

THE WEATHER:
FRESH WINDS, FAIR TONIGHT.
TUESDAY—MILD.

London Evening Advertiser

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SECTION AND EIGHT COLORED COMICS
EVERY SATURDAY.

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THREE CENTS.

FLOOD RANGERS SOUTH LONDON

London Hydro Costs Remain Despite Chicago Water Cut

FLOOD WATERS NEAR TOP OF RIVER BANKS

Lady Astor Is Ordered To Rest

Associated Press Despatch.
Plymouth, Feb. 23.—Lady Astor, member of parliament, has been ordered to the country for two or three weeks' complete rest and quiet. Owing to her "temperament" due to strain from her constant political and social activities, Lady Astor once or twice each year is commanded by her physicians to seek quietude for a short spell.

South London Homes in Danger of Flooding Due to Heavy Rains.

UNDERWORK LOST
Repairs Made to Ridout Street Bridge For Safe Passage.

Rising waters of the river Thames threatened today to flood homes along the south branch of the river and in London West. Back of Front Street in South London the river was four feet above normal level at 1 o'clock this afternoon though in western and northern districts no serious prospects are seen.

Water poured from sewer outlets at midday speed. Storm sewers were filled to capacity and overflows, put in during recent years, alone were able to be of invaluable service. Flooded sewers were reported in some parts of the city but for the most part water was running freely this afternoon.

Reports from Front Street this afternoon stated that the river level on the south branch was up to the bank and the water was rising. A flood there was believed imminent by residents, though the city works department had a gang of men working to keep drains open.

Little Danger.
Along the north branch of the river, little danger is feared. The south branch was cleared of ice over the week-end and the water is flowing freely, though continued rains are causing a steady rise. Further down the river the flood is not so serious.

Underwork at the Ridout Street bridge was carried out last week and repairs have been made to provide for safe passage across the structure.

City Engineer W. P. Near declared today that new sewers are getting capacity use from the steady rains of the last few days. According to Mr. Near, the new sewers and overflows are of enormous use just now. Catch basins and gutters on the streets have been kept open most of the winter and this foresight has resulted in an easier get-away for flood waters in different parts of the city. Frozen drains were reported in several sections of the city today and some men were out breaking through the ice.

Increased Rain.
Noticeable this year is the increased intensity of rainfall and, though the rain gauge at the city hall is not in use, the steady pouring of rain at the city hall was heavier than in previous years and showed a tax on the capacity of storm sewers.

Nearly three-quarters of an inch of rainfall is reported for less than three days and a sharp drop in the barometer was noticed at noon. The freshets commenced on Friday night and during that night and from 2 o'clock on Saturday afternoon 34 of an inch of rainfall was reported. On Sunday and early this morning another 19 of an inch of rain was measured and a steady downpour continues today.

Last night the rain came on at 11:40 o'clock and lasted until 2 o'clock. The fall of rain commenced again at 7 o'clock this morning.

Spring weather, accompanied by melting snows, steady rains and mists, has been a sharp change since earlier this year than in many seasons. Mrs. George C. Young of Bruce Street today reports seeing a robin in her doorway, one of the first of these birds seen in London this year.

LOW RATE ON CATTLE TO BOOM INDUSTRY

Duncan Marshall Declares Subsidized Service Will Aid Farmers.

IMPETUS NEEDED

Immigrants Must Have Outlay For Products, Otherwise Work Is Useless.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Montreal, Feb. 23.—Establishment of a government subsidized transatlantic service as proposed in the Petersen contract now before parliament, will reduce ocean-carrying charges from \$5 to \$8 per head of cattle, in the opinion of Duncan Marshall, former minister of agriculture in Alberta, who told the Reform club here that such an achievement would be the biggest impetus ever given to the Canadian cattle-raising industry.

The speaker turned to immigration. "The speaker turned to immigration," he said, "for the last two years," he said, "we have been hearing lectures time and time again to the effect that we need immigrants; we must put people on the prairies to help pay the national debt. I want to know what use it is in putting them on the prairies if there is nothing to give them a living."

The immigrant must make some spare money to be able to aid in paying off the national debt, and if he cannot make a margin over his expenses in farming we would be doing him better to leave him in the country where he was first."

Markets must be provided for the produce of the west then the western farmer himself would be the best kind of immigration agent that Canada could wish for. The Crow's Nest railroad freight agreement the speaker characterized as "the first relief of western farmer got on his freight rates." The result has been that Alberta has been able to compete with New Zealand and the British Columbia market.

Lifting of the British embargo on Canadian cattle had given the farmer a market that is "the first relief of export of \$9,000 cattle, which sold at good prices, he said.

In drawing attention to the fact that the point of the government bearing a share of the cost of building the road had always been in dispute, Dr. Stevenson holds that now the matter is cleared up to the extent where no time should be lost in proceeding with the work.

Having approached the council on the plan, Dr. Stevenson later wrote the department of works, and the communication he has now received from the deputy minister of the department follows as the result of his appeal to the department.

THUG WHO HELD POLICE
AT BAY WILL RECOVER

Associated Press Despatch.
Niagara Falls, N. Y., Feb. 23.—John Smith, who Friday night ran amuck with two automatic revolvers, and held a squad of police at bay for nearly four hours, remained under police guard in St. Mary's hospital last night, with two bullets in his body and two gunshot wounds in his legs and back. Surgeons, after an X-ray examination said he probably would recover.



STANISLAWSKA UMINSKA, the Polish actress, is the wife of the actor who was shot and killed in the Paris theatre last night.

OTTAWA GIVES AID IN ROAD SCHEME

Dr. H. A. Stevenson Advised in Westminster Hospital Highway Plan.

The federal government is prepared to bear its share of the cost of paying the road from the city to Westminster hospital.

Such was the information supplied. The Advertiser this morning by Dr. H. A. Stevenson, who stated that he had received word from the department of works to that effect.

Dr. Stevenson, who has been interesting himself in the unemployment situation in London, suggests that the city council should approach the government for a substantial grant on the scheme and carry it through as early as possible this spring.

He points out that there should be a paved road to Westminster hospital, and also that such a road would serve as a sidewalk for those having to walk into the city from the hospital.

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TWO CHILDREN PERISH
IN ALEXANDRIA BLAZE

Housekeeper Makes Vain Efforts to Rescue Alexandria Youngsters.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Alexandria, Ont., Feb. 23.—While their father was absent in Vermont, and their mother was at the bedside of a stricken son in a Montreal hospital, Pearl, aged 12, and Paul, aged 10, children of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Lacombe, were burned to death when fire destroyed their home here yesterday morning. Miss Massia, in charge of the house and children in the absence of their parents, narrowly escaped with her life.

The fire broke out from an unknown origin, and the housekeeper was awakened to find the building in flames and filled with smoke. Her endeavors to reach the sleeping children were cut off by the flames and she fled from the house, crying for help. Despite brave efforts on the part of firemen, they were unable to rescue the children. The house was completely destroyed and the furniture was a total loss.

FIVE-CENT FARE SEEN UNTIL VOTE IS TAKEN

Acting Mayor McCormick and Other Councillors See No Change.

McKAY OPPOSED

Believes Company Should Be Forced To Carry Out Measures.

Five-cent fares will be continued on the London street railway until the end of 1925, when a vote of the people will be taken to decide on a new franchise for the company, according to views held by some members of the city council.

According to municipal talk, a meeting will likely be held next week by the council, when a definite decision on the fare question will be arrived at. A definite arrangement for such a caucus have yet been made, though Mayor Wenlock discussed the matter with Ald. McCormick late on Saturday.

Carry Out Measures.
Ald. Frank McKay, chairman of No. 1 committee, believes that the company should be called upon to carry out the measures of the street railway bylaw and the special act of legislation. He does not know of any special meeting to be held by the council on the matter as the company has already been notified that the old rates of fares, seven and nine tickets for a quarter, go into effect on March 8.

"For my part, there will be no move for another meeting with the street railway," Ald. McKay stated today.

Asked if action would be possible, please see page 3, column 1.

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Elgin County Officials Will Not Consent to Double Wedding.

GOVERNOR AROUSED

Luton Says Couples Seeking to Wed Are Crazy and Silly.

Special to The Advertiser by a Staff Correspondent.
St. Thomas, Feb. 23.—There will be no double wedding in the Elgin county jail if the officials can prevent it. The Advertiser learned this morning. Jail officials term the two young couples, Norman Weir, Gordon Weir, Violet Boeding and Helen Gouvier as "crazy and silly." These terms might be applied to most young people at that age, but Governor Luton refers to it in the broadest sense imaginable.

The girls appealed to a matronly woman from the Salvation Army. The good lady, although she has a warm spot in her heart for all young people at the romantic age, felt it her duty to remind the girls in very strong fashion. "The boys haven't decided which girl will marry who," said the governor. This is a new development in the romance and one which shows the ridiculous turn the double wedding is taking, when the boys themselves cannot decide which girl is to marry and who? Norman Weir is practically decided on marrying Violet Boeding although his fancy may at any time change. The girls have endeavored to impress on the jail officials that they have been engaged to the boys for over a year yet all the facts seem to belie their statements. The two young couples appear before Magistrate Maxwell on Thursday, the girls to answer a charge of vagrancy and the boys to chicken stealing.

Faulty Mechanism Will Be Claimed As Death Cause By Defence In Banned Trial

True Bill Is Expected To Be Returned in Murder Charge.

HUNDREDS ATTEND

Brace Running Across Clutch and Brake Was Not Wholly Effective.

Special to The Advertiser by a Staff Reporter.

Welland, Feb. 23.—A true bill is expected in the murder charge against Frank Banned of London, when the Welland court grand jury goes into session at the spring assizes this afternoon. Banned is accused of causing the death of Smylie Muirhead at Niagara Falls on the afternoon of Sept. 27, 1924, when he drove his sedan up over the sidewalk on Epworth Circle, killed Muirhead, and injured his own wife, Ruth Banned, with whom he had quarrelled but an hour previous.

Banned drove the car a block or two further, and abandoned it to walk across the bridge to Niagara Falls, N. Y., where he caught a train for New Orleans, where he was captured and brought to Welland on Nov. 14.

Crown authorities have consented to the request of J. M. McEvor, K.C., counsel for Banned, that the car driven by the prisoner be produced for Justice Logie and jury to examine.

The car has a brace running across both clutch and brake, when engaged simultaneously by Banned, and it is claimed that this brace was loose. Banned having visited the garage of Thomas Terry, London, (who he fixed just before he made the trip to Niagara Falls to see his wife, from whom he was separated. The brace was not fixed at the time, Mr. Terry informed The Advertiser. Evidence will be given by the defence to show that Banned had to use one hand to help place his foot against the brake and that while doing this the car got away from his control, causing the death of Mr. Muirhead.

Considerable interest centers in the court proceedings today, farmers for miles around travelling to Welland to see the car.

Banned's wife, Ruth, who had her leg broken in the places where the car driven by her husband left the pavement for the sidewalk on the afternoon of September 27 last, is again in the hospital. The damage was not able to walk for another three weeks, her physician, Dr. A. B. Smilie, states.

BROTHERS IN JAIL PUZZLED OVER SELECTION OF BRIDES

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CITY MUST CONTINUE PLANS FOR BIG ENGINE

Pocock States Cut in Chicago Water Not Satisfactory to Beck.

HALTS EXPANSION

Hydro Not Able to Proceed With Plans to Increase Output.

Despite the cutting off of 1,500 cubic feet per second of water diversion by the Chicago sanitary district, London will still have to proceed with the installation of the auxiliary Diesel oil engine for hydro purposes.

Such was the opinion expressed this morning by Philip Pocock, dean of the public utilities commission, in commenting upon the action of John W. Weeks, United States secretary for war, in reducing the Chicago diversion to 8,500 cubic feet per second for the next five years.

"The reduction is satisfactory," remarked Mr. Pocock, "inasmuch as it is a step in the right direction. It is not entirely satisfactory, however, and I do not think Sir Adam Beck, as chairman of the hydro-electric power commission of Ontario, will be satisfied until an even greater reduction is made in the amount of water diverted from the great lake."

Sir Adam Beck, "that it was his intention, if the Chicago diversion should be cut down, to enlarge the Chippewa power plant from 10 to 12 units, the two additional units to be of 60,000-horsepower each, the same as those already completed."

Need Steam Plants.
"Will the reduction in the Chicago diversion eliminate the necessity of Sir Adam proceeding with his scheme of auxiliary steam plants?"

"No," promptly replied Mr. Pocock, "it will delay the program very much either. Sir Adam proposes, of course, that the steam plants should be used only for two hours or so each day to relieve the peak load, and that the Diesel engine be used to put out 120,000 additional horsepower at Niagara Falls, as the result of the greater volume of water flowing over the falls, would not provide the necessary adequate increase in hydro power demanded in the province to prevent the threatened power shortage."

"No," again rejoined Mr. Pocock, "even with business slack as it has been lately, and our factories running only part time, as they have been, consider the strain on the supply. And what if there was any kind of a boom in business, where would the hydro supply be then, if it is not very largely augmented?"

Cut Nearly All Off.
Had Mr. Pocock his way in the matter of the "absolute diversion," he would probably cut it off almost entirely. He maintains that the Chicago interests have no right whatsoever to divert water from the great lakes for either power or drainage purposes.

He pointed out that the H. E. P. C., after using the Niagara Falls water for power purposes, returns "absolutely every drop of water" to the Niagara river to flow on to Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence.

Mr. Pocock commented also upon the Chicago diversion, assailing the expenditure of millions of dollars on account of the fall of two or three feet in the level of the water in the lakes, which can be directly attributed to the Chicago diversion, to the Illinois and Mississippi rivers.

Lack of sympathy for public opinion. Please see page 9, column 2.

AMERICANS CELEBRATING
WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

Associated Press Despatch.
New York, Feb. 23.—The 123rd anniversary of the birth of George Washington passed yesterday, and the event was being celebrated throughout the United States. A presidential proclamation set aside today as a holiday. All markets were closed.

PROBE IS OPENED AFTER FUNERALS

Indiana Authorities Seeking for Methods to Avert Similar Tragedy.

Associated Press Despatch.

Sullivan, Ind., Feb. 23.—Burial of the victims of last Friday's disastrous explosion in the City Coal Company's mine and rendering of aid to families of the 51 dead miners occupied the attention of this city today.

Next came the problem of determining the cause of the fatal blast and the possibility of averting another such tragedy. Funerals were held today for almost a score of the mine victims.

Effort to Blackmail
MRS. STOKES AVERTED

Hair Dresser Sought Money For Her Silence, But Game Is Checked.

Associated Press Despatch.
Chicago, Feb. 23.—The second attempt within a week to blackmail Mrs. Helen Edwood Stokes, of Denver, Col., in connection with the trial of her husband, W. E. D. Stokes, of New York, on charges of conspiracy to defame her, was frustrated yesterday, according to W. C. Dannenberg, investigator for Mrs. Stokes.

Dannenberg said a woman, who said she was Mrs. Lorraine Quilty of Philadelphia, remembered dressing Mrs. Stokes' hair under circumstances such as to make her silence worth money. She disappeared, said Dannenberg, when he mentioned the psychopathic hospital.

The prosecution has announced that Mrs. Stokes will appear as a witness against her husband, circumventing the law against such appearances by the use of a witness against Robert Lee and Hattie Johnson, the negroes indicted with Mr. Stokes.

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Ceremonies were being held in the various cities with a vast amount of speech-making, reciting the life and achievements of the "father of the country."

Thomas E. Barrett of Somerville, a guest at the hotel, was suffocated in his room in the third story while firemen were struggling up a ladder through the smoke to rescue him. His body was recovered.

TWO DIE IN GUN BATTLE.
Martin, Ky., Feb. 23.—Two men were killed, including a deputy sheriff, and six others were wounded during a gun battle here yesterday. The cause of the shooting had not been learned.

The Weather

FORECASTS.

Fresh to strong winds, shifting to northwesterly; mostly fair tonight; stationary or somewhat lower temperature.

A fairly deep depression is moving north-eastward across the Great Lakes, causing rain in Ontario and snow in eastern Quebec. In the maritime and western provinces the weather has been fair.

Temperatures.
The highest and lowest temperatures previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations. High Low Weather
Victoria 48 42 Rain
Calgary 12 2 Cloudy
Winnipeg 14 2 Fair
Port Arthur 24 20 Fair
St. John 20 20 Cloudy
Toronto 23 22 Rain
Kingston 20 28 Rain
Ottawa 28 18 Cloudy
Montreal 22 18 Rain
Quebec 20 16 Snow
St. John 34 24 Cloudy
Halifax 46 22 Rain
(—) Below zero.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 34; lowest, 28.

The official temperatures for the 11 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 34; lowest, 28.

Sun rises at 7:05 a.m. and sets at 6:58 p.m.

Barometric Readings.
Sunday—8 p.m., 29.14.
Today—8 a.m., 29.14.