PRICE THREE CENTS.

DRURY WILL GO LIBERAL THINK LOCAL POLITICIANS

May Even Become Liberal Leader, Say Conservatives-Disaster of Farmers' Party Freely Predicted by Opponents-Labor Is Indifferent.

HOLD CAUCUS TODAY, SAYS STEVENSON

Hon. E. C. Drury, premier of Ontario, will soon take shelter beneath the broad and generous folds of the Liberal banner, while the U. F. O. will be practically eliminated as a

powerful factor in provincial politics. This is the consensus of opinion today wher wer local party chiefs and whips were discussing the latest development in the Morrison-Drury vendetta with the official pronouncement by United Farmer delegates in convention in Toronto yesterday, denouncing the premier's now-famous "broadening out" policy.

Long threatened, a serious split in the ranks of the U. F. O. is now inevitable, argued many local politicians this morning, chiefly in the Tory encampment, who see today the beginning of the end for the Farmertheir opinion, there is but one alternative for the "man from Crown Hill" -gather around him his faithful followers in the House and bolt to Liberal headquarters, where he will be assured, they assert, a hearty wel-

It is the belief among local Conservatives at this moment that E. C. Drury can be the new Liberal chieftain in the province of Ontario The laurels are to be his, only for the asking, opine the jubilant Tories, who foresee the utter defeat of the present government, and a trium-phant return of the old-line parties een's l'ark next year.

Labor Is Undisturbed. The local Labor element, aligned with the party in power, seemed quite unruffled by the latest turn, and are quite content to view the entire affair as a domestic row that will bear no direct influence upon

however, that a caucus of the i

n called for today at the capital. He did not know offhand whether he would be in attendance however. There is plenty of time if I decide go," he assured. Asked what attitude Labor might

now assume, in view of the develop-ment among the U. F. O. chiefs, Dr. Evenson replied, "I don't know." "What would you suggest?" he was

"I don't know," replied the mem-

"What would you do if you were fn a position similar to the premier?" he was furthered questioned. "I don't know," was the reply "A Party Quarrel."

a formidable political factor in Ontario.

"I have attended many of the sessions of the house," Mr. Dennis explained, "and my own personal opinion is that Premier Drury's logical move, following yesterday's turn of events, would be for an alliance with the Liberal group across the floor of the house. He could take with him those of his colleagues who would be sure to cling to him if he should decide to go to the country on his decide to go to the country has seen the height of its is Magistrate A. H. M. Gray-don't attitude in regard to the juvenile country don't attitude in regard to the juvenile to more a to the next the last Federal election, declined to the notice and the last federal candidate and ideation of the last federal candidate and ideation of the last federal candidate and the last

The president of the Western On-**NEW GERMAN HORRORS** CHARGED BY MICHELIN

Special Cable to The Advertiser.
Paris, Dec. 15.—Germany is planning, another war with a new and deadly poison gas that will penetrate any gas mask, and specially designed airplanes charged with liquids that will annihilate cities, Andre Michelin, speaking before gathering of political and industrial

arfare similar to that conjured up by lemenceau in the United States, declaring German factories are busy turning out implements of war, chief among which, outside of poisons, would be special torpedo-carrying planes.

Drury Is Welcome, Says Party Chief

The Liberals of Ontario would welcome the return of Hon. E. C. Drury to the fold. Drury to the fold.

In conversation with The Advertiser this afternoon over long-distance telephone from his home in Listowel, Hon. Wellington Hay, leader of the Liberal group in the provincial house, frankly intimated that Mr. Drury and his followers would be accorded a warm welcome should they elect to "bolt"

the U. F. O.

The provincial chieftain declined to commit himself too strongly upon the incipient breach in the nome, and was not fully conversan with all the details of the Toront:

tario Conservatives freely predicts as a natural sequence, the defeat of the U. F. O. at the next election, with the return to power of one of the

old-line parties.
"I have independent reports from scattered points throughout the province," he said, "giving every indication of this. There seems to be no end of dissatisfaction everywhere. My own opinion is that a return to the old order will be the best for the farmer himself as well as the province.
"We want to help the farmer, but

under prevailing conditions he is making it very difficult for us. The farmer, like the laboring man, must recognize that he must co-operate with the other classes. When he enters the political arena as a farmer only, we can't help him out. We all need sympathetic co-operation.

"It looks as though Drury received the cheers yesterday and the other."

"It looks as though Drury received the endance cup remains to be won, and the cheers yesterday and the other the newly-elected officers presented the newly-elected officers presented the newly-elected officers presented the newly-elected officers presented to the club at the meeting, have been should continue his "broadening out policy, in spite of everything."

Alton. "I don't want to say any-ing," he said.

The member for London did exain, however, that a caucus of ain, however, that a caucus of the provincial house sees disaster the provincial house sees disaster the provincial house sees disaster the meaning to be won, and the cheers yesterday and the other the newly-elected officers presented to the club at the meeting, have been given this as their aim for the commitment of the commitment of the commitment of the newly-elected officers presented to the club at the meeting, have been given this as their aim for the commitment of the club at the newly-elected officers presented to the club at the newly-elected officers presented the newly-elected officers presented to the newly-elected officers presented to the newly-elected officers presented the newly-elected officers pre plainly written for the U. F. O. following yesterday's session of farmer

Wants Old Regime.

It is his worship's opinion that the sex, introduced by the president, return to power of either one of the Arthur Ford.

The regular meeting next week old political bodies would only be for the best interests of the province as a whole. Like his associates, he would not be at all surprised if Pre-mier Drury should "bolt" the Farmer

movement.

"Class government has been a complete failure." asserted Mayor Wilson confidently. "The people have realized that the time has come for the old party divisions. Legislation by the present government at Toronto has always been to the disadvantage of the municipalities. A return of one or the other of the old groups will be the best for the province."

E. S. Little, ex-mayor of London Arthur Mould, member of the executive of the London branch of the Canadian Labor party, and unsuccessful candidate for the federal and probable Liberal candidate at the next Provincial election, is another made it bones at the last election, made it

canadian Labor party, and unsuccessful candidate for the federal house at the last election, made it quite clear that any "party roy" in the U. F. O. ranks did not affect the "well-defined status" of the Labor party and "should not become an issue before the general public." It was purely a party quarrel or difference he maintained.

"It will not affect the Labor movement in any event," Mr. Mould stated to The Advertiser, "no matter what the outcome of the quarrel between the two U. F. O. factions may be. The Labor platform is sufficiently broad to include everyone who chooses to adopt our policies We accept all who are ready and willing to join our forces.

"I do believe, however, that this is merely a party question and should not seriously affect the Labor group or the public at large."

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"I have attended many of the sestion of the U.F. O. as a formidable political factor in Ontario."

C. R. Somerville, Liberal candidate

This is Magistrate A. H. M. Grav-

SEE PAGE 8 FOR U. F. O. CON-VENTION RESULTS.

In favor of my appointment. Of course you know my attitude.

"I have tried nearly 4,000 cases in police court this year. To be exact, 3,942 cases have been entered on the

FRENCH PREMIER CLAIMS
SITUATION MUCH BETTER

Paris, Dec. 15.—Premier Poincare told the chamber of deputies today that the general situation had recently grown better instead of worse and he expressed surprise at the feeling of fear and anxiety he had found when he returned from the London conference of premiers. He asserted he had followed faithfully the program he laid down for the government when he took office.

RELEASE THUNDER BAY.

Welland, Dec. 15. — The Canada Steamship Company steamer Thunder Bay is expected to be released from her position aground off Morgan's Point, near Port Colborne, today. She carries 90,000 bushels of grain. The tug Hector and lightering barges are working to release her this morning.

With an offshore breeze, the vessel is now in no danger.

was recorded here at noon today. The mow was generally welcome, being equired to make good sleighing.

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present at the meeting—the Mayor-elect George Wenige, introduced in a cleverly humorous poem by Tom

Yull, and Warden Cousins of Middle-

gives way to the annual Christmas tree, to be held Wednesday evening

has thrown itself heart and soul in-

to making the evening memorab

It was announced also that the re

It was announced also that the report of the objective committee would be given by the chairman, Neil Stryker, at this meeting.

On the motion of Bev. Hay, the newly-elected president, an appeal for volunteers to provide a Christmas for three needy families in the district was retired.

for three needy families in the the trict, met with a ready response, and nine names were immediately listed

of their foster "dads" and the

for the youngsters.

POWELL MARTICHUK. who was shot in a running gun bat-tle with the police and after a stay in hospital appeared in police court this morning facing two charges. The Advertiser photographer shows him as he appeared on crutches this morning suffering from the police bullet

KIWANIANS HEÁR RUSSIAN REFUSES SPLENDID REPORTS TO ANSWER CHARGE

A year of splendid progress and Powell Martinchuk, Russian, reaccomplishment was summed up in fused to answer the first charge prethe reports of various committees ferred against him, that of having a submitted at the annual business revolver in his possession, in police meeting of the Kiwanis Club held at noon today in the Tecumseh House.

Athletic, finance, membership and attendance reports were read, all Gootson had been brought to court today. The other charge of the Kiwanis Club held at court today. The other charge of the second line, three shooting with intent to kill Motory, 2,200 tons, six of the second line, three cycle Officer Gavin Monahan was not read. The prisoner insisted on an interpreter being called. Morris tons, none of the second line, three of the first line built, 3,318 tons, none of the second line, three courts are constant and the court today. proving eminently satisfactory.

The club now holds two of the

court believed the case would occupy a few hours, the matter was ad-journed until Monday.

Martinchuk sat in the courtroom almost three hours waiting for his hearing. Apparently he was interested in the other cases on the docket for he listened attentively,

docket for he listened attentively, only distracting his attention from the various witnesses called, to flick bits of dust from his clothing.

The prisoner first ran foul of the police several weeks ago when officers answered a call to a house on Bathurst street. When the policemen enteried Martinchuk retreated by way of the rear entrance. When Sergt. Elmer Walsh and Constable Parker followed, it is alleged he fired on them and vaulted a fence. They continued the chase and were pursuing him along the L. and P. S. tracks. When Monahan, who was serving subpoenases in that locality, joined in the pursuit.

As he closed in on Martinchuk, the latter fired several shots, is the officer's statement. Monahan returned the fire, finally hitting the fugitive in the knee. Martinchuk pitched forward on his face. He was removed to the police station, and on orders from Dr. Ernest Williams, police physician, taken to Victoria Hospital.

Police succeeded in frustrating a plan to kidnap Martinchuk from his bed in a public ward. When the prisoner was transferred to a steel cage, he tried to strangle himself. Recently he was moved to the jail and made his first appearance in court this morning.

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RETURNS POINT TO WIN FOR QUEBEC LIQUOR ACT

Farnham, Que, Dec. 15.—Unofficial figures available this morning of the referendum held in Missisqoi County yesterday to determine whether the Scott prohibitory law shall remain ir force or whether the sale of liquor under the Quebec liquor act shall be allowed, indicate that the latter policy was indersed by the voters. parishes involved is 10,300, and the majority for the wet forces was ap-parently over 1,000.

ROBBERS GET \$20,000 FROM BANK MESSENGER

Philadelphia, Dec. 15.—Six men in an automobile today held up a bank messenger in Darby, a suburb, and robbed him of about \$20,000 after shooting him in the cheek. The messenger was taking cash for payrolls from the First National Bank of Darby to several industrial plants in Philadelpha.

ANDREW LAIDLAW DIES.
Special to The Advertiser.
Woodstock, Ont., Dec. 15.—Andrew Laidlaw, who for the past 25 years has been postmaster of the village of Drumbo, died at an early hour this morning, following an illness of two days' duration. He was 64 years of age, was seized with a paralytic stroke on Wednesday and became unconscious. He gradually sank, and died about 2 o'clock this morning. He is survived by a widow and two

U. S. Appalled at Table of Break Into Royal Bank at Relative Strengths in Cruiser Type.

GREAT BRITAIN IN LEAD

Propose That President Harding Negotiate International Agreement.

Washington, Dec. 15.-A tabulation obtained today in United States naval circles, showing the relative positions of the British United States and Japanese navies in cruiser and submarine strength, apparently shed light on the situation which led the house appropriation committee to propose that President Harding negotiate an international agreement to check competitive building in

Annual Business Meeting at Noon Today Is Cause For Congratulation.

TO ANSWER CHARGE

The figures credit Britain with 45 light cruisers of the first line built, building or projected, and aggregating 206,480 tons; the United States with 10 ships building, 75,000 tons, and Japan with 11 ships built and 21 building and projected, aggregating 191,450 tons. In addition the list shows Great Britain to have 13 light cruisers of the second line 69 206. cruisers of the second line, 69,230 tons. Neither the U.S. nor Japan is credited with any ships in this classi-

fication.

In fleet submarines Britain is

building program, none on the United States', and 38 on the Japanese.

Mount Forest and Steal Securities.

BLOW OPEN VAULT DOOR

Make Escape in Early Morn ing After Cutting Telegraph Lines.

Special to The Advertiser. Mount Forest, Ont., Dec. 15 .- En-

tering the Royal Bank building here. after cutting the bars of a rear window, robbers last night escaped with the contents of eighteen safety deposit boxes, consisting for the most part registered bonds. Pending furtrer checking up the value of the bonds cannot be estimated, as the bank had no record of them.

Telephone cables in the town were cut by the robbers, as well as telegraph wires, both beyond the railway station and in town. There is every reason to believe that the raid the work of professional was burglars.

The hour of the robbery is placed credited with six of the first line, One of these, Harry Clarke, division families resident in the block had

And Others Call Him "Ouija" Though He Won't Say "Yes" or "No"

Here is something sprung on the new mayor by the Kiwanis Club a soon today. It speaks for itself.

"SAY IT WITH CORRECTNESS." The mayor for 1923, His office soon will claim, And so I think you'll all agree We ought to know his name.

You've heard him called George Wennijee, Some folks pronounce it so, Another says "'Tis Wenniggy, I'd have you all to know.

Some people say he's Wennick,
"No, Wenninger," say a few—
Still others claim it's Weenije,
But they're wrong, 'twixt me and you.

The mayor himself says, "I don't care A shilling or a pfennig, Let people call me what they please, As long as they say Wenige."

ON REPARATIONS

German Industrial Leaders and Cuno Cabinet to Co-operate.

Special Cable to The Advertiser. Berlin, Dec. 15.-Industrial leaders of Germany planned today to cooperate with the members of the Cuno cabinet in working out a fresh reparations proposal. Hopeful of aid from outside in view of statements by Bonar Law, Lloyd George and Ramsay MacDonald, in the House of Commons yesterday, and taking some stock in current report of American intention to re-enter European affairs, Germans are anxious to settle with the Allies before the next reparations crisis falls due Jan. 15.

Former Chancellor Wirth, desirous of laying the German case before the of laying the German case perore the American people, much as Clemen-ceau did for France, said today: "I am still looking forward to making a lecturing trip in the United States. However, it is uncertain just when political circumstances will permit me

Wirth predicted a shake-up in Gerwirth predicted a shake-up in Germany's political situation, with a coalition, including Socialists, supplanting the Cuno government. He hinted that this would come in January, and that he himself might have a considerable role,

December contains a charming poem, "The River at Noo," by Miss Mary A. Kilbourne, a fourth-year student at Western University, whose literary worok is attracting attention.

CANADA NOTIFIED CATTLE BILL LAW

Britain Sends Official Notification — Anti-Embargo Measure Passes Final . Reading.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.-Official notification that the embargo bill had received third reading in the House of minister, Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King, this morning.

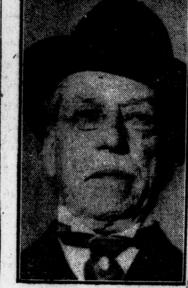
It is now possible, under the new act, to ship non-breeding animals Kee. from Canada to Great Britain and fatten them there. The entry of such OLD INNERKIP HOTEL fatten them there. The entry of such animals is, of course, subject to regulations which have been laid down to prevent the carrying of disease to cattle there.

Breeding animals from Canada will not be permitted entry at the present time, however, as a provision of the bill was that these would not be entered until the bill had been tabled for three weeks in both houses.

houses.

In view of pirorogation taking place today, until February, breeding animals from Canada will not, it is understood be admitted until the provi-

AMBASSADOR HARVEY CALLED TO WASHINGTON



president of the American Federa-tion of Labor, who declares that or-ganized labor in the United States

WOMAN LOSES LIFE IN MONTREAL FIRE

Nine Families Escape Flames With Their Lives \$150 .-000 Damage Done.

Montreal, Dec. 14.-One woman Miss Eva McGinnis, a trained nurse, to advise and confer with President at between 2 and 3 o'clock this morn- which destroyed the Corinthian ing. Two citizens report having apartments, Bishop street, in the heard an explosion at about this hour. early hours of this morning. Nine court clerk, states that shortly before narrow escapes from the flames, shooting with mean and the control of the first new cycle Officer Gavin Monahan was not read. The prisoner insisted on an interpreter being called. Morris Gootson had been brought to court to act in this capacity, but as the case did not come on until the after-free day of the case was adjourned till Mondoy. What do you say to this charge? the court asked Martin-fleet submarines, Great Britain is the case was adjourned till Mondoy. Only yes, you do," he was told. The marked by the control of the submarines, Great Britain is to the submarines, Great Britain is to the submarines, Great Britain is control. The marked which contained the bank's funds. No ciue and the control of the court asked Martin-fleet submarines, Great Britain is to the submarines of the day and made the wor

had been broker into and a pinchbar and other tools stolen, and with these the iron bars at the erear of the bank were pried off and entrance gained.

Crown Attorney Kearns, Guelph, was notified between 8 and 9 o'clock was notified between 8 and 9 o'clock were rusned in taxis to every available steamer, according to refugees arriving here in increasing numbers.

Most of those coming to Italy are government officials, former ministers, generals and prefects who served under constantine. sweeping up the airshaft, which had Constantine. recently been metal lined. Apart-ments on the top floor were already

Four persons, members of the two families residing on the etop floor, were at their windows calling for help when the firemen arrived, and one woman tried to jump before the ladders could be erected. She was restrained, and with the others was carried down the ladders by the firemen.

men. So far as Mr. McGregor was aware all the occupants had escaped from the building.

the building.

Most of those leaving the building donned outer wraps over their night clothes. They were taken in taxicabs and sleighs to the Corona Hotel and the House of Friends.

A snowstorm raged during the progress of the fire.

MAY OPEN CHANNEL THROUGH ICE FIELDS

Seven Steamers Are Held Fast in Ice at Sand Island.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Dec. 15.— With seven steamers fast in the ice at Sand Island, six in difficulty above the locks, and three being held here, it appeared today that th ernment or the Lake Carriers' Association would be called upon to open None of the imprisoned steamer had asked aid early today, but with a continuance of cold weather in prospect it was not believed likely they could wait for the ice to move out with assurance of freeing them-selves. Each of the captains appeared reluctant to assume the task of breaking a channel for the fleet Lords was received by the prime at the risk to damage to his own minister. Rt. Hon. Mackengie King vessels. The ice-bound vessels at Sand Island were the Edw. Uhring, Riverton, Agnew, Denmark, G. N.

DESTROYED BY FIRE

Woodstock, Dec. 15.—One of the oldest landmarks in Oxford County, the, old hotel building at Innerkip village, was completely destroyed by village, was completely destroyed by fire at an early hour this morning. The place was used as a dwelling house by George Bennett and his family, and they were compelled to flee from the burning building in their night clothes. The building was erected in 1848, and for over 60 years was known to the travelers from the end of the province to the other as end of the province to the other the "Innerkip Hotel."

OLD ENGLISH, French and other traditional Christmas carols will be sung by a double quartet at the twillight organ recital in the First Methodist Church at 4:30 this afternoon. Mr. Jordan at the organ and Mrs. Charles Ivey in a violin obligato, will round out what promises to be a most interesting program.

Washington Authorities See Early Step of Far-Reaching Importance.

HARVEY RETURNS HOME

Summoned by Harding to. Confer on Plan for Intervention.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 15 .-- American intervention in the European

crisis is imminent. The United States shortly will take major step of far-reaching importance in the serious situation abroad, according to highly authoritative information received here to-

George Harvey, American ambassador to London, has been instructed by President Harding and Secretary Hughes to return to Washington for

consultation on the European crisis. HARVEY RETURNS DEC. 23. London, Dec. 15 .- Ambassador Harvey returns to Washington Dec. 23

lost her life, and damage estimated Harding regarding possible American at over \$150,000 was done in a fire intervention in Europe.

which destroyed the Corinthian This was the understanding in London today following Harvey's announcement he had been called to The American ambassador will sail

on the Berengaria a week from to-morrow to report direct to the presi-dent at Washington upon the general reparations and economic situation. He will tell Mr. Harding of Anglo-French divergencies and confer on the subject of American intervention. based on the outcome of the premiers' conference, which is to be re-sumed at Paris Jan. 2.

FROM REVOLUTIONISTS

Rôme, Dec. 15 .- Hundreds of persons suspected of sympathy with King Con-

Tales of horror are related by these refugees, who declare the revolutionary, government at Athens considers it crime to have sworn allegiance to the

\$46,000 TO HOSPITALS

Stratford, Dec. 15 .- By the will of the late William Scott, Egmondville. the town of Seaforth is left \$40,000 for the erection and maintenance of a hospital. Further sums of \$2,000 each are left to Clinton, Goderich amounted to about \$90,000

WORLD WHEAT CONDITION **FAVORS THE PRODUCER**

Washington, Dec. 15.-The world according to department of commerce officials, who base their observations on reports from all parts of the globe. The world "balance sheet" on wheat stocks does not bear out the belief. t was said, that there will be a larger carry-over of stocks of wheat next July than there was in July of this year, while improving conditions abroad would seem to mean that purchases of wheat would increase.

THE WEATHER

Today—Moderate to fresh northerly to westerly winds, with local snow flurries. Saturday-Fresh to strong southy mostly fair and rather cold.

A shallow disturbance is centred this norning over the New England States and another has come in over Manitob high over the Middle Western States

has been fair, with somewhat high The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:



Winnipeg. - 4 -10 Toronto ... Ottawa .. Montreal... Quebec ... F. Point..

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: The official temperatures for the 12 nours previous to 8 a.m. today wer