of the capital to possibly eight or ten million pounds sterling.

September Most Popular Month For City Damsels To Take Marriage Chance

Check Forger's

"Prints" Taken

Fred Fowler, Mount Brydges

Fred Fowler, Mount Brydges check forger, enjoys the rather doubtful distinction of being the first police court prisoner to have his finger prints taken and recorded by the local police department.

Fowler was taken to the office of Constable Walter Harpur who is in charge of the new department, which opened for business on New Year's day, despite the fact that all the equipment has not yet arrived.

yet arrived. Constable Harpur, who has

made a study of finger print methods for years, has had equip-

ment of his own for some time, and this was used when Fowler's "measurements" were taken yes-

Three Other Aspirants Are in

Running For Middlesex

ARE WELL QUALIFIED

Who will occupy the warden's chai

council in 1924? This is the ques-

ion that is being mulled over by at

Four aspirants were all elected

reeves of their respective municipali-

ties by acclamation, and will now be

usiness of grabbing off the warden-

J. M. Ross, Lucan; R. T. Reycraft, Biddulph; D. Gordon, Delaware and

Allan MacPherson, Glencoe, all re-ceived acclamations, and wouldn't re-

fuse the job if it was offered them

the straight and narrow oratorical

valued member of the council for some years, and was highly thought of in his own and surrounding dis-

they would be makin they don't elect him."

able to turn their attention to the

flirting desperately with the job.

head of the Middlesex County

June Forced To Take Second Position, While May Still Unpopular.

MANY JULY BIRTHDAYS

Greatest Number of Deaths Occur in London During March.

The superstition which prompted a sage of old to say: "Marry in the month of May, you will surely rue the day," has to this day many extreme observers. The month of May was regarded as unlucky by the Romans, owing to the celebration of the festival of the unhappy dead. which was held annually on the 9th 11th and 13th. This superstition has

survived to the present day.

By surveying the marriage license book which reposes in the city clerk's office you will find that few Londoners took a chance during the past few years to marry in the month of May. May was decidedly the month

Contrary to general belief, how-ever, June of 1922 and 1923 did not score the highest for marriages. Al-though ancient lore declares June to be the luckiest month of the year for weddings, because it is governed by June, the classic goddess who pro-tects women, according to statistics. September was the most popular month for marriages locally. Evidently London brides believe in

the ancient adage: "Marry in September's shrine, your living will be rich and fine." The modern maiden evidently prefers wealth to travel, for Crinoline girls generally married in the month of June, and the saying goes: "Marry when June roses blow; over land and sea you'll go." September Highest.

For May of 1922 and 1923, an average of 37 weddings took place. During June of the past two years there were nearly 70 marriages, but the month of September saw a de cided increase for weddings, an average of 81 being recorded. In recent years, September has certainly been the most popular month

for marriages,
Although the "June bride" idea has to an extent been exploded by these figures, one custom which has always been popular among newly-married couples in Canada still prevails. According to the city ticket agents, Niagara Falls remains the popular place for honeymons. Each year during the summer months, hundreds in newlyweds agent their honeymons. of newlyweds spent their honeymoon

But while London may be considered technically without a regular city council, no alarm need be feit, hundred and sixty babes entered the close of the council of the counc who were born this year will celeber is almost a record for the pas

Winter Reaper.

The figure of local undertakers and from the city clerk's office have it that more people succumb in January, February, March and April than in the four months of May, June, July and August. March is the greatest month for deaths, according to Dr. December 2011. the greatest month for deaths, according to Dr. Downham, city health officer, because it is such a friend of influenza and pneumonia. Incidentally, one-sixth of the number of deaths throughout the year are due to faulty hearts. Pneumonia is second, cancer is third. The automobile and typhoid fever get their greatest number in August. Cancer scores highest in September, tuberculosis in June, and Bright's disease in September.

INGERSOLL YOUTH DIES ON MONTREAL VISIT

Canadian Press Despatch.
Woodstock, Jan. 3.—The death
took place very suddenly in Montreal
last night of Archibald Wilson, a last night of Archibald Wilson, a well-known Ingersoll young man, and a son of the late C. C. L. Wilson of that town. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson spent Christmas Day in Woodstock, and the former returned to his home in Montreal. The next day he was taken ill with pneumonia and died last night. The remains will be brought to Ingersoll for burial.

MABEL NORMAND HAS A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN

Associated Press Despatch.
Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 3.—Miss Mabel Normand, motion picture actress, whose chauffeur Tuesday night shot and seriously wounded Courtland S. Dines, Denver oil operator and clubman, last night was removed to the Good Samaritan Hospital suffering from what her physicians said was a nervous breakdown.

The strain, excitement and worry growing out of the shooting of Dines in her presence last night caused the actress to break down, it was announced. She was permitted to see no one after her arrival at the hospital, where Dines also is a patient.

SAVINGS IN PENNY

Average of the London School Children Jumps 7 Cents Since April.

OFFICIALS WORK HARD

Through the efforts of the principals and staffs of London's public schools the deposits of the children in the Penny Bank of Ontario have ncreased 2 per cent since April last. The report received from directors of the bank show that London's average has increased from 22 cents last spring to 29 cents in October.

The deposits made by London The deposits made by London children during September and Octtober for the years 1921, 1922 and 1923 are as follows: September, 1921, \$1,087.26; 1922, \$825.49; 1923, \$824.05; October, 1921, \$2,165.90; 1922, \$2,544.

46; 1923, \$3,076.83.

Alexandra School heads the list with an average of 49 cents, with Aberdeen running second with 40 cents. Knollwood Park is third with and average of 39 cents. The other schools are as follows: Wortley Road, 36 cents; Riverview, 35 cents; Simcoe street, 34 cents; St. George's, 33 cents; Boyle Memorial, 32 cents; Tecumseh avenue and Victoria schools, 29 cents; Empress avenue and Tal-bto street schools, 26 cents; Lord Roberts, 25 cents; Chesley avenue and Ealing schools, 22 cents; Rec-tory street, 20 cents; Lorne avenue

schools contributing to the penny bank for September and October of the last three years are: 1921, \$101,-305.96; 1922, \$106,779.28; 1923, \$100,-

The schools of Cornwall have the highest average for the month, \$1.10, with Guelph second at 88 cents. Hes-peler comes third with an average of least half a dozen county fathers and lows: Arnprior 18, Baden 13, Barrie prospective daddies, who are all 28, Belleville 40, Blenheim 8, Bowmanville 55, Brampton 51, Bronte 31, Campbellford 28, Cape C. Reserve 34, Carleton Place 17. Cedar Dale 31. Carleton Place 17, Cedar Dale 31, Collingwood 28, Fairbank 36, For-est 38, Fort Frances 27, Galt 46, Goderich 38, Harriston 37, Humber-stone 29, Iroquois Falls 54, Kitchener19, Lambton Park 59, Leamington 22, London 29, Midland 44, Montreal 46, New Toronto 38, Niagara Falls A number of county political wise of the many series of the many serie acres in due assembly today wer unanimous in the opinion that Allan MacPherson would wield the gavel in 1924 and call straying councillors to Stamford S. S. No. 6, 26; Stratford 43. Sudbury 42, Swansea 58, Toronto

ADOLESCENT CLASSES OPEN. In company with the rest of the students of the city, the adolescent classes also reopened today. Attend-"Til bet \$10 on Allan," said one excouncillor. "He is one of the cut-standing men of the council, and they would be making a mistake if the reports he had received showed

43. Tweed 22, Welland 44, rowland 58, Winchester 12, Woodstock 31,

55, Winchester 12, Woodstock York County 35, All Canada 40.

AGO, NOW HAS GOOD JOB Jimmy McQuade, Victim of

Boyle Predicts Defeat of A.U.F.

BOY, STARVING SIX MONTHS

Canadian Press Despatch Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 3.—The Alberta United Farmer government is doomed to certain defeat owing to the inability of the farmer members to lay aside oid farmer members to lay aside old party prejudices and get together as a new political party, declared Hon. John R. Boyle, leader of the Liberal opposition in the Alberta Legislature, during an interview here yesterday.

M'MASTER SEEKS AID AGAINST PROTECTION

Canadian Press Despatch.
Calgary, Alta., Jan. 3.—A. R. McMaster, M.P., from Brome, Quebec,
in an interview here last night,
stressed the necessity for active cooperation between all who are oppresed to protection. He said: operation between all who are opposed to protection. He said:

"I have come west in response to invitations which reached me from different sources. I wished to get personally in touch to a certain extent at least with western conditions.

"The activities of the leader of the Conservative party should give thought to all forward-looking folk who wish to see this country freed from protection."

rom protection."
Mr. McMaster speaks here tonight.

GIVES B. C. MUNICIPALITIES MILLION IN LIQUOR PROFITS

Canadian Press Despatch.
Victoria, Jan. 2.—Almost a million dolars has been distributed by the British Columbia government to the municipalities of the province during the last week, according to figures made public at the department of finance here today.

The municipalities' share of liquor profits for the last six months, and of pari-mutuel and motor taxes for the last year amount to \$988,590.

The Tonic and Laxative Effect of Laxative BROMO QUININE Tablets will keep the system in a healthy condition and thus ward off all attacks of Colds, Grip or Influenza, The box bears the signature of E. W. In the hospitality shown him by C. N. R. Grove. 30c. Made in Canada.—Advt employees and Mr. Southcott.

Freight Car Incident, Remains Here.

HEALTH IS IMPROVED

Irish Lad Confident of Future Success in the Forest

Jimmy McQuade who arrived in London last July in a starved con-dition after riding for nine days and nights locked in a box car without

nights locked in a box car without food, is now in splendid circumstances and has a good job.

When he was taken out of a freight car of the C. N. R. in the east end of the city, he was a physical wreck, so famished and exhausted he could hardly stagger to the door of the car to let himself out in the open. He weighed at the time about 125 pounds, and since then has gained 25 pounds.

McGuade is an Irish boy who came to Canada about a year ago. He was working in the Alberta coal fields and one day in July entered a box

and one day in July entered a box car during noon hour to eat his lunch. The door closed on him and he was locked in. For several hours he shouted and pounded in an effort to attract some one's attention that he might escape before the train started on its journey across the con-For nine days he traveled in the

freight car, which made its first stop in London. C. N. R. workmen, hearin London. C. N. R. workmen, hearing faint cries from the box car, opened it and found the starved lad. When F. E. Southcott, of the Southcott Coal Company heard of the 18-year-old Irish boy, he offered him a position in his coal yard and took him to his home and gave him temporary lodging and food. McQuade worked for several weeks during which time his health progressed favorably and he gained in weight, but the work proved to be too strenuous for him.

He told Mr. Southcott it would be more suitable for him to secure another position on account of his weakened health. He got a job with a Dundas street east merchant, and is now working there, making \$20 a week.

'Maid of the Mountains' Star RELIGIOUS COUNCIL Experiences First Contact With Winter In Dominion

Ethell Walker, a Fair Australian, Comes Here Wrapped in Furs.

ARDENT SWIMMER rofesses Genuine Liking For

Role of "Teresa" in Musical Comedy. Ethell Walker, the fair Australian, who plays the leading role in "The Maid of the Mountains" tonight at the Grand, arrived in London this morning all wrapped up in furs, for this is her first visit to Canada. Miss Walker, who is a nativ eof Sydney, New South Wales, has only been in

this country five monthsq, and is thus experiencing her first real con-tact with snow and ice.

tact with snow and ice.

"Though, you know," she says, "we have snow in Kosiusko, just behind Sydney, sometimes."

The new "Teresa," or at least new to those who knew Jose Collins in the part, is a tall, slim, fair girl with clear blue eyes. She has the stronglymarked English accent of all colonials from "Down Under," and reminds one of a person from Old London.

she has been playing in all the big Australian cities for two years, and she confessed this morning with a frank smile that the part was her frank smile that the part was her choice in musical comedy.

"I just love the part of Teresa," she said. "I have been in musical comedy all my life, and there is no other part I like as well as this one. You see, we are all pretty fond of music in my country, and I was always fond of singing. Then, the whole play, with its dainty numbers and

play, with its dainty numbers and its lovely settings, appeals to me, and you know how popular it was when it ran at Daly's in Old London?" Miss Walker is not afraid of the long journeys entailed by touring Canada. "In Australia, we had to go all the way from Adelaide in South Australia to Perth in West Australia, and that's five days in the

Of Athletic Type. Miss Walker looks so very fit and well, and so athletic, that one can believe this. She admitted that swimming was one of her favorite forms of recreation, but hinted that she imagined it would be more fun in her own home than here.
Frank Carpenter, her manager, explained that Miss Walker had

explained that Miss walker made a name for herself in the part, in Australia, and that on their tour in the Dominion the company had in the Dominion the company had been received with open arms, and Miss Walger's art with the greatest appreciation.

"We have a perfectly-balanced company which has played together long enough to make the play a family affair, and that's the only way to put a really worth-while thing on," Mr. Carpenter declared. "We find the old attraction of the

music and the story has not dimin-ished a bit from the early post-war ALFRED HENRY WATSON. Alfred Henry Watson, a life-long



SHEEFER BREAKDOWN

Miss Mabel Normand, who was re night suffering from a nervous breakdown, due to excitement and worry following the shooting of Courtland Dines by her chauffeur

Chief of Police Stirred by Number of Stolen Automobiles.

Special to The Advertiser. Guelph, Jan. 2.-An automobile

owned by J. R. Spry, an official at

the Ontario Reformatory, was stolen from Upper Wyndham street last train, so I'm not bothered as far as travelling is concerned." night. The radiator was frozen. The police believe the theft was the work of young men.

Chief Rae states that there had been so many carr stolen in Guelph recently for the ostensiale purpose of joy-riding that he intended at the next meeting of the police commission to ask for permission to offer a reward for information that would lead to the conviction of offenders. Five cars have been stolen recently, all for joy-riding, as they were recovered in each instance within a day or two

Building Statistics. According to the building returns building inspector, there was a considerable falling off in building secretaries, and workers of local (184 It must be taken into account

FOR MEETINGS

First Gathering Will Be Held in First Presbyterian Church, January 8.

COVERS WIDE RANGE

The local Religious Education Council is planning a series of meetings during this month, to deal comprehensively with all classes of junior, intermediate and adult work. The executive of the council meet this afternoon to make final arrangements in connection with the program of the series, which, it is expected, will be sent to the printers tomorrow. The meetings will all be held in the First Presbyterian Church on each Tues-

Miss Bertha Laine of Toronto, the Ontario supervisor of Children's Work, and Mrs. J. E. Eaton, presiligious Education; will be in the city to address meetings on the first day of the series, which will be devoted to children's work. There will be three sessions, during the afternoon a supper meeting at 6:15, and the evening session at 8 o'clock.

At the second meeting of the series

young peoples' work will be dis-cussed. The special out-of-town speaker will be Rev. C. W. Myers of the Ontario Religious Educations Council of Toronto. Miss Hele Hardy of the University of Wester Ontario, will address a supper meeting at 6:15 on "The Needs in Y. Work" and the 8 o'clock session wi be addressed by Mr. Myers "Christian Canadian Citizenship Young People.'

Two Conferences

On Jan. 22, there will be two con ferences, one concerning girls' wor and the other concerning boys' wor Miss Mary R. Allison of Toronto, d visional superintendent of girls' wor of the Ontario Council, will be in th city for this. In the afternoon th will be a mass meeting of mother addressed by Mrs. W. L. Armitage London, on "The Home and the Girl. and at 5 o'clock Miss Allison w speak to the London Girls' Work Board. At 6:15 there will be a supper meeting of the presidents and secretaries of the local C. G. I. T. group and following this a meeting of lea Miss Allison will address both

In the boys' division, the supper neeting and evening session will be addressed by Taylor Statton for last year, as compiled by the the next Tuesday, Jan. 29, when there secretaries, and workers of local C

operations in 1923 as compared to 1922. In 1922 the total was \$964,808, The concluding adult and adminiswhereas last year it was only \$571,- trative session will also be held or the 29th, when at 8 o'clock the yearly however, that the permit issued last report of the local council will be pre-year for the construction of the Col-legiate Vocational Institute boosted 1924. There will be a 12 o'clock the permit total about \$400,000. There luncheon for ministers, Sunday were just as many dwellings erected superintendents and officers an resident of Stratford, died at his wife, and sister Mrs. Robinson, 144

Front street, Stratford.

The permit total about \$400,000. There were just as many dwellings erected in 1923 as in 1922. The total permits issued in December, 1922, were \$24,- dressed by Rev. C. W. DeMille of Toronto. Mr. DeMille of Speak in the evening speak in the evening.

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