

MAYOR PLANS POLICE FORCE CUT; CHIEF SILENT

MAYOR SUGGESTS FASTER WALKERS ON POLICE FORCE

More Speed Would Cut Ten Men From Personnel, He Says.

LENGTHEN BEATS

Will Have Something To Say When Police Estimates Are Considered.

Are there too many policemen in London? If so, could a reduction be accomplished without lessening the efficiency of the department? Mayor Wenige is under the impression that there is ample room for a consideration of this question, and gave assurance to The Advertiser today that this phase of municipal activity would claim the attention of the members of the city council when the police estimates for the year are submitted.

Estimates totalling \$124,069.91 were passed at the last session of the police commission, and include the purchase of a new patrol conveyance, additional motorcycles and two more constables.

That the personnel of the present staff of 55 could be reduced to 45, or even less, is the opinion of Mayor Wenige. Ald. Gordon Drake and other members of the city council agree with his wish in this respect.

"I have been given to understand," the mayor explained, "that we have an average of 64 sergeants for every man on the force. I am not positive as to the truth of this, but this seems quite an average."

"How could a satisfactory reduction of the force be accomplished without impairing the efficiency?" the mayor was questioned.

Little Speed, Please!

"The constables could walk quicker and patrol a larger area," his words responded. "Here is the proposition. Any person can try it out. Walk from The Advertiser to the city hall and back, and poke along as the constables do. It will give you an idea."

"Many of the police authorities of the more important cities of the United States have discovered this problem carefully, and they have concluded that it is better from every viewpoint if the officers are made to cover a larger area and a longer beat."

"From a physical angle alone, the officer who has to poke along is not nearly as fit for action as the one who has to walk. Of course, the one who has to walk is not nearly as fit for action as the one who has to run, but he can be a lot snappier than at present. He could cover twice the area at a reasonable gait, and be better for it physically."

No Serious Crime.

"The American authorities have given this question a lot of consideration, and they have decided that their men are a lot more active. Furthermore, it shortens the percentage of officers, and the public seeks a reduction in every department, as I sense it."

"Personally, I think that London, originally, is in a better position than it has ever been in. Of course, there are petty misdeemeanors from time to time, but otherwise, conditions are remarkably good."

Ald. Drake expressed the elimination of a number of the sergeants, urging the inauguration of the box telephone system, as in vogue in other communities. Constables on their beat automatically dispense with the services of patrol sergeants, as he points out.

The councilors from Ward 3 also urge the use of a couple of automobiles in lieu of additions to the motorcycle squad.

Chief Birrell Silent.

When told a movement had been started in city hall circles to cut his force by ten men, Chief Robert Birrell stated:

"I have nothing to say until such time as the matter comes up. That is their business."

It was explained to the chief that the idea was to lengthen the beats and have the men walk faster.

Chief Birrell remained silent, but no matter how long a man's beat was, he walked at the same pace.

ROBERT SHACKLETON, AUTHOR, DIES ABROAD

Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 26.—A cablegram from Mrs. Robert Shackleton to her brother, J. M. Fleming, in this city, announces the death of her husband in Hyevece, a village on the Mediterranean coast, France. Shackleton, who was 62 years old, was an author, magazine writer, and former newspaper man.

In recent years Mrs. Shackleton collaborated with her husband in literary work.

TRIES WINDOW CLEANING AS "SOB BALLADS" FAIL

Associated Press Despatch.



MEN OF ROYAL CANADIAN REGIMENT COMMEMORATE PAARDEBERG VICTORY. The Advertiser camera man was present at the Paardeberg celebration by the R. C. R. in Cronyn Memorial Church yesterday. At the top of the left is the band of the regiment on its way to the church. At the lower left the men entering the church door, and on the right General King, D.S.O., officer commanding this district, with some of the officers of the R. C. R., just as they were going into the church.

URGES OTTAWA WET OR HULL BE MADE DRY

Magistrate Millar Deplores the Conditions Existing in Quebec Border City.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 26.—In a scathing denunciation of conditions existing in the city of Hull, due to the floating population attracted to the city through the existence of beer and wine licenses, District Police Magistrate Roland Millar declared today that either there must be beer and wine licenses in Ottawa or else prohibition in Hull.

"With two cities as close together as Hull and Ottawa," continued the magistrate, "they should be on the same basis."

BRITISH ENGINEER DIES, MEXICO TRAIN WRECKED

Many Officials of Line in Hospital—Car Plunges Down Bank.

Associated Press Despatch. Mexico City, Feb. 26.—At least a dozen officials of the Mexican Railway, including Vincent W. York, chairman of the board, are in hospitals here today as a result of the wrecking of the train to which their special car was attached.

Mr. York's skull may be fractured. His wife is severely bruised.

The accident occurred at San Marcos Saturday. When the train was going from Vera Cruz to Mexico City, it left the rails and the private car plunged down a 50-foot embankment.

A. Deslave, a British engineer, was killed. The cause of the accident has not been determined.

GERMANY HEARS RADIO FROM UNITED STATES

Associated Press Despatch.

Lichterfelde, Feb. 26.—Germany for the first time on Saturday morning listened to a program of music transmitted by radio from the United States.

The experimental wireless station at Seefeld picked up the voice of Miss Edith Bennett, singing in a department store in Newark, N. J.

Survivor of Light Brigade To Be Given Private Burial

No Military Ceremony at Funeral of Thomas W. Shaw, Who Died in Victoria Hospital Sunday Morning.

Thomas W. Shaw, hero of the famous Light Brigade is dead.

He rode into the Valley of Death a second time at 6:20 o'clock yesterday morning, at Victoria Hospital, this time never to return.

And just as boldly and well as he did at Balaklava Shaw entered the valley, fighting all the way. Not two hours before his passing he gave up the uneven struggle.

For four days he fought, again and again, his battles against the Russian foe.

His last words were unintelligible. Two hours before death, he ceased his struggle, lay silent a few moments, and lapsed into unconsciousness.

Two daughters were with him when the end came.

Confined to Bed.

Yesterday afternoon they broke the news to Mrs. Augusta Shaw, his widow, as she lay in her cot at the aged people's home. The news was expected hourly by her. She had received her greatest shock a few days ago when word that he was dying reached her ears. On her return from the hospital Friday, she collapsed, and has been confined to bed ever since.

The funeral is to be held tomorrow afternoon, at 2 o'clock, from the home of the old hero's son, Thomas V.

BRITAIN WITHDRAWS SHIPS TO AVOID WAR WITH TURKEY

Admiralty, Hoping To Ease the Situation at Angora, Orders Warships From Smyrna Harbor.

Special Cable to The Advertiser. London, Feb. 26.—British warships were ordered today to withdraw from Smyrna harbor.

The admiralty here accompanied the order with the explanation that Britain hoped thus to ease the situation at Angora, where Turk militaries are clamoring for war. It is stated that the British "wish to help Mustafa Kemal overcome the extremists."

KEMEL IS PESTERED.

Constantinople, Feb. 26.—In the course of his long speech-making tour, in explanation of the people's party which he is founding, Mustafa Kemal was questioned by his hearers on everything from finance to religion. At Brussels, for instance, a man in the audience demanded to know whether the proposed statutes to national heroes were not in contravention of the Islamic law. Kemal replied in the negative.

"Since the prophet founded our faith," he said, "some 1,300 years have passed. When he was teaching his principles idolatry was still existing and it was necessary at the time to correct this tendency by forbidding statues." Kemal went on to say that it was impossible idolatry could return and asserted that all civilized peoples should erect statues and cultivate the art of sculpture inasmuch as a nation without art had no place in the world of progress.

Salisbury Spire Is Rudely Jolted

Modern Motor Traffic Threatens Historical Church.

Associated Press Despatch. London, Feb. 26.—Heavy traffic in the surrounding streets is threatening the famous spire of Salisbury Cathedral, the tallest in England. For 600 years the spire has reared its height of 404 feet out of the green valley of the Avon without visible signs of deterioration.

Engineers recently found, however, that it leaned 23 inches from the perpendicular. Vibrations from heavy motor traffic are believed to have caused this, and it will be necessary at once to begin the work of strengthening the foundation.

A police order has been issued prohibiting heavy trucking in the immediate vicinity of the church.

COMMONS WILL DISCUSS FOREST PRESERVATION

Canadian Press Despatch. Ottawa, Feb. 26.—Function of credit, preservation of Canada's forest wealth, and the Ukrainian question are scheduled to come before the house today, another day of private members' motions.

William Irvine, Labor member for East Carleton, will ask for appointment of a committee to study the function and control of financial credit.

BALFOUR IS TO RESIGN FROM NATIONS LEAGUE

Lord Robert Cecil Will Probably Be His Successor on World's Council.

Special Cable to The Advertiser. London, Feb. 26.—The Earl of Balfour, who represented Great Britain at the Washington arms conference, has decided to resign from the league of nations council, of which he is the British member, at the next meeting, it was reliably reported today.

Lord Robert Cecil, who is shortly to visit the United States, probably will be the earl's successor.

SOCIALIST CIRCLES REACT AGAINST MINERS' STRIKE

Associated Press Despatch. Brussels, Feb. 26.—Official Socialist circles are beginning to react strongly against the Belgian mining strike, started against the will of the union leaders and in violation, it is alleged, of agreements between the employers and employees, the movement being supported by the Communists.

Emile Vandervelde, Socialist leader, speaking at Charleroi, warned the miners against demands for justice, increased wages, which the consumers would be forced eventually to pay.

BERLIN DENIES CHANGES IN THE GERMAN CABINET

Associated Press Despatch. Berlin, Feb. 26.—In view of reports published abroad regarding proposals for neutral mediation in the Ruhr controversy, a change in the official attitude of the Berlin government and an impending cabinet crisis, it has been learned that Berlin has no information regarding such mediation, that the attitude of the government is unchanged and that speculation regarding changes in the cabinet is without foundation.

STUDY ITALIAN EMIGRATION.

Special Cable to The Advertiser. Genoa, Feb. 26.—Julius H. Barnes and a group of American financiers arrived here Sunday to make a study of Italian emigration to America and other economic problems of the two countries.

WILL NOT RESUME FIRE PROBE HERE, SAYS E. P. HEATON

No Need For Investigators To Return To London, Is His Opinion.

FIREBUG A JOKE?

Receives No Report on Alleged Ontario Street Incendiarism and Will Ignore It.

Unless there is a new turn to events in London, Ontario fire marshals will not return to the city, Fire Marshal Heaton told The Advertiser over long distance telephone from Toronto this morning. At present there is nothing of importance that would warrant his assistants, Mr. Jordan and Mr. Dingle, returning to London for an investigation.

If Chief John Aitken did conduct an investigation of the fire in a vacant house on Ontario street last week, no report of it was made to the fire marshal, Mr. Heaton says.

"That Ontario street fire was never reported to me as incendiary. In fact, I have had no communication at all about it from the chief," the fire marshal stated, "and I am not taking any notice of it."

When the fire-bug scare was at its height, Mr. Heaton sent two of his investigators to London. They remained a few weeks, but, despite the threatening letters broadcast by one signing himself as "Tony," nothing material developed.

Finally they were withdrawn, as the fire marshal thought the situation in London had been grossly exaggerated, and believed his men could spend their time more profitably elsewhere.

Shortly after they were withdrawn a small fire broke out in a vacant house on Ontario street. On the day of the fire, about twelve hours after the blaze had been extinguished, Chief Aitken told The Advertiser that he did not know the cause of the fire, and denied a report that he had said it was incendiary. On the following day he is alleged to have conducted an investigation and to have said someone started the fire.

Apparently the chief did not think it of sufficient importance to notify Toronto. In any event, Fire Marshal Heaton declared himself to be in the dark officially as far as the Ontario street fire is concerned. He said he had read a report in the newspapers about it, but had not even been notified, in the regular way that a fire had taken place.

JEW PUBLISH REPLY TO SOVIET STATEMENT

Declare Infractions Against Religious Liberty Comparable to Spanish Inquisition.

Associated Press Despatch. London, Feb. 26.—The joint committee of Jews has issued a reply to a statement by the soviet government of Russia, explaining its attitude toward the Jewish religion. Pious Jews, the committee declares, have been compelled to organize secret "tenets" to instruct their children in the "tenets of their ancestral faith." Many have been sent to prison for nothing more than imparting to their children the religious instruction.

The infractions against religious liberty are comparable to the edicts of the Spanish inquisition, the statement continued.

The soviet denied there has been any interference with worship in the synagogues or that there was any religious persecution in Russia.

Dives Into Sewer To Escape Arrest

Falls Into Hands of Police After Six Blocks Underground.

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 26.—After crawling six blocks through a sewer, Stanley Thomas, 27 years old, an alleged dope addict, known as "H-S," was arrested yesterday by police as he emerged from a manhole.

Thomas is charged with entering the jewelry store of Patrick J. Emory, Maryland avenue and Elm street, yesterday, and upon his departure taking three watches with him.

Yesterday Thomas again went to the store and was accused of the theft. He offered to prove his innocence by a man outside. Emory, for \$40,000 for breach of promise. She claimed her heart was broken by his failure to marry her after almost twenty years of alleged courtship.

Mr. Honsinger, who is a widower, and well past the half-century mark, denies that he promised to marry the woman. The hearing of the case begins with the opening this afternoon of the spring assizes of the supreme court at the court house in this city. The justice master of Toronto and a jury will hear the evidence. All St. Thomas is stirred with the prospect of a sensational case, and the interest has been deepened by the fact that Mr. Honsinger and Mrs. Pinfold are numbered among the prominent citizens of the city.

NORTH IRELAND GOVERNOR ENTERS BELFAST IN POM

Associated Press Despatch. Belfast, Feb. 26.—The Duke of Abercorn, recently appointed governor of Northern Ireland, made his entry into state to assume his office today. The procession moved along a route of five miles through Belfast streets, which had been elaborately decorated. The thoroughfares were lined with crowds despite a rainfall which caused the abandonment of the outdoor functions that had been planned. Business was suspended for the day and the schools had a holiday.

GEORGE DOUCETTE DEAD.

Canadian Press Despatch. Hamilton, Feb. 26.—George Doucette, aged 43, Bay street north, was seized with illness on the street this morning, and died in the ambulance while being taken to the city hospital.

SCHOOL BUILDING PLAN MAY BE CUT THIS YEAR

Four More Pupils in Each Room in City Would Make Board of Education's Program Unnecessary, Say Mayor and Alderman Judd.

Mayor Wenige and Ald. Albert Judd, chairman of the finance committee of the city council, would eliminate the entire board of education building program for the year.

This is how the mayor proposes that it should be accomplished, and Ald. Judd agrees with him: "Place four additional pupils in every schoolroom in the city if necessary." This suggestion will be made to the school trustees, they announce.

"If they have 44 students in a room where they have had 40, it should be quite satisfactory," the mayor contended. "As a matter of fact, I don't think that the teachers themselves would complain, probably not one per cent of them."

Squeeze Up a Little. Ald. Judd recalls the days when he handled 44 pupils, that it was not uncommon to have two grades in one room when the pupils sat two in a seat, and they assimilated every bit of much room education as today, if not more, he argues.

It was even their opinion that if the teachers would not be satisfied with the present situation, they should be relieved of their duties.

"Now will be a chance to earn these increases in salaries," commented the mayor.

Consulted upon the same subject, City Clerk Sam Baker, one-time principal of St. George's School, voiced the opinion, "that any full-blooded teacher would welcome a class of 50 pupils. He explains that it was not unusual for him to have larger classes than those of the present time, and to have two grades in one room. "And I accomplished my best results, too," he said.

It is self-evident that the mayor and members of the council are determined that the school board shall eliminate entirely its building program, if there is any possible avenue open.

PERRON CLUB MEMBERS GET CONFIDENCE VOTE

State Five Not Believed To Have Supported Conservative Candidate.

Canadian Press Despatch. Montreal, Feb. 26.—No action was taken by the directors of the Perron Club yesterday, when they assembled to consider the demand for the expulsion of five of their members on charges of having supported the Conservative candidate in the Mercer division during the recent campaign.

A session expressing confidence in the political integrity of the five members whose party loyalty had been impugned was passed unanimously. The Perron Club is a Liberal organization named after the Hon. J. E. Perron, provincial minister of roads.

CHARGE CHICAGO PACKERS WITH VIOLATION OF ACT

Associated Press Despatch. Washington, Feb. 26.—An attorney and Company and Morris and Company, Chicago packers, were today served by the secretary of agriculture with a complaint, charging them with violation of the packers and stockyards act in connection with the acquisition of the plants and business of Morris and Company by the Armour interests.

The secretary of agriculture is expected to file a hearing in Washington.

PREMIER KING DEPARTS TONIGHT FOR WINDSOR

Canadian Press Despatch. Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 26.—Premier King, accompanied by Hon. Ernest LaPointe, minister of marine, will leave tonight for Windsor, where he is to speak tomorrow evening in the interior of the province.

Mr. King will return to the capital on Wednesday.

\$40,000 Heart-Balm Suit Before Court At St. Thomas

Mrs. Rose Pinfold Sues Wealthy Manufacturer For Damages For Breach of Promise To Wed.

Special to The Advertiser by a Staff Reporter. St. Thomas, Feb. 26.—The value of an impressionable heart does not decrease with the passing of the years, according to Mrs. Rose Pinfold of this city, a widow. She is suing R. F. Honsinger, a wealthy cigar manufacturer, also of St. Thomas, for \$40,000 for breach of promise.

She claims her heart was broken by his failure to marry her after almost twenty years of alleged courtship.

Mr. Honsinger, who is a widower, and well past the half-century mark, denies that he promised to marry the woman. The hearing of the case begins with the opening this afternoon of the spring assizes of the supreme court at the court house in this city. The justice master of Toronto and a jury will hear the evidence. All St. Thomas is stirred with the prospect of a sensational case, and the interest has been deepened by the fact that Mr. Honsinger and Mrs. Pinfold are numbered among the prominent citizens of the city.

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS. Today—Moderate winds; cloudy, with light rain or sleet.

Tuesday—Northeast and north winds, with lower temperature.

High pressure is spreading towards the Great Lakes from the westward, while an area of low pressure is developing in the Mississippi Valley. The weather has become fairly mild in the Western Provinces and in Southern Ontario. Elsewhere it continues cold.

Temperatures. The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Victoria	48	34	Clear
Vancouver	42	24	Clear
Calgary	42	24	Clear
Winnipeg	38	16	Fair
Port Arthur	24	16	Cloudy
Sault Ste. Marie	26	22	Cloudy
Sault Ste. Marie	26	22	Cloudy
Toronto	28	24	Rain
Kingston	28	16	Snow
Ottawa	24	0	Cloudy
Montreal	18	8	Cloudy
Quebec	18	0	Cloudy
Father Point	18	6	Fair
St. John	20	6	Fair
Halifax	20	6	Clear

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were:

Highest, 37; lowest, 14.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Highest, 35; lowest, 27.

Barometric Readings. Sunday—3 p.m., 29.25.

Today—8 a.m., 29.17.