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PROBS—Fair and moderately cold to-day; Sunday milder.

Will Take Debentures in Payment by City For Electric Light Co.

New Offer Submitted to the City at Long Private Conference With the Controllers.

DETAILS FOR A BARGAIN NOT AS YET COMPLETED.

The proposal that the basis upon which the city take over the plant of the Toronto Electric Light Company should be the exchange of municipal debentures for shares, the rate of interest to be mutually agreed upon, and that the profits create a sinking fund with which to redeem the city's bonds on expiration, was submitted to the board of control by representatives of the company yesterday afternoon. No reference whatever was made to any change in the contract of the Electrical Development Company.

New Proposal

The principle discussed at the conference between representatives of the city and Toronto Electric Light Co., as officially stated, was the following: The city to take over the Toronto Electric Light Co. Debentures, with a rate of interest to be agreed upon between the parties, to be given to the shareholders in lieu of stock in the company. A sinking fund to be created out of profits, which will meet the debentures at the redeemable value now to be agreed upon. These are the broad outlines of the suggestions discussed by Mr. Johnston.

C.M.A. WILL APPOINT AN EXPERT ON TARIFF

To Devote All His Time and Talent to Securing Protection.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association intends to establish a new tariff department expert. He will devote his whole time to the study of tariff questions, just as the experts engaged by the association for its transportation and insurance departments. He will make a detailed study of those industries for which it is thought most protection is needed, so that in presenting to the government or a tariff commission a complete case may be submitted.

GIRL IS ACCUSED OF ERGING BARRIS

Arson Inquest in North York Reveals Distressing Evidence of Depravity and Revenge.

MT. ALBERT, Feb. 21.—(Special.)—Such disclosures of moral depravity as were made to-day during the fire inquest in connection with the burning of Mrs. John Hopkins' farm buildings, on lot 16, in concession 6 of East Gwillimbury, have seldom if ever been equaled in the annals of North York County. Whether the girl, Mabel Allen, who is now charged with being the incendiary, is guilty or not remains to be proven. She is in the custody of County Constable Cook, at his home, in Mount Albert, and will appear on a charge of arson before Magistrate Moore on Monday. The case will be tried in the town of Mount Albert. Previous Detective Rogers was the presiding coroner to-day, while Crown Attorney H. L. Drayton, K.C., conducted the prosecution. The bulk of the crown evidence was secured by Provincial Detective Greer.

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WAITING TO CUT THE MELON.



MR. ONTARIO: Tell your Uncle, Jimmie, that it's not your melon to give away.

PROVINCIAL CAN'T EXCEED THE LICENSES

Premier Tells the Hotelmen's Deputation That Public Opinion Must Remedy Their Grievance.

"This is not a case where I and my colleagues think we have any right to interfere. More than that, we think it would be distinctly improper to interfere. In this deputation, Premier Whitney dismissed the deputation of hotelmen yesterday who had waited upon him with a petition to stay the operation of the recently adopted bylaw cutting off forty from the number of licenses allowed in the city. The petition was signed by 37,876 people, and was a massive piece of evidence. James Haverson, K.C., made an able and exhaustive presentation of the hotelmen's case, but the premier analyzed the situation and laid down the law in a way that left no doubt of the impossibility of the government taking any hand in the matter. With Mr. Haverson were James Seymour of the Shamrock Hotel, Edward Hyland of the Boulevard Hotel, Queen and Jarvis streets, and A. Graham of the Iroquois Hotel, R. Falconer of the Richardson House, William Lunness of the Jersey Hotel and M. J. Cassidy of the Hotel Cecil. Wm. Hassard was also on the deputation. The petition had been very fully explained in the press, and was signed, among others, by such representative men as Dr. Goldwin Smith, Sir Henry Pellatt, R. B. Holden, J. W. Beatty, Walter Wyler, Dudley Lawson, E. Baines, G. E. Kingsford, G. R. Medland, C. A. Moss, D. R. Wilkie, G. B. Strachan, F. M. Minahan, Messrs. Gray and Baird, of which the lieutenant-governor is senior partner, A. H. Beckett, Rev. Mr. Taylor, recently of Chatham. The petition read: "The Hon. James D. Whitney, premier, and the members of the executive council of the Province of Ontario: "The petition of the undersigned citizens of the City of Toronto sheweth: "Whereas by a bylaw passed by the city council on Jan. 27, 1908, the said council reduced the number of hotel licenses from 150 to 110. "In January, 1905, the council rejected a bylaw for the reduction of licenses, and in January, 1906, the council defeated the proposed reduction of licenses, since which time the question has not been raised in any active way, and has in no way in any manner affected the municipal elections. "On the strength of the valid votes of the said council, and of the election, and in compliance with the demands of the license commissioners, a sum exceeding \$500,000 has been expended in the permanent improvements of the city hotels, which would not have been invested had not the said action been taken, and as an indication of the permanent policy of the city. "Four petitioners consider that the council has wronged the hotelkeepers by the reduction of the number of licenses, and the petitioners have taken by the council in a matter of such importance without a further reference to the voters of the city. "Your petitioners therefore pray that such action be taken as will stay the operation of the bylaw until after a general election. "The Associated Charities suggested, as they had a working plan for investigating all cases, that the other societies should make a return to them of the names and addresses of all people seeking relief. They would then inform the other societies, so that no person should get assistance from two sources at one time. This, however, did not meet with general approval. "Want a Permanent Official. "After considerable discussion it was decided to ask the board of control to appoint a permanent official at the city hall, who would devote his whole time to dealing with applicants for relief from the B.N.A. Act, which the management committee, composed of representatives of the several charitable societies, would divide the city into districts and every applicant for relief would have his or her case considered by the district committee, who would report to the central body. "The board of control will also be asked to purchase stones that may be broken for use on the streets and to start other public works, so that temporary employment will be provided for all seeking relief, such work to be paid for at a nominal rate. One gentleman suggested \$1 a day. The object is to relieve only those in distress who are willing to work and not to compete with any other class of labor. "Another suggestion was that a fund be raised to pay the transportation of several hundred men to points on the west and British Columbia, where there is a demand for labor. "Representative Gathering. "Thos. Roden of the Employers' Association occupied the chair. J. G. Merrick acted as secretary. "The Associated Charities, St. George's, St. Andrew's, Irish Protestants, St. Vincent de Paul, Children's Aid and Toronto Relief Societies, British Welcome League, Fred Victor Mission, Home for the Friendless, and the Salvation Army were represented. "Delegates from each of these organizations will wait upon the board of control on Tuesday to request that they put the suggestion of the meeting into force. "There is at present a city relief officer and an assistant was appointed a short time ago, after a vacancy had existed nearly two years without any necessity for its being filled. "Continued on Page 2.

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WEST TORONTO CONSERVATIVES.

The West Toronto Conservative Association meeting at Ossington-avenue and College-street has been unable to secure the speakers expected for tonight and the meeting has been postponed for a fortnight.

HAMILTON HARVESTER WORKS TO BE DOUBLED

French Treaty Will Result in Increase at Big International Mills.

OTTAWA, Feb. 21.—(Special.)—Adam Zimmerman (Hamilton) made an important announcement in connection with the discussion of the French treaty to-night. He said the treaty gave an advantage to Canadian agricultural implements over the American tariff, and the International Harvester Company would, as a result, do their French export business from Hamilton instead of from the United States factories. The increase of business would be a matter of \$2,000,000 a year to the City of Hamilton.

EMMERSON PROBABLE.

Ex-Minister of Railways For the Commission.

OTTAWA, Feb. 21.—(Special.)—It is stated on excellent authority to-night that Hon. H. R. Emmerson, ex-minister of railways and canals, will be appointed a member of the railway commission when the bill for the increase in the membership of that board is passed. Mr. Emmerson gives to Mr. Zimmerman the post of assistant chief commissioner, with a salary of \$9000 a year. There are two others to be appointed.

Deaths of Famous People.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 21.—Miss Harry Homer, the famous sculptress, died at her home in Watertown early to-day, after an illness of three weeks. She was born in Watertown in 1830.

A Political Deduction.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—(C.A.P. Cable.)—The News points out that the only country showing a decline of domestic exports is Canada, whose imports advanced \$10,000,000.

Story of the Fire.

About 2 o'clock last Friday morning

CANADA TO SAVE NEW ENGLAND

Canadians at Boston Asked to Block Control of Capitalists.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 21.—(Special.)—A more cordial reception was never before tendered any Canadian visitor to Boston than that extended to-night to W. F. Maclean, M.P., of Toronto, when he was the special guest of the Canadian Club of Boston at a dinner given at their magnificent club house on Beacon Hill. The occasion was made more interesting and enthusiastic thru the presence of more than a hundred wives, sweethearts and daughters of the members, who, forming the auxiliary of the club, joined in the welcome.

TO ESCAPE UNPOPULARITY OF VOIDING NATAL ACT

Probable Reason, Says Bowell Why Government Sent Japanese Cases to Court

OTTAWA, Feb. 21.—(Special.)—In the senate Sir Mackenzie Bowell asked why the department of justice had instructed its British Columbia agent to appeal the case of the two Japanese arrested for violation of the Natal Act.

NEW LADIES' COLLEGE.

Will Be Erected by Wesley Methodist College, Winnipeg.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 21.—(Special.)—Wesley Methodist College will have a new ladies' building, costing about \$100,000, and it will be one of the best in the city.

Big Men: Big Salaries.

Hon. Mr. Graham's Proposal to Enlarge the Railway Board.

OTTAWA, Feb. 21.—(Special.)—Hon. G. P. Graham proposed a notice of the following resolution: "That it is expedient to amend the constitution of the board of railway commissioners for Canada, and to provide for the appointment of an assistant chief commissioner at a salary of \$8000 per annum, and of two additional commissioners at a salary of \$2000 per annum each."

198 LICENSES GONE.

License Department Annual Report and What It Shows.

The report on the operation of the Liquor License Act, just completed, consists chiefly of the official schedules. During the year there had been a reduction of 198 licenses.

NEW OFFICIAL IS REQUESTED

What City Will Be Asked to Do in Solving Relief Problems.

Representatives of the Employers' Association, the various charitable organizations and prominent civic officials held a conference yesterday afternoon to discuss the advisability of creating more effective machinery for dealing with the unemployed problem and the relief of distress in the city.

THIRTY-FOUR IN PERIL.

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