Final Markets
Race Reports on Financial Page.

London Evening Advertiser

Night Extra
Final Markets on Financial Page.

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CLAIM MRS. M'CLARTY HAS STOLEN BACK TOTS

PARLIAMENT IS OPENED IN "OLD LONDON" TODAY

King's Speech Read From the Throne—Search the Cellars For Modern Guy Fawkes, and Much Other Traditional Ceremony Is Carried Out.

LABOR PARTY PREPARES FOREIGN POLICY

By LLOYD ALLEN.
Special Cable to The Advertiser.

London, Feb. 13.—The British Parliament was opened today with the reading of the king's speech from the throne, and much of the traditional ceremony, such as searching the cellars for a modern Guy Fawkes, which perennially characterizes the reconvening of the two houses.

Pressing problems, foreign and domestic, confronting the legislators, prevented in a measure some of the most elaborate features that sometimes mark parliament's opening.

Turkey, the Ruhr and Ireland are a few of the localities that hold potential trouble for Bonar Law's government in stormy sessions of the commons just ahead.

The Labor party (his majesty's opposition) is ready with proposals for foreign policy which will be quite at variance with those of the government. The present session of parliament will see David Lloyd George, former premier, inaugurate his attempt to "come back."

The Welshman will be over on the opposite side of the house from many Tory members who supported him in the last parliament, and will have plenty of opportunity to use the invective for which, on occasions, he is famous.

Disputing with Lloyd George for a permanent position as chief opponent of the government is Ramsay MacDonald, leader of the parliamentary Labor party, who spent the recess energetically building up his party machinery for a determined bid to establish Labor's supremacy.

All parties held final caucuses last night, preparing campaigns that were launched immediately after the formal opening.

CEREMONIOUS OCCASION.

Canadian Press Despatch.

London, Feb. 13.—The Ruhr question was stressed in the address from the throne at the opening of the second session of the fourth parliament of King George's reign. The address declared that although the British government was unable to concur or participate in the Ruhr operations it was acting in such a way as not to add to the difficulties of Great Britain's allies.

The speech disposed of the United States debt question in one sentence, saying that his majesty welcomed the settlement, "which reflects the determination of our people to meet their obligations."

The remainder of the speech was devoted largely to an expression of the hope that the Turkish question might yet be settled. It touched upon economic conditions and unemployment.

The session was opened with the usual ceremonies of state. King George, accompanied by Queen Mary, setting in motion at noon the machinery of what is generally regarded as one of the most important sessions of parliament since the declaration of peace. In view of the delicacy and weight of the problems with which the government is faced, owing to the unsettled European situation and the financial, trade and labor questions at home.

Ruhr Embroglio.

Not the least of the anxieties is that attendant upon the Ruhr embroglio, which has been watched with deepest concern in England. The ceremony in the House of Lords was surrounded by all the splendor which has characterized it from time immemorial.

The Prince of Wales and the Duke of York, among the early arrivals, took their places among the gorgeously attired nobility, who crowded the ancient chamber. Lowering skies and occasional bursts of drizzling rain detracted somewhat from the brilliance of a procession of state from Buckingham Palace to Westminster, but the weather failed to keep away the huge crowds which always line the streets and cheer the royal progress.

Half an hour before the procession was to start, soldiers took up their position along the route, keeping guard. A small procession of the unemployed paraded the Strand and Whitehall with sandwich boards reading: "Out of Work." and "We Are Determined to See Bonar Law."

It was notable that a few minutes later King George was saying in his speech from the throne that the state of unemployment was causing him the deepest concern, and must continuously engage the attention of his ministers.

King's Speech.

"The conference which was held in London early in December on the subject of the payments of reparations by Germany was resumed in Paris in January," said the King in his speech.

"My government in their desire to hasten the complete settlement of the reparation question offered to the allied governments, far-reaching concessions on the allied debts to this country. I greatly regret it proved impossible to reach a general agreement.

"The French and Belgian governments, therefore, proceeded to put into force the plan they favored, and the Italian government countenanced their action. My government, while feeling unable either to concur or participate in this operation, are acting in such a way as not to add to the difficulties of their allies."

Referring to the Near East troubles the speech said:

"I cherish the hope that when the full report of the proceedings has reached the Turkish government the latter may still be disposed to accept the treaty, and that the opportunity so earnestly and laboriously prepared of rebuilding the peace of the Near East, and that the stability of the future Turkish state may not be sacrificed.

"I welcome the prospective settlement of our war debt to the United States of America, which reflects the determination of our people to meet their obligations."

A. E. LAWSON,
President of the Life Underwriters' Association of Canada, who is in the city attending the annual convention of Western Ontario Life Underwriters.

WHAT WORK HAS CITY COUNCIL DONE SINCE ELECTION?

Glance at Minute Book Reveals Accomplishments to Present Date.

SEVERAL CHANGES

Departments Reorganized and Number of Alterations in Civic Government Urged.

A trifle more than a month has elapsed since Mayor Wenige and his city councillors were officially installed in office. What, then, has been accomplished since that day, January 8?

Divers meetings have been staged. Much has been said. What is the net result?

A glance through the city hall minutes today reveals the following unbiased facts:

1. The councillors found no money available for the immediate construction of a new city hall. Therefore, they have practically abandoned the contemplated project. They have referred the issue to the estimates, but it is believed that no money will be available without increasing the debenture debt, which they have pledged themselves to avoid.

2. Definite action has been taken to undertake the establishment here of a commission form of municipal government. Several committees have given assurance that delegates will attend a convention here this spring to draft suitable legislation to submit to the government for approval.

Elective Commission.

3. Similar action has been noted in connection with the mayor's proposal that the citizens be given an opportunity to express their opinion upon the merits of an elective police commission. Several communities, including Windsor and St. Thomas, have signified willingness to participate in a similar conference here as soon as convenient.

4. The assessment department has been reorganized and the mayor states that it is now established on a modern basis, meaning the saving of thousands of dollars annually.

5. The city engineer's department is in a state of reorganization. Other developments for the betterment of that office are promised today.

6. A complaint department is in operation, whereby all manner of citizens may register grievances or suggestions for the general good of the community.

Court Squabble Ending.

7. After serving as a political football for many years, the juvenile court squabble is ending rapidly. The court is recognized by the province and the attorney-general will appoint a judge within a few days.

8. The office hours at the city hall have been rearranged in order that the citizens may get the best of the service for which they pay.

9. Time books have been ordered for each department, for the benefit of the city generally, including those employees who are always punctual.

10. It is now possible for any voter, after a mistake has been noted on the voters' list, to have his name added or changed up to a date ten days from the election.

11. The city council has given notice to the assessment authorities to collect additional school taxes in East London, meaning an approximate gain to the city treasury of $20,000.

12. A bill is now before the provincial house, following efforts of the council, to enable travelers to vote on the railway polling days.

13. The city council has officially petitioned the provincial government for a rigid enforcement of "representation by population," which, if effective, would mean another member for London.

BAD MAN OF WEST DYING IN KINGSTON FROM PNEUMONIA

Graydon Informed That Unless Vincent Strong Is Released, He Will Die.

FORWARD PETITIONS

Request to Department of Justice May Result in Transfer to Sanatorium.

Unless Vincent Strong, known as "the bad man from the west," who is serving seven years in Kingston for jailbreaking and a series of robberies which he committed in London in October, 1920, is released he will die Magistrate A. H. M. Graydon has been officially informed. He is the victim of lobar pneumonia, and further incarceration will prove fatal it is believed.

Petitions on his behalf have been forwarded to the department of justice. Of this Magistrate Graydon was notified. It is likely he will be transferred to a sanatorium for treatment.

In the early autumn of 1920, several robberies were committed in various parts of the city. One Sunday afternoon Detective Harry Down was driving on King street east, when he noticed a stranger giving several houses a close inspection.

"Going down town?" the detective inquired.

"Yes," replied the stranger.

The man was driven to the police station. On his person articles which had been stolen from a number of city residences were found. He gave his name as Vincent Strong, and pleaded guilty to several charges of breaking and entering. Sentence of three years on each charge, to run concurrently, was imposed by Magistrate Graydon.

A few days later Strong escaped from the Middlesex County jail.

Then reports of robberies in South London were filed with police. Strong had stolen a complete change of clothing and an automatic revolver.

Finally police learned Strong was occupying a room at the Harrison Hotel. They broke into the room. Strong was waiting with a loaded revolver, but when he pulled the trigger the gun jammed.

In the county court before Judge Talbot Macbeth he was convicted on several counts, and sentenced to seven years in Kingston.

Strong appeared to be of strong physique when he faced the courts here two years ago.

He claims Chicago as his home.

$417,000 DEBENTURES ARE SOLD BY LONDON

City Treasurer Turns Profitable Deal With Wood, Gundy and Company.

Another profitable deal has been turned by City Treasurer James Bell today, involving the sale of municipal debentures to the aggregate value of $417,000. Mr. Bell estimates that the city is saving $12,322.35 by this latest transaction, by reason of the terms accepted.

He reports the sale to Wood, Gundy & Co., municipal bond dealers, London, of 5½ per cent installment debentures, 1926-1931. The price paid was 100.60 on a basis of 5.39 per cent. This is a fine stroke of business the city treasurer insists, in view of the fact that it was primarily intended that the debentures would be of the 6 per cent variety.

Others who tendered were Nesbitt, Thompson & Co., city; Gairdner, Clark & Co., Toronto, and the Dominion Corporation.

FOUR STORES GUTTED IN BIG OAKVILLE FIRE

Damage Is Estimated at $25,000, None of Which Is Covered by Insurance.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Oakville, Ont., Feb. 13.—Four Oakville stores were gutted by fire this morning. The damage is estimated at $25,000, none of which, it is understood, is covered by insurance.

The stores destroyed are James McDermott's barber shop and billiard parlors, W. R. Wales' grocery store, E. H. Gullege's shoe repair and Butler's shoe store.

The fire, which started at 6:30 o'clock this morning, was two hours in being extinguished by the Oakville volunteer fire brigade, of which Alf. Hillmer is the chief.

The buildings were very old, with the exception of the billiard parlors. The alarm was given by Night Constable Joe McCleary. No people were in the buildings.

The fire brigade took very prompt action. Many of the members were in bed at the time the alarm was given, and it was only a few minutes until water was being played on the flames. Oakville has a splendid motor fire equipment, with good water pressure.

FORM NEW LEGAL FIRM

Toronto, Feb. 13.—J. S. Duggan and W. O. Gibson have ended their connection with the legal firm of Bain, Bicknell, Macdonald & Gordon, and have formed the new establishment of Duggan, Gibson & Smith, in company with W. Earl Smith. All are graduates of the University of Toronto and of Osgoode Hall.

QUESTION STAND TAKEN BY MAYOR ON COURT ISSUE

Several Aldermen Deny He Was Empowered To Recommend Judge.

WAS NOT CONSULTED

Drake States Chief Magistrate Mentioned Entirely Different Person.

There are members of the city council, notably in the finance committee, who openly question Mayor Wenige's attitude with respect to the juvenile court issue. They take decided exception to his claim to Attorney-General W. E. Raney yesterday that he was empowered to recommend a suitable person for judge.

That the name of the prospective appointee should have been referred back to the council for final ratification is their contention. They fail to recollect, they assert, when he was clothed with such authority to proceed.

"These things can't be accomplished in this manner," stated Ald. Gordon Drake. "At least the members of No. 1 committee should know, and I for one was not consulted about Mr. Barbour. The mayor spoke to me a day or two ago about an entirely different person.

"Furthermore, I don't remember when the council conferred full power in this respect upon the mayor to recommend any particular person. All members of the council should have been informed as to who he had in mind when he left for Toronto."

Similar Opinion.

Ald George Burdick, another member of the finance committee, holds a similar opinion. "As far as I understand it, the mayor was not empowered with full authority. When this question was considered in the council, I pointed out that there was too much discussion as to who should be the judge, and I moved that we proceed and get the court established first.

"No, he had not the power to proceed, and the name or names should have come back to the council for final recommendation. He can't get away from that."

Ald. John Greer, No. 1 committee, states that he doesn't know much about the situation at all. He can't remember, as a matter of fact, when the councillors, as a whole, conferred any such power as the mayor speaks of. "I had a faint idea," he says, "that the appointment rested entirely with the attorney-general."

Fails to Recollect.

Ald. Frank McKay is another who fails to recollect when the council directed the mayor to proceed and recommend to the attorney-general. The general impression was that the prospective names would be referred back to the council for final approval.

Discussing the question briefly this morning, Mayor Wenige gave assurance that A. E. Barbour, one of the two nominees now being considered by the attorney-general, would be willing to accept the position without remuneration, if appointed. He was not seeking the task, however, the mayor explained.

Rev. Quintin Warner, whose name was submitted at Toronto by Dr. Hugh Stevenson, M.P.P., declined to discuss the possibilities of his possible appointment, other than to say that "he would rather not say anything," and that "it would be beyond him."

ORPHANS' HOME BURNS, ONE CHILD IS INJURED

Four Firemen Hurt When Wall Collapses—Damage Estimated at $60,000.

Associated Press Despatch.

Franklin, N. H., Feb. 13.—The New Hampshire Orphans' Home near the Webster Place station on the Boston and Maine Railroad, was virtually destroyed by fire today. The 200 children were removed without serious injury, only one sustained severe burns. Four firemen were hurt, one seriously, by a falling wall. Aid was asked from Concord, but apparatus started from there was turned back when the Franklin firemen brought the fire under control.

Rev. Walter J. Malvern, superintendent of the home, attributed the fire to a defective chimney.

The fire started in the quarters of the night nurse on the second floor of the nursery building, a four-story brick structure. Before the fire had gained great headway the sixty children in the nursery building, all less than seven years of age, had been taken out and housed in a building where more than 100 older children slept.

The superintendent's house, once the home of Daniel Webster, was not touched by the flames. The loss was $60,000.

WILD DEER PAY VISIT TO TOWN IN NEW YORK

Associated Press Despatch.

Nyack, N. Y., Feb. 13.—Forty wild deer from the hills last night were parked about the lawns, flower beds and open spaces of Nyack, contentedly chewing their cuds and ruminating on the adventure which had brought them within 44 miles of Broadway. Heavy snows in the hills are believed to have sent the deer down in search of forage. When they were discovered, members of the Sportsmen's Club took a quantity of hay and oats and scattered it in open spaces near town. It was speedily devoured.

FERDINAND ROZ,
Distinguished French scholar and lecturer, who is in the city today, claims that France is justified in her policy of seizure in the Ruhr.

EXPECT ROBINSON WILL BE CHOSEN FOR ESSEX FIGHT

M. G. Campbell Unable To Accept Conservative Nomination, Due to Business.

AROUSES INTEREST

Members of Party Gather at Windsor To Take Part in Convention.

Special to The Advertiser
By a Staff Reporter.

Windsor, Feb. 13.—The lobby of the Prince Edward Hotel was a hub of excitement at 2:30 this afternoon, when crowds of local Conservatives met to choose their candidate to contest North Essex constituency against the Liberal nominee, Albert Healy.

Champions of the blue congregated in an ante-room of the hotel and got down to business. The convention aroused great interest, and many came into Windsor from outside points, but a 3 o'clock the excitement dwindled to mere formality when it became known that M. G. Campbell, who was yesterday conceded the best chance of being nominated, announced that owing to pressure of business he would be unable to accept.

Mr. Campbell's withdrawal leaves the field open to Colonel Sydney Robinson, and from remarks heard among those in touch with the new developments, it will be only a matter of ceremony before Colonel Robinson is acclaimed official torch-bearer of the Conservative party in the by-election to take place March 1.

Speaking to an Advertiser representative this afternoon, Mr. Campbell stated that he would be unable to consider the Conservative candidature. He is too busy producing automobile wheels, and cannot afford to enter politics, he said.

At 3 o'clock the convention had passed the formal stage, and was getting down to business. No mention of Colonel Robinson had been made, but one of the local Conservatives will nominate him before 4 o'clock, and the suggestion is expected to meet with the approval of all attending.

No outside speakers were present, Sir Henry Drayton having left Windsor yesterday.

SIMONAITIS ABANDONS POSITION AT MEMEL

Report States Two Germans and Three Lithuanians Control Government.

By GEORGE WITTE.
Special Wireless to London Advertiser and Chicago Daily News. Copyright.

Berlin, Feb. 13.—Erdman Simonaitis, the American-Lithuanian, who took Memel from the Germans and made himself governor of the district, resigned Monday and turned the government over to a mixed commission consisting of three Lithuanians and two Germans, according to the Eastern Economic and Political News Agency.

M. Dallius, the former Lithuanian minister to Germany, has been made president of the provisional government. The inter-Allied commission appointed by the supreme council left Memel Monday for Berlin and Paris.

FRANCE ON RHINE HAS NO DESIGNS, DECLARES M. ROZ

Eminent Visitor States France Remembers Alsace-Lorraine.

ALL FRANCE UNITED

M. Roz Hopes Britain Will Not Follow America in Withdrawal of Troops.

Monsieur Firmin Roz, associate director of higher education in France, who is on an educational mission to Canada and the United States, visiting universities, and acting as official lecturer for the Alliance Francaise talked freely, frankly, fearlessly to The Advertiser today about political conditions in France. Obviously he felt there was nothing to fear from a full expression of the truth as he saw it.

Mons. Roz arrived in the city at 11:30 o'clock for the purpose of lecturing this evening under the joint auspices of the London branch of the Alliance Francaise and the extension department of the Western University.

"With the exception of the Communists" he stated to The Advertiser, "France is absolutely united behind Premier Poincare in his policy of occupation of the Ruhr and the method of enforcement of the policy.

"Is it true that France wants to remain in the Rhineland?" Absolutely not, madamesoille absolutely not. We remember our experience with Alsace-Lorraine. We would not have such an injustice. Such a situation always breeds grave discomfort. It is absolutely untrue that Mons. Poincare has any thought of permanent occupation of the Rhine region. The whole question is one of obtaining reparations for the enormous expenditure involved in rebuilding the dis-

"Till now, we have spent ninety tricts of France destroyed in the war. billion francs in reparations. Eighty-eight thousand houses remain to be built or repaired, 23,000 factories required rebuilding. For this tremendous work, we have received nothing from Germany.

Back to Treaty.

"Go back to the treaty of Versailles, and you will recall that France gave up every other claim for guarantee of reparations. As soon as the treaty was signed, Germany saw that there was no longer the unity of idea that had characterized the allies in the conduct of the war. The different parts had their own points of view. Mr. Lloyd George had special views, and so Germany delayed any payments.

"Conference succeeded conference. With what results?" and Mons Roz shrugged his shoulders with a gesture of his hands expressing futility.

"Then the French government," he continued, "asked for separate action.

"The difference between Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Bonar Law is that Mr. Bonar Law evidently sees the possibility of France doing something to force the hand of Germany, without creating rupture with Great Britain. Mr. Lloyd George, holds the Cannes conference viewpoint, that the imperative thing at this time is the quick reconstruction of Europe, and that Germany must be reconstructed first, whatever the sacrifice involved elsewhere.

"German industries are in splendid condition. Other countries in the war developed and expanded their industries in order to provide for themselves, and Germany was able to increase her industries, while France was steadily losing.

"The point in occupying the Ruhr district is to stay there until the industrial magnates of Germany will see that France is in earnest in the matter, and force the German government to make settlement."

"According to the reports of press correspondents, the occupation has not been a success in the way of producing cash or coal," commented The Advertiser.

No Early Success.

"I did not anticipate that it would be, the first month," said Mons. Roz, quickly. "Monsieur Poincare and the French government did not anticipate such quick results. I am sure the thinking people did not, either. The occupation is not successful for the time being because resistance is being offered. The people of the Ruhr like better to suffer in offering opposition. It is a question, I believe, of time."

"And non-interference from outside?"

The distinguished French official assented.

"You remember," he said, "France was in Germany and returned before.

Apparently much was being hoped from the friendly, judicial attitude of Mr. Bonar Law.

"Is there any possibility that the apparent lack of success of the occupation in the first month may mean the downfall of Premier Poincare?" asked The Advertiser.

"By no means," said Mons. Roz, emphatically. "The fundamental thing is that the government of France, the people of France, trust Mons. Poincare absolutely. They rely upon his judgment implicitly. He is a lawyer. He is calm, judicial. He sees both sides of every question. He appreciates the side of Germany as well as the side of France. He is a man who likes to discuss things thoroughly, to be sure of every step of the way before taking action. This was done before adopting the policy of occupation of the Ruhr.

"Assuredly it was not done in heat. It is the move of calm, careful, just consideration. The people of France are behind Premier Poincare for the very reason that he is so calm and judicial. They feel they can trust his judgment in a crisis such as this."

American Withdrawal.

Mons. Roz, who has delivered a large number of lectures in the

Turn to Page 2, Column 5.

MRS. M'CLARTY SEIZES CHILDREN AT THE CONVENT

Counsel For Mother Refuses To Reveal Present Hiding-Place.

PLACED IN MOTOR

Declares Plaintiff Determined To Hold Little Boy and Girl.

Canadian Press Despatch

Stratford, Feb. 13.—That Donna and John McClarty, children of Mr. and Mrs. Frank McClarty, who were taken from their home by their father, who is now awaiting trial on an abduction charge, and placed in a convent in Hamilton, are now in the custody of the mother, was the interesting disclosure made by Mr. J. C. Makins, K.C., counsel for Mrs. McClarty, today. Mr. Makins declined to state where the mother and children were, but said that all were well, and that the mother was going to keep the children.

Branding as false the story from Hamilton that Mr. and Mrs. McClarty had arrived at St. Joseph's Hospital, where the children were being treated for colds, and had taken the children away, Mr. Makins proceeded to tell how Mrs. McClarty came into custody of her young son and daughter.

On Sunday afternoon last, according to Mr. Makins, she was at the hospital visiting her children when Mr. McClarty arrived. The mother suggested that a walk might do the children good, and so this Mr. McClarty agreed. Accordingly, the children were dressed, and left the hospital with the parents. Little did the father dream that only a short distance away were two able-bodied men and a fast motor car waiting to whisk the children away. The four walked leisurely along until they reached the car, when Mrs. McClarty hurriedly handed the children over to the men, stepped into the car herself, and sped away, leaving the dismayed husband standing on the sidewalk.

"We now have the children, and we are going to keep them," said Mr. Makins.

MOTION BEFORE JUDGE.

Toronto, Feb. 13.—The motion launched in the courts by Mrs. McClarty to recover possession of her two children, came before Mr. Justice Middleton today, despite the fact that, according to the Stratford dispatches, she now has them. Counsel for Mrs. McClarty (H. W. Keyes), said that it had been impossible to serve notice of the motion on the father, Frank McClarty.

The judge adjourned the motion sine die. Among the affidavits produced was one of John Collinson, of Stratford, father of Mrs. McClarty, who deposed that he and his wife were well able to support his daughter and their children as long as they needed help.

ASKS MANY QUESTIONS ON LIQUOR PROBLEMS

Charles McCrea Asks Whether Government Issues Licenses For Wine.

Special to The Advertiser.

Toronto, Feb. 13.—Charles McCrea, Conservative member for Sudbury, has a question on the order paper of the legislature as to whether the government issues licenses for wine. It asked by what official are such licenses issued; what are the terms of the license; in what ridings are they operating, how many in each riding; is there any limitations on the quantity manufactured and sold under such license; is there any limit to the alcoholic strength of the wine manufactured.

G. H. Ferguson, Conservative leader in the legislature, wants to know from the government what remuneration is being paid to the members of the hydro-electric inquiry commission; the names and remuneration of others working for the commission, when the commission will complete its work, and report, and other information.

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS.

Today—Northeast winds with occasional snow.

Wednesday—Northerly winds and becoming colder.

The low pressure, which was in the Western States yesterday, has moved to the Great Lakes and Middle States, while the northwestern high has spread southward, bringing extremely cold weather in the Western Provinces and also British Columbia. A snowfall has been general in Ontario and western Quebec.

Stations	High	Low	Weather
Victoria	26	12	Cloudy
Winnipeg	10	2	Snow
Porth Arthur	20	14	Cloudy
Sault Ste Marie	14	0	Fair
Toronto	27	24	Snow
Kingston	20	12	Snow
Ottawa	14	6	Snow
Montreal	8	6	Snow
Quebec	8	2	Snow
Father Point	6	—6	Cloudy
St. John	20	0	Snow
Halifax	22	2	Cloudy

(—) 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, 24; lowest, 4.

The official temperatures for the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 36; lowest, 22.

Barometric Readings.

Monday—8 p.m., 28.92.
Today—8 a.m., 28.99.

EXPECT NO EFFORTS FOR REDISTRIBUTION

Dr. Hugh Stevenson and Middlesex Members Say No Action Pending.

From present indications the Drury government is "going to the country" without any move toward a redistribution of seats throughout the province.

Questioned yesterday by The Advertiser, Dr. Hugh Stevenson, M.L.A. for London, and members of the Middlesex ridings, were emphatic in their declarations that "mum is the word" in this respect. No one is talking redistribution at this time, they say, and the chances for a full discussion in the house appear slim, although Dr. Stevenson said "something of a change might be attempted in Toronto and down Ottawa way. "Proportional representation" or something of that nature, he termed it, although he was not possessed of any great detail in this connection, he explained.

That the "beer and light wine" proposal emanating from Karl Homuth, Waterloo M. P. P., will witness an early demise is the consensus of opinion, not only among the members of the opposition, but amongst his colleagues.

It is more than likely, it is explained, that his resolution will eventually be ruled out of order. Dr. Stevenson points out that in the event that the government was willing to seek another expression of opinion as to the value of the Ontario temperance act, it would mean an expenditure of at least $1,500,000.

That this would be regarded by the government as an appropriation is quite probable, the member for London stated, and would accordingly be ruled out of order. Thus would collapse suddenly all chances for an amendment in 1923 to the O. T. A.

BOARD OF HEALTH ESTIMATES.

Estimates for the year will be submitted and considered at a special session of the board of health Thursday. It is freely anticipated that the appropriation for the year will be in excess of 1922, in view of the added requirements and work of the department.

SUGGESTS AGE LIMIT FOR CIVIC EMPLOYEES

Mayor Wenige Believes Action Would Do Away With Sudden Reorganizations.

Mayor Wenige advocates the creation of an age limit for municipal employees. Several members of the city council concur with him. To date, however, no definite action has been taken in this direction.

His worship reasons that a certain age should be fixed by resolution of the council, whereby any employee in the city hall would be automatically retired.

This would have many advantages, as he points out. The employees themselves naturally know when their services will be discontinued and can govern themselves accordingly. Need for sudden changes or reorganization of departments would be eliminated as the retiring official's successor, likely in the same office, would have plenty of time available to prepare for the task.

While the members of the present council have expressed their opinion in this direction, from time to time, they have promised no action.

At the present moment there are several city employees well above the approximate age limit suggested by the mayor and councillors.

WANTS CONTRACT PROBED OF SIR HENRY THORNTON

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, Feb. 13 — The contract between the government and Sir Henry Thornton, as president of the Canadian National Railways, and the authority of the government to sign such a fixed-term contract with anyone, are matters to be brought before the commons by Right Hon. Arthur Meighen, leader of the opposition. Mr. Meighen has given notice that he will ask if the government made the contract with Sir Henry Thornton, and if so, under what authority from parliament. A further entry by Mr. Meighen asks for the production of all papers and correspondence in the matter.

PLAN WORLD CONGRESS TO RESTORE PALESTINE

Associated Press Despatch.

Pittsburg, Pa., Feb. 13.—A world congress, to be attended by delegates representing Jewish organizations in all countries, will be held some time this year to promote plans for the restoration of Palestine, it was decided by the United Synagogue of America, in annual session here.

Date and place of the world congress will be fixed later by the executive committee at a meeting to be held in New York.