THE WEATHER:
COOL AND PARTLY CLOUDY.
WEDNESDAY—SHOWERS.

London Evening Advertiser

GOOD NEWS
IN THE WANT ADS TODAY
ON PAGE 18.

61ST YEAR. NO. 23937 | LONDON, ONTARIO, TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1924. —TWENTY PAGES | THREE CENTS.

NO FRANCHISE, NO STREET CARS, SAYS CURRIE

Peter Smith Remanded on Bail for Eight Days

OFFICIALS BELIEVE FRANCHISE CHANGE IS ONLY SOLUTION

Currie Points Out Three Possible Outcomes in Present Tangle—New Franchise, Sale to City or Cease Operations—King Presents Figures Showing Cost in Operating and Change in Revenue.

ACTION WOULD MEAN CUT FOR EMPLOYEES

Unless the London Street Railway and the city council can get together and devise a new franchise before March 8, 1925, the road will automatically cease operation.

This is the ultimatum thrown down by Charles Currie, president, and Richard Ivey, vice-president of the London company. The road cannot possibly operate under the bill brought in and approved yesterday by the Ontario Legislature respecting decreased fares, they declare.

The revised wording of the bill passed by the legislature means that the increased fares granted the company shall end on March 8, 1925, and revert to the old schedule of seven and nine tickets for 25 cents.

Mr. Currie, over long distance telephone from Cleveland, stated to The Advertiser this morning that there were three possible outcomes to the decision of the Ontario House. They were:

1. That a new agreement as to fares must be arranged between the company and the city, involving a new franchise.
2. That the city take over the company at a reasonable figure.
3. That the company cease operation.

"We certainly cannot keep going on lower fares," Mr. Ivey said. "As I see it, the only solution is in the council and the company framing a new franchise to take effect on March 8, 1925."

There is no hope of continuing under the provision which calls for a reduction of fares, other officials of the company stated. Street car service would be demoralized if the company attempted such a thing. Besides, the wages of employees would have to be reduced by $34,779.16.

FIGURES SUBMITTED BY MANAGER.

General Manager C. B. King submitted figures this morning which showed that the company's profit in 1923 was just 6½ per cent on capital invested. He pointed out that operating on the 1921 basis, when fares were seven for 25 cents, the company would suffer a shortage of $78,667.

A summary of the 1923 gross costs compared with revenues for 1921, the last year of lower fares, is as follows:

COSTS IN 1923:	
Operating expenses	$572,082.09
Fixed charges	37,086.62
Depreciation	37,364.58
	$646,533.29
REVENUE IN 1921 UNDER OLD RATES	567,866.26
DEFICIT	$ 78,667.03

Wages paid out in 1923 totaled $386,255.40, while the total of 1921 was $351,476.16. This would indicate that reverting to the 1921 scale of fares in 1925 would mean a reduction of $34,779.16 in wages to employees.

Greater Than Earnings.

Mr. King added that operating expenses last year were greater than the entire gross earnings of 1921. It was obvious, therefore, that the company would be compelled to scrap the road if no amicable arrangement can be made with the city before March 8, 1925.

"If the public expects better service the new franchise which will possibly be drawn up, must allow sufficient profit to induce investment of capital in the company. At present no one cares to invest his money in the road. The returns are not big enough," Mr. Ivey said. "No manufacturing concern would operate on a 6½ per cent return of capital invested."

Just now, Mr. Ivey declared, nothing would be done to meet the situation. The company must await developments. It is supposed, of course, that the council and the company will confer on the matter shortly in the hope of formulating a new franchise which would permit the railway to continue giving good service at an equitable return.

The history of the street railway tangle dates as far back as 1920, when the company asked for an inquiry by the Ontario Railway Board regarding the necessity for increasing fares from seven tickets for 25 cents to 5 cents each. The board submitted a report showing that owing to the general increase in materials, wages, etc., the London street railway should be allowed to raise its fares.

Appeal Granted.

With the findings of the board as evidence, the company appealed to the legislature to enact a special amendment to Bylaw 916, by which 5-cent fares would be allowed. This was granted. Although still operating under Bylaw 916, the clause dealing with the price of fares was nullified. On March 8, next year, however, the company must revert to the 1921 rate and Bylaw 916 will become operative in its entirety.

Mr. Ivey claims conditions affecting costs of doing business have not yet returned to normal. Thus, reversion to the old rates will mean so substantial a loss that the company could not possibly function under that system.

It is probable that the whole situation will be reviewed before the council shortly when President Currie visits the city.

The revised wording of the bill respecting street railway fares under special acts was brought in by Premier Ferguson yesterday, and approved of by the House. The measure now refers specifically to the London bill of 1922, and is a declarative enactment, reading as follows:

"To remove doubt, it is hereby declared that the provisions of chapter 141 of the act, passed in 1922, entitled 'An act respecting the London street railway,' shall only apply up to the 8th day of March, 1925, and from and after the said 8th day of March, 1925, the said act shall be repealed."

Railway Fares In Other Cities

The cash fares of other Canadian cities are as follows:

Windsor	6
Sarnia	6
Brantford	6
St. Thomas	7
Toronto	7
Guelph	6
Brandon	7
Vancouver	6
Calgary	10
Fort William	7
Kingston	7
Halifax	7
St. John	10
Ottawa	7
Peterborough	7
Quebec	7
Regina	10
Saskatoon	10
Sherbrooke	10
Winnipeg	7

AUTO CRASH ACTION NOW BEFORE COURT

R. Boyle, London, Sues O. Mowat, Kitchener, For $341 in County Court.

Another automobile damage action is occupying the attention of Judge Talbot Macbeth in county court today. Robert Boyle of London is suing Oscar Mowat of Kitchener for $341.75 damages to his motor car in an accident at the intersection of William and King streets on the afternoon of Sunday, October 21 last.

Mr. Boyle claims he was driving north on William street and was just past the center of the King street intersection when his car was struck by a motor owned by Mr. Mowat. The latter declares he was not negligent as leeged by the plaintiff and in turn counterclaims $191 damages, alleging the plaintiff was to blame.

Jared Vining is appearing for the plaintiff and Gordon Tennent for the defendant.

Newsy Bits From Today's Classified Ads.

Man for service station.

* * *

Flour and feed business for sale.

* * *

Used car for sale.

* * *

Cattle to pasture.

* * *

Maid wanted.

PHILIP SNOWDEN,
Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Labor government, who is expected to announce the abolition of duties on autos, bicycles and films in the forthcoming budget.

L. S. R. REMEDIES RIDOUT ST. BRIDGE

Road Would Share the Cost of New Structure, Manager King Declares.

The London Street Railway started today to construct supports on the Ridout street bridge for the purpose of making it doubly safe for passengers. After the near accident last summer when the track almost collapsed under the weight of a crowded street car, reinforcements were placed on the bridge. Additional supports, work on which commenced this morning, will insure perfect safety, C. B. King, manager, said.

Mr. King added that the company would be quite willing to shoulder their part of the expense involved in building a modern structure to replace the bridge which, despite its rather wobbly condition, is still giving service. He suggests that a modern bridge be built by the city with the street car tracks in the center, and two one-way traffic sections, one on the west and the other on the east side.

The Ridout street bridge, it will be recalled, was condemned as unsafe by ex-City Engineer Brazier two years ago.

OFFICER'S PROMOTION IS CONFIRMED TODAY

Col. C. H. Reason Elevated to Rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in Command of Brigade.

Confirmation of the appointment of Col. Clifford Reason as officer commanding the 1st Infantry Brigade was received from Ottawa this morning, military headquarters announced today. Col. Reason has been elevated from the rank of lieutenant-colonel. He was formerly in command of the 1st Hussars here, and has been succeeded by Lieut.-Col. Fred Taylor, D.S.O.

The appointment of Lieut.-Col. George Little as head of the Western Ontario Regiment, to succeed Col. Eric Reid, was also announced.

FIVE U. S. SOLDIERS ARE KILLED IN MOTOR CRASH

Associated Press Despatch.

Honolulu, April 15.—Five enlisted men of the United States army detachment at Schofield Barracks were killed and five others injured yesterday when an army truck carrying fifteen men overturned on the road between Schofield and Hallewa.

COLIN CAMERON ASQUITTED.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Montreal, April 15.—Colin A. Cameron, charged with the theft of sums aggregating half a million dollars from the bankrupt stock brokerage firm of Thornton, Davidson & Co. of Montreal, of which he was a partner, was this morning acquitted by Chief Justice Decarie.

Ottawa Records Big Quake Shock

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, April 15.—One of the most severe earthquakes which has been registered locally was recorded at the Dominion observatory here yesterday. The preliminary tremors started to register on the observatory instruments at 11:41.23 a.m. and lasted for several hours. This distance to the epicenter was 8,889 kilometres, or approximately 5,465 miles.

COLUMBUS DETECTIVES START HUNT FOR BANDITS

Jailer Declares That He Saw Pat Norton Within Recent Date.

MURRELL NOT SEEN

Still Await Word From Toronto on What Action Is Wanted.

By WILLIAM SHARMAN.
Special to The Advertiser by a Staff Reporter.

Columbus, Ohio, April 15.—Charles Beard head jailer at the Franklin County jail in this city was positive, at a conference this morning with C. J. McNeal, chief of the Columbus detective department, that he had seen "Pat" Norton during the last two years.

The jailer's duties bring him in constant touch with hundreds of men but when he scanned the circular containing the picture of "Bill" Murrell and "Pat" Norton, he pointed to the latter without the slightest hesitation.

"I've seen him here some time," he stated, "I don't know under what name of course or what he was here for, but I remember his face, however. "The head jailer was equally positive that he had never seen William Murrell or heard of him. He is quite positive also that neither "Pat" Norton or Murrell are now in custody and if as he thinks Norton has ever been in his custody in the Franklin jail it has not been recently.

All day members of the Columbus

Please See Page 2, Column 1.

COMMITTEES PREPARE FOR TRADE CONGRESS

Local Labor Men Strive To Break Records at Big Parley in the Fall.

Numerous committees were organized at last night's meeting of the local unions held in the Labor Temple for the purpose of proceeding with arrangements for the holding of a trades congress convention to be held in this city, in early fall.

Donald Wright presided at last night's meeting.

The last trades congress was held in Vancouver and local officials are highly elated over their success in securing London as the place of the next meeting.

Officials hope to make it one of the most successful conventions ever held by trades councils are sending invitations to many of the prominent trade men throughout Canada to attend.

POSTAL MEN IN CITY AWAIT FURTHER NEWS

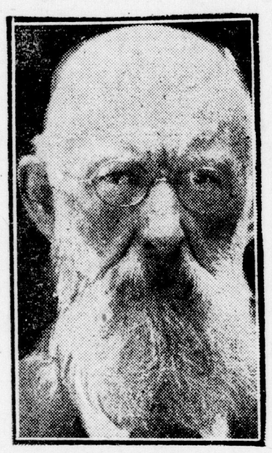
Today Is Pay Day at Local Office—Minimum Week's Wage Now $30.

Speaking on the question of the upward revision of postal salaries, local members of the Postal Workers' Association said today that nothing further has been heard from Ottawa or from the members of the postal workers' executive.

It was pointed out, however, that the bonus had been cut, and figures were given to show what such a cut means to many men. Today is pay day at the post office, and those who received the minimum wage received for two weeks' work approximately $30. The men state that although the minimum wage of $780 works out to $65 per month, less 5 per cent held back, known as the retiring fund, which is kept till a man leaves the service. This amounts to $3.25, leaving a balance of $62.75 for a month's work. As the extra $2.75 goes on at the end of the month, this leaves a man on the minimum rating with $30 for the next two weeks.

TWO LONDON OFFICERS WILL ATTEND ENGLISH MEMORIAL

Both Lieut.-Col. Ibbotson Leonard, D.S.O., and Lieut.-Col. Fred Taylor, D.S.O., expect to be in England to attend the ceremony in connection with the unveiling of the spacious monument erected in memory of fallen Canadian cavalrymen. The affair takes place next month.



PROFESSOR JAMES MAVOR,
professor at Toronto University, and noted Canadian economist, who will address members of the University of Western Ontario.

POLITICAL BATTLE BELIEVED COMING

Quebec Minister Sees Struggle Equalling Reciprocity Campaign of 1911.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Montreal, April 15.—A political battle of the magnitude of the 1911 reciprocity campaign is impending as a result of the tariff reductions proposed by the 1924 budget, according to Hon. P. J. A. Cardin, minister of marine and fisheries, who addressed the Young Liberal Association here tonight.

Mr. Cardin said that the Liberal Party had often been relegated to the opposition in parliament because of its devotion to a policy that meant good for all people and not merely for special classes. That, he said, was why Sir Wilfred Laurier had been beaten in 1911. "The Liberals today are about in the same position," he maintained. "Let us hope that if it is necessary to go before the electorate in a year or two the party will receive a verdict different from that of 1911."

INJURED ATHLETE IS NOW REPORTED RESTING WELL

William Shearme, 16-year-old student of the L. S. C. I., who fractured his leg while training for athletic competitions yesterday afternoon at Thames Park, was reported to be resting comfortably by authorities at Victoria Hospital today.

Shearme lives at Byron.

WILLIAMS DECLARES "PAT" REALLY NORTON

Claims He Went to Buffalo With Melbourne Bandit To See Wife.

ROBBERY AT SIMCOE

Relates How He Entered Store and Removed Clothes From Dummy.

Police authorities have ascertained from no less a person than "Slim" Williams himself, that the famous and mysterious "Pat," who took a leading part in the Melbourne bank robbery in April, 1921, is really "Pat" Norton.

Williams, it was learned from an authentic source, was shown a picture of Norton as he sat in his cell at the Middlesex jail, and he immediately identified it as his pal in the bank robbery.

There have been stories and still more stories circulating through city and county every since the robbery that "Pat" was not Norton at all, but the son of Mr. "So-and-So." These rumors are now definitely set at rest by Williams' statement.

Inspector Nickle of the London detective department was quite sure that the escaped man at Melbourne was Norton, judging from the description given by residents of the village. He quietly secured a picture of "Pat" and showed it to people who had glimpsed the fleeing bank bandit. These individuals told the inspector he was certainly after the right man.

If Williams' story is to be believed, he knew Norton for some time, and visited with the bandit at his home in Buffalo. Pat introduced the lady of the house as his wife, "Slim" stated.

This would tend to bear out the statement of Norton's first wife, who resides in London, that her husband had another wife in the United States.

One of Williams' favorite stories that he confided to other prisoners was how he and a pal broke into a clothing store one night in Simcoe. "Slim" stated that he entered the window of the store and removed a coat and vest from a dummy, leaving his own as a fair exchange. A policeman was standing under the hydro light on the corner in full view all the time he was making the change, Williams claimed. He wore his new belongings to the Simcoe races that afternoon and was never suspected of having any connection with the robbery.

HARRY K. THAW,
murderer of Stanford White, who has been declared sane by a noted Philadelphia alienist. A trial is now in progress to determine whether Thaw is capable of managing his own affairs.

PETER SMITH'S CASE IS POSTPONED EIGHT DAYS

Thirteen of His Friends From Stratford and Vicinity Provide Bail.

PUT UP $52,000 BOND

Former Treasurer Declines To Make Any Statement After Court Session.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, April 15.—Hon. Peter Smith, provincial treasurer of Ontario during the administration of the United Farmer government from 1919 to 1923, appeared in police court before Magistrate Edmund Jones this morning, and was remanded for eight days. The former minister is charged with intent to defraud the government.

Thirteen bondsmen, all but one from Stratford, Ont., were bound in sums of $4,000 each, while Mr. Smith himself was required to put up $50,000 bail.

He was accompanied to court by Hartley H. Dewart, K.C., his counsel.

The thirteen bondsmen are: A. C. McLeod, Gordon Rankin, James Gillies, Herbert Kastner, Wm. Grosch, R. J. Essen, Charles Lloyd, Simon Grosch, Thomas Pikney, Dr. Lorne Robertson, J. W. Thurston, Norval Babt, all of Stratford, and Aaron Werner of

NO PLEA TAKEN.

Special to The Advertiser.

Toronto, April 15.—Peter Smith, former treasurer of the U. F. O. government, got his first glimpse of the interior of Toronto police court today.

Last night when he walked off to police headquarters from the parliament buildings at 5:10 o'clock the corridors of the city hall were emptying. City hall employees were hurrying home. No one recognized Mr. Smith. Charwomen were busy washing the floors—and after Mr. Smith was bailed out at 9 o'clock the hall was still and silent, and the empty corridors dark.

Today, at 10 o'clock, Mr. Smith came back to the city hall. It was alive with people. The corridors outside the court were crowded with jostling people of all classes, boot-

Please See Page 2, Column 1.

"AL" SMITH,
governor of New York State, whose friends today launched a boom for him as Democratic candidate for the presidency.

MEXICAN REBELS ARE EXECUTED

Generals and Colonels Placed Before Firing Squad at Ciudad Victoria.

Associated Press Despatch.

Mexico City, April 15.—Three rebel generals, three colonels, four lieutenant-colonels, and one major have been tried by drumhead court-martial and executed at Ciudad Victoria, State of Tamaulipas, according to information received yesterday from General Rafael Ramo, commander of the Ciudad Victoria garrison.

The generals executed were Mario Rendon, Alfredo Saucedo and Severo Reza.

The generals and other officers put to death were captured last Friday at Xicotencatl when federal forces defeated the rebels under command of Gen. Antonio Villareal, who with General Manuel Larraga, is still at large.

CIVIC GOLF COMMITTEE MEETING WITH SUCCESS

Subscribers Will Meet Again on Thursday Night To Talk Scheme.

The offorts of the civic golf committee in adding to the list of subscribers is meeting with success and the list is growing fast enough to encourage them in believing that the course will be laid out this spring. The forms for signature, which are published in The Advertiser are on view in the following stores, and golfers may sign them there: Hydro store, Gurds, Brocks, Briscoes, and all sport stores; Brown Borthers Shoe Store, the Dunlop Rubber Company and McPrehson's barber shop.

A meeting of all subscribers will be held in the Tecumseh House on Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. The forms call for a subscription of ten dollars, which is the full year's subscription. This entitles the member to as many games as he wishes to play throughout the season.

For strangers and all non-members there will be a green fee, probably of fifteen cents.

BOYS' WORK OFFICIAL VISITS FOREST CITY

W. R. Cook Comes in the Interests of the High School Boys' Conference.

W. R. Cook, territorial boys' work secretary, is in the city today in the interests of the high school boys' conference, to be held in Toronto during Easter week.

The conference will be of a religious nature, and will be attended by delegates from members of the "Hi-Yi" clubs of the various Y. M. C. A. in Ontario. There has not been a "Hi-Yi" club in London for about four years, but it is hoped that this feature of the high school boys' work may be resumed soon. The objects of the clubs, that are so popular in other cities, are to promote "clean life, clean speech, clean athletics."

ROBB WILL MOVE $500 EXEMPTION FOR CHILD

The Acting Minister of Finance Intends To Move Amendment to the Act.

SEVERAL OTHER CHANGES

Non-Residents Selling in Canada Will Have Profits Taxed.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, April 15.—When the budget resolutions are considered in the committee on ways and means, Hon. J. A. Robb, acting minister of finance intends to move an amendment to the income war tax act to provide that normal tax exemption for each dependent child will be increased $300 to $500. The increased exemption will apply to 1923 income and subsequent periods.

Mr. Robb's resolution will also provide:

1. For making taxable profits or income of non-resident persons selling goods in Canada through employees or agents or receiving rentals or royalties from sources within Canada.

2. Authority to determine profits realized by:

(a) Corporations in Canada purchasing from associated corporain excess of fair prices.

(b) Canadian corporations selling to parent or subsidiary companies at less than fair prices.

(c) Non-resident persons producing goods in Canada and exporting them without sale prior to export.

3. (a) That income derived from a business conducted by a husband and wife be taxed as income of one of them only.

(b) For authority to disallow as an expense income credited or paid to husband as an employee of his wife or vice versa.

4. (a) For the disallowance of the annual value of property used in the business except rental actually paid therefor.

(b) That net profits be taxed without reduction by allowances therefrom for sinking funds or other similar reserves.

5. For certain modifications of the present law pertaining to the income tax lien and to render certain that the lien shall not take priority over securities validly taken prior to the time at which the lien attaches.

HEAVY EARTH SHOCK IS RECORDED IN IRELAND

Associated Press Despatch.

Dublin, April 15.—The seismograph instrument at Rathfarnham Castle was agitated for one and one-half hours, beginning at 5:41 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

London reported last night that the West Bromwich Observatory at 5:39 p.m. yesterday recorded an earth shock more severe than that in Japan last year. The disturbance was estimated to have been about 7,000 miles distant, supposedly in the Pacific Ocean bed.

The Weather

FORECASTS.

Today — Fresh northwest winds; partly cloudy and cool.

Wednesday — Easterly winds, with showers.

The pressure is high over the Great Lakes, while a deep depression is centered over Colorado, and another is moving slowly eastward across Newfoundland.

The weather has been fine in Ontario and cool and unsettled with rain and snow in the Western and Maritime Provinces.

Temperatures.

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

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	46	36	Fair
Calgary	44	20	Fair
Winnipeg	46	32	Rain
Port Arthur	42	32	Cloudy
Sault Ste. Marie	28	26	Cloudy
Cochrane	34	12	Clear
Toronto	51	32	Fair
Kingston	50	30	Fair
Ottawa	48	28	Clear
Montreal	46	34	Clear
Quebec	40	36	Cloudy
St. John	48	30	Clear
Halifax	48	30	Clear

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 59; lowest, 38.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 46; lowest, 25.

Barometric Readings.

Monday—8 p.m., 29.27.
Today—8 a.m., 29.51.