

ASSOCIATED BOARDS OF TRADE DISCUSS TAX REFORM METHODS

Deem It Expedient That Municipalities Be Allowed
Some Measure of Local Option in Levying Taxes
on Land Rather Than Upon Improvements.

DELEGATES WOULD NOT GO SO FAR AS ABSOLUTE SINGLE TAXERS

The Ontario Associated Boards of Trade this morning strongly declared in favor of tax reform, although two amendments in addition to the original motion each claimed supporters and resulted in a divided vote.

The following motion was carried in its original reading by a vote of 22 to 18: "Resolved, that, having regard to the increase in certain localities and at certain periods in the value of land, it is expedient that municipalities should be allowed some measure of local option in the levying of taxes upon the land rather than upon the improvements thereon."

After Speculators. C. B. Watts, Toronto, introduced the resolution. Speculators under the present inadequate system, he said, are enabled to hold land for long periods of time for speculative purposes. Building improvements on Ontario farms were discouraged by increased assessments and heavy taxes.

Federal square properties in London, he said, would cost from three to four times their assessed values, because the city was paying for it. Vacant lots and lots with one-story frame buildings are held in Toronto opposite the city hall because low taxes are paid, and the owners can afford to hold their lots for speculative purposes. A vacant lot for speculative purposes, or under the present system of taxation, actually worth more than with a good house on it.

Not Quite Single Tax. "I would not go so far as the single taxers," said Col. Brock, "but some measures of tax reform are necessary. Unearned increment is one thing that should be taxed, perhaps not too much, but to some extent, to render easier the burdens of the hard toiler and the poor man."

R. Home Smith objected to the motion on the ground that it was a party stratagem, unearned increment in land

values, he admitted, should pay back something to the general good, but the burden should all be borne alike. The tax should not be taken off buildings. The single tax in Vancouver had overstimulated building. He favored a sliding scale of exemptions on houses worth up to a certain figure. Local option in taxation would still more make it difficult to standardize municipal securities, he said.

A Amendment.

He moved an amendment. "Resolved, that, having regard to the increase in certain localities, and at certain periods in the value of land, it is expedient that consideration should be given by the Ontario Legislature to the true assessment of land at its just value, and to the desirability of a provincial and municipal tax, at stated intervals, upon the unearned values of land."

H. L. Janzen, in seconding the resolution, said that the only just principle of taxation was to place the burden where it could be the most easily borne, on the shoulders of wealth. The would tax skyscrapers.

Took Exception.

A. J. Young took pointed exception to Mr. Smith.

"I object to this being made a party question, and I object to any special pleading, and especially to the special pleading of Mr. Home Smith," said Mr. Young. "In the first place, not all the Liberals are in favor of it, and a great many of the Conservatives are."

Glorious Freedom.

"I am in favor of the principle of freedom, and especially in favor of local option in the levying of taxes. Municipalities should be given the opportunity to have the improvements on their land exempted. These Associated Boards, I think, would not be true to the opinion of the people of Ontario" (Continued on Page Eleven.)

DR. SUN YAT SEN TO VISIT LONDON

"George Washington of China"
Invited to Come During
Canadian Trip.

CELEBRATION PLANNED

Local Chinese Free Masons Will Have
Charge of Arrangements—
Celebration Planned.

Dr. Sun Yat Sen, who made China a republic, will come to London some time during the present year. Mr. Quong High, of King street, stated today that the Chu Kung Tong, of London—the Chinese Free Masons—have received word that the famous Celestial will be in London. A celebration will be held, it was stated, and word has reached Montreal to the effect that the great Chinese reformer is to visit there.



DR. SUN YAT SEN.

WOULD LET LAKE VESSELS BUY THEIR COAL FREE OF DUTY

Associated Boards of Trade to
Encourage Agricultural
Enterprises.

The encouragement of agriculture, the remission of duty on bituminous coal for Canadian steamers on the Great Lakes, and the building of trunk roads and more railroads in New Ontario, were the aims of three resolutions passed by the Associated Boards of Trade today.

The resolution calling for the abolition of appeals to the Governor-General-in-Council under the railway act, was introduced by J. E. Jones, of Toronto board of trade, and seconded by Col. Brock, and was defeated.

Mr. Jones contended that such appeals tended to weaken the strength of the courts. In reply to a question he said he fancied the act had first been framed as a mere tentative statute.

Too Many Appeals. J. L. Janzen thought there were too many appeals, and too much time lost in them.

W. J. Maher, of Cobourg, claimed that without the right of appeals,

TRIBUTES TO MR. GRAYDON

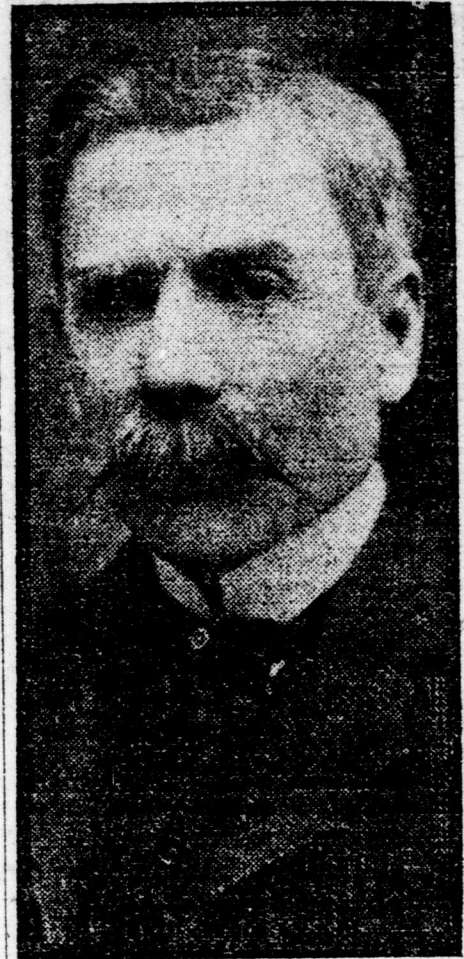
City Officials Refer In Terms of Warm Praise to
His Ability and Kindliness.

A number of prominent citizens and officials expressed deep regret upon hearing of Mr. Graydon's death, and they also extended their sympathy to the members of his family.

Mayor Graham said: "I deeply regret to hear of his passing away, both as a citizen of London and as a friend. For the many years that I knew him he always proved to be a true friend of mine, and I am very sorry that he is dead."

THE CITY CLERK'S TRIBUTE. City Clerk Baker, when spoken to, was very much affected and expressed his appreciation of the former city engineer as follows: "A. O. was a favorite with everyone he met, both in a business and social way. He was a big-hearted Irishman, and was one of the best men I ever met. I am extremely sorry to hear of his death, and will miss him exceedingly."

City Solicitor Meredith said: "I am very sorry to hear the news, as Mr. Graydon was a warm friend of mine for many years." Police Magistrate Judd's tribute was: "During the two years that I was mayor I always found Mr. Graydon an efficient officer of the corporation, and I am very sorry to hear of his death."



THE LATE A. O. GRAYDON.

SUDDEN RELAPSE ENDS CAREER OF MR. A. O. GRAYDON

Former City Engineer Passes
Away as Result of Attack
of Pneumonia.

Gave Twenty Years of Faithful
Service to City—High in
His Profession.

Aquila Ormsby Graydon, for nearly twenty years engineer of the city of London, died this morning at Victoria Hospital, following a brief illness.

Two weeks ago he contracted a severe cold, and was confined to the house for several days. It was thought to be only an attack of la grippe, but pneumonia developed, and he was removed to Victoria Hospital. His condition was critical on Saturday and Sunday, but he rallied soon after, and his recovery was expected.

Heart Strain Too Great.

The strain on his heart was severe, however, and his weakened condition resulted in his death. Relatives were present when the call came.

The late Mr. Graydon was born in London Township on July 7, 1852. He was the eldest son of Simpson Hackett Graydon, and received his education at the London Grammar School under the Rev. Benjamin Bailey.

On leaving school he entered the service of the Merchants Bank in this city, but gave up the banking profession to study engineering. He studied in the office of the late William Robinson, city engineer, and also under the late Thomas Tracy, whom he succeeded as city engineer in 1891.

Long, Faithful Service.

Up to the time of his resignation in 1910, he continued to discharge the arduous duties of his office in an efficient and thorough manner, winning the respect and esteem of all those with whom he came in contact. He made a host of friends among citizens, aldermen and civic officials, by his readiness to lend the assistance of his long experience and knowledge in solving the many engineering problems which arose with the growth of the city.

Knew London as No Other.

It has been said of Mr. Graydon that with his death would pass the only man who really understood the physical conditions of London. He understood the city as a lawyer understands his vaults or a doctor his laboratory. Frequently he had been consulted since his resignation, and always willingly gave the benefit of his experience to his successors. His very amiability would have precluded his refusing, in fact, to do any act of generosity for anyone.

High in His Profession.

Courteous and kindly, and at all times a hard worker, he was greatly respected by those under him, and he held the high esteem of his professional colleagues in this city. In later years he was somewhat incapacitated by deafness.

Since his resignation from office, he had lived quietly in retirement at his home on Dundas street. His health during the past year was excellent, and he had remarked that he had not enjoyed better health for some years. He was seen on the streets daily, chatting with his friends.

He is survived by his step-mother, Mrs. S. H. Graydon, five brothers and two sisters—N. P. Graydon, H. Marshall Graydon, and G. W. Graydon, of this city; W. P. Graydon, at present in Brazil, and Simpson H. Graydon, of Chicago; Mrs. R. W. Toulmin, Brooklyn, and Miss Selma Graydon at home. Mr. Graydon was a member of Pusey Lodge and of the Scottish Rite.

The funeral arrangements have not been completed, but it is probable that the services will be of a private nature.

SKILL REPLACES BEER IN MILITIA FOR CITY SEWERS

Minister of Militia Plans "Soup
Wagon" to Answer the
Emergency Thirsts.

Skilly in place of beer, for Canada's soldier-boys in camp or on the march, is the latest proposal of Col. Sam Hughes, minister of militia.

He proposes that a "soup-wagon" follow the soldiers on long marches to supply sustaining draughts of this nourishing fluid to those who have been in the habit of calling for a "mug of beer" when assailed by thirst or fatigue.

He claims that it is a splendid offset to drinking either in camp or on the march.

"It knocks drinking clean out" is the way he puts it. Militia officers in this city stated this morning that the change would make little difference, as very little trouble is ever experienced here though the use of liquor. The secret, they say, lies in the fact that the various units are composed of an exceptionally good class of men.

Many Complaints Made to Clerk
About High Rate of
Rentals.

Complaints without number have been registered with City Clerk Baker about the exorbitant sewer rentals charged to anyone who property does not abut or front on a street through which a sewer passes.

A property owner, who has sewer connections, and the majority of them have, because the health regulations say a man's property within a certain area, embracing nearly all the city, must be connected with a sewer—has to pay a rental of 15 cents a foot for ten years, as well as paying for sewer connections, etc., while a man whose property abuts or fronts on a street through which a sewer runs pays 12 cents a foot for sewer privileges and side drains until the sewer is completely paid for.

An Unjust System.

This system of charging, according to (Continued on Page Eleven.)

South Pole Discoverer May Lecture In London

Mr. W. C. McCutcheon, president of the Canadian Club, this morning wired to Roald Amundsen, discoverer of the South Pole, asking him to come to London and address the Canadian Club.

Amundsen has been in Ottawa and other Canadian cities on his lecture tour, and has been delivering addresses to the clubs.

He will be in Detroit today and is expected to return through London. Mr. McCutcheon will make every effort to bring the explorer to this city, and it may be possible that if he has an open date a public lecture will be arranged.

Amundsen would attract a large audience in London.

SCORES MEET THEIR DEATH IN OMAHA HOTEL FIRE

Holocaust in Nebraskan Capital Last Night Took Terrible Toll
of Life—Flames Had Gained Great Headway
Before Discovered.

[Canadian Press.]

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 28.—Loss of life, estimated all the way from twenty to seventy-five, resulted from a fire which destroyed the Dewey Hotel, a second-class hostelry, occupying a three story building at Thirteenth and Farnam streets today. Three hours after the fire was discovered it was pronounced under control. It was confined to the building where it started.

HEAVY LIST OF DEAD.

The fact that the hotel register was destroyed will make it difficult to obtain a list of the dead, and while the manager of the place states that about fifty were registered, others who were about the hotel declared that many of the guests were not registered, and the total number was more nearly one hundred. Of these not more than 25 are known to have escaped.

THE KNOWN DEAD.

The known dead are: Mrs. Alice Bronnville, Charles Cummings, jumped from third story, breaking neck. Beverly, waiter.

The cause of the fire has not been determined. It started in the rear of the building, but had gained great headway before it was discovered.

The lower floors of the Dewey Hotel building were occupied by the Raphael-Fred Clothing Company, the Hiller Liquor Company, the Adams Express Company. The stock of all these companies were destroyed.

(Continued on Page Ten.)

HYDRO VICTIM ONLY WORKED SHORT TIME

Was Expected in Tonight and
Was Going Home to Visit
Family.

A POPULAR YOUNG MAN
Tragic Death Cast a Gloom Over
Companies in Local
Offices.

The tragic death of Vernon Baker, the young C. P. R. surveyor who was electrocuted at Centreville this morning, cast a pall over the local C. P. R. offices when the news reached there shortly after noon today.

Baker was one of the clerks in the resident engineer's office, together with several others, and when an Advertiser reporter called there about 2 o'clock today and confirmed the news, much sympathy was expressed.

Saw Baker Today. Mr. Thomas A. Munford, who was in charge of the survey, was with Baker and Griggs this morning, and he had only arrived back in the city when the reporter called. He stated that he expected that the two young fellows would finish the work at Centreville before noon, and then go to Ingersoll by the electric car. He had given the order to measure the height of the wires. They were to get their dinner at Ingersoll and return to London this afternoon. He was considerably cast down at hearing the news, and could not realize it for some time. He stated that the 100-yard tape must have been used to throw over the hydro wires, but he could not understand how

The Duke of Connaught and Sir Frederick Borden spoke briefly on the cadet movement. His Royal Highness deprecating the use of the militarism bogey in Canada. He declared there was no danger of it.

The conference continues this afternoon. A notable feature is the presence of representatives of the churches, universities and women's organizations, including the National Council of Women, Daughters of the Empire, Soldiers' Wives' Association, Equal Suffrage Societies, W. C. T. U., Women's Canadian Historical Society.

Baker came to take hold of it. Both knew the danger of the naked aluminum hydro wires.

A sister of Baker's is employed in the C. P. R. dispatcher's office, but she was not informed of the accident until late in the afternoon. Baker had only been employed by the C. P. R. for the past three weeks.

DRILL HALLS GALORE
PROMISED BY HUGHES
Says He Will Put One in Every
Town Where There Is Com-
pany Headquarters.

Ottawa, Feb. 28.—At the militia conference, today the Minister of militia announced that in future every battalion of active militia would be entitled to a cadet battalion, and a reserve battalion. Drill halls will be established in every town where there is a company headquarters, and will be free to use by the townspeople for other purposes. He declared that no day and night returned to the pockets of the people quicker than that on the militia, and no expenditure was freer from graft.

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HYDRO WIRE ENDS LIFE OF YOUNG LONDON MAN

Vernon Baker Catches Hold of Tape Measure Thrown Over
Line Containing 110,000 Volts and Is Struck
Down Instantly.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ingersoll, Feb. 28.—Vernon Baker, aged 19, of London, a surveyor for the C. P. R., was instantly killed about 11 o'clock this morning near Centreville, two miles east of Ingersoll, when 110,000 volts from a high-tension hydro-electric wire passed through his body.

Baker, a companion, named C. Griggs, of Toronto, had been surveying in the district for a couple of days, and this morning, while at work, for some unknown reason Baker decided to measure the distance from the hydro wire to the ground. Griggs threw one end of a cloth tape measure over the wire, carrying 110,000 volts, and Baker grabbed it as it came down.

Killed Instantly.

Instantly he fell dead, and electric sparks crackled and snapped from the hand which still held the tape. The tape burned through in a few seconds. Griggs as quickly as possible rushed to an adjoining farmhouse and called help.

Dr. Rogers hurried out from Ingersoll, but nothing could be done, and the remains were brought to McIntyre's undertaking rooms, where an inquest will be held.

Griggs escaped injury, as the frame

in which the tape was rolled acted as an insulator.

The tape which young Baker was holding was of linen reinforced with wire, which transmitted the current readily. Baker is the first victim by electrocution of the Niagara line since it was installed in this district.

News of the accident was broken to Mr. C. Wesley Baker, father of the young man, by an Advertiser reporter. Mr. Baker resides at Woodbank, where he conducts a fruit farm, and had not known that his son was in Ingersoll.

He could not give credence to the report until the facts of the case were told in detail, when there did not seem a possibility that the young man was not his son.

Besides his father and mother there are two brothers and two sisters surviving.

Mr. Baker immediately left his home for the city and will proceed at once to Ingersoll.

Admired by Friends.

Officials in the office of the C. P. R. division engineer expressed deep regret because of the accident. Mr. Baker was a favorite with his fellow-employees. When The Advertiser called at the offices news had not been received, but the report was soon confirmed.

BOOM IN BUILDING CAUSES ATTEMPT TO 'CORNER' BRICKS

Price Goes From \$8 to \$13,
and None Can Be Bought
in the City.

Builders Grab All Available
Material, and Car Lots
Are Imported.

Although builders have numerous contracts for erection of new dwellings and larger buildings for the approaching summer, they are greatly worried on account of the fact that white bricks are "cornered."

While the permits issued by the building inspector's department and information from other sources indicate that the building trade will be a lively industry the coming summer, the contractors cannot find a large enough supply in the country to satisfy demands in London alone.

Both contractors and brick manufacturers stated to The Advertiser this morning that the situation in London and the surrounding country at the present time was acute, and that operations in the spring would be seriously affected until such time as the brick yards commence operations, which will not be until April at the earliest.

Advance to \$13.

One of the largest brick manufacturing firms in the city stated that the white brick for sale in the city, and that inquiries and orders were pouring in to the different offices. Last summer, when the building activities in the city were brisk, the average prices were \$8.50 and \$9 per thousand, but now orders at \$13 per thousand could not be filled.

Rainy weather that prevailed last summer prevented the manufacturers from turning out a supply that would more than satisfy the current demand, as it was almost impossible at times to dry the bricks. The forecast of this year's operations has caused a number of the larger contractors to buy up supplies during the early winter.

"Corner" on Bricks.

Two of the local building firms are credited with buying 150,000 and 1,500,000 bricks during the winter from one yard, and thus exhausting the stock of that particular manufacturer.

Local contractors of late have been purchasing bricks from Crediton in car lots, and this simply will help towards making the situation easier. The demand, however, through Western Ontario is such that as large a supply as is desired cannot be obtained. One builder stated that he would not be surprised if a larger amount of red brick is used in London during the coming season as a result of the shortage of white bricks. London is one of the largest centres for manufacturing white bricks in the province, while the bulk of the red brick shade are manufactured in Hamilton, Milton, Chatham and Toronto.

THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—MODERATELY COLD.

Forecasts.

Toronto, Feb. 28.—8 a.m.

Today—Moderate northerly winds; fair. Saturday—Moderate westerly winds; fine and moderately cold.

Temperatures.

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

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
LONDON	27	23	Fair
Calgary	16	-12	Clear
Winnipeg	15	-10	Clear
Montreal	28	18	Cloudy
Perry Sound	32	4	Cloudy
Toronto	25	24	Snow
Ottawa	26	18	Cloudy
Quebec	22	20	Cloudy
Father Point	28	8	Snow

Minus (—) means below zero.

Weather Notes.

The disturbance which was in the Ohio Valley yesterday is now passing south of Nova Scotia, and snow is falling throughout the Maritime Provinces.

WEALTHY CANADIANS
APPEAL TO FRIEDMAN

Montreal, Ottawa and Winnipeg
People Are Anxious to Test
White Plague Cure.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

New York, Feb. 28.—Dr. Frederick Friedman, German scientist, who is here testing his tuberculosis cure, was not get-at-able here today when your correspondent endeavored to find out what answer he would give if the Dominion Government invited him to test his remedy in Canada, as suggested by Premier Borden yesterday.

Among applications for cures was one this morning from a wealthy Montreal man, name not available, also from prominent people in Ottawa and Winnipeg. Dr. Friedman is evading all such calls, however, and with characteristic concentration of the scientist, imbued with a single but great idea, has shut himself up in his laboratory, perfecting arrangements for a test here.

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City Clerk Baker, when spoken to, was very much affected and expressed his appreciation of the former city engineer as follows: "A. O. was a favorite with everyone he met, both in a business and social way. He was a big-hearted Irishman, and was one of the best men I ever met. I am extremely sorry to hear of his death, and will miss him exceedingly."

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