

MAJOR REFINES \$30 MILLION RATE NEXT YEAR

City's Trust and Loan Companies Given High Grade

CITY WILL SHOW A NICE SURPLUS WHEN YEAR ENDS

Mayor Wenige Predicts There Will Be Substantial Sum On Credit Side.

CUT RATE NEXT YEAR

The municipal administration of London will finish the current year with a substantial surplus, Mayor Wenige predicted today. His worship adds that this will be accomplished with the lowered rate—24.7 mills—and in spite of opposition from those who have been hampering his movements.

And the 1924 tax rate will not exceed 30 mills on the dollar, he adds, with the hearty and honest cooperation of the several civic spending bodies.

"We set this rate today," the mayor told The Advertiser, "We'll cut the pattern according to the cloth. That is the whole question in a nutshell. Contrary to procedure in past years the estimates will be submitted this year no later than November, in order that the ratepayers will know at election approximately what we propose to do next year and about how much we intend to expend."

Mayor Wenige insists further that the London city council has not exceeded or diverged from its pay-as-you-go policy as it affects the corporation's debenture issues.

"We retired debentures during the present year, aggregating about \$78,000," he stated, "and while we were forced, through the board of education and others to sanction more new debentures than we wished, we are still within the limit. This is how it was done: We retired one year's interest upon all the city's debenture issues which was as much, if not more, than all the new debenture issues."

"People will ask, and particularly my opponents as to how we are going to reduce the city's tax rate to 30 mills," the mayor continued. "I say 'how do we do anything?' We will simply aim at the new debenture issues."

Next Year's Goal.

"The time has come when we must put a check upon our expenditures. We set the rate at 30 mills, and ask all the spending bodies to adhere to that. It can be done. If a person finds himself in a strange country with \$30, what does he do? He has to make the \$30 do for his purpose, unless he goes to work and finds another source of revenue. He has no credit, and he must make his \$30 do. That should be the attitude to adopt. Set our rate and make it."

"Our rate this year is 24.7 mills. I predict a surplus at the end of the term that will bring this down to about 24 mills. Our additional assessment should not roughly another mill. That is all. I can foresee to understand how the council and the different spending bodies will find it unable to drive their expenditures down another 3 mills, I can foresee where amounts can be curtailed and savings made."

EXPECT DR. BANTING WILL SPEAK IN CITY

May Address Meeting of the Ontario Medical Association on October 4.

It is expected that Dr. Banting, discoverer of insulin, will be in London under the auspices of the Canadian Club, and that he will address the meeting of the Ontario Medical Association on Oct. 4 in the Medical School of the University of Western Ontario. Another speaker on that occasion will be Dr. J. O. Kimball of Akron, Ohio, one of the greatest specialists on the treatment of gonorrhea.

It is understood also that Premier Ferguson will be invited by members of the O. M. A. to adopt preventive measures against gonorrhea in the public schools of the province. The district meetings in London will be divided into two sections. In the morning there will be clinics by local surgeons. There will be a luncheon at noon, and in the afternoon the lectures will be given. A large attendance of physicians from Western Ontario is expected.

DANISH CATASTROPHE TAKES HUNDRED LIVES

Village of Manoe Submerged When Dams Break Following Hurricane.

Special Cable to The Advertiser. Copenhagen, Sept. 1.—More than 100 persons were believed drowned in a hurricane and bursting of dams at Jutland. The village of Manoe was submerged when the dams on the island broke and the sea of the inhabitants is now known.

Inhabitants of Sonderborg escaped as their wooden houses were automatically converted into life rafts as the water tore them from their foundations. Refugees were forced to fight off swimming cattle which attempted to climb on to the raft.



A FAIR NET STAR. Olga (Billie) Miller snapped while playing in the city tournament at the courts of the London Tennis Club yesterday. Miss Miller easily won the honor of being London's best woman player in 1922 and she is expected to duplicate her feat this year.

CUSTOMS TOTALS BEHIND IN MONTH, AHEAD FOR YEAR

August Returns Run \$16,618.14 Behind Corresponding Month in 1922.

YEAR WELL AHEAD

The August report for customs returns in London, prepared today by H. W. Wooster, cashier, shows a decrease of \$16,618.14 over the corresponding month of 1922. This is the first monthly report with a decrease in some months, but the showing is not at all disappointing to local officials, as collections for 1923 to date show an increase of 20 per cent over the same period of last year, amounting to \$268,560.35.

The collections for the past month were \$279,540.85, compared to \$296,153 realized in August last year. Two increases are noted in the report. Domestic excise duties were \$25,168.44, an increase of \$25,27 over August, 1922, and excise totals show an increase of \$5,894.43.

The report reads as follows: Import duties, 1923, \$109,085; 1922, \$127,460; a decrease of \$18,375. Sales tax on imports, 1923, \$22,600; 1922, \$27,191; a decrease of \$4,591. Excise tax on imports, 1923, \$20,132; 1922, \$24,207; a decrease of \$4,075. Sundry collections, 1923, \$1,099,78; 1922, \$238,47; an increase of \$861,31.

Customs totals, 1923, \$142,755.71; 1922, \$165,268; a decrease of \$22,512.57. Domestic excise tax, 1923, \$111,621.70; 1922, \$118,547.24. Domestic excise duties, 1923, \$25,168; 1922, \$17,348.47; an increase of \$7,819.53. Excise totals, \$136,735.14; 1922, \$130,890.71; an increase of \$5,844.43.

The report also states that Premier Ferguson will be invited by members of the O. M. A. to adopt preventive measures against gonorrhea in the public schools of the province. The district meetings in London will be divided into two sections. In the morning there will be clinics by local surgeons. There will be a luncheon at noon, and in the afternoon the lectures will be given. A large attendance of physicians from Western Ontario is expected.

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BUSINESS SLUMP FAILS TO DISTURB THE MARITIMES

Fred C. Field, Local Banker, Reports Optimism Prevails in Eastern Canada.

PEOPLE CONFIDENT

An optimistic report of financial and industrial conditions throughout the Maritime Provinces was brought by Fred C. Field, manager of the Bank of Toronto here, on his return from a holiday trip to Eastern Canada.

Past business depression has not disturbed the traditional equanimity of Maritime citizens, Mr. Field said. With characteristic pugnacity executives of the larger industries are going after business hot-foot, and all agree that the turning point has been reached and prosperity has arrived.

The Maritimes, always noted for their thrift and the refusal of the inhabitants to be influenced by transient industrial lethargy, have come through the hard business period in a better condition perhaps than the more western provinces, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island have never been noted for excessive tendencies even when panic and depression stare them in the face. The result has been that the Maritimes generally are recovering from the universal business slump faster than any of the other provinces.

Predict Better Trade.

"A large proportion of the population depends on fish consumption in American Atlantic ports," Mr. Field said, "and the fishing industry this year will probably eclipse every record of the decade. Export trade with Europe has not been revived, owing to the disastrous internal conditions existing in many countries formerly the Maritimes' best customers."

Failures in Eastern Canada, however, have been smaller and less numerous than those in Quebec and the west. All financial institutions are in sound condition.

People Optimistic.

Mr. Field added that Maritime citizens have greater confidence in their country's ability to triumph over the knocks and blows administered by the industry in the past three years than Quebec or even Ontario. He thought the future prosperity of the Atlantic provinces was a certainty.

"Next year will likely bring much better business and stimulation to trade," he said. "Every businessman I saw appeared extraordinarily optimistic."

JOHN A. NASH BUYS \$50,000 PROPERTY

Assessment Commissioner Bennett Reports Many Important Realty Transfers.

Important realty transfers are reported during the month of August, and recorded in Commissioner Bennett's monthly report.

Among these is the purchase by John A. Nash, from John W. Thurston, for a consideration of \$50,000, of store property at 182 Dundas street, with a frontage of 17 feet 8 1/2 inches.

The St. Thomas Packing Company purchased from Dr. A. O. Jeffery and others, for the sum of \$3,000, property on the north side of King street, near Richmond street.

Thomas Wilkey sold to Dr. Nelson George, residential property on the north side of Dufferin avenue, for \$16,000.

Assessment Commissioner Bennett reports that real estate transfers since the first of the year have exceeded by a substantial number those in 1922, thereby indicating a further trend locally toward pre-war normalcy.

The official figures, compared with 1922, show 1,277 transfers from Jan. 1 to Aug. 31, 1923, as against 1,170 during the corresponding period of 1922.

IRISH ELECTIONS.

Associated Press Despatch. Dublin, Sept. 1.—Excluding West Cork, where the votes in the parliamentary election have not yet been counted, the government party received 39.5 per cent of the total poll, the Republicans 27.5, the Farmers and Laborites about 11.5 each, and the Independents 10 per cent.



POPULAR WOMAN PLAYER. Mrs. Eric Reid, a well known tennis enthusiast, returning a fast one while playing in the women's singles tournament at the London Tennis Club yesterday.

WESTERN FAIR OFFICE STAFF MOVES MONDAY

Takes Up Quarters On Fair Grounds Until After Big Annual Exhibition.

EXPECT FINE SHOW

Monday the Western Fair headquarters will be removed from the present office in the Dominion Savings building to the fair grounds. An increased staff will be taken on when the change takes place.

ready, owing to the large number of entries which have been received in the live stock show, the poultry show, and other exhibitions, the staff has been increased by three.

According to Secretary A. M. Hunt many entries are being received from the Toronto Exhibition. A man has been sent to Toronto to interest exhibitors there in the Western Fair, and in consequence this year will see many of the prize exhibits of the Canadian National Exhibition entered in London.

Today electricians are working at the fair grounds preparing for the lighting of the drives and buildings. The race track in front of the grandstand is being put in order for the speed attractions of Fair Week.

Exhibitors at the grounds are busily engaged in preparing their booths in the new building. All of the booths are now ready for occupation, and many exhibitors are taking advantage of an early start, and are commencing to decorate and outfit their stands.

The many entries which have been received lately in the live stock show will make this exhibit one of the best ever held in Ontario. Farmers from all over this district are entering their best cattle this year to take part in the exhibition.

Owing to the promise of better and larger shows, and the decreased gate admission, the Western Fair board expect the number of people who will attend the Western Fair will be greater than ever. The entrance fee to the grounds this year will be 25 cents.

OFFICER BADLY HURT IN WEST MINE STRIKE

Constable Light of Drumheller in Grave Condition Following Fight.

Associated Press Despatch. Drumheller, Alta., Sept. 1.—Constable M. J. Light's condition is serious, and it is feared that the injuries he sustained in attempting to go to the rescue of his fellow officer, Constable Russell, during the fight with miners Thursday, may prove fatal. This and the report that the 25 Scotch miners over whom most of the trouble started in the Western mine had been ordered to leave the district, have given the impression that their differences have not abated in the interval.

GATHERING DATA FOR THE TRIAL OF SIDNEY MURRELL

Crown and Defence Busy Preparing For Hearing at Fall Assizes Opening Oct. 25.

SPECIAL GUARDS

While Sidney Murrell sits sullenly in his cell at the county jail, the authorities are preparing for his trial on the charge of murder which will be held at the Fall Assizes which open at the courthouse October 25.

Both the crown and the defence are gathering data to be used in the case against the Melbourne bank bandit and his companion, Henry Jack (Slim) Williams, who will be brought back to stand trial on the capital charge also.

Courtesy various bullets took during the encounter between the villagers of Melbourne and the bandit gang of four, on the morning of Monday, April 19, 1921, when Russell Campbell was killed are being carefully traced. An attempt is being made to trace each bullet to its destination, and especially to account for the five empty shells in Sidney Murrell's revolver, when he was arrested.

The crown claims a .45 calibre bullet found in Campbell's body was fired from Sidney's gun. When the police asked the three men, Sidney, another William and "Slim" Williams, to pick out their guns from the ones seized, Sidney is reported to have picked the only .45 calibre gun in the outfit.

Plea of Self Defense?

Murrell claims he was wounded during the battle outside the bank. He did not state this until a few months after the robbery occurred. Whether his will be a plea of self defense is not known.

Williams apparently does not care how the trial goes. He feels that he was grossly oppressed by the other members of the gang, and in an exclusive interview told The Advertiser he was going to "tell all," when placed in the witness stand.

In the hands of Sheriff D. A. Graham are the names of 60 men, from whom the "13 good men and true" will be picked for the trial. The list will be kept in a safe until a few days prior to the trial. If separate trials are held for Murrell and Williams, 24 men will be picked from the panel.

A former sweetheart of Sidney Murrell, who was keeping company with him at the time he was launched on a career of crime, is reported to have returned to the city.

Take All Precautions.

During the trial, just as many precautions, and possibly more, will be taken to guard Murrell. Included in the financial state of local industry is a lighting system. Lights are strung in the jail yards, and on all the walls, strong lights will be placed, so that jail attendants may plainly see anyone approaching the walls at night.

It was believed at the time the Murrell brothers escaped in September, 1921, that outside help had figured in the getaway.

The prisoners will not be brought through the courthouse corridors to the courtroom when the trial is held, but will be brought up the special passageway built from the cells to the stock Spectator stand, and then through the back of the courtroom, during the trial.

PINCHOT ENDEAVORS TO REOPEN MINES

Associated Press Despatch. Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 1.—Unsuccessful yesterday in an attempt to prevent a shut-down in the anthracite mines, Governor Pinchot, with undiminished resolution, today began an effort to have them reopened. Operators' representatives and miners' union officials who yesterday refused his compromise proposals in enough particulars to block an agreement between them that might have kept miners at work were called back into executive sessions today to resume discussions. All output of the latest developments in the matter, and did not feel inclined to discuss the case at all.



LAST YEAR'S CHAMPION. Einar Reichtzen, city tennis champion for 1922 and winner of the international junior tournament at Niagara last year, who is favored to retain his laurels as London's best tennis player this year. The above picture by The Advertiser staff photographer shows Reichtzen in the act of serving while playing a match at the London Tennis Club yesterday. Mr. Reichtzen was the 1922 Western Ontario junior champion.

Inspection Shows City's Trust and Loan Companies To Be Absolutely Sound

Provincial Registrar of Loan Companies Makes Statement Following Investigation Carried Out in London.

Reputation of all rumors suggesting that London's financial institutions were not in sound condition was forthcoming from V. Evan Gray, registrar of loan corporations, Toronto, on a telephone conversation with The Advertiser this morning.

Mr. Gray but recently completed an inspection of the city's foremost loan and trust companies. Following the Home Bank failure alarmists spread the news, based only on imagination, that certain other organizations were on the brink of liquidation. In an effort to trace the foundation for these rumors, if any, The Advertiser questioned the provincial inspector over long distance today.

In his capacity as registrar of loan corporations Mr. Gray is more familiar with the financial state of local industry is a lighting system. Lights are strung in the jail yards, and on all the walls, strong lights will be placed, so that jail attendants may plainly see anyone approaching the walls at night.

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HEAD OF POSTOFFICE REFUSES COMMENT

Thomas Duncan Remains Reticent Regarding Appointment of Miss Langford.

Postmaster Thomas Duncan refused to make any comment today on the charges made by the London branch of the Great War Veterans' Association that the civil service commission is treating the veterans unfairly by giving Miss Langford of Thamesville a position in the London postoffice.

Mr. Duncan, who this morning resumed his duties after a three weeks' vacation, professed ignorance of the latest developments in the matter, and did not feel inclined to discuss the case at all.



Miss Langford, a woman, is the subject of charges made by the London branch of the Great War Veterans' Association that the civil service commission is treating the veterans unfairly by giving her a position in the London postoffice.

MONTH MAKES GREAT START IN BUILDING

Eleven Permits Totalling \$16,175 in Value Issued Before Noon Today.

The month of September on its first day is away to a good start in the building trade, with every indication of establishing a new record in this direction.

Eleven permits were issued this morning for building operations involving a sum of \$16,175.

In the order in which the permits were issued, the amount of the first six contracts is as follows: \$6,800; \$3,500; \$500; \$4,500; and \$75.

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AUSTRALIA AND CANADA COMPETE FOR MIGRANTS

Associated Press Despatch. London, Sept. 1.—The Glasgow Herald states that competition is arising between the Canadian and Australian governments in the matter of getting migrants from the Hebrides. This year 200 men and women have migrated from the Hebrides under the overseas settlement scheme, 600 of them having gone to Canada and 100 to Western Australia.

Another party will leave for Australia in October. Greater numbers of migrants are expected next year when an intensive emigration campaign will be inaugurated.

PROTEST STAND TAKEN BY ITALY IN GREEK CRISIS

London Greeks Declare the Weakened Condition of the Country Encouraged Action.

DEPLORE INTRIGUE

Announcement that the Italians have occupied Corfu as a preliminary to forcing Greece to accept the demands of Italy, has stirred the patriotic fervor of local Greeks to a high pitch.

A number were greatly excited this morning when an expression of their opinion regarding the prospect of an Italian-Greek war was asked. They condemned the Italian government in round terms and several sons of Italy added denunciation to the action of their country.

Constantine Zafirion, joint proprietor of the New Service, Lunch, and Ottawa during the war, vigorously assailed Italy and everything Italian, when his attitude toward the international misunderstanding was asked today. Italy, he declared, would never have taken such impulsive steps to secure compensation for its murdered citizens if any country more powerful than itself had been involved. If Great Britain or the United States had been the offending party Italy would have filed a mild protest and that would have ended the affair. But Greece, he said, was Italy's traditional enemy and weak one at that. Italy had always looked upon the slightest violation of Italy's rights on Greek soil as a pretext for war.

"Italy is putting up one great bluff," Mr. Zafirion said. "Greece is still exhausted and bleeding from the effects of the late war; and in no condition to stand the onslaught of Italy. I admit, however, that the government has grounds for complaint when its citizens are massacred, but the chances are that the deed was committed by a person or persons who were not Italian. As a matter of fact Italy has produced more murderers than any other country in the world. Her criminal statistics prove this."

Favors Royalists.

"Italy does not want to see Greece become progressive," he stated, "and he is using every device to prevent it. The revolutionary party is Italy's enemy, because it wishes to see Greece take the high position in European politics. The royalists of Greece are reactionaries and Italy is favorable to them."

"The Italian attack on Corfu will arouse universal sympathy for Greece. The Greek cabinet asked Italy to stop its aggression through the League of Nations. This apparently refused to do so. Countries are members of the League and it is a violation of the law for Italy to take such measures against Greece."

S. Badalato, a local Italian vendor, agreed with the speaker in the wrong. "I'm glad I'm not in Italy," he said. "The world is tired of war and my countrymen are making a big mistake in their move against Greece. I am so sick of Italian politics that I decided years ago never to read an Italian paper. Everything is intrigue in Italy. Ten years ago I was an Italian, but now I am glad to be a Canadian. My sympathy is with Greece."

Expresses Indignation.

A Dundas street restaurateur of Grecian birth was extraordinarily indignant with Italy's attitude.

The League of Nations should step in and stop this kind of behavior," he said. "Italy has great ambitions. She thinks some day she will go on Greece. You can understand the militarism in Italy when you consider how insignificant was the incident that made her attack Greece. If I had my way I would hang the Italian government."

"What will you do to show your resentment in London?" he was asked.

"Well, I've a mind to stop serving spaghetti," he replied. "If the Italians get so obstreperous that's what I'll do. That will bring them to their senses."

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS.

Today—Light to moderate winds, and slightly cooler.

Sunday—Easterly winds; cloudy, with local showers.

The pressure is above the average over the eastern half of the continent, and relatively low over the West Provinces and in the Missouri Valley.

The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 3 o'clock were: Highest, 84; lowest, 54.

Stations: High. Low. Wind. Calgary 83 44 W. Winnipeg 83 44 C. Port Arthur 84 45 C. Fort St. John 76 54 Fair. Toronto 82 55 Cloudy. Ottawa 86 58 Fair. Montreal 77 52 Rain. Quebec 77 52 Cloudy. Fitchburg 62 38 Clear. St. John 72 50 Clear. Halifax 72 50 Clear.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 84; lowest, 54.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 72; lowest, 60.

Barometric Readings.

Friday—8 p.m.—29.32.

Today—8 a.m.—29.34.