THE FREE PRESS, LONDON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1922.



Shoots 16-Year-Old Christina Gordon Waide watched Dibsdale Near With Shot Gun and Turns Weapon on Himself, after he passed and states Dibsdale was But His Wounds Are Slight

TRAGEDY ON STREET AT ST. JAMES AND ADELAIDE the girl turned to run across a com-mon, but Dibsdale pursued her and

2

Slayer, Who, According to the Victim's Brother, Admitted Crime. Is Now in Victoria Hospital Under Police Guard

and when he finished loading it turned Riddled with shot fired at close range from a 12-gauge shot gun in the hands his heart and fired. He dropped the it on himself, pointing the barrel above of her admirer, pretty 16-year-old gun on the sidewalk and he fell, rolling Christina Near, daughter of William H. down a little hill into tall weeds. TRIED TO STOP HIM. Near, 8861/2 Adelaide street, died at 5.25 John H. Dawson, 320 Rattle street, who was passing at the time, made an attempt to prevent Dibsdale from shooting himself, but could not reach yesterday afternoon on a lawn near the corner of St. James and Adelaide streets.

Gordon Dibsdale, aged 24, of 284 Oakhim in time. Gordon Waide land avenue, who fired the fatal shot, rushed to the scene, but was too late to stop the shooting. Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Marshall, 406 walked down the street a few paces and, placing the gun against his side, pulled Burwell street, were motoring at the the trigger. The charge of buckshot corner of Adelaide and St. James streets when the tragedy occurred. Mrs. entered his watch and set fire to his

Marshall stated that she saw Dibsdale clothes, but beynod a few minor flesh turn the gun on himself, but did not wounds did no harm. Dibsdale spent actually see him shoot Miss Near. the night in the steel cage at Victoria Frank Alexandra and G. Insell, who Hospital, used for unruly patients, live on Adelaide street near the scene closely guarded by two local police of the shooting, heard the first two shots fired by Dibsdale and then saw

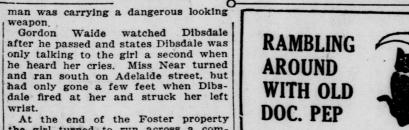
When searched by Detectives Egelhim turn the gun on himself. They will ton and Bolton Dibsdale was found to be called as the main witnesses. have a cartridge belt with five loaded William Near, brother of the victim, shells in it. Another shell was found was soon on the scene and notified his in the gun. The weapon is now at the mother, who was brought to the scene. police station and efforts are being She took her daughter in her arms and made to find out where Dibsdale obspoke to her, but by this time life was extinct. When the mother retained it. ceived word of the fatality she col-

WANTED TO MARRY

Dibsdale, who was employed at the car barns at nights as a repair man, had been calling on Miss Near for about ing greatly from shock. two months. He was, it is stated, FATHER'S FAREWELL. desperately in love with her and recently had been so insistent upon marriage that his attentions became annoyng, both to the girl and her parents. as she left for work. He did not in-It is stated that the matter came to the where her parents had advised tend leaving until the 5.40 G. T. R. stage where her parents had advised tend leaving that the best would be Miss Near against having him call train, but knew that this would be the last time he would see her before further.

This apparently angered Dibsdale to me extent and had caused him to brood greatly over his love affair. On Tuesday night it is stated he and the girl had a quarrel when he again asked had been shot. her to marry him. He met her again on the street yesterday at noon and there was another quarrel. Dibsdale,

NOMEN APPREHENSIVE About 5.20 he saw her coming up Adeaide street and at once started southward to meet her. The meeting took place about 150 feet north of the corner of St. James and Adelaide streets. Several women in the vicinity feared trouble when they saw Dibsdale with the shot gun.



as she ran off the sidewalk he squared June 1 .- The news is that the Central himself and fired again, this time hit-Collegiate Institute is mighty like to be ting her below the left shoulder. She fell in a pool of blood about 10 feet seized for debts and Col. Spence who lives near there, growls at the story for from the sidewalk and died about two the reason that he considers it highly ninutes later. She never was conunlikely! "The worst mistake about scious after being shot the second time. thta building," he roars, "was that it After firing the second time Dibsdale reloaded the gun. In doing so he backed

law passed against such fireproofing of lown the sidewalk away from the girl monstrosities! But this whole business suggests an official that we really need, to wit: An official historian. A sort of recording-

angel bookkeeper, who would make brief ccounts of civic mistakes and the cause therefor. Showing how the hiring of cheap servants cost the city time and again between \$10,000 and \$100,000 Recording the foolishness of certain also ventures and why they proved foolish. All these facts should be stored and

made easy of access. And comes some fine alderman in 1950, saying: "Let us sell this old million dollar city hall and build one for \$5,000,000!" There would forthwith be shown him the story of the first city hall and what came after it.

No one can question that there were certain books in Rome-called the Sibyline prophecies-which were consulted right down into the time of the empire. But we privily think that these books were not prophecies at all,

but records of some other empire, Atlantis mayhap. And the leaders of the state merely consult similar events in that record to solve their own timely problems. We need records of this sort more than we ever did in the world. History would be a willing servant to lapsed, but was revived by Mrs. Wilman, but we make a deity out of her. liams, who lives next door. The mother No business but should keep a history is under the doctor's care and is sufferand should make their experiences ul-

timately available for public inspection and study. There is no new thing under the sun but we keep such poor Yesterday morning the father of the records that these recurring happenings dead girl, who had planned a trip to always seem new. Windsor, kissed his daughter good-bye

On the banks of the Potomac yeserday was dedicated a great memorial temple to Abraham Lincoln. This memorial being one of the most exquisite

mighty low ebbs of either our morals

Middlesex Company.

SUPREME COURT

or our consciences.

THE

Payments

he left, and this was the last time he saw her alive. Americans honor themselves in two As he boarded the train for Windson ways. For it is right and fitting to he was notified by Gordon Waide, who honor the great, and he who adds hurried to the depot, that his daughter beauty to the world is most truly worshipping God. Men should consider

J. E. Dibsdale, father of Gordon Dibscutting their lawns as a prayer. And dale, sobbed bitterly as he looked at here looks nephew over my shoulder there was another quarrel. Dibsdale, date, soluted of the point of the



With Board of Education. REDUCE HOSPITAL EXPENSE

Health Officer To Have Control of Indigent Patients.

On the suggestion of Ald. Cunningham that no unnecessary expenditures should be permitted in connection with the school building program in the annex, No. 1 committee last night refused to grant any debenture issue pending a conference with the Board of Education. A communication was read from Secretary Tanner, of the board, explain.

ing the request for \$5,600 debentures for the Technical School; \$4,000 is for was made fireproof! There should be a equipment and \$1,600 for architect's fees in connection with the auditorium that will not be erected this year.

"There is no information there regarding public schools. We had better call Mr. Tanner's attention to that."

suggested Mayor Wilson. "Do you know the city is paying for public schools in the annex \$12,124 more than the total amount of the taxes collected in that section?" queried Ald. Cunningham. "Last year the city colt paid out \$39,251 for public schools in that district. I would recommend that the board be requested to reduce its estimates for the Dakin Street School in view of these conditions. We are crowding the collegiate pupils in South London into a discarded public school building and the annex pupils can stand a

little crowding for a time.'

HOW ABOUT NEW SCHOOL? "Yes, the board finds that the old Victoria School is quite all right for a collegiate," interjected Mayor Wilson, "Why did the trustees want to build a new school there?"

The first steps in cutting down the expenses as Victoria Hospital were taken by suggesting that the Hospital Trust amend the hospital by-law to place the indigent patients under the control of the M. O. H. It is expected this will save the city from \$25,000 to \$50,000 annually.

While they admitted that their efforts will be useless, the aldermen decided to protest against the Fielding Stamp Act, A letter from Finance Commissio Ross, Toronto, was read urging some action. The letter pointed out that it is easy for the Government to pass a law, but getting one repealed is "a horse of

another color.' "Yes, that is the trouble, we need a horse of another color at Ottawa," sug-

things in the world. In which the gested the mayor. "No, the whole trouble is the horse of another color left a lot of expenses

the Stamp Act," retorted Ald. Cunning-

INVESTIGATE MARKET.

After listening to the complaint of a local grocer regarding conditions on the 7.-Three bootleggers captured by ofmarket, the committee decided that an

that must be met by the revenue from

market, the committee decided that an investigation should be made. It was charged that there are hucksters doing ational Rum Runner's Union.



Victoria Wharncliffe and Railway 9.15

Cunningham. "Last year the city col-lected \$27,127 taxes in the annex, while HOROSCOPE OF JUNE HOLDS **PROMISES OF STIRRING EVENTS APPROACHING CITY**

BY ROSS TAYLOR.

1 .-- First installment of civic income tax payable. Overloaded city treasury causes city hall to collapse. Four hun-dred delegates attend the first general ession of the London Methodist conference. Restaurants and theaters an-

nounce 10 per cent. increase in their tax notices and on circular letters. 27.-Rudolph Valentino is still 114 col-2.-Annual school picnic at Spring umns of newspaper space behind Fatty

bank. By 2 p. m. the supply of ice Arbuckle. Plans to get more publicity by cream and pop is exhausted. By 10 p. divorcing Miss Hootentot. m. 14 lost kiddles are still unclaimed 28.—Of the 64 girls who became brides and 9,594 youngsters complain of feelthis month, 57 are seriously considering

going home to mother. Ninety per cent. 3 .- Fifty-second anniversary of King of the benedicts doubt if their spouses George's birthday. "Aw, gee, gc, heck," says Benny Potts. "Why didn't could distinguish corn starch from laundry starch.

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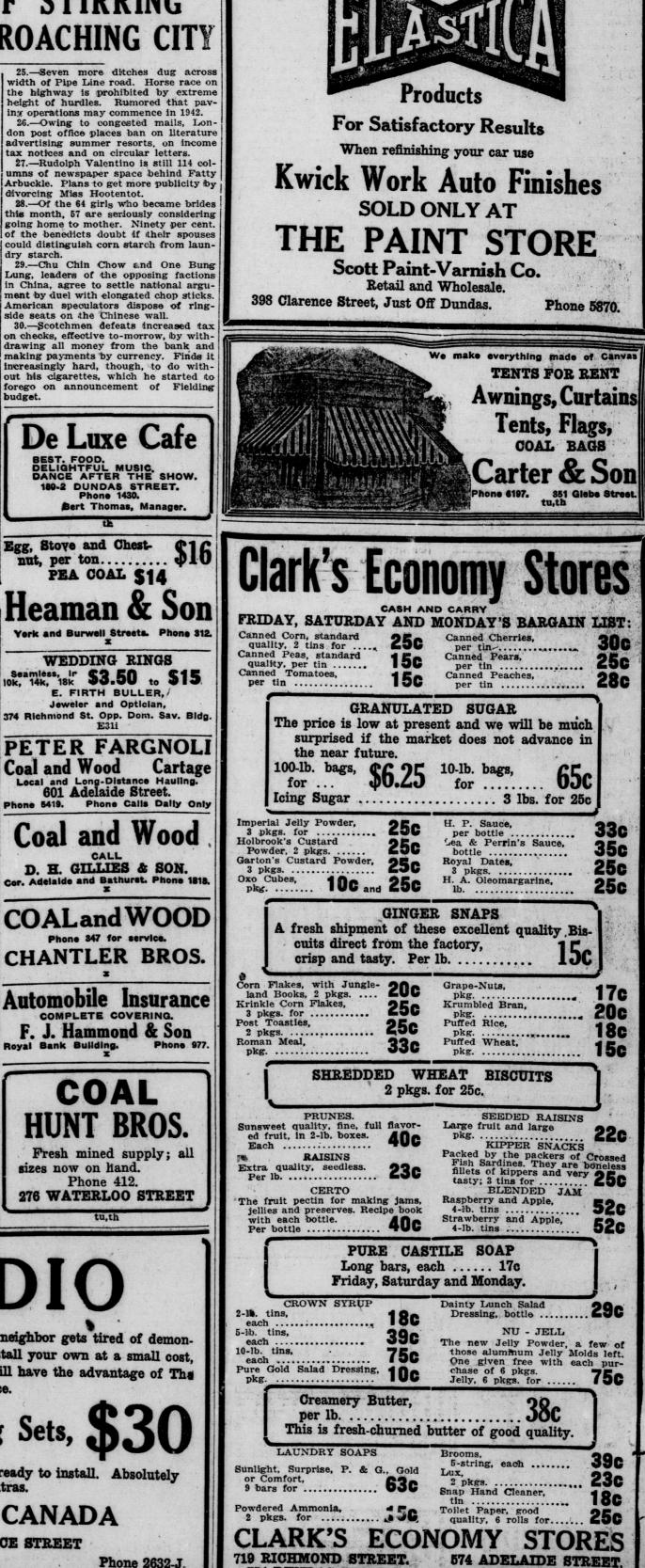
Phone 5419.

Royal Bank Building.

he get born on a school day instead of 29 .- Chu Chin Chow and One Bung Saturday." Lung, leaders of the opposing factions 4 .-- Flapper canoeing at Port seeks diin China, agree to settle national arguversion by rocking the boat. Realizes ment by duel with elongated chop sticks. her secret ambition of being called "angel American speculators dispose of ringside seats on the Chinese wall.

5 .- Only two June weddings have been 30 .- Scotchmen defeats increased tax plemnized to date. Ministers, florists on checks, effective to-morrow, by withand furniture store proprietors hold drawing all money from the bank and emergency meeting to cope with serious making payments by currency. Finds it increasingly hard, though, to do with 6.-Londoner, who is served with unout his cigarettes, which he started to derdone portion of beef at local restauforego on announcement of Fielding rant. finds answer to the poet's question, budget. "What is so rare as a day in June."





Miss Near was apparently not alarme at first, but almost as soon as Dibsdale met her trouble started, people who were near by state. Almost immediately she turned from him and tried to run away, screaming "Oh save me. Gordon, save me.'

Dibsdale raised the shot gun and fired he charge, taking effect in the girl's eft arm above her wrist and almost severing the hand. She still continued to run towards the nearest house and dale raised the gun a second time and fired. The charge of heavy buckshot caught her just below the left shoulder, tearing a hole in her back LITTLE GAME OF CASINO nearly five inches in diameter. The victim fell forward on the grass and died couple of minutes later.

PULLED THE TRIGGER Dibsdale walked a few paces south-

ward and then placing the shot gun just above his heart pulled the trigger. A watch in the breast pocket of the coat eceived most of the charge, a few of he shot inflicting minor flesh wounds. When people who were near by rushed to the spot attracted by the three shots hey found the watch nearly red hot and dale's coat on fire from the gun.

"I did it, Bill, I did it. I couldn't lp It," was all that Dibsdale said, acto Near.

Dr. Lindsay and Dr. Huffman were mickly on the scene of the shooting. ing at a glance that the girl was nd human aid they turned their tention to Dibsdale. He was rushed o St. Joseph's Hospital, where his slight wounds were dressed and then e was taken to Victoria Hospital and ced in the steel cage.

To Coroner Mayor Wilson he made a tatement of the shooting, which may be men told the officer that they were only ead at the inquest which opens at noon -day in Logan's undertaking parlors. FOR TWO MONTHS

"Dibsdale has been coming to our use to see my sister for about, two onths.' said William Near, brother of the dead girl, to The Free Press. "He ppeared to be a respectable enough ing her very much about getting mard. She told him she was too young and he swore positively that there was to even think of it, but he would not no money there. take no for an answer and they had cently

P. C. Inch, of the motor cycle squad, had passed the scene of the shooting just a few minutes before. A hurry call was sent to the police station by neighbors, but people in the vicinity state that it was fully 15 minutes before This was apofficers arrived. rently due to a mix-up at the police tation, as the station constable. Sergt. Valsh, went out on a call to Adelaide nd Central avenue, some blocks from he scene of the fatality. In the mean-

time another call had been sent in and motor cycle constable was dispatched and headed for St. James and Adelaid treets. Sergt. Walsh saw him on his ay back to the station and followed and on his way picked up Constables Allgrove and Walsh.

People in the vicinity commented on what might have happened the call been one in connection ith bandits or an emergency call reutring an immediate chase. An invesgation may be made into the delay. OMING FROM WORK

Dibsdale met the girl as she was re rning from work. He walked south Adelaide street and when in front Thomas Foster, 857 Adelaide, near orner of St. James, stopped to talk A minute before he passed Waide and H. Insell, who were standing in front of Mr. Waide's home In addition, there is a considerable field due, it is alleged, on a promissory note at 865 Adelaide street. Mr. Insell re- for hotel workers and strawberry pick- dated to expire on November 9, last

rked that they had better go, as the ers.

he had shot the girl, but Dibsdale did rot answer or enter into any conversation. Last summer Miss Near saved the

life of a small child who had fallen in the north branch of the Thames and was in danger of drowning. Her bravery in connection with the matter was warmly praised.

bAIVIDLI wit:

Prove To Court No Money Was Used.

Constable Positive He Saw Sparkle of Silver.

Five local young men, charged with zens have \$60,000 taken from them by gambling in Thames Park on Sunday a sort of legal relief fund for gassing mpanies, and also when the teachers afternoon last, convinced Magistrate of our schools make no explanation over Gravdon this morning that Constable the disclosures abroad that some are Pope was mistaken when he said that paid twice for certain educational work. It is not the amount of the money, it he saw money being used in the game. is the principle. All these things argue

The men, Frank Steele, Robert Brown, Among the first to arrive was Will John Howe, Charles Raison and ear, an elder brother of the victim. George Smith, told the court that they were playing a friendly little game of casino

P. C. Pope testified that he saw the five defendants in Thames Park on Sunday afternoon. Four of the men were sitting down and the fifth was standing up. He rode over on his bicycle and when the men turned around he was certain that he saw the gleam of silver on the board being used by the men as a table. He stated that when he got quite close to them, they grabbed up Suit For \$4,000 Entered Against

comething which he believed to be money and left cards laying there. The playing "casino."

Frank Steele swore that only four of them were playing "casino." Smith was not playing at all. He stated that

Constable Pope should at them, Alec Leitch and James Gore, of "Leave the money there." The only thing the constable saw them pick up was some of the cards. He said that he and his companions got about half rt of chap. Lately he had been bother- the cards and the officer the remainder. They were just playing as a pastime

John Howe corroborated the evidence everal arguments about the matter of Mr. Steele. He declared emphatically that there was not a cent of money there. In support of the contention that it was cards which were picked up, the witness stated that the constable only got about half the cards. In dismissing the case, his worship pointed out that it was not a very creditable thing for the young men to loan was for the amount of \$20,000, e playing cards in a public place on

Sunday. It would have been wiser not to do it. There was no offense, however, unless they might be charged with being disorderly. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE ACTIVE.

of the Ontario department of agricul- plus interest. In the action before the ture show that the activities carried on court at present the plaintiffs, repreduring the month of May were an inrease on any previous months this year. seeking to get cancellation of that re-Help was given to 28 returned soldiers. three milk tests were made, 17 surveys

callers, and issued 119 bulletins and 386 circulars. LABOR OUTLOOK GOOD - It was

stated this morning at the local branch SUIT FOR \$569 NOTE - A writ has of the Ontario employment bureau that been issued in the case of Barton & the labor outlook is good, and prospects

Rumball versus George Target and Elare brighter than for a long time past. ton Malott, of St. Thomas, in which There is a big demand for out-of-town the former, who are the plaintiffs, repreworkers, domestic helpers and building sented in the action by Jarvis & trade workers being especially needed. ing, are suing for the sum of \$569.40,

siness on the market every Saturday. All veterans of the warr remember Many of these pay no rental nor any many preliminary lectures on how their uniforms were not to be disgraced, it being the King's uniform and otherwise "bawled him out" because he had dared honorable. But have this lesson brought

home to me in a new light yesterday. when a party of boyish scouts ride past me on bicycles and one of them suddenly exclaims to another; "Go to grocer intimated. hell!" Whereat I hear a man-who probably says worse things many times in a day-exclaim sarcastically: "Hmph! A communication from the Women's Christian Association asking the removal of five inmates of the Aged Peo-Scouts!" But for all his hypocricy ole's Home to other institutions was referred to Inspector McCallum and Dr. here is a thing our youths in the city

who love to distinguish themselves with Downham. strange clothes should pay heed to, to An explanation from Chairman Fetterley, of the court of revision, for the "They who mark themselves apart failure to attend a meeting recently was from the common bard, either of men boys, women or girls, are forthwith received and accepted. Mr. Feterley emanded more of than other people.' pointed out that he had been out of the city and failed to get the notice of the

Distinction brings its obligations, which, if violated, attract public censure. That meeting. is why a preacher who says "Damn!" over banging his thumb is considered a worse villain than Bluebeard.

proval of the committee members. This Much talk occasioned by the mayor flatly contradicting a social woman who vows that the city's morals are at clothes on June 1. The chief pointed a low ebb. The mayor and this lady

may be talking of something else, but we, too, consider our morals at a low ebb, the very lowest possible when citi-

GRANTS RECOMMENDED.

The following grants were recom mended to the Council. All are pro-

vided for in the estimates Victorian Order of Nurses, \$1,000, and \$300 which was placed in the estimates for the hunger strike because of lack of fem Waterways Association. No grant inine touch in their quarters.

C. A., \$300; Humane Society, \$100; Y. tors fear that it may spread throughout M. C. A., \$300, providing taxes are paid other congregations during summer this year; Y. W. C. A., \$100; Children's months. Aid Society, \$2,000; Day Nursery, \$300; 19.—Common Council of the Town of London Teachers' Association, \$75; St. Thomas pass ordinance compelling ondon Poultry and Pet Stock Associa- residents to cut their lawns out to the

tion, \$200; G. W. V. A., \$400; Western University, \$55,000; Trades and Labor center of the street. 20.-Twenty-seven new recruits Council, \$100; Sisters of St. Joseph, not ured for the army of June brides. Stores to exceed \$700, based on the number of selling diamonds and furniture report city patients cared for; Protestant Or- that business was never better. phans' Home, not to exceed \$700, on the 21.-Beech Park correspondent to Th

Home, not to exceed \$500, under similar and 21 ministers threaten to preach fire and damnation if modern Ananias

> sighted just outside the three-mile limit on Lake Erie. 22 .- Expedition hunting wildcat near

to

Canadian railways have not followed in the footsteps of the United States railroads in introducing a five-cent-an-

hour reduction in pay for maintenance of way employees and according to the officials of the United Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees they are not expecting the Canadian lines

under authority of a Town of Strathroy Maintenance of way men on all Canaby-law in 1909, to the furniture comdian railways have received an indirect pany, which was formerly known as wage cut through the abolishing of the the Colonial Furniture Company. The eight-hour day, and they feel that another wage cut on the top of this would repayable at the rate of \$1,000 per be unjust.

onditions as above.

A referendum vote is now being taken annum, plus the interest. were made until 1915, in among the Canadian men and if the which year, and the following three, agreement is rejected a protest will likely be filed with the department of no further money was received by

Strathroy from the defendants. In 1919, labor however, they paid the sum of \$2,000 The employees of the United States -Statistics issued by the local branch to the city and got a receipt for \$5,000 railways are taking a strike vote and drastic action may follow if the men do not approve of the reduction made sented by O. L. Lewis, of Chatham, are effective by the railways.

The wage schedule in the United States was previously 28 to 40 cents ceipt and recover the monies due. The defendants are being represented by an hour, and under the new agreement. conducted and eight meetings held. In J. M. McEvoy, of London, and Mayor introduced by the railways the men addition the department received 244 Dr. Bateman, who promised in his are receiving 23 to 35 cents an hour. J. M. McEvoy, of London, and Mayor election platform to attend to the mat-The men on the Canadian lines are being paid 28 to 40 cents an hour, but ter, is watching the case on behalf of the citizens. are not receiving a time-and-a-half for

the ninth and tenth hours

O'Brien College \$61 RICHMOND ST., LONDON.

Are you interested in telegraphy treless or commercial; bookkeening stenography, etc.? If so, join our day or night classes now. Individual in-(Next Savoy Hotel).

8 .- First Parliament held in Ottawa in 1866. Premier Mackenzie King laments other tax to the city. The grocer de-clared that the market clerk had far. far. 9.-Moon is full. Other planets chant

ing ill.

child.'

situation.

to send his wagon on the square one the chorus: "How in the world do you

market day to take some produce he had purchased. The clerk has his favorites, who may do anything, the while reading his morning mail. Inquest reveals fact that he had received rebate from Ottawa on his federal income tax.

11 .- Newspapers declare ban for the summer months on religious contro versies in the daily newspapers. Intiated that Queenstown rules will prevai in renewal of word harrages next fall.

12 .- Announcement is officially made that the Western Fair this year will be "Bigger and Better Than Ever." vation Army hold special service in the evening featured the rendition of

evening featured by the rendition of "Tell Me the Old, Old Story." 13.—Flies commence their summer The recommendation of Fire Chief Aitken that No. 4 hall be closed was drive for new members. Multiplication passed on to the Council with full apsystem is fully explained.

proval of the committee memoers, and will permit the reduction of the staff by six men, who were given notice some time ago. They will hand in their time ago. They will chand in their out that with the motor apparatus at the central hall there is no necessity for Wailing and gnashing of teeth in Ham-15 .- London ball team is perched of

ilton.

16 .- Campaign against bucket shop started in Canada. Several apprehen-sive Orientals and Greeks close their

17 .- Prisoners at county jail go o

will be made to the latter this year, be-cause it was deemed unnecessary at this time. Travelers' Aid of the Y. W. ported at service in local church. Pas-

same conditions, and the S. A. Rescue Free Press bestirs himself once more

is not ostracized. Bootlegging shark is **NO WAGE CUT FOR**

MAINTENANCE MEN Lambeth discover mascot in pretty black "pussy" with white markings on its

back. Each member of party sends suit to dry cleaners immediately on his re-

23.-Prominent Londoner donates notor boat to Canadian navy. Premier King reports that efficiency of squadron s increased 25 per cent. 24 .- London street cars and Huron & Bruce enter finals in world's snail competition. L. S. R. disqualified by customary overuse of reverse speeds.

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