

MAJOR HAYS WILL RESIGN FROM SEVENTH REGIMENT

Popular and Capable Officer Has Been for Thirty Years a Member of the Corps—Would Not Discuss Matter When Seen By The Advertiser.

At the annual meeting of the Seventh Regiment officers last evening at the Armouries, Major George W. Hayes signified his intention of resigning his command at an early date.

It is understood that the written resignation will be forwarded as soon as the books of which Major Hayes has charge are taken over.

The other officers expressed their regret at the step, and asked him to reconsider it.

An effort will be made to get him to hold office another year.

WILL RESIGN.

Major Hayes would not discuss the matter this morning, but a close friend of his informed The Advertiser that there was no doubt that he would resign his post.

Major Hayes has been attached to the Seventh Regiment for over 30 years.

He has been active in promoting its welfare, and has taken a keen interest in everything that affected the regiment. He was particularly interested in musketry, and a large share of credit is due him for the efficiency of the London Regiment in shooting. He is an officer of several provincial and Dominion rifle associations, and is known over Canada.

A GOOD OFFICER

For many years, Major Hayes had charge of the finances of the regiment, and it was due to his great care in looking after the financial end of the matter that the regiment has been so favorably situated during the past few years.

NEXT IN LINE.

The retirement of Major Hayes will mean the promotion of Major Campbell, who is at present junior major.

Capt. McCrimmon is next in line for the junior majorship, and it is probable that he will be promoted. He is at present adjutant of the regiment. The affairs of the regiment are in splendid shape at present.

The reports of the several committees were received, and other committees appointed.

Another meeting will be held on Monday night next to complete the business of the year.

Enormous Rate for Short Time Loan Police Magistrate Issues a Warning

Police May Investigate Certain Money Lending Deals.

It is likely that before long the police will conduct an investigation into certain money-lending deals in this city, as it has been brought to their notice that there are parties here who are charging exorbitant rates for short-time loans.

"If any of these persons are brought before me," said Magistrate Love to The Advertiser this morning, "they will be dealt with as severely as the law allows me to deal with them. I will see that they get justice."

Whitney To Gerrymander Middlesex According To Semi-Official Story

Riding of West Middlesex Is To Be Wiped Out "For Reasons."

The Whitney Government will change the political map of Middlesex a great deal, if the story in the local Government organ is correct. The article said to have been inspired, and is intended to let the idea sink into the minds of the electors. When the work is done it will be easily seen what chance the Liberals have got. The first move will be the abolition of West Middlesex. That riding has been Liberal for many years. Hon. George W. Ross and his son, Duncan

C. Ross, have made it impossible for the Conservatives to win it, so it must be removed. It will be parceled up, according to the story.

A New Riding.

A new riding will be created—that of South Middlesex. The county of Middlesex will be divided into three ridings, as it is at present, only they will be north, south and east, instead of north, east and west, as at present.

The various townships of West Middlesex will be divided and apportioned something after this fashion: Metcalfe Township and Strathroy will be added to North Middlesex. Lobo will be taken from North Middlesex and added to East Middlesex. Westminster will be taken from

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Tenders for the Isolation Hospital

As a result of the meeting of the special hospital committee yesterday afternoon, tender for the new isolation hospital will be called for at once. The contracts will call for the completion of the building by Oct. 1.

"That is the best possible date,"

said Chairman Ald. Stewart. "It will give the contractors practically full seven months to do the work, and then a sufficient time will be given us to get the rest of it ready before next winter is well advanced. It must be completed by the first of next year."

Street Railway May Use "T" Rail The City Solicitor So Decides

Company Can Now Go Ahead With the Work on Dundas Street.

Mayor Stevely and City Solicitor Meredith had a conference at noon today regarding the resolution passed at the last meeting of the council, allowing the street railway to use the "T" rail on Dundas street.

So far as can be learned, the solicitor advised the company to go ahead and order the "T" rails, so that the

pavement may not be delayed in the spring.

Mr. Meredith pointed out that the question of legislation was largely a matter of form, and the work need not be held up on that account.

The bylaw, as amended, to grant this permission to the London Street Railway Company, will be ready for the meeting of the council on Monday next, and will go through without opposition.

The company has ordered the rails, it is understood, and delivery will be made shortly.

Thus the last difficulty regarding the Dundas street pavement seems at an

SMALL HOUSES SNAPPED UP DEALERS REPORT BOOM

Medium Size Houses Are Also in Good Demand—Many People Will Come To London in the Spring—Prospects Are Bright.

Real estate men report that in the last ten days there has been a decided boom in the house-renting business, and that from present indications houses will be a scarce article in the spring.

"Two weeks ago I had 40 houses on my list," said an agent to The Advertiser today.

"Now I have only seven."

"All small houses are picked up as rapidly as they come in the market."

"There is a good demand, too, for houses from \$20 to \$25 a month. I have had a great many inquiries for houses of that kind and several that had been empty during the winter are now filled."

"There seems to be a large number of people starting in the boarding-house business, and they all want houses with many bedrooms."

"Quite a number of inquiries also are coming in from outside, and I would judge that there will be a good many people move into the city as soon as the winter is over."

Railwayman Roasts Laverne's Bill Says Law Would Prove Impracticable

It Would Be Outrageous To Attempt To Mult Companies for Late Trains.

"That bill, which was introduced into the House yesterday by Mr. Armand Laverne, in which it is proposed to impose a fine of \$5 a minute on all late trains is one of the most preposterous propositions that ever came before a parliament," said a prominent Grand Trunk official this morning.

"In no other country in the world would such a bill as this ever carry, and there is no likelihood of it ever carrying here."

"It would cost the railroads, and the Government, too, a fortune for legal advice alone."

"Why just imagine a railroad having to have a counsel in every case where a train was delayed for a few minutes, and having to bring witnesses from long distances to show that it was a physical impossibility to run on schedule time."

"The new shops act introduced into the Legislature on Friday by Hon. Nelson Monteth, Minister of Agriculture, will cause much additional work for the nine provincial factory inspectors."

The act provides that no children under 12 years of age may be employed in shops, and consequently

these inspectors are now working under a new system.

The entire Province is now divided into districts, and each man is assigned to a district.

In this connection it is understood the Government is considering the advisability of another amendment to the shops act, making it unlawful for boys under 12 years of age to be employed in delivering goods with vehicles.

Many Are Seeking Lost Biddies
Poultry Thieves Have Been Busy

Courthouse Thronged By Those Anxious To Locate Lost Fowls.

Judging by the manner in which people swarm to the courthouse to make inquiries regarding missing chickens the poultry thieves have been more than busy lately.

Since Borland and Hooper were arrested by Constables Shaver and Corbett, at least 20 people have visited the courthouse to ask what the fowls captured at Hopper's home at 74 Colborne street looked like.

It is said that there still remains from 60 to 70 chickens, chiefly game cocks, at Hopper's home, but whether these belong to him or not remains to be seen.

In the meantime the county constables are kept busy answering such questions as, "Have you seen my Wyandotte?" and "Did you say that there were some Plymouth Rocks among those taken?"

So far no inquiries have been received regarding game cocks, although complaints of thefts of other chickens are being received every day.

Yesterday, Mr. John Tennent, of Hyde Park, called at the courthouse and identified a collar and some tugs from a light harness of his which had been stolen at the same time a number of chickens had disappeared.

These articles were found in Hopper's house on the night of his arrest.

It was stated today that no additional charges of chicken-stealing will be pressed against Hopper and Borland, although they will have to face the more serious charge of having entered and taken away from a building not their own. This charge is practically equivalent to housebreaking.

There is a deep suspicion in many quarters that Borland and Hopper did not work alone, and this belief is chiefly founded on the fact that the raids they made were of a wholesale nature. More arrests are looked for at any time now.

Manager Brownlee on Sarnia Tunnel Will Mean a Big Saving to the G.T.R.

Tremendous Loads are Now Hauled Through the Big Hole.

General Manager of Transportation Brownlee passed through the city last night on his way to Toronto, after a thorough inspection of the western division and the new electric apparatus at the Tunnel.

"I went through on Express No. 1 on Saturday afternoon," Mr. Brownlee told The Advertiser. "That, I believe, was the first passenger train to be hauled through by the new electrical locomotives. We went through in a few minutes, and it was one of the smoothest rides I ever had."

"No smoke, no noise, and no jarring. The electrical locomotives can attain a high speed if necessary."

A Big Saving.

"There is no doubt the installation of electricity at the Tunnel will mean a saving of thousands every year to the company, besides greatly facilitating the handling of fast freight, which has been a most important problem with us."

"The same engine that hauled our train through on its return trip took 1,000 tons of freight back with it."

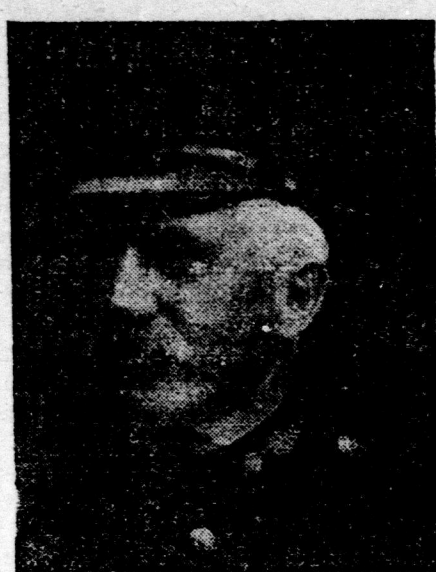
"Before we could not have hauled this amount with less than two steam locomotives, and they could not have done it in the time the electric apparatus did. I am more than pleased with the results."

Tomorrow morning Edward Davis, the young Englishman who stole a watch from a neighboring farmer, some three months ago, will appear before one of the county judges and be allowed to go on suspended sentence.

However, his term of freedom will be only a short one, for Deputation will be only a short one, for Deputation

armed with a warrant, to send the young prisoner out of the country, and shortly after the formality of suspended sentence has been done away with, Davis will be whirling toward Halifax on a fast train, on his way to England.

Davis says that he likes Canada far better than England and hates to leave.



MAJOR HAYES, Popular and Efficient Officer, Who Will Resign from the Seventh Regiment.

TWENTY-FIVE EMPLOYEES PENSIONED

About 25 per cent of the Grand Trunk employees at the car shops have received pension papers, and will be retired in all probability in the next week or so. It is not expected that many of the men will take advantage of the clause allowing them to make application and continue work until they reach the age of 70.

COMMITTEE IS IN TORONTO

Good Roads Deputation Ask for \$6,000 From Government.

The good roads committee of the county council today waited upon the Government officials at Toronto in reference to a claim for a grant of \$6,000, for work completed after the old bylaw governing county roads was repealed by the Legislature.

At the time the bylaw was disposed of there was considerable county work in progress, and this work has but recently been entirely completed.

The committee is made up as follows: T. G. Turnbull, S. F. Glass and J. W. McGregor.

COME UP IN A WEEK

Disorderly Housekeepers Were Remanded for Sentence.

Fred and Annie Watson, whose house on Maple street was raided recently by P. Cs. Down and Lucas, pleaded guilty at the police court this morning to keeping a disorderly house, and were bailed in the sum of \$200 each to appear in a week for sentence.

The court gave both Mr. and Mrs. Watson a severe lecture and intimated that the sentence will be a severe one, as they were in court on a similar charge recently.

Richard Watson, charged with being an inmate, was allowed to go, as it was shown that he had only just come to town, and did not know what reputation the house had.

SEVERAL LIQUOR CASES In the Local Police Court—Indian List Again.

The case of a bartender charged with selling liquor to a minor was adjourned until Thursday at today's police court, as both Mr. McKillop and Mr. "Arsi's" counsel are out of the city.

The case of Harry Donnelly, charged with a breach of the liquor act, was also laid over. Donnelly is on the Indian list and is charged with being in a hotel.

Alex. Smith and John Warwick were each fined \$5 for being drunk, and in Warwick's case he was bound over in the sum of \$100 to keep the peace.

Fred Lyons also paid \$5 for being drunk.

THE WEATHER. TOMORROW—COLDER.

FORECASTS.
Toronto, Feb. 25—8 a.m.

Today—Fresh to strong winds; snow and rain.

Wednesday—Clearing, and turning a little colder.

Local Temperatures.

The temperatures recorded at the local observatory up to 8 p.m. yesterday were: Highest, 25.5° above; lowest, 3.5° below zero.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Max. Weather.

Calgary 20 24 Clear

Winnipeg 2 2 Fair

Port Arthur 30 28 Cloudy

Perry Sound 23 10 Cloudy

Toronto 8 0 Fair

Ottawa 14 6 Clear

Quebec 4 4 Cloudy

Minus (—) means below zero.

The first column in the above table records the temperatures at 8 o'clock this morning, and the second column records the minimum temperatures during the 24 hours previous.

WEATHER NOTES.

A widespread disturbance covers the country from Lake Superior south to the Gulf of Mexico, and the pressure is highest in the Maritime Provinces.

Snow is falling in the upper lake region. Elsewhere in Canada the weather has been fine.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Atlin, 14—30; Vancouver, 57—65; Victoria, 54—67; Edmonton, 52—60; Calgary, 22—30; Battleford, 34—38; Prince Albert, 22—40; Regina, 30—36; Winnipeg, 20—33; Port Arthur, zero—23; Perry Sound, 18 below—20; Toronto, 2—22; Ottawa, zero—12; Montreal, 4 below—14; St. John, 14—22; Halifax, 8—24.

F. G. RUMBALL TO FORM NATURAL GAS COMPANY

To Pipe Gas From Port Rowan To London—Will Be Able To Sell It From 35 to 40 Cents Per 1,000 Feet—Work Is To Be Commenced Shortly.

Ex-Mayor F. G. Rumball announced this morning that he is forming a company to bring natural gas from Port Rowan to this city.

"The company will be formed very shortly, I think," said Mr. Rumball to The Advertiser.

"We have secured leases on property in the vicinity of Port Rowan, and propose to pipe the gas to this city and distribute it for lighting and fuel."

"If we can, we will use the mains of the City Gas Company, if not we will have to consider some other plan."

"Those are details that remain to be worked out."

AS TO THE COST.

"I can not say yet as to the cost but it will be somewhere between thirty-five and forty cents a thousand."

"We believe there is an inexhaustible supply of natural gas in the vicinity of Port Rowan, and there is no reason why we cannot pipe it to this city and sell it at a very cheap rate."

"We will probably supply a number of other towns and villages along the line."

"There will be a meeting of those interested in the near future, when the company will be formed, and it is not unlikely that operations with a view of supplying London with gas will be commenced in a few weeks."

"We think Londoners will take a large amount of the gas, especially at the prices at which we hope to furnish it to them, and there is no reason why this city should not enjoy the advantages of natural gas, as well as other places."

This company is not the concern referred to in yesterday's Advertiser. That firm is already selling stock in London.

REGARDED AS A CERTAINTY.

In business circles it is now regarded as a certainty that natural gas will be in use in London before the summer is over.

Businessmen are endorsing the scheme warmly and several well-known men this morning in speaking of the matter, said that if four companies were seeking to enter the city it would be advisable for the council to grant them all the franchises and privileges, better rates would be assured by competition.

Merchants May Form Cartage Co. To Avoid Paying the New Rates

Which Go Into Effect March 15th—Serious Matter for Shippers.

A number of the large firms of the city who will be affected by the general raise in cartage rates, which goes into effect on March 15, are talking of meeting the raise by establishing a company of their own to handle the goods.

Hygienic Institute Will Cost \$30,000 \$20,000 Remains for Equipment

Building Will Likely Be Completed This Year—City Gave the Site.

The contracts for the Hygienic Institute have not yet been let, although information from the Government on this matter has been expected for some time.

It is understood the tenders have been forwarded to the Government at Toronto, and in a few days the contracts will be awarded.

Will Cost About \$30,000.

The cost of the building will be about \$20,000 according to the figures received.

The city gave the land free of charge, and the Government appropriated \$50,000 for the building and equipment.

This will leave \$20,000 for the equipment.

It is expected that the work will be finished this year.

Applications Already.

Already there are some applicants for the position of head of the institution. Dr. H. A. Kingsmill is said to be after the position, and the name of Dr. McGregor is already mentioned prominently in that connection.

It is an Ontario Government appointment, and will belong to the patronage of Hon. Adam Beck.

Bookings Not Satisfactory.

"The trouble is that the theaters cannot get satisfactory bookings," he said. "When the war between Klaw & Erlanger, and the Keiths closed, the latter were loaded down with a large number of contracts."

"These contracts called for exorbitant salaries."

"That is right, as I had mine increased nearly three times."

"The result was that while the

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Decides Against N. S. Stockholders

[Special to The Advertiser.] Toronto, Feb. 25.—Referee Kapelle decided this morning that the issue of proceedings. They hold shares aggregating \$500,000. Decision will be appealed.

[Special to The Advertiser.] thus preventing them from ranking as preference creditors in winding-up proceedings. They hold shares aggregating \$500,000. Decision will be appealed.