YOUR estate, whether large or small, will be administered more economically and to greater advantage by a Trust Company.

This experienced company has the staff and facilities to handle your estate promptly and efficiently.

Will forms free.

THE CANADA TRUST COMPANY

Managed in connection with the Huron & Erie Mortgage Corporation

London (two branches) and St. Thomas

T. G. Meredith, K.C., President — Hume Cronyn, General Manager

CIVIC LUXURY CRIME AGAINST BOYS DECLARES MAYOR SOMERVILLE IN INAUGURAL; ECONOMY FURNISHES KEYNOTE OF ADDRESS

Retrenchment to Make Good Boast "To Last Man and Last Dollar," Urged by New Chief Magistrate, Who Advocates Partial Assumption of Old L. and P. S. Debt by Railway Commission, Lower Water Discounts and More Equitable Assessments to Aid City's Financial Problems.

Mayor C. R. Somerville presented his inaugural address to the city council at its first session this morning at 11 o'clock, and it dealt with many important questions so far as the citizens are concerned.

The keynote is retrenchment. The mayor points out that Canada has entered the last and hardest period of the war. Economy must be exercised in every possible way, and his worship urges that the expenditures of all departments be reduced to the minimum.

This is especially true of debenture issues. The indebtedness of the city for capital investment is very heavy, and he advises that no debentures be issued unless it is imperative to do so. He advocates that no local improvements be constructed during 1918.

Assume Old L. and P. S. Debt.

His worship advocates the London railway commission assuming some portion of the old indebtedness of the London and Port Stanley. He also urges the utilities commission to restore the 50 per cent discount for water rates instead of the 40 per cent now in vogue. This would cause tenants to bear a greater share of the city's taxation.

Mr. Somerville goes into the question of assessments, and declares that where small houses assessed at $1,000 pay on 100 per cent of their value, large houses worth from $15,000 or more should pay equally as much taxes proportionately. A readjustment of assessments is advocated.

His worship comes out strongly in favor of a commission form of government. The citizens have spoken in an undoubted manner on this subject, and it is one that the council should deal with. He suggests that other municipalities be asked to co-operate and work out a scheme applicable to all.

Cut Out Useless Discussion.

A review of the vote cast on the various bylaws is given, and the mayor urges the council to deal with them all in a fair manner. He finds fault with the useless discussion of small matters in the council, and suggests that these be handled by committees alone.

The inaugural is given in full, as follows:

"I have much pleasure in congratulating you upon your election as members of the council of the corporation of the city of London. The majority of those present have had experience in the management of municipal affairs. To best serve the interests of the citizens, we should work together, each recognizing the other's equal responsibility.

WAR CONDITIONS.

"We are entering the hardest period of the war, but the period which will prove richest in decisive results. The urgency for tremendous economic effort on the part of our people is recognized. The battle is not only on the battlefield, but on the civilian forces at home. Every possible resource, from field and factory, from men and women, is needed. If our men were engaged in this life-and-death struggle in our home land, we would not be thinking of building pavements, or curbs, or sidewalks, or sewers, and burying our money in the ground, but we are as vitally interested in the results of this great struggle as if it were really being fought in our own country. Is this not so when we say that we are in this fight to the last man and the last dollar? Then let our people realize that their capital expenditures are sapping the energy and financial power required to meet the necessities of the war. The ordinary expenses of keeping our city running in a healthy, vigorous manner will be maintained in an economic way, but outside of that, everything should be entirely cut out.

Share Soldiers' Sacrifices.

"Let us take on us in some small degree, in curtailing expenditures, a share in the sacrifice our brave boys are making at the front. If we are not willing to do that, we are unworthy of such heroic bravery, such noble lives being offered, bringing undying glory to Canada on the battlefields of Flanders and France. To spend in luxury this year is a crime against our boys and against civilization.

TAX RATE.

"The tax rate has become a matter for serious consideration. The tax rate, however, does not show definitely the expenditures. A mill today yields much more than ten years ago. In 1908, a 30-mill tax rate would have produced $739,890, but today the same tax rate would raise $1,220,280. The tax rate in 1908 was 27½ mills and the amount actually raised was $542,586. This sum was 44 per cent of the amount raised in 1917, and showed an increase in expenditures of 128 per cent.

"In 1908 the amount expended by the committees of council was $219,061.44, and in 1917 the council expenditure was $326,305.47, an increase of 48 per cent. The increase in taxes, therefore, is not so much due to council expenditures as to the increase in expenditures of other departments.

How To Reduce Taxes.

"The tax rate may be reduced by:

"(a) An increase in revenue.

"(b) A decrease in expenditures.

"(c) The tax rate may be lowered by an increase in assessment.

"To affect the tax rate to any appreciable extent, it is essential that the assistance of the several spending boards of the city be secured.

"The revenue, other than that of taxes, may be increased by the council by legislation in the matter of license and rentals. The council of 1917, I understand, revised its license bylaw, and it is expected that the receipts from license fees will be considerably augmented.

$15,000 Paid to L. and P. S. R.

"It is possible that the London Railway Commission, by curtailing every capital expenditure not imperatively demanded, may be able to meet all or part of the bonded indebtedness of the London and Port Stanley Railway. The commission provided for the payment of its own debenture account, but the city still has to pay, annually, about $5,000 on account of the Port Stanley Railway debt.

"The public utilities commission, in 1913, increased the rate of discount to 40 per cent. If this rate were put back to 30 per cent, the tenants who pay water rates would assume part of the expense of government, and the tax rate would be reduced in the neighborhood of 1½ mills.

"It may be possible that some of the other boards may be able to suggest means of increasing their revenue, and these boards should be asked to consider the question.

"It has been suggested that a centralization and re-arrangement of municipal offices would bring about a reduction of expenditure. This is a matter, however, that must be given careful consideration. The members of the several boards should consider the matter, but until some form of commission government be adopted, little can be done in this line without co-operation of the boards interested.

Suggests Slice in Boards.

"The board having what they consider a fixed amount for expenditure—parks board and library board—might materially assist the council by demanding only one-half of the rate. The board of education, feeling the great importance of a low tax rate, may, I am sure, be relied on to keep their expeditures to the minimum.

"The suggestion has also been made that the garbage department be suspended for the winter months and the collection of garbage undertaken only in the summer season. As Victoria Hospital is heated from the incinerator plant, the matter should be carefully considered before action be taken.

"No new undertaking and no expenditures should be incurred by any board this year unless it be an absolute necessity.

"Increased assessment may affect the tax rate. The aim of the assessment should be to equalize assessment. If it be true that a house assessed for $1,000 is assessed for 100 per cent of its value, and the assessment of a $15,000 house is for 50 per cent of its actual value, there should be a reassessment in order that the burden of taxation may be more equitably borne.

DEBENTURE DEBT.

"I submit a comparative statement of debenture debt, and ask that you will give the matter serious consideration.

1898—General, $2,552,609.62; local improvement, $210,568.06; total, $2,763,175.68. Per capita, 71.6; amount issued, $165,284.70.

1908—General, $2,759,824.63; local improvement, $660,789.59; total, $3,420,614.22. Per capita, 71.6; amount issued, $420,451.54.

1916—General, $7,037,602.13; local improvement, $864,267.46; total, $7,901,868.59. Per capita, 136.11, amount issued, $1,152,137.14.

Amount of debenture debt, December, 1917, $8,287,445.91.

Debentures authorized but not passed—$130,000 London Railway Commission, and $150,000 (estimated) soldier and patriotic grants.

Fourteen per cent of the assessment as fixed in the city of London bill as the maximum of the city's indebtedness, would amount to $5,604,668.98. From time to time, the city of London bill has exempted certain debenture issue from the calculation covered by the 14 per cent limit.

An order-in-council of the 22nd of December, 1917, states in brief:

"WHEREAS, it is advisable that the Canadian investment market should be conserved to facilitate the borrowing of the large sums of money that will be required for the prosecution of the war, it has been declared unlawful within Canada, by or on behalf of any municipality, local government, commission, institution, corporation, to issue, sell, offer or advertise for sale any bonds, debentures or other securities unless the offer and sale thereof within Canada shall have been first approved by the minister of finance, by his certificate of approval in writing. Any contravention of this prohibition shall make liable to an imprisonment not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding $5,000.'

Keep Issues Down.

"I submit that the council of the city of London should resolutely determine that no issue of debentures be made in 1918 that can possibly be avoided. First—Because the debenture debt is becoming unwieldy. Second—Because it is our duty to bend all our energies for the successful issue of the great war. Third.—For several years debentures have been issued covering capital expenditures, but the debentures have not been sold but used as security for short date loans. This, in the fact of conditions during these years, was bad judgment. It is said they could not be sold. If that was the case, why continue to issue them? The first lot that could not be sold was a storm signal that should have prevented others being issued until a market was found. Money is fickle, and when we most need it, it is hardest to secure, and the taking care of these short loans will lead to severe losses to the city.

Millions Unsold Now.

"We have millions of unsold debentures now, and to incur capital expenditures and issue more is to speculate on the financial position of the world after the war, or during the war if it is prolonged, and the chances are all against us. The safe rule in municipal finance is, before you incur the liability, find out if you can properly finance it, and then sell the debentures immediately and pay the cost of the work. That is safety first. Fourth: Because the order-in-council of the 22nd of December, 1917, is intended to stop the issue of all debentures, excepting in cases of absolute necessity. Fifth: The cost of construction of local improvements will be at least twenty-five per cent higher than in 1917, and these costs will be charged to the ratepayers.

CO-OPERATION OF DEPARTMENTS.

"All members elected by the council are equally responsible for the discharge of their several duties, and all have identically the same purpose in view. The only solution of our difficulties will be by unanimous, whole-hearted and sympathetic action. There should be no jealousy or quibbling as to power. I suggest that, at a meeting of all spending boards of the city, a general policy of city activities for 1918 be fully and unreservedly discussed and decided. The people, by vote, have expressed their approval of a commission form of government. By consent of each and every board, the objects set out by the commission form of government may be secured by voluntary co-operation in determining the tax rate for the city of London.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

"All matters of detail, and not of major importance, should be dealt with in committees. The council should be more of a legislative body than an executive. There would then be more time for the discussion of the more important of city matters. The strict observance of the rules of the council as to procedure will not only facilitate the dispatch of business, but give less room for personal bickering. I confidently ask every member of the council to assist in the maintenance of proper decorum and business-like management of the meetings of council.

BYLAWS.

"Three bylaws were submitted to a vote of the ratepayers, and the opinion of the citizens was given in unmistakable terms.

"For commission form of government 10,[illegible] voted 'yes' and 2,265 voted 'no.' There are many forms of commission government. That suggested by the clerk contemplates combining the existing boards into one council for the purpose of determining the tax rate and municipal policies, leaving the executive control absolutely in the hands of the existing boards. That of Controller Moore is along the same lines, but includes a commission elected by the city at large to share the executive functions with the several boards. The enlargement of the powers of the board of control has been suggested. What the ratepayers want is a commission with power to control the tax rate and compel co-operation and co-ordination of departments.

Formulate Commission Plans.

"I suggest that No. 1 committee and Controller Moore consider this matter, consult with other municipalities and then formulate a scheme which would be likely to be favorably considered by the Legislature. The views of the council could then be presented to the Legislature in order that the municipal act may be amended to give the council such powers as may be necessary to accept the commission form of government in London.

"The ratepayers, in voting for taxation of exempted properties, may have been influenced by a desire to tax industrial properties now enjoying a fixed assessment, and it may be that the desire was to secure taxation from the 'unearned increment' of increased value of tracts of land held by churches and the government as vacant land. The whole question is one which I believe the Government will only consider in relation to the whole province. It will therefore be necessary to petition the Legislature, presenting such facts as may be necessary in its favor. On this question 5,678 voted 'yes' and 1,[illegible] voted 'no.'

Last Year of Controllers.

"On the abolition of the board of control, 4,776 voted for and 2,616 voted against. It will be the duty of the council to pass this bylaw and this will be the last year of the board of control.

"The bylaws submitted to a vote of the ratepayers on certain grants showed that the people were in favor of the Salvation Army grant of $5,000 and the $600 to the Victorian Order of Nurses. The council will no doubt provide for the payment of the two grants approved. It is well to remember, however, that the vote on the grants is simply an expression of opinion and not binding on the council. The vote on the bylaws stood as follows:

$5,000 to Salvation Army—4,263 'Yes' and 3,459 'No.'

$600 to the Victorian Order of Nurses—4,121 'yes' and 3,462 'no.'

$1,000 to the Y. M. C. A.—3,369 'yes' and 4,252 'no.'

$1,000 to the Y. W. C. A.—3,350 'yes' and 4,239 'no.'

REFERENCE TO COUNCIL OF 1918.

"A number of matters were referred by the council of 1917 to the 1918 council.

"The clerk will submit the correspondence relating thereto, and these matters should receive attention from the council. The following are of special importance:

(1) Local Improvement Bylaws. The report of No. 2 committee proposes local improvement work, I am told, sufficient to cover a five-year period. I am of the opinion that none of these bylaws should be passed, but, in any event, the work should only be undertaken on a petition of the ratepayers and not by a two-third vote of the council.

(2) Auditors. Two applications were received for appointment as auditors in response to an advertisement issued by the 1917 council—from the present auditors, Messrs. Dale and Screaton, and Messrs. Higgins & Co. of Toronto.

"The application of the Western University for a grant of $20,000, the Soldiers' Aid Commission for a grant of $1,000 and the issue of $130,000 debentures, authorized by the council of 1917, for the London railway commission, and $100,000 for storm sewer purposes, are matters of vital importance, and the council should take some definite stand upon these questions.

The heating of the east end hall is another matter that the council should arrive at some positive decision as to their determination to make expenditures on city buildings.

BEATTY BROS.' SWITCH AND BRIDGE.

"Beatty Bros. have commenced the erection of their foundry and works in Chelsea Green. This firm was promised switch privileges and a footbridge across the river. This industry promises to become one of our leading industries. Unfortunately, there has been considerable delay in getting the switch and bridge constructed, and unless steps be taken to completely carry out the agreement with the firm in good faith and as speedily as possible, the results may be serious. I suggest that the proper committee will take this matter up at once and bring it to a successful conclusion.

GREATER PRODUCTION.

The council's action in connection with community gardens and the splendid work of the various societies of the city gave promise of good results last year. In view of the fact that the Allies are in need of food supplies, it is very desirable that the committee of the council having supervision of this work shall take steps to formulate plans for 1918.

Yours faithfully,
C. R. SOMERVILLE,
Mayor.

NURSES BRING BACK TERRIBLE TALES OF HALIFAX SUFFERING

Eight Sisters Reach London After Disaster Duty.

HUNDREDS OF EYES LOST

Many Surviovrs Are Totally Blind—Kiddies Buried for Days.

Eight nursing sisters attached to the A. M. C. at Wolseley Barracks have returned to the city after serving for some time in connection with the munitions disaster at Halifax.

The London nurses were kept in constant action from the time they arrived until the situation was well in hand. The most harrowing stories are recounted of little children being lost to all, their parents killed, and the kiddies buried for days in the debris of houses.

What the London nurses describe as most pitiful as all were the "eye cases." Hundreds of eyes were either lost or injured by those who survived the disaster. Some are totally blind, others have lost one eye, while the sight of some has been saved.

TO PREVENT THE GRIP.
Colds cause Grip—LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets remove the cause. There is only one "Bromo Quinine." E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 30c. tf-law-z

EVERY CITIZEN HAS DUTY TO COMMUNITY

Rev. Dr. Barber Speaks On Being "Struck Dumb."

A much-appreciated sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. Louis Barber, pastor of the Colborne Street Methodist Church, at the anniversary services held at the church Sunday evening.

Dr. Barber took for his subject "Struck Dumb." He said that many people are overcome with dismay, or in other words struck dumb when called upon to perform services to the community for which they are specially fitted. Dr. Barber declared that every man, according to his abilities, is obliged to perform service in the interests of the general public during his life. Whether he is a laborer or a financier, each and every citizen is obligated to the community to do good to that community. As an illustration of his point, the speaker recounted the story of the bridegroom who, arriving at the wedding without the proper costume for such an occasion, was struck dumb when asked why he had not conformed with the custom of the time by wearing a proper wedding suit.

"There are many people just like the bridegroom," Dr. Barber said. "They take upon themselves to reap the benefit of their knowledge and actions, but are dumfounded when called upon to allot the benefit of their knowledge for the general public. If a man accepts the privilege of living a certain kind of life, which through his own personal efforts he is enabled to live, he is nevertheless obligated to the public according to his means, and should fulfill his obligations."

Referring to the work of the church during the past two decades, Dr. Barber said that it has devolved upon it, in the performance of its obligations to the public, to enter many spheres of service which were formerly considered unconventional and ill considered to talk about. Much criticism has been borne by the church for its activities in social service, its influence in national and political questions and its denunciations of what it considers evil. Despite criticism, however, the church will continue to combat all influences which tend toward evil or evil conditions, the speaker declared.

"The church was never so much needed as it is at the present time," Dr. Barber asserted." Big men were never so much required as at the present, and all religious denominations should use their influence to see that the right men are placed in the right positions of municipal and national trust."

COUPON
Soldiers-Sailors
DIARY and ENGLISH-FRENCH DICTIONARY
Distributed by the
THE LONDON ADVERTISER
ONE COUPON AND 75c SECURES THE BOOK
PRESENT THIS COUPON together with purchase price and the books yours.
MAIL ORDERS add for postage and handling within 300 miles five cents, greater distances ten cents.
Send One to the Boy—Keep One at Home!
THE DIARY for recording individual war experiences is the most serviceable book in existence and always will be a most cherished possession.
THE DICTIONARY Self-pronouncing by Sound-spelling Method which exhaustive tests prove so simple that even a child readily acquires French with correct accent.
Bound in Textile Leather, Gold Edges, Gold Stamped, Pocket Size

Frozen Pipes Were Water, Not Bronchial; 'Absentee' Turns Up

Few Little Humorous Features of the Big Tie-Up.

A London newspaperman was unable to report for duty on Sunday. He called the office and said, "The cold has got to my pipes." As he is an occasional sufferer from bronchial trouble, the remark was taken literally, or rather unliterally.

He turned up this morning. "Thought you said the cold had got to your pipes; we weren't expecting you today," said the man who had received the Sunday message.

"Oh, you mutt. I meant the cold had got to my water pipes, and I was trying to thaw them out," said the asthmatic one. "My pipes are fine."

Strange as it may seem the demand for ice during the late blizzarfd was just as brisk as it has been at any time in the past two weeks. Icemen with exceptional cold-resisting powers, worked full time on Saturday supplying apartment houses, the barracks, hotels and large houses in the city. One local ice company reports that every iceman employed Saturday had some part of his anatomy frozen.

SMALLMAN & INGRAM LIMITED

THE WEATHER
FAIR AND NOT SO COLD.

IMPORTANT SALE OF
TABLE LINEN SECONDS

327 Guaranteed Pure Linen Cloths

In the face of market conditions this sale is doubly significant, and it is certain that while such conditions exist it will be absolutely impossible to procure linens of this quality at anything like the figures we are able to offer this purchase of seconds at.

Purchased nearly a year ago at the then prevailing quotations mean greater savings. The critical quotations is equivalent to half price now. The critical state of the linen market, with supplies nearly exhausted, and the tremendous demands of the British Government controlling the whole flax supply, threaten to completely cut off surplus stocks. Buy linens now while they are to be had, and take advantage of this sale Tuesday. Briefly listed are sizes and prices. See window display.

24 only Fine Satin Damask Breakfast Cloths, 1¾x1¾. Sale price $3.19

CLOTHS, SIZE 2x2 YARDS.
18 only. Sale price ..... $2.98 each
7 only. Sale price ..... $3.19 each
4 only. Sale price ..... $3.78 each
40 only. Sale price ..... $3.98 each
8 only. Sale price ..... $4.48 each
24 only. Sale price ..... $5.33 each

CLOTHS, 2x2½ YARDS.
16 only. Sale price $3.69
20 only. Sale price $4.48
58 only. Sale price $4.98
3 only. Sale price $5.33
3 only. Sale price $6.50
3 only. Sale price $6.75

CLOTHS, 2x3 YARDS.
7 only. Sale price $4.98
14 only. Sale price $5.48
12 only. Sale price $5.95
5 only. Sale price $6.75
5 only. Sale price $7.50

A few odd half-dozen Table Napkins at reduced prices.

One-Third Off Upholstering
Send in your worn upholstered furniture now and have it re-covered. Take advantage of this January reduction. Phone and we will send a man to your home to estimate the cost.

CLOTHS 2¼x2¼ YARDS.
8 only. Sale price $5.33
4 only. Sale price $6.48
1 only. Sale price $6.78

CLOTHS, SIZE 2¼x2½ YARDS.
1 only. Sale price $5.69
1 only. Sale price $11.25

CLOTHS 2¼x3 YARDS.
6 only. Sale price $6.95
2 only. Sale price $9.00
2 only. Sale price $11.50

CLOTHS 2½x2½ YARDS.
3 only. Sale price $4.95
19 only. Sale price $5.95
2 only. Sale price $6.78
1 only. Sale price $7.95
1 only. Sale price $11.00
1 only, size 2x3½ yards. Sale price $7.50

About 8 dozen odd Napkins in seconds at.... 49c each

Tomorrow---Last Day For Special Skirt Orders
Made, Trimmed and Fitted, $1.89

Only once a season does this opportunity present itself. We now have sufficient orders to keep us busy over the midwinter season, but to give anyone who may not have found it convenient to place their order sooner, we make this announcement, and no orders will be taken after tomorrow at this special price. The styles are smart and the materials are your own choosing—silk, velvet, black and colored dress goods, any price.

SEE STYLES IN DRESS GOODS SECTION—Four smart models are shown here, made up of materials from stock, showing your skirt finished. If you need an odd skirt for now or later, take advantage of this opportunity. Tomorrow last day. Made, trimmed and fitted $1.89

JANUARY CLEARANCE.
Wall Paper sales will continue this week. Rooms decorated complete, $5.00 and $7.00.—Third Floor

SMALLMAN & INGRAM LIMITED

MANICURE AND CHIROPODY PARLORS.
Let our experts take care of your nails and feet. Best service, least cost.

DOCTORS TOILED ON SUNDAY RUSHING DRAFTEES' EXAMS

Men Are Being Re-examined for Overseas Fitness.

Six recruits from across the border, and three from this district, made a total of nine men attested at the local mobilization centre at the armories on Saturday.

One man who surrendered himself after having so far evaded the military service act, was found to be in Category A, and will march in the ranks of the 1st Depot Battalion, W. O. R., No apprehended men were examined, and none were sent by the Deputy registrar for examination.

The "hoarding" of the drafted men of the 1st Depot Battalion, W. O. R., to ascertain their fitness for overseas service was continued on Sunday, in order to complete the job in the shortest time possible.

The following are the recruits: E. E. Hicks, Pontiac; L. K. Hunter, Detroit; F. H. McKeever, Grand Rapids; J. M. McGrath, Cleveland; H. M. Liddy, Detroit; G. Harrison, Pontiac; H. G. Herman, London, all of whom went to the W. O. R. T. Walker, London, went to the Royal Flying Corps, and E. Lewis, London, to No. 1 Detachment Military Police.

Continued From Page One

NO TRAINS UP BRUCE

before on the main lines for from three to five hours, but this is the first time the main lines have ever been tied up for over 24 hours."

Worst Since 1900.

Supt. Forrester said the only other storm that could compare with the one just passed was the blizzard on March 4, 1900, the day that Ladysmith was relieved.

In many cases trains held in snowbanks have frozen to the tracks, and will have to be picked loose, as locomotive power will have no effect in moving them. This will entail an enormous amount of work.

Not Normal Until Saturday.

It is expected it will take the remainder of the week to completely clear all the lines and switches, and not until Saturday are normal conditions expected to again prevail.

Train No. 11, from Niagara Falls, arrived at noon today. No. 18 from Toronto due here Saturday night, arrived at 3:20 o'clock this morning. Supt Forrester was aboard this train. Three of the Grand Trunk's most powerful locomotives, preceded by a snowplow, were used to force a way through for this train.

Train No. 12, from Windsor, due here at 10:15 o'clock this morning, arrived only ten minutes late.

Thirty of the some 200 passengers who were stalled on Grand Trunk train No. 13 at Woodstock from late Saturday night until Sunday afternoon, are being housed at the Dominion Hotel here by the Grand Trunk. The majority of them expected to resume their journey today.

Praise Conductor.

The passengers were loud in their praise of the work of the Grand Trunk officials in their efforts to care for them at Woodstock. In this connection, Conductor Fred E. Crone, a Toronto man, who was in charge of No. 13, comes in for high praise.

Addie Richardson, Hamilton's well-posted and famous baseball statistician, was one of the passengers. He states that Conductor Crone labored from 12 to 3 a.m. on Sunday morning getting passengers and their baggage from the stranded train to the buses and to the hotels and seeing that they were comfortably housed. He did everything possible and when the train again left Woodstock the passengers, one and all, thanked him. Mr. Richardson expects to go on to Strathroy today for a few days' visit.

No Stratford Trains.

There will be no train on the Stratford branch today at least. Cuts must be shovelled out and switches cleared first.

The efforts of railway officials are being concentrated today on clearing the main lines and releasing fuel trains stalled at different points along the lines and on the Niagara frontier.

Grand Trunk trains for Windsor, Sarnia and Niagara Falls left early this morning.

Trains number 75, 18 and 6, held in snowdrifts between here and Sarnia, were released late last night, and reached Sarnia. Other trains held in drifts will be moved as quickly as the snowplows and shovellers can make a way.

C. P. R. Got Through.

On the C. P. R. the first train left for Windsor at 10:45 o'clock Sunday night and reached there some hours later after a hard battle with the snow. The train was preceded by a snowplow, to which two engines had been attached.

The second train left at 9 o'clock this morning for Windsor, followed a few hours later by one for Toronto.

Although the main line of the C. P. R. is open, all the branch lines are tied up yet.

The Traction line snowplow and shovellers are out in force today clearing this line to Port Stanley.

Never in the history of the railroads have the lines been subjected to such a complete paralysis of traffic as that which has prevailed during the past 48 hours. Snowstorms and blizzards of other years have resulted in delays but the experience of an absolute tie-up for a day and a half is something new in the annals of railroading of this district. As a result of the storm the railroads will sustain losses that will mount up to many thousands of dollars.

But Two Trains Arrive.

But two trains arrived in the city from noon Saturday on the Grand Trunk until 9 o'clock today. Train No. 169, which left Stratford at 10 o'clock Saturday morning, reached the city at 8 o'clock the same night.

Train No. 12, due in the city at 11:15 Saturday morning, arrived here at 5:18 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Vice-President U. E. Gillean of Detroit was in his private car attached to this train. He is still in the city assisting in directing the clearing of the road.

Sixteen locomotives were stalled between this city and Sarnia. Passenger trains imprisoned in drifts have in some cases been abandoned when the coal and water supply became exhausted. The passengers in such cases were removed to nearby farm houses, where they are being provided with lodging and meals, the expenses being defrayed by the railroad company.

The stalled engines on the Sarnia branch represented those attached to passenger and freight trains. Snowplows and light engines attempted in vain to buck the snowdrifts and release stalled trains. Herculean efforts were made by the crews to get their trains through, but the snowdrifts increased with such intensity that faster than the plows threw the snow aside the cuts filled in.

A stock train stalled for several hours between Ingersoll and Woodstock. Finally by the aid of two snowplows the train reached Woodstock, but one pig dying on the way.

Six Stalled on Paris Branch.

Six trains were reported stalled on different G.T.R. branches between here and Paris. In several instances snowplows have been lost between stations and up to a late hour no trace has been secured of their location.

Train No. 75, known as the Sarnia accommodation, which left the city at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon instead of 7:40 in the morning, reached Watford and was unable to proceed any further until 11 o'clock on Sunday night. The passengers were cared for at the hotels.

Train No. 28, a heavy passenger train which left here at 6:05 Saturday morning, was still stalled in the snow between Milton and Weston last night. On board were 150 passengers.

Did Not Touch Wrecks.

As a result of such extraordinary conditions, the wrecking trains dispatched to Chatham, Paris and Mimico had at a late hour last night been unable to reach the scene of the wrecks. The wreckers reached the scenes early today.

Every available locomotive on the Grand Trunk System has been attached to snowplows in an effort to break through and release some of the imprisoned trains.

The Wabash and Michigan Central railroads had similar difficulties, due to the blizzard.

Wabash train No. 15, due at Glencoe at noon on Friday, reached Chatham at 8 o'clock Sunday night.

Stalled Eight Miles Out.

On the C.P.R. one train left the city at 4:20 Saturday afternoon for Windsor. With a number of passengers aboard, the train proceeded half way to Thamesford, and then went "dead" in a heavy drift. Every effort was made to back the train to the city, but in this the crew was unsuccessful. Food was taken in sleighs to the passengers who remained in the cars all night. The train was finally brought back to the city at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon, after having traveled a total distance of eight miles in 24 hours.

The blinding storm resulted in four G.T.R. wrecks and the complete loss for several hours of one train. At Mimico three were killed, at Chatham three were badly injured, and in the London East yards three hurt in collisions Saturday afternoon

Reliance Garage
Service Station

FIG SEN
MAKES IT EASY FOR YOU TO KEEP FIT
The Sure but Gentle Laxative
10¢ 25¢
Nyal Quality Stores

FUR REDUCTION.
Our large stock of furs of all descriptions must be closed out. Our prices are marked down. Drop in and see. Also a reduction on remodelling and repairing.
B. SHAPIRO
Successors Western Fur Company.
324 Dundas. Open Evenings. Opposite Armories. ZXT