

BOARD OF CONTROL TO ELIMINATE GRAFTERS

Ald. Richter Outlines a Scheme Which Would Centralize Control of All Municipal Departments and Offices.

WIRE-PULLING BY CONTRACTORS WOULD BE DONE AWAY WITH

Thousands of Dollars Would Be Saved and the City Could Go Ahead on Good Roads Policy, Not Being Delayed by Water Commission.

The citizens of London on two occasions have declared for the principle involved in the board of control bylaw to be found on the ballot paper on New Year's Day.

Last year an overwhelming vote in favor of commission government was recorded. The vote was as follows:

For ..... 4,300  
Against ..... 1,388

Majority for ..... 2,912

The plebiscite, which was inaugurated by Ald. Richter, and upon which he prepared several papers, was taken in the hope that the Ontario Government would permit cities to adopt the system. The Government has not seen fit to do so, however.

Board of Control Vote.

In 1910 the citizens were asked to declare themselves upon the board of control idea, and the vote was as follows:

For ..... 3,131  
Against ..... 2,215

Majority for ..... 916

At the time this vote was taken London was not able to adopt the system of government, but the act now permits the city to establish a board of control.

While a board of control and government by commission are entirely different, the principle is largely the same. Both work for the centralization and direct control of all civic departments. A board of control would do most of the work of conducting the city's business, just as an executive committee of any board of directors usually transacts most of the routine and detail of a bank or a mercantile house.

A Great Investigator.

Ald. Richter, who in his three-years' term has worked consistently to have the control of the city centralized, and who has been investigating the best means to be adopted, has advanced the board of control bylaw as the best means of bringing business-like administration into the conduct of the city's affairs.

Ald. Richter believes that there are many benefits to be derived from the inauguration of such a system, and in an interview with The Advertiser he outlined some of the advantages.

"At the present time the council is not in direct touch with the affairs of the city," he said. "There should be some means of centralizing the control in a body of intelligent men, so that each of those men would have at his fingers' ends the whole affairs of the city. The idea would be to secure the best businessmen the city has, and the yearly remuneration allowed—\$1,500—would pay these men something for their time, just as they would be paid if acting as directors of a company. They would have charge of practically everything that concerns the city.

"The city of London spends approximately one million dollars a year, and it is my conviction that in the past hundreds of thousands have been lost to the city by carelessness. Slack methods exist in many of our departments, and sometimes you will find a man in the mayor's chair or in the council who knows absolutely nothing about conducting city business. The city council is not a place for bumpkins or inexperience. We should have the pick of the city's men conducting its business, and it is very hard to get twelve aldermen, a majority of whom will devote the time or the attention required to the city's business. There is great carelessness and inexperience in every council in London and the surrounding cities.

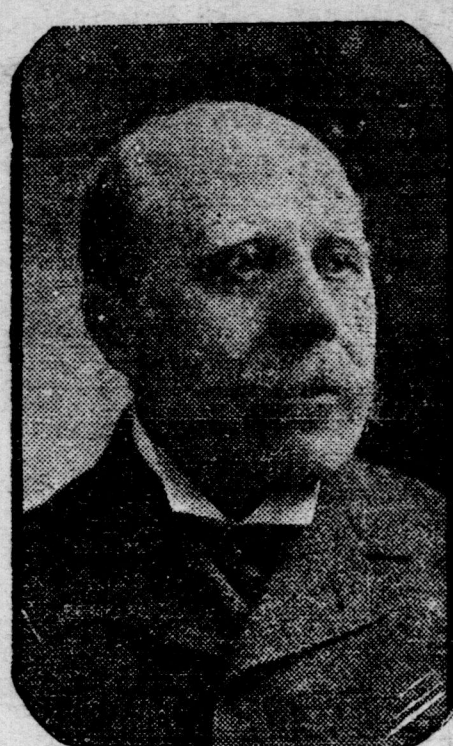
"If the city of London had four able men as controllers they would find themselves bound to give the city's affairs the closest of attention, and this would mean all the affairs of the city, not part of them.

More Efficient Service.

"The city could not fail to receive more efficient service than it receives at the present time, and this alone all the means of bringing business-like ad-

His Middle Name Is Investigation

WHEN a businessman receives a prospectus from a company in the early stages of organization, he looks into the proposition, and upon his investigation depends whether the document is filed away or goes to the waste-paper basket.



ALD. J. G. RICHTER.

"I believe in first finding out the need, then to apply myself to the means, and after that to work to an end," he said to a newspaperman.

Ald. J. G. Richter has been the man to look over the prospectuses that have been presented to the city of London, and upon his judgment the city has usually acted.

Richter is the one man who in the last three years has given the city of London the benefit of his investigations.

And he has not given up. He is still investigating.

His investigations run along the lines of bringing the truth to light, and bringing progress to the city in which he lives. He has the most advanced ideas of city government, and believes in direct contact with the city's affairs. He has no interest to serve, no bone to pick, no axe to grind. He is courteous to all kinds of people. He does not go around with a chip on his shoulder, but he has a keen eye for the herring dragger and the backstairs workers. He won't be bluffed, and 12-inch guns look like peashooters to him, if someone is trying to be unreasonable.

Since he entered public life he has had the hearty co-operation of citizens and press. He has been the most commended man in London, and commendation is not a thing he seeks or cares about for itself alone.

Richter is working toward a goal that he hopes will make London as nearly a model city as possible. He comes of the people who work with their hands, and his heart is with the citizens as a body of neighbors, working for the mutual best interest.

ARE FARMERS HOLDING BACK THEIR POULTRY?

Dealers Claim Sons of the Soil Are Looking For Large Price at Christmas

BIRDS WILL LIKELY BE LITTLE HIGHER

From 21 to 22 Cents a Pound Paid For Dressed Birds on Square Today.

There was considerable difference in the opinions of the farmers and produce dealers on the local market today in regard to the prices of poultry that will prevail at the Christmas markets on Saturday and Tuesday.

Several of the farmers said that the prices would not be any lower than at present, and perhaps they might advance 1 or 2 cents per pound for dressed poultry.

The supply has been almost exhausted by the shippers, who bought up a large portion of it two or three weeks ago for the demand in the Northwest. The dealers state, however, that the farmers are holding back until Christmas in order to get better prices.

Looking for Low Prices.

"The farmers are undoubtedly holding back until Thursday, Saturday and Tuesday," was the opinion of one dealer. "On those days they will see a much larger size of offering than any day to date, and I expect the prices will be somewhat easier. Another dealer thought that the farmers had a fair supply on hand, but that the demand of the citizens would be such that the prices would not change.

"I think that the prices prevailing today will be the ones that the majority of sales will be made on. Saturday and Sunday, especially, will be about the same, about 21 and 22 cents per pound for dressed birds."

A lady from Delaware who had a large supply of turkeys this morning, and who was selling them at 22 cents per pound, said that she was of the opinion that the prices at Christmas would be 1 or 2 cents higher than those prevailing at present.

Demand From the West.

"There have been so many more turkeys shipped to the west this season that the demand can hardly be satisfied with the supply in this district. The prices this year are a few cents higher than those which prevailed last year, but this is due to the higher cost of meat. All the different kinds of meat are higher this season, and the cost of the turkeys with the cost of meat. I think that the prices on Saturday and Tuesday will be 23 and 24 cents per pound. In our neighborhood the supply of turkeys was about the average, but the buyers representing the big shippers have made great inroads on the supply for the London market. I do not think the farmers are holding back as the price paid by the shippers was a very good one, and to dispose of the turkeys in this manner is considerably easier for the farmers than bringing them into market."

ANNEXATION OF SUBURBS UP ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Ald. Spittal Is Confident That Pottersburg and Ealing Will Be Taken In.

The annexation of Pottersburg and Ealing will be finally settled by the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board in Toronto on Wednesday. Word has been received here today that the final disposition of the petitions will be made at that time.

As a result, a batch of affidavits were forwarded to Toronto to be presented to the board. These documents are from property-owners whose names are not on the assessment rolls, but who have been owners of land in these suburbs for some time.

Ald. Spittal, chairman of the manufacturers' committee, is confident that the results will be favorable.

"I feel quite confident that annexation will be consummated on Wednesday afternoon," declared Ald. Spittal. "The bad condition of the assessment rolls of London Township is not more than the amount of our own fault, and I think we can show a clear majority of the property-owners of the sections named in favor of annexation."

JUDGE MACBETH ORDERS THAT BAIL BE ESTREATED

Court Decides to Push Case Against Alfred Hall to the Limit.

Judge Macbeth this morning ordered that the bail in the case of the King vs. Alfred Hall, which amounts in all to \$3,000, be estreated, and proceeds for the collection of \$1,500 from Hall's estate, \$750 from his wife, and a like amount from A. H. Brenner, were issued.

Hall, who was a drayman, was arrested some months ago on a charge of having attempted an indecent assault upon a little blind girl whose mother had hired him to move her furniture. Hall, while awaiting trial before Police Magistrate Judd was released under the sureties mentioned, but did not appear when called upon. Since then efforts to locate him have failed. Hall's estate is believed to be worth more than the amount of his personal recognizance, while his wife and Mr. Brenner will also be compelled to pay up.

NEW CARTAGE TARIFFS SET BY COMMISSION

Fifty Cents Per Ton and 15c for "Smalls" at Points Outside Montreal and Toronto.

[Canadian Press.]

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—New cartage tariffs of 50 cents per ton, and 15 cents for packages known as "smalls" were today fixed by the railway commission at the conclusion of the hearing of the application of the railways to issue tariffs of 60 cents per ton, and 20 cents for "smalls" at Toronto, Hamilton and Montreal, and 50 cents per ton, and 15 cents for "smalls" at other points.

The shippers made a compromise offer of 55 cents on some classes, and 45c on others of "smalls," and 15 cents on "smalls," so the decision splits the difference.

PEACE CONFERENCE STRIKES A SNAG

Hitch Over Absence of Greece's Signature to Armistice Protocol.

REFERRED TO THE GOVTS.

Turkish Plenipotentiaries Not Authorized to Recognize the Hellenic Delegates.

[Canadian Press.]

London, Dec. 17.—An obstacle was encountered early today by the plenipotentiaries of the Balkan allies and of the Ottoman Empire, who are gathered here with the object of bringing about peace. The absence of Greece's signature to the armistice protocol was the cause of the hitch in the proceedings, and the delegates found it necessary to adjourn without effecting any real business. They will not meet again until late on Thursday afternoon, and in the meantime will communicate with their home governments. After their adjournment Dr. S. Danell, the leader of the Bulgarian delegation, and the president of today's meeting of the conference, confirmed the report that the question of the protocol had been under discussion without a decision being reached.

It is understood that the powers of the Turkish plenipotentiaries do not authorize them to recognize the Hellenic delegates unless Greece signs the armistice, and therefore they were obliged to refer the matter to Constantinople before proceeding with the conference.

The Greeks refused to sign the protocol when invited to do so this morning, pointing out that it would make no practical difference, as the allies were not at present at war.

FISHERMEN WERE SAFE.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Wiaraton, Dec. 18.—J. Clifford and Peter Longe, fishermen, who were thought to be lost, were found safely at Southampton where they had put in for shelter in a recent storm.

SARNIA BRAKEMAN WAS BADLY INJURED

Fell Between Cars of an East-bound Freight at Mandamun-daunin.

A Grand Trunk brakeman named McIntyre, whose home is in Sarnia, fell between the cars of an eastbound freight train at Mandamun yesterday afternoon and was badly mangled, one leg being amputated. He was not missed by his own crew, but was found on the tracks by a following train. He was taken to Sarnia, and because of his condition has not as yet been questioned as to the manner in which the accident occurred. No person witnessed the affair, but it is thought he fell from his position on top of the line of cars. McIntyre will recover.

WAS A BIG MASON

Ex-Mayor Haggart, of Blenheim, Dies After Long Illness.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Blenheim, Dec. 17.—Ex-Mayor Haggart, aged 59, is dead at his home here, after an illness extending over some time. He was one of Blenheim's most prominent citizens, having been a member of the town council for eight years and of Kent county council for two years. He was an active supporter of the Presbyterian Church and a 32nd degree Mason. The late Mr. Haggart retired in 1904 from the bean business, in which he had spent fifteen successful years.

THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—COLDER.

Forecast.

Today—Easterly and southerly winds, with occasional sleet or rain.

Wednesday—Westerly winds and mild in the morning, then northwest winds and becoming a little colder.

Temperatures.

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

Station	High	Low	Weather
LONDON	55.5	30	Cloudy
Victoria	45	25	Cloudy
Calgary	42	18	Fair
Winnipeg	22	20	Cloudy
Port Arthur	22	16	Cloudy
Perry Sound	28	4	Cloudy
Toronto	40	25	Cloudy
Ottawa	34	4	Fair
Montreal	36	8	Fair
Quebec	34	2	Clear
Father Point	34	8	Cloudy

The western disturbance is moving toward the Great Lakes.

COGENT EVIDENCE UNEARTHED IN CASE OF DR. MACGREGOR

Sparling, It Will Be Proved, Had Been Taking Medicine Which Contained Arsenic and Which Was Procured From a Certain Druggist, Who Will Testify.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Bad Axe, Mich., Dec. 17.—Further developments, in the shape of new evidence, in the case of Dr. Macgregor, who is charged with the poisoning of the People vs. Macgregor, and friends of the physician who was convicted in the Sparling case, are confident that the matter will result differently when taken to the supreme court, as it undoubtedly will be.

A motion for a new trial will be heard in the circuit court here on Dec. 23, or as soon afterwards as possible, but the chief dependence of the defence is being placed in the supreme court.

It has been discovered that Sparling, whose death resulted from arsenic poisoning had been taking a patent medicine, and that the medicine was very helpful to the defence. The druggist who had supplied him with the drug repeatedly will make an affidavit to that effect. This, together with the evidence taken at the trial, and other sworn statements, comprising in all over 3,500 pages of manuscript, will be carried before the supreme court.

The people of this district express complete confidence in the innocence of the doctor, and are following the motion for a new trial with the greatest interest.

C. P. R. WILL DOUBLE TRACK FROM LONDON TO WOODSTOCK

Important Work Will Be Undertaken by Big Railway in the Spring.

The C. P. R. will double track their line from London to Woodstock in the spring. This announcement was made to The Advertiser today by an engineer in close touch with the operations of the company. The right-of-way for the additional track has been laid out, and everything made ready for the commencement of construction work as soon as spring opens. The traffic from this city eastward has become so heavy of late that the C. P. R. find it impossible to handle it without the additional trackage.

Among railwaymen, this is taken as the first step towards double tracking stock.

TWO DIVISIONAL COURTS OF APPELLATE DIVISION

Personnel of the Second Court Announced by Ontario Government.

[Canadian Press.]

Toronto, Dec. 17.—The appearance of the circuit lists today gives the legal profession the first definite news as to the personnel of the second divisional court of the new appellate division of the supreme court, under the law reform act which comes into effect on Jan. 1, 1913. Under the statute there will be two divisional courts of the appellate division. The first divisional court will be the old court of appeal, being composed of Chief Justice Meredith, with Justices Garrow, McLaren, Magee and Hodgins. This court is permanent.

The second divisional court, which will hold office for one year, will be composed of Chief Justice Mcloughlin, Mr. Justice Clute, Mr. Justice Riddell, Mr. Justice Sutherland, and Mr. Justice Leitch. At the close of this court's term of office next December the judges of the Ontario supreme court will meet to select the judges who will act as judges of the second divisional court for the ensuing year.

The fact that the judges of the second divisional court will not have to go out on circuit during their tenure of office and that they will not have to act in weekly court disposes to a certain extent of the suggestion that the court will lack permanence.

In the case of the first divisional court of the first divisional court practice is to be observed as regards evidence, and that only three copies will be required for the five judges.

It is to be noted that the three judges of the old exchequer division of the high court have been placed on the new divisional court.

A MURDEROUS ASSAULT UPON A NIGHT WATCHMAN

Mr. Benjamin Leech Brutally Beaten at Plant of London and Petrolia Barrel Co.

ASSAILANT MADE GOOD HIS ESCAPE

Watchman and Members of the Firm Are Unable to Give a Reason for the Assault.

Benjamin Leech, 286 Adelaide street night watchman of the London and Petrolia Barrel Company of Simcoe street east, was murderously assaulted while on duty alone at the factory Monday shortly before midnight, and while the matter is in the hands of the police the perpetrator of the attack left no clue.

The incident bears much resemblance to that which occurred at the Sherlock-Manning Piano and Organ Company's factory in East London, recently when John Struad, the night watchman there, was fired upon and wounded in the hand by some unknown assailant.

Struad was at a loss to account for the assault, while the reason of the attempt upon the life of Mr. Leech is equally vague.

Rendered Unconscious.

Mr. Leech was rendered unconscious when struck repeatedly on the head and face with an oak barrel stave, but later recovered, and while greatly weakened by a profuse flow of blood from his wounds was able to make his way to the office of Dr. P. J. Mugan, where he received medical assistance.

Mr. Frank Forristal, a member of the firm, was notified of the occurrence after Mr. Leech recovered from his comatose state, and he in turn communicated with the police shortly before midnight.

Mr. Leech did not see his assailant and knows nothing of what transpired after he was felled.

He was proceeding about his duties as usual and between ten and eleven o'clock entered what is known as the fire-hold in which the boilers are located. He was in the act of stoking, and had seen no person previously, when a man's foot and leg appeared at the corner of a projection.

Before the watchman could turn he was dealt a heavy blow, not a word being spoken. The blow struck him in the face and others following over his head inflicted deep scalp wounds that bled profusely.

Assailant Escaped.

Mr. Leech dropped unconscious, and before his recovery his assailant made his escape.

A pool of blood marked the spot on which the attack occurred, while Mr. Leech's progress to the physician's office, several blocks away, could be traced today in the same manner. Although greatly weakened his speedy recovery is looked for.

The object of the assailant is a mystery, as no attempt was made to rob the victim, nor have the members of the firm been able to discover anything in the nature of burglary.

It is believed in some quarters that some maniac is going through East London factories seeking the lives of night watchmen as this attack was practically identical with that committed upon John Struad, excepting that in this latter case a revolver was not used.

"TEN YEARS IS NOT SO LONG," SAID PRISONER

Joseph H. Davies Given Stiff Sentence for Robbing a Farmer at Crumlin.

WAS PAROLED ONLY FOUR MONTHS AGO

Asked Judge Macbeth To Be Lenient But His Honor Scored the Robber.

Joseph H. Davies, who was paroled some four months ago from the same institution, was this morning sentenced to a term of ten years at Kingston Penitentiary by Judge Macbeth on a charge of robbing William Wilkinson of \$175 on Nov. 16. The crime, it will be remembered, was committed in Wilkinson's barn, a few miles east of Crumlin on the Governor's road, late one Saturday night. Wilkinson was badly beaten by his assailant, but during the struggle managed to recognize him as Davies. The information was laid on Monday afternoon, and Davies was arrested early Tuesday morning by High Constable Hughes.

At the trial the Crown produced evidence that clearly showed that Davies was the robber, and the jury after being out slightly over an hour returned a verdict of guilty. Sentence was postponed until that time, until this morning, as the authorities wished to have Davies examined as to his sanity.

Prisoner Sentenced.

This morning Davies was asked by the judge if he had anything to say, and in reply stated that he had been sentenced four years ago to a term of five years at Kingston, and he thought that the sentence had been too severe, and so asked the court to be as lenient as possible.

Judge Macbeth stated that he had not intended to refer to the crime for which Davies had been previously sentenced, but as the prisoner had mentioned it, he would also refer to the robbery.

You were tried then on a charge of stealing grain from the farm of the neighborhood of Birr," said his honor, "and at your trial you offered a defence which was the most shameless that had ever been brought to my notice. You had the impudence to take the stand and swear to a string of falsehoods. For the crime you have been found guilty of you are liable to be sentenced to life imprisonment, and also the last of your days in the penitentiary."

Will Not Be Flogged.

"I don't know what a flogging would be the best deterrent in this case. I intend, however, to inflict the punishment of imprisonment. At first I was uncertain as to whether you were in your right mind or not. But now I am fully satisfied that the crime was carefully planned. I think that you are a very dangerous character to be at large and am morally certain that you were guilty of more robberies at the time of your previous conviction than you were tried on, and have decided to put you away and keep you away from the community for a long time. This offence of yours has found guilty of a crime which was carefully planned. You knew Wilkinson, having worked for him. You knew he lived alone, and what time he generally returned to his home, and you also knew that he was not a strong man physically, so I sentence you to ten years in the penitentiary."

Not Very Long.

Davies said nothing at the time, and for a moment he forgot to smile in the way he has been accustomed to every time he has appeared since arrested. On the way to his cell, he remarked that "ten years is not so long as I thought." Judge Macbeth decided that the overcoat that Davies should be given to Mr. Wilkinson, along with the money recovered from Mrs. Davies, but that the clothes purchased by Mrs. Davies should be retained by her.

RED MAN STEALS WHITE MAN'S "REP."

David Said, "All Men—," P. M. Judd Says, "All Indians."

"These Indians are the worst liars—it is absolutely useless to ask them where they get liquor," commented Police Magistrate Judd in Carling street court this morning, when Daniel Elze, a man from the Oneida reservation, appeared.

Elze claimed that he was furnished with an "Old Irish" jug by a Mohawk Indian. He really could not remember the man's name, however. Elze's board would cost something at the jail. When arrested he had \$1.05 in his possession. He was sent away with a nickel.

A man of 71 years pleaded that it did not take as much to catch up to him now as it used to. He was dismissed.

\$100 FINE WAS IMPOSED FOR SELLING STRONG CIDER

Two Merchants Heavily Multed by Police Magistrate Judd.

Warren Blinn, of the firm of Blinn Bros., of Richmond street, and William Fitzall, another merchant, who operates a store at Richmond street and Central avenue, were each convicted of selling liquor without licenses by Police Magistrate J. C. Judd at the Carling street police court this morning, and were fined \$100 in each case.

The magistrate expressed regret at being compelled to convict under the evidence, as the law does not permit the suspension of sentence in breaches of the liquor license act. Crown Attorney McKillop was, however, particularly requested to do all in his power to accept the \$100 fine from Fitzall in a manner that would not too severely affect the defendant, who is perhaps not overly prosperous.

The Case Dismissed.

Saddy Bros., of Dundas street, who were prosecuted by License Inspector Galpin in the same manner as the other two defendants, were dismissed without costs, it having been shown that when they discovered that sweet cider sold by them had gone hard, they set it aside and procured a new supply for their customers.

The magistrate pointed out that the cider sold by Blinn Bros. contained 11.31 per cent. of pure spirits, and that even after learning that it was hard, while an order was issued not to sell any more, the keg was left in its usual position in the store and one sale was made by a clerk.

Fitzall made no attempt to deny that he had the cider, or that he sold it, and merely pleaded that he did not know that it contained more than the legal percentage of proof spirits.

The alteration of the term in each case is a "reprieve" in the term in the county jail.



6 MORE DAYS TO SHOP