

A Happy New Year to One and All!

Boys Go Through the Ice; Play Ends in a Tragedy

Three Perish in Drowning Accidents at Strathroy and Petrolia.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Strathroy, Dec. 31.—A sad drowning accident occurred here this afternoon about 3 o'clock, when John Walker, a laborer, about 60 years of age, met his death. Deceased was subject to fits of a peculiar nature and would often wander off and do strange things when suffering from an attack. He was out near the cemetery this afternoon, and either accidentally or otherwise was

drowned in the Spring Creek, south of the railroad bridge. Two men saw his hat floating on the water, and on investigation, found the body. Deceased leaves a wife and two married daughters.

Went Through Ice.

Petrolia, Dec. 31.—A terrible accident happened here this afternoon. A lot of boys got on a large piece of ice on the creek, the ice gave away and carried a number of the boys with it. Two boys named Niven and Collins lost their lives, the rest narrowly escaping. The bodies of the victims have not been found as yet. The mothers of the boys are both widows.

IMPORTANT DEAL; WOODS' FAIR SOLD

Big Retail House Passes Into the Hands of Mr. J. M. Thomson, of This City.

An important deal, by which a large Dundas street store changed hands, was announced yesterday.

Woods' Fair, for many years conducted by Mr. J. C. Woods, has passed into the hands of Mr. J. M. Thomson, of this city. Mr. Woods, owing to continued ill-health, is disposing not only of his London store, but also of the other branches.

The business will be continued under the name of Woods' Fair. Mr. Thomson, the new proprietor, is a young, and energetic merchant, who came here recently from the Canadian Soo, where he conducted an extensive general store with great success for several years. In Woods' Fair he has secured what is recognized to be one of the largest and best-known retail houses in the west. The price paid for it is withheld.

The store will be closed for a few days, it will be reopened with a big sale, of which due notice will be given.

TO MOVE LEO'S BODY

Late Pope's Remains To Be Transferred to Lateran Basilica.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Rome, Dec. 31.—The Osservatore Romano publishes this evening an official communication stating that the removal of the remains of Leo XIII. from St. Peter's to the new tomb in St. John Lateran will take place shortly. The correspondent is informed by Cardinal Satolli, arch priest of the Lateran Basilica, that the tomb will be completed about the middle of January. The date of the removal has not yet been fixed. Hence no arrangements for the ceremony have been made, but probably a plain hearse, followed by a carriage will constitute the funeral cortege through the streets.

DEATH OF MRS. J. R. BARBER.

Toronto, Dec. 31.—Word reached the city today of the death of Mrs. John R. Barber, wife of Mr. John R. Barber, formerly M. P. for Halton. Mrs. Barber's death took place at an early hour this morning after a short illness.

LONDON SAYS GOOD-BY TO 1906; EXIT OLD YEAR; ENTERS THE NEW

Customary Gatherings See the Passing of the Old Year.

The last day of the old year acted as meanly as it was possible for it to do.

It made no difference to the day that a thriving city of 50,000 old wanted to nominate divers persons for various offices. It rained at short intervals, threatened to rain at other times, and then became windy and cold.

The snow which has mantled the earth since the first of December succumbed to the drowning influence of the storm of Sunday night, and most of it floated away to Chatham via London's spoiled water pet, the Thames. The accumulation of mud fairly set Engineer Graydon mad. Dundas and Richmond streets looked like the Wellington road south of the third concession of Westminster.

Nevertheless, several hundred people found it worth while to turn out for the nominations early in the day, and in the afternoon one of the biggest matinees of the season crowded Bennett's Vaudeville. At night the theater was again filled.

The skating rinks made a brave fight to keep up business through the soft period, but the ice was so soft and so slippery that it was not worth the effort.

As is the custom from year to year, many people sat out to wait for the new year and the new year.

WARM FIGHT ON IN LONDON TP.

Contest for Every Office—Hamilton Needham Will Not Seek Re-Election as Reeve.

The contest for the London Township Council for 1907 promises to become exceedingly warm. The nominations were held at Arva yesterday, when candidates were placed in the field for every office.

No less than five candidates are named for the reeveship, but three withdrew, leaving the fight between George E. Hudson, a member of last year's council, and George Kimball. Those who declined were Hamilton Needham, reeve for 1906, F. F. Jackson and Wm. Ardell.

Messrs. James H. Hodgins and W. A. Langford, members of the 1906 council are in the first for deputy reeve.

S. Frank Glass, also a member of last year's board, is seeking election as second deputy reeve, and he has as his opponent John R. Hodgins.

Two councilors are to be elected. There are five candidates, all new blood—B. C. Brooks, John Gillson, John Edwards, A. A. Garrett and John W. Guest.

A SEARCHING INQUIRY

Startling Developments Promised Re the Arbroath Disaster.

Edinburgh, Dec. 31.—A warrant has been issued for the arrest of the driver of the express train wrecked at Arbroath on Dec. 28, resulting in the loss of 20 lives and in about 30 persons being injured.

The law officers have been searching into the investigating the cause of the disaster, and startling developments are said to be promised at the board of trade inquiry which opens today.

ZERO WEATHER IN GERMANY

Mercury Takes a Deep Dip—Numerous Deaths From Cold.

Berlin, Dec. 31.—Unusually cold weather continues to prevail throughout Germany, thermometers registering from 5 to 10 degrees below zero. Five persons have been frozen to death in the vicinity of Thorn, West Prussia, and other deaths from the cold are reported from various parts of the country.

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MUNICIPAL FIGURES—No. 7



ALD. STEVENSON.

TODAY IN LONDON

Happy New Year to all.

Sunday school rally First Methodist Church.

Reception at the Y. M. C. A. all day.

At home of the Seventh Regiment officers, the armories, in the morning.

Springwood Gun Club shoot, at the grounds, Richmond street north, in the morning.

At home of the sergeants of Wolseley Barracks, at the barracks, in the morning.

Hub road race, starting from the Hub pool room.

The Grand—Matinee and night, the Royal Scots concert party.

Bennett's Vaudeville, matinee and night.

Public meeting in city hall to discuss waterworks matters.

CHARGED WITH BIG STEAL

Former Railway Employee at Guelph Brought Back to Canada.

Toronto, Dec. 31.—Charles H. Walker, of Guelph, who was arrested in Toledo by Detective Day and brought to Toronto on a charge of stealing from his employers, appeared in the police court today. Walker formerly worked in the G. T. R. freight office at Guelph and it is alleged he has been taking money in small sums for some time until the amount of his defalcations at present totals, it is claimed, about \$2,200. He had been an employee at the railroad for about twenty years, and handled large sums of money. His salary was \$50 a month. He was remanded until Wednesday at the request of counsel, who explained that Walker desired to be tried in Guelph. The magistrate instructed Detective Day to have the information sworn out in Guelph and forwarded to Toronto.

INFATUATED GIRL SUICIDES

Shoots Herself When Minister Refuses To Marry Her to Boy.

Montreal, Dec. 31.—Olive Bancroft, a 15-year-old girl living at Point St. Charles, shot herself through the heart and died later because a clergyman had refused to marry her and a 16-year-old boy with whom she was infatuated.

DEAD IN PERSIA

A Marthaville Oil-Driller Dies in Land of the Shah.

Petrolia, Dec. 31.—A cablegram just received announces the death of A. R. Kerby, oil driller, of Marthaville, who went to Persia some ten months ago.

UNEARDED DOUBLOONS

A Fortune Found Beneath Obelisk in Streets of Madrid.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Madrid, Dec. 31.—While removing today the obelisk marking the spot where the French troops entered the city in March, 1808, some workmen discovered a large iron-bound casket, in a much decayed condition, which on being opened was found to contain 500 gold doubloons and onzas, valued at \$7,000, and also a number of faded and discolored documents, which are believed to be of historical value.

CANDIDATES QUALIFY FOR RACE; SEVERAL WITHDRAWALS ALREADY

Aspirants for Mayoralty Among Those Who File Their Declarations—Unique Argument.

City Clerk Baker was in his office last night for the purpose of allowing candidates nominated yesterday to either qualify or withdraw as they saw fit. When he closed his office at 9 o'clock, the following had qualified:

For Mayor.
Ald. Greenlee.
Mayor Judd.
For Water Commissioner.
J. M. Parsons.
For Aldermen.
Ald. Armstrong.
Ald. Gerry.
Ald. Gillen.
Ex-Ald. Stevely.
J. H. A. Beattie.
Ald. Cooper.
M. J. Donohue.
Charles G. Moorehead.
Malcolm H. Rowland.
Wm. Scarrow.
R. H. Smith.

Withdrawn.
The following gentlemen, who had been nominated for school trustees, withdrew:
Frank Lawson.
James Gray.
William Scarrow.

The other candidates have until noon Wednesday to make up their minds what they will do.

REEVE RETURNED BY ACCLAMATION

No Contest, It Is Said, in Westminster—Contest for Deputy Reeve and Council.

Westminster Township will not, it is said, have a contest for the position of reeve on Monday next.

At the nominations held at Lambeth yesterday, Mr. Angus Beattie, who filled the office during the past year, was named for a second term. Mr. John Cousins, a member of the Middlesex county council from Westminster for the past two years, was also nominated for the reeveship, but it is understood that he has withdrawn in favor of Mr. Beattie. The latter has made a very capable reeve, performing the duties with such satisfaction that there was a strong feeling in all parts of the township in favor of his being returned for a second term.

Under the new council act, Westminster will now have a deputy reeve. There are two candidates in the field for the position—W. P. Dale and Robert Brown—both of whom were councilors last year.

The other members of the 1906 council, James Murray and John Crinklaw, are seeking re-election. Other nominees for the post of councillor are Messrs. David Nichols, who has already served on the board; A. Burrows, D. A. McPherson, John W. Laidlaw and Frank Cousins, all new men.

SOUTH LONDON LIBERALS

Important Meeting Called for Wednesday Evening at Club Rooms.

South London Liberals should not fail to attend a meeting called for tomorrow (Wednesday) evening, in the club room. The chairman of the different subdivisions are particularly urged to attend.

On Thursday evening the regular whist match is to take place. Prizes are to be offered. It is expected that the attendance will be still greater than a week ago.

Meeting at Hyman Hall.

The attention of all young Liberals is called to the meeting to be held in Hyman Hall on Friday night. Business of the utmost importance is to come up. Every young Liberal in London is requested to attend.

THE WEATHER.

TODAY—COLDER.

Toronto, Dec. 31.—8 p.m. The disturbance which was centered in Iowa last night has now reached the lake region with diminished energy, while a pronounced cold wave covers the northwestern portion of Ontario and Quebec and decidedly cold weather has prevailed from Manitoba to British Columbia. Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 20 below—14 below; Atlin, 18 below—15 below; Victoria, 25—29; Edmonton, 24 below—14 below; Calgary, 14 below—10 below; Qu'Appelle, 8 below—2; Winnipeg, zero—3; Port Arthur, 12—16; Parry Sound, 34—44; Toronto, 35—46; Ottawa, 25—34; Montreal, 24—36; Quebec, 22—28; St. John, 22—36; Halifax, 22—36.

FORECASTS.
Lower Lakes: Strong westerly to north-westerly winds; fair, turning colder; local snowfalls and snow flurries.

A Unique Argument.

The Free Press puts up the unique neither nominated nor seconded by a businessman.

The paper throws mud at Dr. John argument that Ald. Greenlee was D. Wilson because he chose to nominate Ald. Greenlee with a view to eliminating party politics in municipal matters. Then the Free Press claims that Ald. Gerry is not a businessman.

Who is in business in London if Ald. Gerry is not?

With one of the largest mills in this part of the Province, he is very much in business. The alderman has been in business in London for 30 years, and he has been successful. Moreover he is recognized as one of the fairest employers of labor in the city of London.

It is told that last evening a gentleman called up the Free Press and asked if it was true what he saw in that paper that Ald. Greenlee's nomination had not been moved or seconded by a businessman.

A member of the editorial staff said it was true.

"Ald. Gerry makes sashes, doors, and so on, and is a builder, isn't he?" asked the gentleman at the other end of the phone.

"Yes," was the reply.

"Is Adam Beck a businessman?" the gentleman again asked.

"Certainly," he was told.

"Well, if Mr. Beck makes cigar boxes, and is a businessman, why is not Mr. Gerry, who makes doors and sashes, a businessman, too?" the much perplexed citizen asked.

There was no answer.

M'GILL'S DEALINGS WITH WALL STREET

[Special to The Advertiser.] New York, Dec. 31.—A roving commission from Canada invaded Wall Street today and hunted about here and there for traces of the millions that Charles F. McGill is accused of embezzling from the Ontario Bank, of Toronto, of which he was the manager for 30 years. According to some of the information obtained by the commission here everybody in the financial and business world of Toronto, save the bank directors themselves, knew that McGill was speculating. He was a constant visitor at the offices of the New York brokers, who have branches there, and he could be seen at almost any hour of the business day bending over the tape in one or another of them.

McGill, it is said, got away with about \$2,000,000 of the bank's funds. He was arrested on warrants charging him with stealing \$1,150,000, which, it is claimed, was sent to brokers for speculating in Wall street. It was suspected that he also gambled outside and played the races, but Oliver Hart, of Charles Head & Co., brokers, at 15 Broad street, with whom McGill did considerable business in the market, testified today before a Commissioner Angus, that as far as he knew personally McGill was a model man.

Mr. Hart, for Head & Co., testified that McGill had two accounts with them. The first one was with McGill personally. The business was done with McGill through their Toronto branch, but they understood that he was backed by a syndicate. The dealings in stock were generally on a margin, Mr. Hart said, but the total amount of the account was not brought out. Asked if McGill had drawn out any money personally from the account, Mr. Hart exhibited two checks that had been paid him by the Canadian financier. One was for \$10,000, and the other was for \$6,827.84.

After this account was closed McGill opened another under the name of the Ontario Bank. This was not a margin account. It was taken out of the Bank of Montreal. It included a check of \$27,359.55 and a number of shares of stock including 500 of Illinois Central.

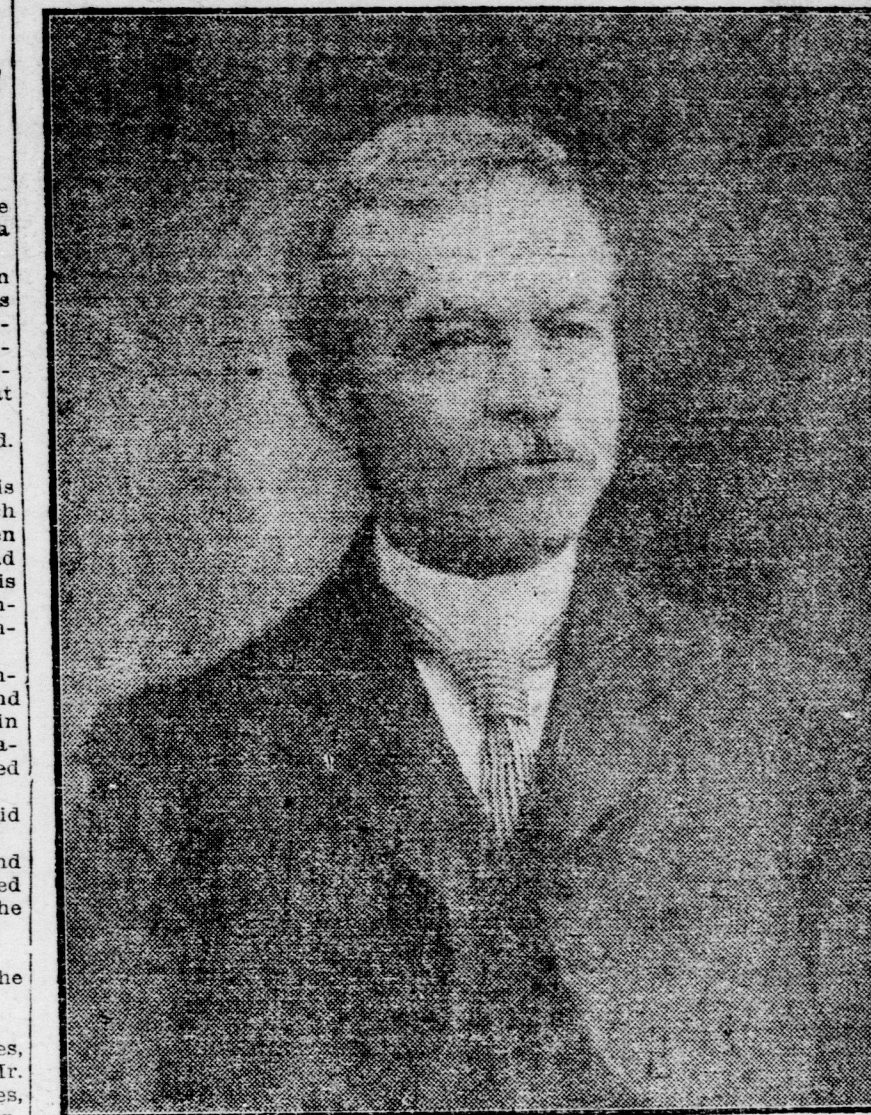
Another brokerage firm at whose office the testimony was taken, was that of Wm. H. Goadby & Co., of 74 Broadway. There is an entry on the Ontario Bank's books, that McGill sent the firm \$10,000 in September, 1905. Office Manager Kilbomee denied that the firm had received any money either from McGill or the bank.

Arthur C. Vaughan, of the firm of Cuyler & Morgan, of 44 Pine street, testified that McGill did speculate through them, but that they thought he was doing business with his own money. The account amounted to about \$221,000. Only a small part of it was checked out to McGill.

James L. Laidlaw, of Laidlaw & Co., of 14 Wall street, told the commissioner that his firm had no idea that McGill was dealing for the Ontario Bank.

OLD OTTAWA PASSES AWAY.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—Mrs. Clemow, relict of the late Senator Clemow, died today as the result of advanced years. She was a resident of Bytown from its early days, and belonged to the Pelly family, which filled an important sphere in the earlier history of the city.



ANDREW GREENLEES

An Independent Man, An Independent Candidate.

The non-partisan nature of Mr. Greenlee's candidature for the mayoralty is emphasized by the fact that he was nominated by Dr. John D. Wilson, a life-long and prominent Conservative. Scores of Conservatives who, like Dr. Wilson, believe that party politics should have no place in municipal government, have given Mr. Greenlee assurance of support. They can do this without in the least compromising their party principles, as Mr. Greenlee will be thoroughly independent in the mayor's chair. His character and his municipal career are pledges of that.

Mr. Greenlee's candidature has been received with genuine enthusiasm and is growing in strength every day. Londoners know him for a man of unbending rectitude, with whom public office will be a private trust. He will put the city's interests above his own. He will not be the puppet of wire-pullers. He is not looking for favors from any party, or ring, or corporation.

A vote for Mr. Greenlee is a vote for the highest standards of public life. He is qualified for the office by his integrity, ability, and long experience in municipal affairs.

REFORMS FOR THE RAILWAY SERVICE

Commission Will Consider Petition of the Western Ontario Railway Employes.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—The secretary of the railway commission, Mr. A. D. Cartwright, is preparing a circular, which is to be sent out, stating that on or about Feb. 5 the board will hold a meeting in Ottawa to consider the petition which the railway employes of Ontario presented to it on June 15 last.

This petition, which relates to a variety of conditions affecting railway service, is extremely wide, and in addition to the subjects raised by it, the board will consider such questions as operating rules, railway accidents and precautions for preventing them, mechanical appliances and the guards for preventing the setting and spreading of fires (especially on the prairies), sanitary conditions, equipment of lumber cars, ice and colder storage for fruit, keeping closer to schedule time, notification of delay in train service, wearing of badges by employes, etc.

HURT IN BARROOM ROW

Sam McDowell Rendered Unconscious by Blow in Head With Bottle.

In a barroom row which occurred at the Brown House, corner of King and Talbot streets, about 9:30 last evening, Samuel McDowell, a young man who resides on William street north, was struck on the head with a bottle and rendered unconscious, a condition in which he remained for two hours.

Just how the trouble originated, could not be learned at the hotel last night, but it is alleged that McDowell and a number of others were celebrating the passing of the old year, and got involved in a quarrel, during which McDowell's head came in contact with a heavy bottle.

McDowell was laid out by the blow. The ambulance was summoned and he was removed to Victoria Hospital, where Dr. John D. Wilson found that he was suffering from concussion of the brain. After two hours, the patient was revived. His injuries are not of a serious nature, and he will be about again in a day or two.

The police were notified, but made no arrests last night. The names of all the parties concerned in the row are, however, known.

SUIT AGAINST CANADA CORK CO.

Toronto, Dec. 31.—The Ontario Bank has issued a writ against the Canada Cork Company, N. B. Egan and W. F. Hays, to recover \$2,256, a balance alleged to be due on a promissory note made by the Cork company and endorsed by the defendants.

Wingham, Ont., Dec. 31.—Nominations for municipal officeholders took place here tonight, the following names being offered: Mayor—Wm. Holmes (ac-Continued on Page Six.