

THE WEATHER:
MODERATELY COLD, FAIR.
TUESDAY—FAIR.

London Evening Advertiser

"SPORTING GREEN"
ON THE STREET AT 6:00
WITH LATE NEWS.

THREE CENTS.

61ST YEAR. NO. 23858

LONDON, ONTARIO, MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1924—SIXTEEN PAGES.

FLIP OF COIN GIVES GREER BOARD OF WORKS

Charles Turner Resigns Post After 21 Years Service

32 MILLS TAX RATE IS GIVEN COUNCIL AS ITS AIM IN 1924

Brief Inaugural Session of City Council Starts Civic Machinery Running For Another Year—Committees and Boards Are Appointed—Goodwill Prevails.

MAYOR'S ADDRESS IS NOT SPECTACULAR

1924 and 1923

The following are the twelve most important recommendations in the mayor's inaugural address, delivered this morning. These were forecasted in *The Advertiser* last Monday.

1. Thirty-two-mill tax rate.
2. Commission form of government.
3. Elective police commission.
4. Full-time magistrate.
5. Changes in personnel of fire department.
6. Civic insurance department.
7. Western Fair developments.
8. Full-time corporation lawyer.
9. Revision of city hall salaries.
10. Reorganization of relief work.
11. Revision of traffic bylaws.
12. Postponement of street railway purchase.

Just about this time last year, Mayor Wenige made his first demands upon the city council, and these were the outstanding of his 1923 recommendations:

1. A new assessment commissioner.
2. A corporation lawyer for city clerk.
3. Investigation of the fire department.
4. Commission form of government.
5. Elective police commission.
6. A "shoedown" with street railway company.
7. A square deal for motor buses.
8. A juvenile court.
9. Legal action against the City Gas Company to recover \$65,000.
10. Investigation of city engineer's department.

"Let the dead past bury its dead." This is 1924 and members of the city council, checked this morning with the authority of their office and sharing the trust of the people, face together another twelve-month brimning with opportunities for a "Greater London."

Commencing promptly at 11 o'clock, and with solemn and customary ceremonial, Mayor George Wenige and his elected associates registered their first official entries on the municipal pages of the new year.

"This is 1924," became a household platitude during the recent term, but "This is 1924" is going to stand for even more in the way of accomplishment and general co-operation, judging from the demeanor of the mayor and his colleagues at their morning gathering. It looks as though 1924 is slated for well-meaning action and sensible administration.

Brief Inaugural Session. The 1924 inaugural session was one of the briefest on record. Scheduled events followed one another with well-timed precision and none of the bickering and stewing that has featured previous assemblies of a similar nature.

Rev. R. J. Murphy, rector of the Wortley Road Baptist Church opened the meeting with prayer. Mayor Wenige delivered his inaugural address, the same being received without comment and the several clauses referred to the respective committees for initial consideration.

All tentative appointments to the various committees and municipal boards, as made at the recent informal gathering at the mayor's residence were formally ratified. There were no objections and the only hitch occurred when the members of the board of works effected a deadlock in their choice of a chairman. The question was satisfactorily disposed of, however, with a toss of a coin.

Address Not Spectacular. Mayor Wenige's inaugural address, received with the closest attention. Please See Page 15, Column 4.

VINING LIKELY TO AGAIN HEAD PUBLIC UTILITIES

First 1924 Meeting of Body Is Scheduled For Thursday.

The first 1924 meeting of the public utilities commission will be held Thursday afternoon, when routine business will be dealt with. The personnel of the commission not having changed, the work will be continued with practically no rearrangement. Jared Vining, 1923 chairman of the commission, will probably retain the chair for the coming year.

At the meeting following Jan. 31, the report of Engineer W. C. Curd, dealing with the ground water possibilities of London, prepared after a two-months' survey, will be dealt with.



ALD. LEONARD DOUGLASS. The 1923 chairman of the board of works has been elected chairman of the 1924 finance committee.

LABOR ASKS 8-HOUR DAY LEGISLATION

Executive of Trades Congress To Present Appeal To Government.

HAS WIDE PROGRAM
Amendments Are Urged to the Criminal Code and Other Acts.

Canadian Press Despatch. Ottawa, Jan. 14.—When organized labor, through the executive of the Trades and Labor Congress, lays its legislative program before Premier King and his cabinet colleagues this afternoon, an act providing for an 8-hour work day throughout the Dominion will form one of the outstanding requests.

Other features of the memorandum which the labor executives will ask the cabinet to consider are: acts to provide insurance for unemployed persons; to set aside one day of rest in seven and amendments to the Criminal Code, the Immigration Act and Industrial Disputes Act. The Government will also be asked to consider the establishment of old age pensions, prison reform, proportional representation, amendments to the Bank Act, the Elections Act and the Militia Act.

Labor is asking for amendments to the Criminal Code which will "re-establish the right of peaceful picketing and prevent misuse of injunctions in labor disputes; restore the right of freedom of speech, press and assembly; definition of sympathetic strikes and to eliminate reference to sedition, seditious conspiracy, etc."

Changes requested in the Immigration Act call for: repeal of the provisions which discriminate against British born citizens; prohibition of entry of contract labor unless secured through the employment service of Canada; the right of trial by jury before deportation for political offenses and repeal of amendments which bring within the prohibited classes those exercising the reasonable right of assembly and freedom of speech.

An unexpected battle for the chairmanship of the board of works with the proverbial "flip of the coin"—and a half-dollar one at that. Ald. Leonard Douglass was chosen by his colleagues as the chairman of the new finance committee. Ald. Frank McKay was also nominated for this post, but withdrew his name immediately.

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A deadlock occurred. The vote was 3—3. Ald. Ernest Shaw, acting in the capacity as temporary chair. Please See Page 15, Column 3.

FINANCERS TO ASCERTAIN IF GERMANY ABLE TO PAY

General Dawes, American Representative, Advises Country Be Aided.

MUST FIND SOLUTION
World's Leading Economic Experts Open Conference in Paris.

Associated Press Despatch. Paris, Jan. 14.—Leading businessmen and financiers of Great Britain, France, Belgium, Italy and the United States began this morning to examine the assets and liabilities of Germany, with a view to saving something from the ruins of the most stupendous bankruptcy in the history of the world.

"Strictly business and no politics" was the motto under which they assembled. General Charles G. Dawes, one of the United States representatives, presided.

The official opening of the session was marked with brief speeches by Louis Barthou, president of the reparations commission, and General Dawes. The meeting was absolutely lacking in any of the military display which marked the conferences at Spa, San Remo and Genoa.

Not a single soldier was in evidence. M. Barthou delivered the address of welcome to the experts.

"We do not expect from you," he said, "the unlooked for miracle of the solution of the reparations problem, but we hope with sincere confidence that your competency, experience and authority will hasten the result toward which we are bending all our efforts."

According to the December number of the Labor Gazette, published by the Department of Labor in Ottawa, the average cost of living in the Dominion today, per week, for a family of five, two adults and three children, is \$21.19.

In 1922, it was placed at \$20.39; in November, 1920, the peak was reached at \$26.13, and the 1914 price was \$14.38. In 1910 it was \$9.37.

This family budget, compiled by the department every month, includes rent, fuel and lighting, all foods and starch and laundry. In an appended list of figures on the cost of staple foods, Prince Edward Island comes first with \$9.55, then comes Quebec with \$9.95, Ontario is given at \$10.61, and British Columbia comes highest with \$11.85.

EDWARDS HEIRS HERE TO MEET ON TUESDAY
The Appointment of Western Ontario Representative Will Be Discussed.

Western Ontario heirs of the late Robert Edwards, who are pressing their suit to secure their share of the New York estate valued at more than \$205,000,000, will meet Tuesday afternoon in the county council chambers, George Cook announced this morning.

At a meeting of the local heirs held last month more than 150 were present. Mr. Cook expects tomorrow's meeting will be well attended. He has received many inquiries regarding the possibilities of winding up the estate.

The question of appointing M. A. Pressel, genealogist, of Port Huron, who has spent six months of his time investigating the case, as representative of Western Ontario heirs, was brought up at the last meeting. Mr. Cook expects the local heirs will decide the question of Mr. Pressel's appointment tomorrow.

It is expected a committee will also be appointed to work with Mr. Pressel.



WESTMINSTER TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS FOR 1924. Here are the councillors and officials who will guide the destinies of Westminster this year. From left to right: front row, they are, second deputy reeve, James Johnston; reeve, Walter S. Laidlaw; first deputy reeve, Wm. Eiler. Back row, left to right: councillor, Harvey M. Davis; treasurer, J. W. Laidlaw; councillor, W. J. Grievie; and assistant clerk, E. A. Hunt.

CHARLES TURNER RESIGNS POSITION

Formal Communication Is Submitted to City Clerk Prior to Council Session.

After more than 21 years' valuable service, Charles Turner, city tax collector, has tendered his resignation to Mayor Wenige and members of the new city council.

Members of the latter committee, at their inaugural session Wednesday night, will be asked to consider the resignation. City Treasurer James Bell submitted a formal communication to that effect to City Clerk Baker just prior to this morning's session of the council.

Ald. Leonard Douglass, chairman of the finance committee, voiced the belief and hope that the committee would be able to induce Mr. Turner to reconsider his decision to leave the city's employ. Mr. Turner entered the service in 1902.

Mrs. Charles Turner, who had been associated in the same office with her husband, the tax collector, resigned last month, her resignation taking effect at the close of the year.

Should Mr. Turner decline to reconsider his resignation and remain with the city, it will probably be necessary for council to reorganize the city tax collecting department.

Dr. Horace Britain recommended also the appointment of a competent accountant to assist the city treasurer, while the council has also to decide whether to transfer to the tax collecting department a member of the city treasurer's staff or employ another.

MAN FOUND IN SNOW WITH HIS HIP BROKEN
W. M. Baker, Aged Westminster Resident, Seriously Ill After Mishap.

W. M. Baker, an aged resident of Littlewood, Westminster Township, had his hip broken and muscles of his back badly sprained Saturday, when he fell on the ice between his house and the barn. Mr. Baker lay face down in the snow for some time, and it was not until his wife started to the barn to investigate his continued absence that his plight was discovered.

Mrs. Baker hurried to a neighbor, who was unable to lift the injured man, and a further call was sent for help. Mr. Baker is suffering from exposure as well as other injuries, and his condition is giving his family much anxiety.

Ward One, is the 1924 chairman of the board of works. A tie vote with Ald. Hayden was split with a toss of a coin.

Danger of Electrocution In Home Is Emphasized

Touching Electrical Fixture While in Water Especially Perilous.

FALSE IMPRESSIONS HELD
"Live Wire," Hydro Magazine, Published List of "Don'ts" in 1921.

With the death by electrocution of Mrs. Rowen Williams, 25 Grafton street, who was killed through touching an electric heater while bathing, comes once more the warning issued by hydro authorities on the danger of coming in contact with any electrical unit while in water.

The fact that water is one of the best conductors of electricity makes it particularly dangerous to touch an electric switch or any appliance while standing in a bath or while standing on wet ground with bare feet.

Many people are of the impression that 110,220 or even 550 volts are quite harmless. This is not the case, officials declare.

From an issue of the "Live Wire," published in 1921, the following "don'ts" have been extracted:

"Keep the hands and feet away from any grounded objects when touching anything electrical."

"Don't stand in a bath tub and touch any part of an electrical device."

"Don't use an electrical vibrator while in the bath tub."

"The turning on of a water tap, gas stove, or radiator may bring results if the person is also in contact with an electrical fixture."

If the foregoing rules are carried out there will be no danger from electrocution in the ordinary event of things.

TOPPING MODEL PRISONER NOT WORRYING OVER TRIAL
Clarence Topping, confessed slayer of Geraldine Durston, still remains the model prisoner of the county jail, according to Governor Byron Dawson. Topping is apparently not worrying over the fact that he will be tried for murder a few weeks hence when the winter assizes open.

"He gives no trouble," stated the governor. "Topping spends a great deal of his time reading quietly. He has few visitors and has little to say. He is a model prisoner in every way."

MEETING POSTPONED. The regular session of the Student Legislature of the London East Collegiate Institute will not be held tomorrow as planned, other matters having cropped up that require the attention of the students at that time.

'POULTRY KING' TO DINE AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE
Billy McNeill, City, Numbered Among the Guests at Luncheon.

William (Billy) McNeill, Waterloo street north, the veteran "poultry king of America," as he has often been described, is to be numbered among the guests at a luncheon at the Government House, Toronto, Tuesday, January 29, tendered by his honor the lieutenant-governor.

The event is in honor of those who have gained distinction in the various agricultural activities and allied interests in Ontario.

Mr. McNeill, well known in that capacity throughout Canada and the United States, is at present judging a show in Ottawa.

CLASS OF 1902 WILL SOON BE SUMMONED BY SOVIET
Associated Press Despatch. Moscow, Jan. 14.—The federal council of commissaries had decided to summon in the spring the class of 1902 for regular service in the red army. Call for this class was postponed two years in succession.

MUSICIAN TO VISIT CITY. One of Europe's premier concert pianists M. Marky, will shortly visit London as the guest of Louis St. Peter's Cathedral. M. Paul Marky of Budapest, Hungary, is well known on the continent, having given concerts in Vienna, Paris, Berlin, Budapest and many other music centers.

BOOTLEGGERS OF DISTRICT TERM SELVES BUSINESSMEN

Tambling States Income Returns Often Tell True Story, However.

BORDER "SPECULATORS"
Profits in Windsor Area Are Larger, But Less Secure.

Bootleggers in Detroit may be termed "speculators," but in London they call themselves "businessmen."

According to an item which appeared in a Detroit newspaper when income tax files of bootleggers in that city are returned, the illicit liquor vendors give their occupation as "speculators."

In London and district, according to G. Tambling, inspector of taxation, they go by the more euphonious name of "businessmen."

But there are bootleggers in London who are more open about their business. Mr. Tambling says he receives income tax returns from bootleggers who describe their means of living with such terms as "illicit liquor vendors," "operator of stills," "bootleggers" and "rum runners."

The income of a bootlegger is found by comparing one statement with another, and Mr. Tambling has a very fair idea of the profits of the business.

The mass of information being compiled at the local Department of Income Taxation would be of enormous advantage to the provincial prohibition force but any such information is strictly forbidden by law, and the police will never get a peep at the statements. All this department is concerned with is getting the income tax on the profits made by each bootlegger.

According to Mr. Tambling, the bootlegging business in Windsor can rightly be named a speculation. A rum runner who has an income of \$50,000 one year may be down and out the next, he says. In London the bootleggers are not as wealthy, and the majority of dealers in this city generally take it up as a side line.

GALES BUFFET LINER, INJURING NINE ABOARD
Thuringia Docks in New York Two Days Behind Schedule.

Associated Press Despatch. New York, Jan. 13.—Four gales which buffeted the liner Thuringia, injured nine passengers and prevented the ship from bringing in six shipwrecked men who had sailed from a Canadian port to Great Britain. It became known when the Thuringia docked last night, two days behind her schedule.

The shipwrecked men had been picked up at sea by the freighter Iva, going east, and because of the storm a transfer to the liner could not be made. The name of the shipwrecked vessel could not be given.

WILL APPOINT OFFICERS. At a meeting of the Public Health Association to be held this evening in the city hall, officers for 1924 will be appointed.

THE WEATHER
FORECASTS. Light winds, fair and moderately cold today and on Tuesday.

Stations—High Low Weather
Victoria 42 38 Cloudy
Calgary 34 12 Fair
Winnipeg 2 6 Snow
Port Arthur 2 14 Clear
Sault Ste. Marie 19 10 Clear
Toronto 28 19 Clear
Kingston 23 16 Fair
Ottawa 24 10 Fair
Montreal 20 16 Cloudy
Quebec 18 14 Snow
Father Point 19 4 Snow
St. John 34 30 Snow
Halifax 34 28 Snow
(—) Below zero.
LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 28; lowest, 19. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 21; lowest, 7. Barometric Readings. Sunday—8 p.m.—29.38. Today—8 a.m.—29.44.