THREE CENTS.

Bell States Vote Needed For City Hall Improvements

THIRTY ARE KILLED. 100 HURT IN MILL

Corn Products Company Plant at Pekin Is Scene of Holocaust in Early Hours of Morning-Rescuers Prevented by Flames From Rescuing Bodies of Workmen-Injured Are Rushed to Nearby Hospitals.

DUST EXPLOSION IS FOLLOWED BY FIRE

Pekin, Ills., Jan. 3.—Between thirty and thirty-five persons ere killed and 100 injured, according to estimates, in an explosion nd fire in the starch buildings of the Corn Products Refining Comany here early today. At 10 a.m. seven bodies, six of them identied, had been recovered.

At that hour two buildings of the big plant were in ruins, uilding No. 33, the starch powerhouse, where the blast occurred, eing reduced to a mass of smoldering debris, and building No. 27, he starch house, still blazing, its walls standing, but giving off at so intense that no efforts could be made to search for bodies.

Picks a Pansy

New Year's Day

A good specimen of pansy was received at The Advertiser office, oicked on New Year's Day in the rarden of Mrs. Beresford, 41 Arun-lel street, London.

Mayor and the Engineer Are

Encouraged by the Plan

The crisis of the local unemploy-

Although ordinarily 250 men were imployed in the starch houses, according to Frank Velde, manager, house where the explosion Rushed To Plant.

When the blast occurred, relatives and friends of the omployees rushed the plant from their homes in the plant from their homes in the third floor of the rning Pekin plant, Frank Lichtiss, 26, Peoria, sang to his fellow orkers for nearly on hour to calm nem and when the last retreat was

cut off, jumped from the burning Lichtweiss has a voice of unus uality and some of his compani vent to their death with the stra of the songs in their memory. He did not jump until all the men who were able to leave the floor had done so.

He was severely burned and is in hospital here. Fire companies from both Peoria and Pekin responded to the calls for aid. The distance and severe cold

handicapped the fire fighters and tescue workers.

Five men working in five box cars about 30 feet from the building were missing and are believed to have been killed as the cars were destroyed by the explosion.

Five broke out after the explosion.

The crisis of the local unemploy-Fire broke out after the explosion.

rs could see the bodies of apims lying in the ruins, but the lames prevented attempts to reach the bodies. It was estimated it would be several hours before the ruins could be penetrated and the

Eighty injured, many of them badly mangled, had been removed from the wreckage by 8 o'clock, and taken to hospitals in Pekin and Peoria.

Two hundred and fifty men were working in the plant at the time of

The explosion is said to have been Please See Page 2, Column 1.

BELAND MAY GET GOVERNOR'S POST

Popular Statesman Is Mentioned as Most Likely Man To Succeed Brodeur.

Canadian Press Despatch. Quebec, Jan. 3.-With Hon. L. P. Brodeur, late lieutenant-governor of

the province, removed by death rumor is already rife regarding his Snowplows Put Into Operation, successor. A number of names are mentioned as to who will be the next mentioned as to who will be the next lieutenant-governor of Quebec, among them being Senator Beique of Montreal, Hon. Dr. Beland, federal minister of health and soldiers' reestablishment; Hon. Judge Tessier of this city; Hon. Adelard Turgeon, and Sir F. X. Lemieux, chief justice of the superior court in this city.

superior court, in this city.

The choice for the appointment is during the night; tied up traffic on said to lie between Senator Beique the London street railway for several

TWO MEMBERS OF HEALTH **BOARD SAID SURE OF SEATS**

least two members of the board of health can be reappointed in 1924 if they so desire and in view of their many years of service E. R. Seabrook and Charles Mitchell. In fact, the latter is slated for the chairmanship to succeed Ald. Leonard Douglass, the 1923 incumbent of that position.

Have little headway, owing to the cycondition of rails. Snowplows were immediately ordered into operation, but normal traffic conditions were not attained until 10 o'clock. (Old 27 was, as usual, on the hop). Passengers coming into the city from the vicinity of Springbank were compelled to take the Byron bus

WRIT FOR DAMAGES

Graydon & Graydon have assued a Graydon & Graydon have Issued a county court writ on behalf of William C. Maker and Madeleine Cochren of London against R. O. Winn of Michener for damages for personal injuries sustained to both plaintiffs, and for damages to Maker's car as the result of alleged negligence on the part of the defendant, his ser-vice was not possible until 9 o'clock. The Springbank line was the most vants or agents.



LIKELY TO LEAD U.F.O. Hon. W. E. Raney, attorney-general in the Drury government, who is the ost likely choice of farmers' party

Formation of Provincial Progressive Party Will Be Discussed at Caucus.

RANEY LIKELY TO LEAD

Toronto, Jan. 3 .- The leadership of

Ontario Legislature is being decided oday at a private conference here Formation of a Provincial Progres-sive Party, it is believed, will also be discussed at great length by the delegates, who include a large num-ber of the Progressive members of

The way for today's conference was made clear at the meeting of the United Farmers of Ontario last month when the convention divorced its asciation from politics, but did not go on record against the formation of a separate political organization. In the evening a banquet will be tenderect the visitors by the Progressive Association of Toronto.

According to reports today Hon. W. E. Raney, attorney-general in the Drury administration, will probably ment situation has been passed. This was the encouraging belief voiced by both Mayor Wenige and City Engineer W. P. Near.

Drury administration, will probably be chosen leader of the party in the Provincial Legislature. Hon. E. C. Drury is without a seat in the present assembly and it is not likely that The Wellington-High street sewer job and the tree-trimming activities by the public utilities commission are

by the public unitties commission are still providing employment for those who can and will work the city authorities point out. The mayor and engineer are both confident that the worst phases have been passed. "We can keep the Wellington-High

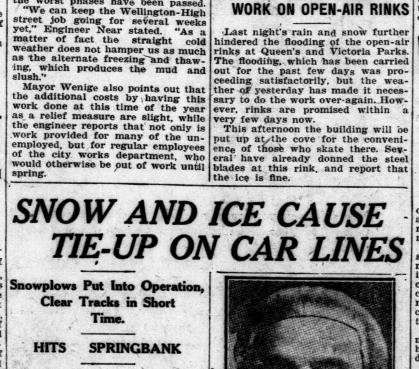
SNOW AND ICE CAUSE TIE-UP ON CAR LINES

Clear Tracks in Short Time.

HITS SPRINGBANK

Four inches of snow, which fell hours this morning. The Springbank line was not cleared until 11 o'clock and city routes were behind schedule. When the street cars first appear-

ed early this morning they could Passengers coming into the city from the vicinity of Springbank were compelled to take the Byron bus, which did a thriving business. Many who missed the bus were forced to remain home until street car service was resumed:





CREATED A BARON. Sir Charles Darling, former justice the king's bench, who was created a baron in the New Year's honors authorized by King George.

FIELDING'S CONDITION. Canadian Press Despatch. Ottawa, Jan. 3.-Rt. Hon. W. S.

MEET FIRST

Secretary Tanner States Constitution Sets Date For the Inaugural Session.

SPLITTING OF A HAIR

Regulation Is Accepted by the Trustees When Office Is Taken.

hold its inaugural meeting on

tary W. A. Tanner, following the publication of a story that the board would be non-extant until the first Wednesday in February, owing to the fact that the 1923 board had Cost failed to pass a resolution setting a date for the first meeting of the new body.

Secretary Tanner stated that the constitution of the local board sets the date of the inaugural meeting as the first Thursday after the first the United Farmers' Party in the the date on which the 1924 board will meet.
The failure of the old board

The failure of the old board to pass a resolution setting forth the date of the meeting in accordance with provincial statute is a question of the splitting of a hair. The regulation of the local roard, accepted by the trustees when they take of fice, sets forth the date, and although, technically speaking, the date should have been placed in the minutes of the last regular meeting of the board, is nevertheless a resolution to the effect that the new board shall meet on such and such a day.

The failure of the old board to pass a resolution setting forth the street railway visits. Miss Clara Stockwell, one of the children, lives with her mother on Richmond street.

Two of the children, lives with her mother on Richmond street.

Two of the children, lives with her mother on Richmond street.

Two of the children, lives with her mother on Richmond street.

Two of the children, lives with her mother on Richmond street.

Two of the children in Richmond street track allowance a matter of about track allowance a matte on such and such a day.

The ruling of the department, written for by Mr. Tanner, has not yet been received, but Inspector Greer of the department of education, who is familiar with its regulations, states that the date as set forth in the local constitution is the one on which the inaugural meeting will be held.

Secretary Tanner has called the

Secretary Tanner has called the meeting for that date, and has noti-Drury is without a seat in the present assembly, and it is not likely that one will be opened up for him. Hon. Manning Doherty and Hon. F. C. Biggs are also mentioned for the leadership of the party.

WEATHER AGAIN HINDERS WORK ON OPEN-AIR RINKS

WORK ON OPEN-AIR RINKS

WEATHER AGAIN HINDERS WORK ON OPEN-AIR RINKS

VINING LIKELY TO HEAD BOARD

Public Utilities Commission Will Hold First Meeting After Council Session.

The public utilities commission will continue to function, there being no actual need to call an inaugural meeting, the personnel of the board not having been changed.

General Manager E. V. Buchanan stated this morning that the first meeting would be held following the inaugural meeting of the city counother licenses within their province and they need give no explanation to the court or others, according to an announcement from City Treasurer James Bell. The treasurer points out that the law is clear and distinct and whether inaugural meeting of the city coun-cil, at which the members are de-clared elected. He also considered it more than likely that Jared Vining, chairman of 1923, would again head the compission it may be considered as unjust by taxi drivers or others interested, is e commission. Mr. Buchanan also mentioned that

no member of the commission who had ever sought re-election had been defeated at the polls.

"OLD 27" GOES ON BUST. TIES UP THE TRAFFIC

"Old 27' tore things lose on York street this afternoon; went off the trolley and everything, seriously handicapping street railway service to South-London. The company officials report that "27" has been cutting up "simply awful" since the first of the year and residents of Springbank and vicinity report that he didn't even come to work this morning. Some say that "Old 27" has a bad attack of "neuralgia" after New Year's celebrating.

D.J. TALLANT DENIES BEING "MENTIONED" FOR POSTS

Since he was defeated at the recent election as an aspirant for the public utilities commission, D. J. Tallant, chairman of the housing commission, has been "mentioned" for various posts in 1924. But Mr. Tallant says that he is not an applicant for a position on the Port Stanley Rallway Commission and asserts that he has heard nothing about the proposal that he sit on the board of health.



SIR ADAM BECK. City hall observers forecast Sir Adam Beck's re-appointment to the Lon-don and Port Stanley Railway Com-mission by the 1924 city council. Identified with that railway since its The 1924 board of education will man of the commission during 1923.

This statement was made to The GITY PRESENTS

For Street Railway Is Placed Roughly at \$35,000.

PASSED RESOLUTION

The city engineering department is forwarding to the street railway company its bill for Richmond street track allowance a matter of about \$35,000.

resoluiton. His advice was not fol- the girls lowed, however. And the city solicitor has been since credited opinion that any would be illegal.

Clear and Distinct.

CANNOT BE RENEWED

Taxi Drivers Unable To Oper-

ate, and Decision Is

The police authorities are empow

ered by statute to revoke taxi or

of course no concern of his depart-ment who are involved only in the collection thereof.

police state that this is for "good and sufficient reasons," although the

city treasurer quotes the act to show that the police officials are not re-quired to offer any explanation

whatever as to their action in this

with this question as follows:

BELGIAN MONARCHS WILL

Final.

London Has Distinction Of Being Birthplace of The First Quadruplets

One Child, Miss Clara Stockwell, Still Living-Lives on Richmond Street.

DIED 'OF EXPOSURE

Mother States Many Came to House to See Babes When Born.

London has the distinction of being he birthplace of Canada's first quadruplets. In the year 1886 Mrs. C. Stockwell, 1,112 Richmond street, gave birth to four children—two boys and two girls, and one girl still lives. Medical investigators interested in such anomalies have probed the rec-

ords of various cities in an effort to discover how many Canadian women had brough into the world quadruplets. It was found that Mrs. Stockwell of this city was the first mother of quadruplets in Canada and that they were born 38 years ago in house at 250 Oxford street. This morning Mrs. Stockwell re-

called the eventful year when the great event took place and stated that three of the children died of exposure through so many people invading her house at the time out of curiosity. Being naturally delicate, three of the children died, Mrs. Stockwell claims, from the effect of thes

resolution whereby the company was to be allowed to pay for their share of the work in ten annual installments, providing a subsequent agreement was effected between them.

Late in the fall, Ald. John Greer urged his colleagues to rescind this were quite similar in appearance, but the girls not alike said Mrs. Stocknot alike, said Mrs. Stockwell this morning. of six such agreement children. Her husband died 13 years

he retired a few weeks ago.

W. G. RAYMOND, M.F

Robson's long and faithful service in the office of president, from which

Magistrate Advises Alleged Tax Dodger To Settle Account. "There are two things sure in this world, taxes and death," Magistrate take

Graydon told Heine White, an al- fund, raised each year in taxes. court today.

According to the collector, Mr.
White owed \$9.66 for 1920 taxes plus

interest which amounted in all to "I've been sick for three years," said White in between coughing MAY REVOKE LICENSES spells.
"You're not so sick that you can't

pay that amount.
"I am still under the doctor's care," Informal Meeting Likely For ne continued and went on to state he was living with his father and "I'll adjourn the case a week and give you time to pay the money. You know there is a severe penalty attached to this offence.

to adjust the matter but never had. The account was rendered in 1921. White had earned \$1,304 as an employee of the C. N. R. in 1920.

"Tonly got one notice," stated white.

thing you members of the new does not expect that any direct business will be transacted. The session is primarily to "get acquainted," he states.

As the day of the inaugural session draws nearer there is added speculations.

"How many do you thing you should require?" Mr. Graydon wanted to know. "I'll give you one week to settle this matter."

VISCOUNT KIYOURA WILL FORM NEW CABINET

Associated Press Despatch. Tokib, Jan. 3 .- After announcing

a ministry, Viscount Kiego Kiyoura, Prince Regent Hirohito to form a cabinet to succeed that of Premier Yam-amoto, has reconsidered. At the further request of the prince regent he has accepted the task of forming a new cabinet. Previously the de-clared he had been unable to obtain the support of any political party in the Diet.

CHINESE GRADUATES WILL ENTER SERVICE OF C.P.R. Canadian Press Despatch.

Montreal, Jan. 3.-With a view to acquainting themselves with the best practices prevailing in railroad work three graduates of Chinese universipractices prevaining in familiar work, place. The newspaper's informant adds that the office of the port admiral at Toulon is unable to confirm the news and that he forwards it messes. P. C. Fan, Shaw N. Ying and Messes. P. C. Fan, Shaw N. Ying a The tank, according to the radio message, was inscribed with several sentences written in pencil.

Messis, P. C. Fan, Shaw N. Ying and Chin Tee Yung, each of them bachelors of science of Yanyung University, of Shanghai.

CHARITY STAMPS ISSUED TO HELP FEED THE POOR St. John..... Associated Press Despatch,

Berlin, Jan. 3 .- Charity stamps are

VOTE REEDED TO IMPROVE PRESENT CH

Treasurer Bell Advises Only \$39,000 Available For Work.

REMAINDER OF \$100,000

Believes New Building Will Not Be Built For Many Years.

The city council is empowered to expend no more than \$40,000, roughly, upon suggested improvements to the city hall without a vote of the people, City Treasurer James Bell-

Ald. Edmund Hayden has recom mended to the city council of 1924 improvements to the present structure, in view of the fact that the people voted against the construction of a new building on the federal square. To his mind the ratepayers will object to any proposal calling who, with R. L. Brackin, M.P.P., will for the construction of a new hall speak at tomorrow night's banquet for the next ten or fifteen years. in honor of Andrew Robson. The Just how much it would requ

in honor of Andrew Robson. The Just how much it would require London Liberal Club is honoring Mr. to "fix over" the old hall is a pertin-Just how much it would require ent question, and the city treasurer states that there is available about \$39,000 that could be used by the council for that purpose, without any vote of the people. This sum represents the remainder

of the \$100,000 obtained several years igo by the sale of the former city nall on Richmond street. About \$61, bis was expended including so of the present site bck), and certain im-thereto. The 1924 counend any amount up to of for further improvements to the hall, but they are not empowered to touch any money voted by the people, and now on hand for the struction of a new hall on the Mc-Cormick site across the street If they desire more than \$39,000 they must go back to the people or

EXPECTED SOON

Next Week, Mayor Announces.

know there is a severe penalty attached to this offence.

George Tambling, tax collector, stated White's father had promised to adjust the matter but never had. The account was rendered in 1921

In all likelihood, an informal session of the city council will be held next week, Mayor Wenige announces, to member of the new council, but he

draws nearer there is added specula-tion as to the probable appointments within the realm of the city council— the Port Stanley commission, board of health, etc. And reports are general that prospective applicants for the various posts are "button-holing" their favorite councillors.

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS. Today-Strong northwesterly winds, ecoming very cold; snow flurries, Friday-Fair and very cold; zero tem-The disturbance which was west of

the Great Lakes yesterday has increased in intensity, and is now passing eastward over Ontario and the Middle States.
A moderate snowfall has occurred in Ontario and Western Quebec.

The weather continues very cold in the Western Provinces.

Temperatures.
The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Stations.

Victoria Calgary S. S. Marie.... oronto Kingston Quebec Father Point....

Halifax .. LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 2; lowest, 66.

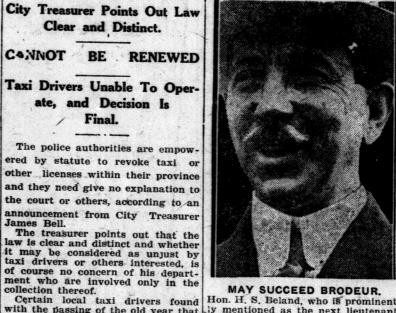
The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 2 am today.

12 hours previous to 8 a.m. to were: Highest, 33; lowest, 26.

Barometric Readings.

Wednesday—8 p.m.—29.29.

Today—8 a.m.—29.01.



with the passing of the old year that their licenses cannot be renewed. The police state that this is for "The police state that the police state the police state that the police state the p

DIXMUDE GASOLINE TANK IS_PICKED UP AT SEA

Associated Press Despatch. Paris, Jan. 3.—A gasoline tank be r similar respect.
Sub-section 4 of section 253 of the longing to the dirigible Dixmude has been found at sea, according to a Consolidated Municipal Acts deals wireless message sent out by the Bizerta, Tunis, naval station and picked up at Toulon, says the cor-respondent of Echo de Paris at that "Subject to the theatre and cine matograph act, the granting or the refusing of a license to any person to carry on a particular trade calling, business or occupation, or of revoking a license under any of the nowers conferred upon a council or a powers conferred upon a council or a board of police commissioners, by this or any other act, shall be in its discretion and it shall not be bound to give any reason for refusing or revoking. A license and its action shall not be open to question or re-view by any court."

LONDON MAY SUE THE CITY OF CHATHAM

ATTEND WINTER CARNIVAL Russell H. Ellison of London has Russell H. Ellison of London has named the city of Chatham defendant in a supreme court writ issued at the court house today by McEvoy, Jan. 3.—Among the latest personages of note to succumb to the spell of winter sports are the king and queen of the Belgians, who are the king and queen of the Belgians, who passed through Paris incognito last night on their way to Chamonix.

Russell H. Ellison of London has named the city of Chatham defendant in a supreme court writ issued at the court house today by McEvoy, Judd & Henderson. Mr. Ellison asks unstated damages for injuries he received as a result of the alleged negligible passed through Paris incognito last gence of the city in not having Queen street kept in a safe condition.

Berlin, Jan. 3.—Charity stamps are being issued by the ministry of post to help finance the feeding of the spell of the court house today by McEvoy, Judd & Henderson. Mr. Ellison asks unstated damages for injuries he received as a result of the alleged negligible passed through Paris incognito last gence of the city in not having Queen street kept in a safe condition.