

46TH. YEAR. NO. 19557.

THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1909.—TEN PAGES.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## REAL ESTATE IS IMPROVING DECEMBER TRANSFERS INCREASE

A Falling Off for 1908. However, as Compared With Previous Year—Last Three Months Were Favorable—Assessment Commissioner Grant Is Hopeful.

The real estate transfers for the year 1908 throw some interesting light on the financial conditions of the city. The number of transfers for the year is considerably less than the year previous—in fact, the lowest for the past five years. The decrease, taking the assessed value as a criterion, is about one-third, or 33 1/3 per cent.

The difference between last year and the other four is not so marked, save when compared with 1906, which was the banner year, when a marked difference is noted.

Conditions improving. However, conditions are improving. The last three months of 1908, as compared with the last three months of 1907, are decidedly favorable, and a marked increase is noted, both in the number of transfers, as well as in the assessed value. December alone shows an increase of eleven transfers over December, 1907, while during the last three months the increase numbers 29, a really good showing, and demonstrating that confidence is again restored and that business is much improved of late.

The Values. The selling value of property changing hands during the past five years reaches the splendid total of \$3,081,465. The assessment was somewhat lower, reaching a total of \$5,784,637, showing that the purchasers had great faith in the future value of the property they were buying. The total number of transfers was 5,717.

The selling price for business places for the past five years also reached a handsome total, the sum of \$2,037,114, being paid for 196 business properties.

### Mr. Grant Speaks.

Assessment Commissioner Grant was well pleased with the increasing number of transfers, and declared it spoke volumes for the future of the city. "Conditions will be normal in a very short time," he said. "The transfers for the past three months show that confidence is returning and that people are buying better than they have for some time. The returns are encouraging now."

## GOOD NEWS FROM MESSINA F. FENECH RECEIVES MESSAGE

Brother Wires That All Is Well—Luigi Fenech Escapes Death in Awful Sicilian Disaster—Other Cablegrams May Be Looked for Shortly.

Mr. Frank Fenech, this morning received the glad news that his brother, Luigi Fenech, who is professor of astronomy at the University of Messina, had come through the awful catastrophe unscathed. No details are available, the cable which comes from Catania merely reading: "Luigi safe," and signed, "John Fenech."

John Fenech is another brother of Mr. Frank Fenech, who is an officer in the Italian army, stationed at Conigliano, North Italy.

As the telegram does not come from near where Mr. John Fenech's regiment is stationed, but rather from

the direction of Messina, Italy, Mr. Fenech believes that his brother must have gone to Messina himself to inquire after the fate of Luigi Fenech. The fact that the telegram did not come from Messina gives credence to the idea that the telegram lines from that place are being held for Government use. The news will also come as a great relief to other Londoners who have been in the destroyed cities, as it seems likely that their silence may be due to lack of facilities for communication, rather than to injuries or death of people from whom messages are expected.

Continued on Page Nine.

## Two Years Sojourn for Jas. Collins Many Thefts Send Him to Kingston

Magistrate Did Not Take Any Stock in Letter for Clemency.

James Collins, the man who was recently found guilty by Magistrate Love of breaking into the blacksmith shop of Ald. Saunders, the office of Messrs. Copp on York street, and of stealing a photographic lens from the store of J. Westlake in Chatham, was sentenced to two years in the Kingston Penitentiary.

Collins wrote a letter to Magistrate Love, stating that he was penniless, homeless and hopeless, and asking him to be as lenient as possible. Collins stated that he had committed the thefts while drunk.

"I cannot believe that you committed all these thefts while intoxicated," said the court, "as they took place in so many different places. Besides that, you have a police court record, and have been in the Central Prison. The public at large must be protected, and in taking everything into consideration I have decided to send you for two years to Kingston Penitentiary."

## 600 More Cases in Police Court Than Were Recorded in Year 1907

1908 Appears To Have Been a Record Breaker Because of the Indian Listers.

According to a statement which Police Court Clerk Moulie is preparing there were about 600 more cases heard in the local police court last year than the year previous.

The figures have not yet been completed, but it is understood that the greatest increases will be in the charges of drunkenness.

A very large number of charges of this kind have been heard, owing to both the determination of Inspector Galpin and Magistrate Love to prosecute drunkards to the full extent of the law.

Indian Listers. The large number of cases that have been heard under the head of Indian listers bears ample testimony to this fact.

Many hundred dollars in fines have been received from those who, while on the list, have continued to drink. A noticeable result of the prosecution

tion is the practical disappearance of the gang of worthless "drunks," who formerly infested the market.

### A Good Effect.

The prosecution of Indian listers who have been found in or about any hotels, no matter for what cause, has also had its effect on inebriates, and many of them keep as shy of hotels as it is possible for them to do.

Inspector Galpin states that both hotel proprietors and bartenders are giving him every assistance in his efforts to prosecute Indian listers, as they do not want these habitual drunkards around their bars.

### Watch the Calendar.

"It is surprising," said Inspector Galpin to The Advertiser this afternoon, "how these Indian listers keep track of the time they are on the list. They know to a day when the year expires, and sometimes some of them come up to me and wave their official document under my nose and say, 'Now you can't touch me if I drink, for my year expired last night.'"

"Many of these people, however, are put right on again by relatives or friends who have their interests at heart."

## Women Acquitted of Murder Charge

Media, Pa., Jan. 7.—Mrs. M. Florence Erb, wife of Capt. J. Clayton Erb, who was well known in political circles all over Pennsylvania, and her sister, Mrs. Catherine Belsel, who were charged with the sensational murder of Capt. Erb, on the night of Oct. 6, 1908, today walked from the Delaware County Court here a free woman.

After the jury had been out nearly eighteen hours, it brought in a verdict of not guilty in the case of each woman, both of whom have been charged separately, and jointly with shooting the captain. Thus ends a trial that has held the interest of the people of the state for more than a week, during which much scandalous evidence was brought out, some of which did not reach the reading public.

## LIEUT.-COL. REID TO LEAVE SEVENTH

Made Announcement Last Night at Dinner in the Kennels.

### MAJOR CAMPBELL IS SUCCESSOR

Many Other Promotions Will Likely Follow Very Shortly in the Regiment.

At a dinner given by Lieut.-Col. Reid, of the Seventh Regiment, to the officers of the regiment at the Kennels, he made the formal announcement that he would retire from the service at the expiration of his term of office on Feb. 23. His successor will probably be Major A. A. Campbell, at present senior major of the regiment.

A number of the officers of the Seventh, as well as several military friends of Col. Reid, were present at the banquet. After the dinner had been disposed of, a toast list was introduced, and a number of bright speeches were made.

Colonel Makes Announcement. Col. Reid made a brief speech, in which he announced that he had definitely decided to retire in February. He spoke of the pleasant time he had enjoyed as commander of the regiment, and he thanked the officers for the enthusiastic support and encouragement given him since his appointment. He had been proud to be in command of such a corps as the Seventh at Buffalo, the regiment had made an excellent showing and many compliments had been given them. In Quebec they had compared favorably with any regiment at the review. At all times the officers and men had done their best and in retiring he desired to thank all for their kindness.

Colonel Campbell Now. Col. Reid said that it was highly probable that Major A. A. Campbell, at present senior major, would be the next in command. He prophesied a most successful term of office for Major Campbell, and expressed the hope that the officers and men would stand behind him as loyally as they had supported their commanding officers in the past.

Colonel Smith. Col. A. M. Smith made a brief reply on behalf of the officers. He expressed regret on the retirement of Col. Reid, who had been a good officer, well liked by both the officers and men.

Other speeches were made by a number of those present. The guests included Col. Reid, Col. A. M. Smith, Major Shannon, Major Wynne, Major Lamb, Major Campbell, Capt. McCrimmon, Captains Graham, Kingsmill, Coles, Little, Bentley, and Becher, Lieutenants Gibson, R. C. R. Ingram, Carling, Ware, Hunt, Leonard, Reid, and others.

The party returned to the city by special car shortly after 1 o'clock.

Many Promotions. As Major Campbell is next in line for the promotion, it is more than probable that the command of the regiment will be turned over to him on the retirement of Col. Reid. He has been connected with the regiment for many years, and has been deeply interested in it at all times.

With the promotion of Major Campbell, Captain McCrimmon will be advanced to the position of senior major, and Captain Campbell Becher as senior captain, will be advanced to the junior majorship.

It will also mean a promotion of several other officers. "The command of the regiment will be offered me as next in command," said Major Campbell. "I presume I shall accept it, if it is offered me. There is some time yet to think of it."

FARMER'S WIFE ASSAULTED

Beaten With a Hammer by the Hired Man and May Die.

Bradwardine, Man., Jan. 7.—Mrs. Hunter Cooper, wife of a farmer near here, was brutally assaulted by a hired man named H. Scarr, a young Englishman, who beat her on the head with a hammer, inflicting injuries which are likely to cause death. He has been arrested and is now in Brandon Jail.

THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—VERY COLD.

FORECASTS.

Toronto, Jan. 7.—8 a.m.

Today—Fair and very cold; below zero in most localities tonight.

Friday—Easterly winds and very cold, with light local snowfalls.

TEMPERATURES.

Today. Yesterday.

Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Max.

London ..... 9 7 22

Calgary ..... -42 -28 20

Winnipeg ..... -25 -40 20

Port Arthur ..... -32 -20 20

Perry Sound ..... -14 10 20

Edmonton ..... -32 -20 20

## PAID \$33,000 TO POISON EMPEROR

New York, Jan. 7.—Special cable advices to The Herald from Penang, Straits Settlement, say that Kang Yu Wei, China's exiled reformer and leader of the Chinese Empire Reform Association, claims credit for the overthrow of Yuan Shi Kai, the eminent Chinese statesman, as member of the grand council.

According to the dispatch Kang Yu charges Yuan Shi Kai, with complicity in the death of the Emperor. He is quoted as follows:

"We know Yuan Shi Kai paid a physician 40,000 taels (about \$33,000), to poison the Emperor. Yuan Shi Kai, seeing the Dowager Empress' death impending, feared retribution at the hands of the Emperor for his betrayal a decade ago, which forced my flight, and resulted in the Dowager Empress seizing the reins of control."

## MICHIGAN METHODIST PASTOR MURDERED AND DISMEMBERED

Remains of His Body Found in Stoves of Little Church Near Port Huron, Where He Had Gone To Conduct Revival Meetings.

Detroit, Jan. 7.—The dismembered body of Rev. John P. Carmichael, a Methodist minister, was found yesterday partially consumed by fire in the two heating stoves of one of his churches near Columbus, in the southwestern part of St. Clair County.

Identification of the dead clergyman was made by Orville Lindsay, who was sent to the church by Mrs. Carmichael, who had been in great distress since her husband's failure to return home as expected on Tuesday evening.

Clues of the murderer and his motive were difficult to obtain. There is a rumor that a strange man left a train at Hickey late on Tuesday, and was directed to the Columbus church, and there are other rumors indicating that two men were implicated in the crime. The fact that several coins were found in the clothing of the dead man and in the ashes in the stove presiding the theory of robbery, and at the time of his death it was not known that the murdered minister had an enemy in the world.

No Clue to Murderer. Rev. Mr. Carmichael had been in Michigan about ten years, and for two years had been pastor of the three churches at Columbus, Adair and China. With his wife and three children he resided at Adair. Leaving home Tuesday morning, he told Mrs. Carmichael that he was going to Columbus to arrange for a series of revival meetings there. He waved his hand to a group of children as he drove out of the village of Adair, and from that moment all trace of him is lost.

Myron Brown, who lives near the scene of the tragedy, was the first to discover the crime. While waiting at the crossroads to keep an appointment, the cold wind drove him to seek shelter in the church. He was surprised to find the church doors unlocked, and was terrified to see the church floor, the pews and even the communion table drenched with blood, and fragments of bloody clothing scattered all around. Evidently the clergyman, who was 55 years old and of athletic build, had made a terrific struggle for his life.

Brown hurried to the village of Hickey, from whence he notified the sheriff's office at Port Huron.

The authorities on their arrival at the church found parts of the dismembered body in the two stoves, respectively at the front and rear, and discovered in one stove the head of what was apparently a

Continued on Page Eight.

## PAISLEY'S DEATH ACCIDENTAL VERDICT OF CORONER'S JURY

Evidence Adduced Last Night Went To Show That the Deceased Was Killed by Yard Engine No. 30—Was Working Double Shift and Had Just Thanked Man Who Got Him Job.

After hearing the evidence in the inquest into the death of David Paisley, the jury, which, under Coroner MacLaren, investigated the affair, brought in the following verdict:

"That the said David Paisley came to his death on the evening of Jan. 1, 1909, at the Richmond street crossing of the Grand Trunk, by being struck by yard engine No. 30. We believe said death to have been purely accidental, and exonerate the Grand Trunk from all blame."

The Grand Trunk interests were looked after by Mr. W. W. Pope, of Montreal, and Mr. E. H. Flock appeared for the relatives of deceased.

The Evidence. Fireman Joseph Nollan, of yard engine No. 30, was first called, and stated that on the evening of Jan. 1 he had been told by Engineer Walton

that a man had been killed by their engine.

The yard engine had backed down and crossed over Richmond street, and was on the westbound track. Witness did not see anybody about the tracks. When he was told of the accident the engine was between Richmond and Talbot streets.

There was so much smoke and steam blowing about that it was impossible to see very much of the tracks. The bell was ringing all the time, and the headlight lamp was lit.

Witness stated that a freight train had gone east about the same time they were near the crossing.

There was no one on the rear coach to give any warning of the approaching train to pedestrians.

Engineer Walton. Engineer Walton stated that he was unaware of any accident until told by

(Continued on Page Nine.)

## SPLENDID GIFT OF THE PRIESTS

Archbishop McEvay Presented With Magnificent Team.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Toronto, Jan. 7.—Priests of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto have expressed their sentiments of admiration towards Archbishop McEvay by presenting him with a most beautiful and valuable team of jet-black drivers. The archbishop is himself an excellent judge of a horse and delights to drive behind one.

Two Freight Collide With Fatal Results at Chisleau.

North Bay, Jan. 7.—Two freight trains met in a head-on collision 22 miles west of Chisleau yesterday, the result of a trainman's error in running over a time order. Fireman William Thompson, of Chisleau, was killed, and others slightly injured in jumping. A score of cars were demolished, and the line blocked for half a day.

Bank Clearings Increase. The local bank clearings for the week amounted to \$1,628,680, an increase of \$177,639 over the same week of 1908, the figures of a year ago being \$1,451,041.

## PIECE OF WOOD FLEW FROM LATHE

Geo. Couke, of Wellington Street, Had Hand Injured.

George Couke, of 245 Wellington street, met with a painful accident yesterday afternoon while engaged in operating a wood lathe at the McClary works.

In some manner the piece of wood that was being turned became loose and struck Mr. Couke a terrific blow across the back of his hand.

The hand is very painfully lacerated, and the thumb badly smashed. Had the wood struck Mr. Couke in the face or body the injury would have been much more serious. Dr. H. A. Stevenson attended to the case.

## COLDEST NIGHT OF THE WINTER

Mercury Dropped to 7 Above—Is Nine Above Today.

Last night was the coldest night of the winter, and the thermometer at the local observatory sank until it was only seven above zero. To many people who were out it seemed much colder, as the northwest wind blew the cold right through one's garments. Not a few people, under the impression that the mercury would take a big drop, kept in special fires in order to protect water pipes from damage by the frost. At 8 o'clock this morning the thermometer had risen to nine above.

Fair Voters May Go to Prison

Refused To Give Up Unmarked Ballots on Election Day.

A FINE OF \$100 IS PRESCRIBED

For Such an Offense—City Clerk Baker Almost Gray-Haired With Troubles.

City Clerk Baker is not at all satisfied with women voters.

As a matter of fact, the aforesaid genial clerk has some real grievances, and he threatens dire things to the fair suffragettes who are causing him some trouble today.

The difficulty is right here. When the ladies went into the polling booth the other day to exercise the franchise they were handed several ballots.

The majority of them were only interested in the street car vote, and as a result utilized only one or two of the ballot papers given them.

These they handed back to the deputy, but continued to hold on to the others, which they had not marked. They were looked upon as personal property, and the fair voters refused to give them up.

Ballots Missing. Then followed a wordy war between the deputy and the lady.

Some of the persuasive deputies got the ballots back, but others were not quite so successful.

In some instances a number of ballots were missing. City Clerk Baker was handed one that was found on the street. Several of the deputies were many ballots shy.

"We have had a lot of trouble," said City Clerk Baker to The Advertiser. "A large number of women voters persisted in keeping the ballots. Some of the deputies got them all back, some did not. I am afraid that several of the deputies will lose their jobs as a result of their carelessness. This must stop. Some of the men made the same mistake, but the most of the difficulty came from the fair sex. There is a \$100 fine attached to this, and if there is no improvement next time we vote there will be some trouble."

The thought of some of the suffragettes languishing in jail with a \$100 fine attached is a maddening thought, but they will have to be good.

## WITNESS IS \$18 OUT OF POCKET

Mr. William Cook Compelled To Pay for Stop over Here.

Mr. William Cook, the man who discovered the body of the late David Paisley on New Year's night, and one of the principal witnesses at last night's inquest, stated to Coroner MacLaren, after giving his evidence, that it had cost him \$18 to remain in the city for the investigation.

Mr. Cook inquired if there was no way in which he could be reimbursed for his expense, as it had not been voluntarily incurred by him.

Coroner MacLaren replied that unfortunately there was no law governing the case by which remuneration could be made.

Mr. Cook was greatly displeased, and said it would have served the authorities right if he had gone on to Dresden, where he had important business, and had put them to the trouble and expense of fetching him back. He left for Dresden as soon as he could last night.

THACKER SUCCEEDS. Ottawa, Jan. 7.—Major H. C. Thacker, P. S. C., will succeed Major H. A. Panet as deputy adjutant general. Major Panet will assume command of B. Battery, Kingston, June 1.

Toronto Star: London has voted for Sunday cars. If London keeps on till he is as wicked as Hamilton after a while.

## SCRAMBLE FOR BOARD OF WORKS

Several Aldermen Are Extremely Anxious To Be Placed On It.

FIGHT FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP

Ald. Rose Is Said To Be Very Anxious for It—Speculation as to Other Bodies.

What a nice scramble there is amongst the aldermen for a place on the board of works!

For some reason the city fathers have started a real stampede for a berth on that committee.

And that is the committee that is causing all the trouble about the city hall, when it comes to fixing up the committees for the coming year.

It is not exactly correct to state that all the members of the council are out for the board of works, because that would not be justice to the members of that body of last year.

Ald. Parsons, Ald. Beattie, Ald. Stevenson and Ald. Ferguson are content to go on the finance committee. As Ald. Beattie will not accept the chairmanship, it is more than likely that Ald. Ferguson will be given the place.

Want This Plun. The other members of the council want the board of works. Ald. Garratt is out for a place on it. He does not want to be chairman, so he states, but wants to be on the committee. He would rather be placed there as an ordinary member than take the chairmanship of No. 3 committee, which would be tendered him if he would accept.

Ald. Rose not only wants to be on the board of works, but he wants the chairmanship. He will not be given it, however, as some of his own slate are opposed to him.

He may be placed on No. 3 committee, and given the chairmanship, but he would take it, but it is not at all likely that he will accept that. However, he may be asked to do so.

On the last analysis, the chairmanship of No. 3 committee will be between Ald. Rose and Ald. Garratt, and the one who is not selected will go on No. 2. It is more than probable that Ald. Rose will land the latter plun.

The Committees. That will form the regular committees as follows:

No. 1—Ald. Ferguson, chairman; Ald. Stevenson, Ald. Parsons and Ald. Beattie.

No. 2—Ald. Gerry, chairman; Ald. Rose, Ald. Saunders and Ald. Cooper.

No. 3—Ald. Garratt, chairman; Ald. Fitzgerald, Ald. Stewart, Ald. Moorhead.

Power Committee. Of course there will be a special power committee, of which Ald. Stewart will probably be chairman. That was the feeling about the city hall today, although circumstances may change before the meeting on Monday.

Ald. Stevenson can have the chairmanship of the manufacturers and reception committee if he desires, although Ald. Beattie may be offered it.

Board of Health. Yesterday it seemed more than likely that Mr. Thos. Gillean and Mr. William Skinner would be selected for the board of health, but this morning a number of aldermen stated that they would favor Ald. Stevenson and Mr. John Graham for the places. These four names have been all that have been mentioned, and the selection will be made from these.

In all events, there is a merry scramble for the board of works, and that eagerness for positions on this body is causing Mayor Stevely some worry in endeavoring to get the committees straightened out for the year.

## HICKS ACQUITTED

Winnipeg Murder Trial Ended—Rogers May Be Arrested.

Winnipeg, Jan. 6.—Hicks was acquitted on the charge of murder this afternoon after the jury had been out only twenty minutes. The report tonight is that Rogers, one of the witnesses, will be arrested.

## RAINED SEVEN DAYS

Fifteen Lives Lost in Floods in Costa Rica.

New York, Jan. 7.—Fifteen lives were lost, three large iron bridges swept away, a railroad disabled for 30 miles and telegraph lines destroyed by a week of torrential rains on the Atlantic Coast of Costa Rica, Central America, at the end of last month, according to news brought today by the steamer Sberia. Many fruit farms were ruined.