

London Advertiser.

FOUNDED IN 1863.
NOON AND EVENING DAILY
WESTERN ADVERTISER WEEKLY
THE LONDON ADVERTISER CO.
Limited, Publishers.
191-193 Dundas Street, London, Ont.

PHONE NUMBERS.

Business Department.....107
Editorial Rooms.....104 and 105
Job Printing Department.....106

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Readers of The Advertiser are requested to favor the management by reporting any irregularities in delivery.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily, Delivered by Carrier in City.....\$6.00
One year.....19
Daily, Delivered by Carrier Outside City.....\$6.00
One year.....19
One month.....25
Daily, by Mail, Outside City.....\$2.00
One year.....20

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27.

THE LONDON ELECTRIC COMPANY'S PROPOSALS.

The London Electric Company makes several alternative proposals to the city. It offers to sell its plant, business, and goodwill for the sum of \$500,000, which represents its capital stock, \$400,000, and its bonded indebtedness, \$100,000. The company will allow the price to be fixed by arbitration, provided that the valuation is based on the company's earning power, which must not be considered less than 6 per cent per annum. Failing the sale of its plant, the company will agree to distribute Niagara power, under a 20-year contract, at prices ranging from \$10.50 per horsepower for 5,000-horsepower to \$17.50 per horsepower for 2,500-horsepower.

Under the Conmee act, which stood unimpaired on the statute book for years, a municipality in Ontario establishing an electric light and power plant, a gas plant, or a waterworks system, was obliged to make an offer of purchase to any private concern already in the field. In many places men would not have invested their money in these public utilities if they had foreseen that they would be exposed to public competition. The Conmee act was designed to protect them against virtual confiscation. But when the Niagara power legislation was framed, all the cities and towns embraced in the scheme were exempted from the provisions of the act, though it still applies to other municipalities. If the principle of the act is just and proper, it is unjust and improper to make any exceptions in its application. The action of the Legislature in enforcing it against some municipalities and exempting others from its provisions, is illogical and inequitable. The London Electric Company, therefore, is morally entitled to the protection of the Conmee act. In other words, the city is bound, in fairness, to give the company a chance to dispose of its business. The Conmee act, however, went no further than to require a municipality to pay for a private plant according to its value to the municipality itself. The London Electric Company asks that the basis of valuation be the company's earning power as a going concern, which is a very different matter. The value of the plant to the city could be ascertained only by experts.

The power committee of the city council last night appeared to look with more favor upon the proposal to use the company's plant for distributing Niagara power than upon the offer to sell. The company's figures as to the cost of distribution—\$10.50 to \$17.50 per horsepower per annum, according to the quantity—are startling by comparison with the estimates furnished by the hydro-electric commission. The latter quoted \$3 to \$4 per horsepower. Here again is a question for experts. The power committee has taken the prudent step of instructing the city's electrical engineer to report upon the cost of distributing power by means of a \$235,000 plant, for which the ratepayers have voted the money.

INSURANCE AGAINST RAIL.

Next to frost, nothing has caused the farmers of Western Canada greater loss than hail storms. Some six or seven years ago the Legislature of the Northwest Territories passed an act making hail insurance a Government monopoly and prohibiting any company from engaging in the business. With the creation of the two new provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta both continued the system. Experience, however, has proven that insurance to be a losing venture—at least when carried on by the public. The Saskatchewan Government has decided to go out of the business and Premier Rutherford, of Alberta, has declared in the Legislature that in view of the heavy losses which hail damages have inflicted upon the provincial treasury, some decided change must be made during the present session.

Official figures for Saskatchewan for 1908 show that the premiums paid for 6,049 contracts amounted to \$145,622, while the claims paid to 1,550 claimants for losses totalled \$258,816. Add to this the expenses of administration, \$1,571, and the total expenditure was \$257,487, leaving a deficit for the year of \$150,865. This, only one of a series of annual deficits.

A bill is now before the Saskatchewan Legislature providing for the repeal of all former legislation on the subject and enacting that, subject to certain provisions as to authorized

and paid-up capital, the amounts for which are left blank in the bill as printed, any company carrying on a hail insurance business may, with the approval of the lieutenant-governor-in-council, and upon complying with the provisions of the companies' ordinance or the foreign companies' ordinance of 1903, as the case may be, carry on such business within the province.

In Manitoba hail insurance is left to companies, three of which are doing business in the province. In 1905 the Manitoba Government appointed a commission which, after investigation, reported in favor of the Provincial Government joining with the municipalities in the hail insurance business, but the recommendation was never acted upon. In view of the experience of its sister provinces it is not likely it ever will be.

Possibly the Manitoba hail insurance companies can be induced to extend their operations to Saskatchewan and Alberta, if permitted to increase their premium rates in those provinces, should risks located there be deemed more hazardous than in Manitoba.

THE SMALLPOX HOSPITAL.

It needs no investigation to prove the absolute necessity of remedying matters at the smallpox hospital. There are some shocking facts which no one disputes. The building was too small in the first place. It was unprovided with a bathroom, an inexcusable omission. There was a shameful lack of sanitary conveniences—the women patients had none at all. One woman had to wait upon six inmates, and do all the cooking, washing and cleaning. She had to carry on her culinary operations in a room where a patient was lying. There was no means of communication with the city, the telephone having been removed. There was no attempt to secure the services of trained nurses.

These undeniable circumstances are a sufficient indictment of the institution. It may be difficult to exactly fix the responsibility. The board of health accuses the city council of negligence. The city council will, no doubt, claim that it was not properly informed. These two bodies must at least admit that the state of affairs has been a disgrace, and agree to effect improvements as soon as possible.

Mr. Borden should try to discover the man who "doctored" his telegram.

The National Review solemnly warns the Unionist party to stop flirting with the suffragettes. Surely the suffragettes would not be guilty of flirting. Frank Law has been sentenced to five years in the penitentiary for selling mining stock under false pretences. Henceforth there will be less romance in mining prospectuses.

At a recent meeting of the Manchester Geological and Mining Society, a member, Mr. Pickstone, said he "was wondering whether Canada would not be the centre of the British empire by and by." Mr. Pickstone shows an intelligent anticipation of events.

The solicitor for the Globe Casket Company points out that insurance rates are much higher here than in some other cities and towns. This is a fact that concerns only a few merchants and manufacturers, if we are to believe the opponents of a high pressure service.

The rescue of the wounded steamer off Nantucket was not only a moral triumph for Marconi but promises to be a financial one. A bill has been presented in Congress to compel every ocean passenger vessel to carry a wireless equipment. The sea is being robbed of its terrors one by one.

The wealthy Toronto broker, Mr. H. C. Hammond, who died yesterday, did not live in vain. He was devoted to good works, and even when stricken with an incurable disease he issued an appeal on behalf of the poor consumptive which sounded through the province like a trumpet blast. He was a fine example to his fellowmen.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Borden were in hearty accord yesterday. Both deprecated the red tape which keeps the people of Canada in ignorance of the terms of their treaty with the United States until it is first ratified by the King. It is not the fault of the King but of the system. With both party leaders in Canada in full tilt against the circumlocution office, a remedy should be soon effected.

AN IDEA.

In developing the idea of truthfulness, a teacher asked the question: "What is the best thing in the world to do, and at the same time the easiest?" "Well, Emma?" "To get married."

THE MANLESS LAND.

Five hundred unemployed workmen have taken possession of the hunting grounds of the Marquis of Bute, near Cardiff, and have begun to get ready to put in crops. They have armed themselves and they say they will resist any attempt to remove them. We are told

that "the earth is the Lord's," but the noble duke thinks otherwise, for he is suing out warrants. There is something wrong here. No man should let himself be kept for pleasure land which the people need for their sustenance.

CANADA DRAINING THE UNITED STATES.

[Cleveland Leader.] There is also a considerable emigration which is not the return of foreigners to the countries which they left when they came to America. It is caused by the movement of American farmers from various parts of this country to the Canadian Northwest. Cheap and rich land is the lure, and it has been strong enough to lead 50,000 or 60,000 American citizens over the boundary this single year. Many will return to their own country sooner or later, but thousands will stay where their new possessions are.

AS PREDICTED.

[Boston Transcript.] Maud-Bell doesn't wear French heels any more. Her husband would let her know that she would lower herself by marrying him.

SIGNING FOR REST.

[Father Ryan.] My feet are tired and my hands are tired. My soul oppressed. And I desire, what I have long desired, Rest, only rest. 'Tis hard to toil, when toil is almost vain. In barren ways. 'Tis hard to sow, and never gather grain. In harvest days. The burden of my days is hard to bear. But God knows best. And I have prayed, but vain has been my prayer. For rest, sweet rest. 'Tis hard to plant in spring and never reap. For autumn yield. 'Tis hard to till, and then to weep. O'er fruitless field. And so I cry, a weak and human cry. With heart oppressed. And so I sigh, a weak and human sigh. For rest, for rest. My way has wound across the desert years. And cares infest. My path, and through hot and flowing tears. I pine for rest. I was always so, when but a child. On mother's breast. I laid my weary little head, 'ere then as now. I prayed for rest. And I am restless still; 'twill soon be o'er. For down the west. Life's sun is setting, and I see the shore Where I shall rest.

ALL IN GOOD TIME.

[Toronto Star.] We once heard an ardent imperialist deploring the lack of "imperial spirit" in Canada. The spirit of enterprise and adventure in Elizabeth's time naturally took a maritime form. The adventurous English boy came away to sea, the adventurous Canadian boy strikes north or west into the prairies, forests or mineral lands of his own country. The adventurous Yankee boy a generation or two ago wanted to fight Indians. The tide of American migration rolled from the Atlantic States into Kentucky, and thence to the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific. It was only when there was no more scope for the pioneer in the United States that the United States began to call itself a world power, and to realize its world-wide responsibilities.

PASSING AWAY UNSELFISHLY.

[Argonaut.] An old Kansas citizen, who had been hempened all his life was about to die. His wife felt it her duty to offer him such consolation as she might, and said: "John, you are about to go, but I will follow you." "I suppose so, Manda," said the old man, weakly; "but so far as I am concerned you don't need to be in any hurry about it."

OVERDOING IT.

[Yankers Standard.] "Go downstairs and bring me a scuttle of coal, and then run over to the store and get me a cake of yeast, will you?" "I'm afraid of tiring myself out, dear. I've got to run in a Marathon race next week," said the wife.

WOMAN.

[Harper's Weekly.] Her waist began to creak. Her hips have been plied off even with the rest of her body. She is usually buttoned up the back, and around her neck she wears a section of barbed wire covered with lace. She wears on her head a blonde haystack of hair, and on top of this a contrivance of rings about the size of those of Saturn. She is swathed in her gown like an Indian papoose, and on the ends and corners of her patent leather. She walks on tight-like heels with the expertness of a tight-rope dancer. The pores of her skin are full of the white powder. This is a woman.

COURTEOUS.

[Toronto News.] Senator Bailey, of Texas, says that wealthy New Yorkers may give banquets to the members of their Government who have a perfect right to entertain their ancestors.

SEES NO WAR DANGER.

JAPAN NOT FOR FIGHT
Island Empire Too Poor To Bring on a Struggle.

Washington, Jan. 26.—Dispatches today from Tokyo show that the Japanese Government and the sensible people of Japan are taking the same view of the "war scare" as that taken by the American Government and level-headed Americans. That the people and the Government of Japan want nothing but peace with the United States has recently been made as plain as the fact that the people and the Government of the United States want nothing but peace with Japan.

Despite all these assurances, there are men of ability and of wide information who believe war between the two countries, while not coming soon, is inevitable in the end. Among these, as I happen to know, are certain leading officials of our Government whom it would be unwise to mention by name. Others are Senator Beveridge, Representative Bourke Cockran and Capt. Hobson, the hero of the Merrimac, and the most persistent and outspoken of all the protagonists of an American-Japanese conflict. The opinions of such men are worthy of respectful consideration. It is not necessary to agree with them, but nothing is to be gained by sneers and ridicule at their expense. Senator Beveridge is well known as a student of world conditions, economic and political. He predicted the war between Russia and Japan, though he was not so fortunate with his prophecy of a Russian triumph. Bourke Cockran is a philosopher and a thinker, as well as an orator, and Capt. Hobson is far from being the wild man some of his critics try to make him appear.

SEAY GUILTY.

Toronto, Jan. 27.—William Seay, a colored man, was found guilty at the criminal assizes yesterday of attempting to murder his wife, Genevieve Seay, a white woman. Seay was formerly the coachman of Mrs. Seay's first husband. Chief Justice Falconbridge deferred sentence until today.

Rebuilding Furniture Sale

READ THIS:

In a few days we start to tear out our store and remodel and enlarge it. We will put another floor on top, an entirely new front, and a large basement for a showroom. When our store is complete we will have what will probably be one of the most complete and up-to-date housefurnishing establishments in Canada. In a few days we will show a picture of our new store when finished.

To make these alterations we will have to clear out most of our \$30,000 stock. Next week we have to give up our entire third floor. This means that we start a sale at once, a sale that will eclipse all previous furniture sales in size and price reductions.

Our Entire Stock to Go at Cost and Less

To any intending-housefurnisher this is the chance of a lifetime. Below we give but a partial list of our stock, which is the largest in Western Ontario.

30 Buffets	50 Couches	300 Iron Beds	9 Roll Top Desks
35 Sideboards	100 Rockers	44 Brass Beds	5 Flat Top Desks
32 Dining Tables	60 Morris Chairs	100 Mattresses	80 Parlor Tables
20 China Cabinets	12 Leather Chairs	100 Springs	30 Baby Carriages
7 Dinner Wagons	9 Davenport	12 Souvenir Ranges	120 Odd Parlor Pieces
40 Sets of Diners	22 Parlor Suites	4 Souvenir Baseburners	20 Parlor Cabinets
100 Rugs	200 Pairs Lace Curtains	200 Pairs Lace Curtains	12 Music Cabinets
54 Dressers	18 Hall Racks	12 Hall Mirrors	9 Hall Seats
16 Dressing Tables	15 Chiffoniers	4 Bookcases	9 Secretaires
12 Kitchen Cabinets	12 Cradles	9 Cribs	30 Stretchers
34 Reed Rockers	15 Office Chairs	350 Pictures	Gold Cabinets

THIS WILL BE THE ONE GREAT FURNITURE SALE OF RECENT YEARS.

The Ontario Furniture Co'y

London's Largest Homefurnishers, 228-230 Dundas Street

CANADA IN DARK AS TO TREATIES

Premier and Mr. Borden Think Parliament Should Be Informed.

Ottawa, Jan. 26.—Why should the people of Canada be kept in ignorance of the treaties made with the United States, because of a diplomatic tradition which demands that they should be first ratified by His Majesty the King. This in effect was the plain question addressed by Mr. Borden to the Prime Minister in the House of Commons this afternoon. The leader of the Opposition had already asked for information regarding the waterways and fisheries treaties, recently concluded, and apparently was not satisfied with the delay in making their terms public, was altogether justified. He pointed out that in the United States a treaty became public property as soon as it came before the Senate, and when it affected Canada he did not see why it should not at the same time be placed before the Dominion Parliament.

The Premier's Statement. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said his impression was that when a treaty was communicated to the United States Senate it was not communicated to the House of Representatives. On that point, however, he was subject to correction. According to British traditions the treaty-making power lay with the King, and a treaty was not communicated to Parliament until it had been ratified by the King. That was the etiquette of the British system, and that was the reason, so far as he knew, for the inconvenience to which the leader of the Opposition had referred. In Canada, of course, they followed the tradition of the British system, and until a treaty had been ratified by the King it could not be laid before Parliament.

Mr. Borden said he was quite familiar with that custom, "but he proceeded, "where was the deal with the United States, and where treaties are not binding upon them until ratified by their senate. I think it might be worth while considering whether or not our treaties dealing with important subjects such as this should have a similar clause, to the effect that they should not become binding upon his majesty until they have been ratified by the Parliament of Canada."

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—I have no exception to take the suggestion of my honorable friend. I am disposed to agree with him in everything he says. I would go even farther. I see no reason why the monarch should be signed by the parties at the conference, should not be given to the public, even before it is ratified by his majesty the King. In the present case the treaty has been signed, but we have not yet got an official copy of it.

Questions Answered. The remainder of a session which lasted only fifty minutes was occupied by questions and motions. Sir Wilfrid Laurier informed Mr. Foster that the cost of the Cassels commission was \$14,957, which included payments of \$4,000 each to counsel, Messrs. Watson and Perron. The Prime Minister also stated that supplies for the marine and fisheries department were now purchased through purchasing agents without regard to the patronage list.

Mr. Borden asked whether the Government, informal or otherwise, for the sale or leasing of the Intercolonial Railway. "An offer was received," replied Mr. Borden, "but it was not considered private, and was not considered by the Government."

Also replying to Mr. Borden, the minister of railways stated that the engineers who had been engaged to inspect the Quebec bridge had not yet completed their plans, and that the estimates for rebuilding the structure could not be prepared until these were ready, which, he thought, would not

be until some time before the end of the year.

Intercolonial Earnings.

Answering Mr. Foster, Hon. Mr. Graham stated that earnings on the Intercolonial Railway from April to December, 1907, were \$6,439,174, and from April to December, 1908, \$5,876,425. Expenditure for the same periods was, in 1907, \$6,061,007, and in 1908, \$5,313,722. On the Prince Edward Island Railway the earnings were from April to December, 1907, \$245,104, and from April to December, 1908, \$253,829. Expenditures for the same periods were \$206,210 and \$208,588.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley informed Mr. Lennox that the Government had taken no action to recover \$29,533 from George McAvity and C. S. Mayes, in connection with a dredging contract. "Tenders were called for in the ordinary way," said the minister, "and the contract was awarded to the lowest bidder in the usual course."

Hon. Mr. Pugsley announced that His Excellency the Governor-General had approved of a regulation stipulating that tenders for Government works and supplies should, when received by the department concerned, be stamped by the official to whom they were addressed, and placed under lock and key until the specified time for their being opened in the presence of the minister, or one of the principal officials of the department, or, in the absence of the minister, in the presence of two officials of the department designated by the minister. When opened each tender shall be initialed by both of the officials opening it.

WARDENS OF COUNTIES

Results of Elections Which Took Place Yesterday.

The elections for warden took place yesterday in the various counties of the Province. The elections resulted as follows: Brant—R. Sanderson. Bruce—S. J. Parke, Warton Township. Elgin—Summers, Aylmer Township. Essex—J. A. Coulter, Colchester N. Township. Frontenac—R. A. Hamilton, Hinchinbrook Township. Grey—R. Agnes, Meaford Township. Haldimand—J. Root, Sherbrooke Township. Haliburton—Dr. Giles. Hastings—W. Rogers, Rawdon Township. Huron—P. Lamont, Zurich Township. Kent—W. Abraham, Chatham Township. Lambton—R. G. Bailey, Plympton Township. Lennox and Addington—C. Edgar, Yarker Township. Leeds and Grenville—A. E. Baker, Meriville Township. Lincoln—T. D. Allan, North Grimsby Township. Middlesex—S. R. Gillies, Ailsa Craig. Norfolk—W. Sutton, Simcoe Township. Northumberland and Durham—A. A. Powers, Oronto Township. Ontario—R. R. Mowbray, Pickering Township. Peterboro—R. N. Scott, Smith Township. Perth—D. Bonis, Blanchard Township. Simcoe—R. Bell, Essa Township. Victoria—G. A. Jordan, Lindsay Township. Welland—J. McKeown, Willoughby Township. Wellington—H. J. Colville, Arthur Township. Wentworth—J. W. Gage, Barton Township.

REPEATS WORLD'S CHARGE

Illinois Member Says That Panama Canal Was Infamous.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Charging that William Nelson Cromwell, Roger Farnham, Charles P. Taft and others are parties to the "most infamous proposition ever submitted to any government," and that they "are being permitted only to rob the Republic of Panama, but indirectly the treasury of the United States, Representative Rainey, of Illinois, today directed the

searchlight of publicity upon affairs in the Canal Zone in a startling appeal in support of his resolution providing for an investigation by Congress of the Panama Canal purchase. "In their efforts in this direction," he continued, "they have had so far the complete co-operation and active assistance of the present Administration, and the next president of the United States."

States commissioner that the crimes charged against him by the Russian Government instead were acts committed in furtherance of a political movement and therefore not extraditable to this country.

A GRACIOUS SHOWER

Popular Miss Bessie Payne of Port Stanley Gets Many Gifts.

The home of Mrs. Charles Finlay, Port Stanley, was the scene of a pleasant event on Monday evening when about thirty friends of Miss Bessie Payne met and presented her with a variety shower, in view of her coming marriage on Thursday. After the dainty lunch served by the hostess, Mrs. J. Oliver, Mrs. W. Mitchell and Mrs. Chas. Finlay, the most important incident of the evening occurred. Miss Payne was called into an adjoining room, to find a table laden with handsome and dainty gifts. Taken entirely by surprise, words could not be found to express her thanks, but looks and actions told the story. Judging from the presents received, Miss Payne is held in the highest esteem by a very large circle in this community.

After all had viewed the splendid array of gifts they departed, thanking the hostesses of the evening for the pleasant time spent.

THE COME AND SEE SIGN

This sign is permanently attached to the front of the main building of the Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Company, Lynn, Mass. What Does This Sign Mean? It means that public inspection of the Laboratory and methods of doing business is honestly desired. It means that there is nothing about the business which is not "open and above-board."

It means that a permanent invitation is extended to anyone to come and verify any and all statements made in the advertisements of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Is it a purely vegetable compound made from roots and herbs—without drugs?

Come and See. Do the women of America continually use as much of it as we are told? Come and See. Was there ever such a person as Lydia E. Pinkham, and is there any Mrs. Pinkham now to whom sick women are asked to write? Come and See. Is the vast private correspondence with sick women conducted by women only, and are the letters kept strictly confidential? Come and See. Have they really got letters from over one million, one hundred thousand women correspondents? Come and See. Have they proof that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has cured thousands of these women? Come and See.

This advertisement is only for doubters. The great army of women who know from their own personal experience that no medicine in the world equals Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for female ills will still go on using and being benefited by it; but the poor doubting, suffering woman must, for her own sake, seek confidence, for she also might just as well regain her health.

Root Steps Out. To Be Succeeded in the U. S. Government by Robert Bacon.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Secretary Root attended his last cabinet meeting today and his colleagues gave him a farewell such as he will long remember. The understanding is that Robert Bacon will be confirmed tomorrow as secretary of state, and will at once take the oath of office. Mr. Root today announced his decision not to extradite Christian R. Jowicz, the Russian, for whose possession the Russian Government made vigorous representations. Rudowicz claimed at the hearing of his case in Chicago before a United