THE WEATHER:
FAIR, NORTHWEST WINDS.
THURSDAY—MILDER.

London Evening Advertiser

GOOD NEWS
IN THE WANT ADS TODAY
ON PAGE 16.

61ST YEAR. NO. 23926 | LONDON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1924.—EIGHTEEN PAGES. | THREE CENTS.

NEW EVIDENCE GIVEN AGAINST PETER SMITH

BANK SUPERVISOR INFERS BIG RAKE-OFF ON DEPOSIT WAS PAID TO PETER SMITH

Former Supervisor of Home Bank Declares He Was Sent by the Manager To Secure $2,500, While Hon. Peter Smith Awaited His Return.

AMOUNTS CHARGED TO DEBIT INTEREST ACCOUNT

Witness Declares "Hon. Peter Wasn't Losing Much Time" When He Referred to Transaction in the Office of Col. Cooper Mason.

WITNESS DETAILS HOW TRANSACTION OCCURRED

Special to The Advertiser by a Staff Reporter.

Toronto, April 2.—Fresh sensations were provided for the public accounts committee of the Legislature this morning, when Joseph C. Whitaker, general supervisor of the defunct Home Bank, took the stand and told of numerous visits of Hon. Peter Smith, former provincial treasurer, to Col. J. Cooper Mason, the late general manager of the bank.

Joseph C. Whitaker, formerly with the Home Bank, was the first witness called.

"What position did you hold there?" asked Col. Price. "Almost every position to general supervisor."

"How long were you in that?" "About two years."

"Then you knew that the province of Ontario had a deposit account from 1921 to 1923?" "Yes."

Took Money To Manager.

He told how on one occasion, July 27, 1921, he had personally carried an envelope containing $2,500 in "legals" from the accountant to the general manager, who was at the time closeted with Mr. Smith in Mason's office.

On another occasion A. E. Calvert, the assistant manager, had brought an envelope up to the manager's office while Smith was inside and had handed it to Mason outside the office.

Whitaker could not say that Smith had received the money, but he did swear that Mason had remarked to him that "the Hon. Peter is not losing much time."

Engaged by Liquidator.

The witness told Harold Fisher, the Ottawa Liberal M. P. P., that he was now engaged by the liquidator "in untangling the mess at the bank."

He asserted that Smith must have been at the bank about a dozen times to his knowledge, and told of finding a desk diary or calendar on which were several notes of Mason's with the name of Hon. Peter Smith, evidently referring to appointments. The calendar was produced and examined.

Hon. Manning Doherty and Harold Fisher brought out the point that it was peculiar that payments would be made of commissions by the bank to get provisional deposits when the deposits were not increased. Whitaker said he fancied it must have been to retain the deposits.

Smith Is Not Present.

Hon. Peter Smith, contrary to expectations, did not come before the committee and was not visible at the buildings.

The committe resumes on Friday morning, when A. E. Calvert, acting manager of the bank at the time of its collapse, and Gordon Chapman, accountant, will testify. Whitaker said that Chapman told him the $2,500 he handed him to take to Mason was being charged against interest debit account.

Price Produces Copy.

"Col. Price then produced a copy of the liquidator's list of the late Colonel Mason's commission account. The first entry was on April 5, 1921, and the last on July 13, 1923.

Colonel Price took the first item, an amount of $3,500 paid in cash to the general manager.

"What was that for?" "That was commission paid for influencing the Ontario Government deposits to be made with the bank."

"Do you know anything about it yourself?" "No."

"What was the first one you know about?" "On July 27."

Referring to the entry of July 27, marked Exhibit 97, re payment drawn in legals for $2,500 and paid July 20, Col. Price asked Mr. Whitaker, "What connection did you have with that?"

"The general manager told me," replied the witness, "that the Hon. Peter was coming down and said that he didn't want to be disturbed."

Handed Money to Mason.

"The Hon. Peter Smith came down to the general manager's office and the general manager said to go down and get the money."

"He said that to you?" "Yes, presuming it was for the Hon. Peter Smith. I went down."

"That's the money referred to in this voucher?" "Yes."

Please See Page 4, Columns 2 and 3.

ALD. JOHN GREER,
chairman of the board of works, raps Mayor Wenige's latest high school plan, characterizing it as "jellyfish buck-passing." Ald. Greer favored the construction of one high school in 1924.

COL. W. H. PRICE,
provincial treasurer, who secured damaging evidence against Peter Smith in his cross-examination today of J. Whittaker, former supervisor of the Home Bank.

VACCINATION APPEAL MEETS WITH APPROVAL

Dr. Downham Reports Many Have Applied For Treatment.

City Medical Officer of Health Downham reports that citizens are responding splendidly to the vaccination appeal from the board of health.

Twelve were vaccinated at noon while the same number were vaccinated Monday and about 45 on Saturday. These are, of course, in excess of the scores being vaccinated by family physicans. One doctor informed the city officer this morning, for instance, that he had vaccinated 325 since the Windsor epidemic.

BOY FULLY RECOVERED.

Charles (Chick) Faulkner, 17-year-old messenger boy of the C. N. R., who was shot by a chum while out hunting several weeks ago, returned to work today, feeling no effects from the wound.

LONDONER PLEADS GUILTY TO CHARGE

George W. Griffin and Woman Are Held at San Diego, California.

Special to The Advertiser.

San Diego, Cal., April 2.—George W. Griffin, former London, Ontario, real estate dealer, pleaded guilty on two charges of violating immigration laws, when arraigned in the United States district court today. Sentence will be imposed later.

Additional reports regarding Griffin are en route from Detroit and Calexico, Cal.

Griffin was arrested here some days ago in company with Mrs. J. S. Stewart, a widow of London, Ontario. The couple claimed to have been married in Tia Juana, just across the Mexican border, but could not remember the name of the judge who performed the ceremony. They stated the marriage certificate had been lost.

Griffin was closely questioned by the court, but stuck to his story of the marriage. He told the court he had been tried in London in connection with a real estate deal, and had served in the Pershing expedition to Mexico, prior to the American entry in the world war.

Griffin was charged with bringing Mrs. Stuart from Ontario to San Diego and of harboring a woman after entry into the United States.

POSTAL WORKERS WAIT FOR ONTARIO'S DECISION

Any excitement that may have existed over the federal government's proposed salary and bonus cuts of the postal workers is over now for the time being at least.

Local postal men stated today that nothing new had developed and that it is very unlikely that the situation will change before the civil service commission has had an opportunity to devote a reasonable time to their duties of salary revision at Ottawa.

HELP YOURSELF!

Free Marbles and Jacks For All Boys and Girls

Next Saturday morning, The Advertiser is going to hold open house for all the boys and girls of London.

In the Winter Gardens at 11 o'clock sharp The Advertiser will give away marbles for boys and jacks for girls. The Advertiser wants all the boys and girls to have ammunition for the big marbles and jacks tournament.

You may help yourself. Every boy may take two handfuls of marbles—one hand at a time—and every girl will get between five and ten jacks.

All the boys and girls in London are invited—any age—any size.

Watch for later announcements!

Newsy Bits From Today's Classified Ads.

Flour and feed business for sale.

* * *

Stenogrpaher wanted.

* * *

Used car for sale.

* * *

Six-room brick house for sale.

* * *

Black and white dog lost.

Fine of $1,400 Is Imposed on Forest

EVICTIONS BILL MAY MEAN FALL FOR LABOR

British Minister of Health's New Measure Is Being Vigorously Opposed.

CALLED "RED" LAW

Proposal Is Backed by Clyde Group in MacDonald Government.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, April 2.—The "reddest piece of work yet attempted by the Labor Government" is the description applied by the ministry's opponents to the bill dealing with rents and evictions, which comes up for its second reading in the House of Commons today and which promises to set the political heather a-fire. Its sponsor is the minister of health, John Wheatley, whose action in giving virtually a free hand to the Poplar guardians in the matter of unemployment relief raised a storm which for a time seemed to threaten the existence of the infant government. The main feature of the bill, which repeals some recent legislation, provides that a tenant shall not be liable for eviction for non-payment of rent when such non-support is due to inability to obtain employment.

The Conservatives have risen in arms against the bill and given notice of a motion for its rejection, while many of the Liberals are apparently equally hostile, and even some of the moderate Labor section are said to be doubtful of its wisdom.

Its opponents declare the measure is iniquitous, and ask why the landlords are singled out to bear such a burden; why not equally compel the grocer and butcher to provide food for nothing. They also contend that the actual tenant of a house might be unemployed, while the others of his family were earning money and thus be well able to meet his obligations.

COMPENSATION CHANGE BOON TO WORKINGMAN

Labor Representatives Express Pleasure in New Rehabilitation Clause.

Several prominent labor men, expresing their opinion of the action of the legislature yesterday when the second reading of the bill amending the workmen's compensation act was passed, consider it another advance step for the workingmen of theDominion.

Under the present system when a man is injured so as to totally disable him from continuing in that particular line of work, no provision is made for him to take up another trade, which is well provided for in the new bill, which calls for $100,000 to be taken out of the fund provided by the employers to fit these men for other work.

This also benefits the employer, declared one labor man, who stated that as the men progress along the lines of rehabilitation, the compensation is reduced.

GLENCOE POOLROOM IS ROBBED OF $400

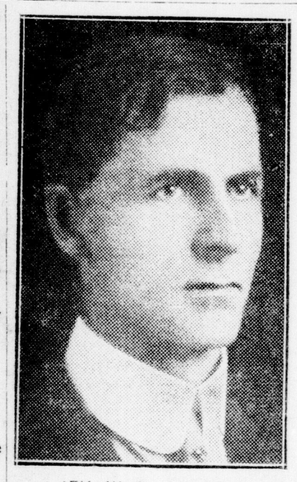
Tobacco, Watch and Cash Is Secured by Unknown Thieves.

The poolroom of Roy Siddall at Glencoe was broken into between 2 and 8 o'clock this morning and tobacco, cigarettes, cigars, and other smoking accessories to the value of $400 was stolen.

The robbers gained entry through a second-story rear door and made their way to the ground floor where they made an almost complete sweep of the stock. Six dollars was taken from the cash register as well as a watch belonging to the proprietor, valued at $35.

There were no signs of a motor car, Mr. Siddall stated and the robbery, he thought, was the work of local parties. There were numerous footprints in the snow and fingermarks on the show cases.

Mr. Siddall sent for both High Constable Wharton and Provincial Constable T. Y. Stratton, who are investigating the case for him.



REV. W. R. McINTOSH,
of the King Street Presbyterian Church, who is to be made a doctor of divinity by Knox Presbyterian College, Toronto.

REV. W. R. M'INTOSH WILL BE HONORED

Knox College To Confer Honorary Degree of D. D. on Popular City Minister.

In recognition of his distinguished service in the ministry, the honorary degree of D.D. is being conferred upon Rev. W. R. McIntosh of King Street Presbyterian Church by Knox College, Toronto, according to word received in the city this morning. Mr. McIntosh is to become a doctor of divinity at the convocation ceremonies in Knox College this month.

"The honorary degree of D.D. is being conferred upon Mr. McIntosh," Rev. Dr. Gandier, principal of the college, stated in an interview with The Advertiser this morning, "in recognition of the work he did as a member of the committee on Sunday schools and young people's societies, as well as for his long and distinguished service in the ministry."

Mr. McIntosh was advised of the honor to be conferred upon him a short time ago, but the news was not made public until this morning, when word was received from Toronto.

The minister of the King Street Church will be the third among the local clergy to receive this degree from Knox College. The others are Rev. Dr. MacGregor of St. Andrew's Church and Rev. Dr. Beattie of First Church.

Rev. Mr. McIntosh is one of the outstanding men among the ministers of London, and during the thirteen years he has been with his congregation has become widely known in the city. The announcement that he is to be so honored is received with great pleasure.

UNITED WELFARE FUND NOW TOTALS $43,000

Team Captains Report Cordial Welcome Received Throughout City.

BETTER ORGANIZATION

City Travellers To Conduct House-To-House Campaign Saturday and Sunday.

Approximately $43,000 has been subscribed or pledged to the United Welfare Fund at the end of the first day of canvassing. This announcement was made at a meeting attended by 25 majors and captains of the campaign, held in the Indian room of the Tecumseh House last night. W. R. Yendall was in the chair owing to the unavoidable absence of A. E. Silverwood, general chairman of the campaign.

The team majors and the captains practically without exception reported that they and their men had been cordially received everywhere.

Tonight there will be the first general meeting of all the team members in the Tecumseh House at 6:30, when the reports for the two days will be submitted and plans made for carrying on the remainder of the campaign.

People seem to be better informed regarding the aim of the campaign than in any previous year was the general opinion. One captain stated that none of his men met with a single turndown during the day nor had any contributor reduced his amount from the previous year's figures. In fact on the contrary the average increases were from ten to twenty per cent, and in some instances even higher.

The cause of this splendid response it was said was partly due to a better organization than in previous years, for in the past the work duplication which presented many difficulties for the canvasser occurred. Considerable experience was gained by these mistakes, however, and those in charge of the collection of funds are confident that nothing has been overlooked this year which might tend to cause inconvenience to the collectors of otherwise muss up the big canvassing machine.

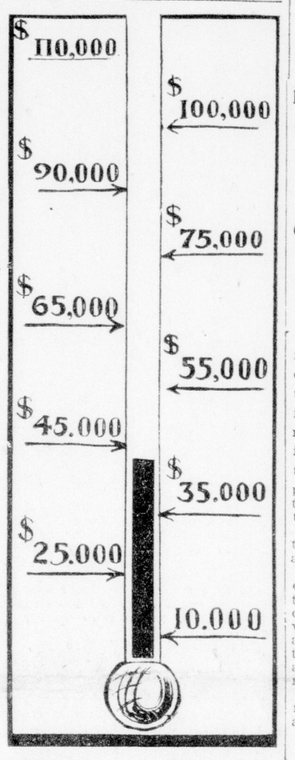
A number of constructive suggestions were received from the workers, and these will be used to perfect the organization so that no

Please See Page 14, Column 4.

EIGHT ADDITIONAL MEN TO BE HIRED, SAYS CHIEF

Fire Chief John Aitken calculates that the $10,000 appropriation for additional firemen will allow him to engage eight new men, all of whom will probably be stationed at the central fire station.

While there are no promotions anticipated, a change of location for some of the officers is contemplated, he stated.



Keep 'er Going!

ABOLISHMENT OF TAX ON CHARITIES SOUGHT

Toronto Federation Advises the Local C. of C. of Further Plans in This Regard.

The Toronto Federation for Community in a letter to the secretary of the London Chamber of Commerce states that it is asking the Y. M. C. A., the Rotary, the Lions, the Kiwanis, and all service clubs to pass resolutions to be forwarded to Ottawa asking that all offerings and contributions made to charities in the Dominion shall be exempt from the operation of the income war tax act.

The letter adds that in the United States such contributions are entirely exempt from taxation, and that it would lead to larger gifts by the contributors and better work on the part of the canvassers if this change in the laws was made. Several applications have been made in the past by the federation toward this end, but have met with refusal by the federal government in each case.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY PLANS BIG BANQUET

Annual Event in the Tecumseh House Will Mark Club's 58th Anniversary.

On Wednesday, April 23, St. George's Society in London will hold a banquet at the Tecumseh House to mark the 58th anniversary of the founding of the society. Plans to install a radio amplifier at the banquet are being considered so that the King's speech at the opening of the British Empire Exhibition may be heard by the guests.

Edwin Lewarne, president, heads the committee of officers, who are making arrangements for the banquet. R. Robinson, secretary of the society, is also secretary of the committee.

The society will march in a body to St. George's Church, West London, on Sunday, April 20, where Ven. Archdeacon Sage will deliver a sermon in keeping with the day.

NO PROVISION MADE.

Have members of the city council dropped a broad hint to Mayor Wenige that they want nothing to do with his proposal to have a corporation lawyer for city clerk?

It develops that no provision for the suggested change has been made in the estimates for this year, as urged by the mayor.

Murrell Grows More Serious As Day When Slayers Must Pay For 2 Murders Draws Nearer

Williams and Former Pal Spend Their Time in Reading Their Bibles.

POSITIONS IN JAIL

Realizing that his time on this earth is drawing relentlessly to a close with each ticking second, Sidney Murrell, who is to pay the death penalty on April 10 for the murder of Russell Campbell at Melbourne in 1921, is spending many hours reading the testament provided for him by his religious adviser, Rev. G. Quintin Warner.

"Slim" Williams, companion of Murrell on the day of the bank robbery, and who is also doomed to die, should no reprieve from Ottawa arrive, is also receiving consolation from his Bible, and spends much time in its perusal.

The rollicking songs that helped pass the long days after the prisoners had received sentence, have changed to hymns. Murrell is more serious than at any time during his career. He has lost his cheery smile, it is stated, and is not as talkative as he was before his appeal for a new trial was denied by Osgoode Hall.

Clarence Topping, who is to die the same day for the murder of Geraldine Durston, does not, to all appearances, seem to realize that he has but eight days to live.

Although jail officials have never given out any information as to how the men are situated in cells, prisoners who have been discharged from the jail state that Murrell is confined in the special cell built for him, with Topping occupying the other part of the large room [illegible] by bars. Immediately across the hall is Slim Williams. From the west window of his cell, Williams has a view of the jail yard which in times past has been used for hangings. Unless he is removed from his cell, "Slim" will be able to see the hangman erecting the gallows a few days hence.

Should the hanging take place in this particular jail yard, curious individuals will be able to see the hangings from the old mineral springs site.

THERESA MANJOLA,
the Boston girl who fled to Sydney, N. S., because she was tired of the whirl, wiles and wickedness of a great city.

$1,400 FINE IS IMPOSED UPON TOWN OF FOREST

Magistrate Woodrow Renders Judgment in Recent Waterworks Case.

MAY YET ESCAPE

Court Will Recommend Fine Be Remitted If Order Is Immediately Obeyed.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Sarnia, April 2.—Judgment imposing a penalty of $1,400 on the municipality of Forest was handed down today by Magistrate C. S. Woodrow in the police court case in which the municipality was charged with having refused or neglected to carry out the provisions of a report of the provincial board of health ordering the installation of a waterworks system in the town.

The individual members of the town council were freed of the charge at a previous session.

The judgment, a lengthy one, sets out that sufficient notice was given to the municipality to take the necessary steps to install the waterworks and was served on the mayor and for that reason it was held that the municipality had been in default and liable to penalty since receipt of notice.

Ross W. Gray, counsel for the municipality, stated this afternoon an appeal was being considered.

CAN YET ESCAPE PENALTY.

Special to The Advertiser.

Forest, Ont., April 2.—Word was received here this morning from Magistrate Woodrow of Sarnia that he had given his verdict in the case between the provincial board of health and the town of Forest re the installing of waterworks.

The verdict is a fine of $1,400 and costs, but the town will proceed immediately to obey the board's order, the magistrate will strongly recommend that the fine be remitted although he has no power himself to remit it. In any event the cost will have to be paid by the town. The fine is at the rate of $100 a day, dating from March 5 when the order was given to March 19 when proceedings were started.

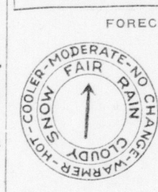
INSPECTOR MAY BE CALLED TO REPLY TO CHARGES

Whether Relief Inspector J. W. McCallum will be directed to give testimony in his own defence at tonight's session of the finance committee will depend entirely upon the substance of the accusations levelled in his direction, according to Chairman Douglass.

The investigaton wil be impartial, the chairman insists, and the inspector is to be judged upon the charges laid by Mayor Wenige, who suspended him more than two weeks ago.

The Weather

FORECASTS.



Today—Northwest winds; fair.
Thursday—Fair and somewhat milder.

Pressure is high from the Great Lakes southward to the Gulf of Mexico, and low over the western half of the continent.

A deep depression is centered off the New England coast, causing gales and snow from the Ottawa Valley to the Maritime Provinces.

In the West the weather has been fair and rather mild.

Temperatures.

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

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	52	42	Fair
Calgary	50	28	Fair
Winnipeg	50	18	Foggy
Port Arthur	32	22	Clear
Sault Ste. Marie	30	10	Clear
Cochrane	..	6	Clear
Toronto	32	25	Cloudy
Kingston	34	26	Snow
Ottawa	32	26	Snow
Montreal	32	26	Snow
Quebec	26	22	Snow
St. John	34	24	Snow
Halifax	36	24	Snow

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 32; lowest, 22.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 27; lowest, 18.

Barometric Readings.

Tuesday—8 a.m.—29.23.
Today—8 a.m.—29.33.