

CHILDREN'S DAY STARS FAIR TOWARD RECORD

Bennett Brings Remarkable City Assessment Report

WESTERN FAIR'S FIRST REAL DAY LIKELY TO BREAK CROWD RECORD; THROUGHS OF CHILDREN ATTEND

Fine Day and Plenty of Attractions Give Young Visitors Much Happiness.

MIDWAY IS MAGNET

Every Attraction in Buildings or Grounds Has Its Quota of Eager Patrons.

Thousands of keen-eyed, expectant youngsters swarmed the grounds of the Western Fair this morning long before the hour which on other days heralds the opening of school. For the attraction today was something far stronger than a school opening; far stronger even than the call of the old swimming hole in mellow summer. Today is children's day at Western Ontario's big exhibition, and youngsters proclaimed their joy by crowding through the gates with all the refreshing abandon of youth.

Rats, bewitched with their first glimpse of fair festivity, and older lads and lassies still young enough to enter whole-heartedly into the spirit of carnival, drew two thousand strong over the grounds. The city was aflame and juvenile London gave itself up to an expression of pleasure which every Western Fair opening brings forth. Even the pretentious Manufacturers' Building, housing exhibits designed to interest more mature nature, attracted the astute attention from the kids. More interested scrutiny was, of course, given the side-shows and gayly be-decked booths. But every attraction was patronized, even the art gallery coming in for its full share of youthful praise and criticism.

Groups of potential track men gathered about the horses while "Wah-Wah" the bald-headed dog and "Skinny-Minnie" of side-show notoriety came in for a great proportion of the youngsters' attention. The house of enchantment, Tom Thumb, the smallest man in captivity; Teeny Weeny, the diminutive pony and other stars of the freak world drew thousands of dimes and quarters from the pockets of the boys and purses of the girls. "Hot Dogs," too, enjoyed a bull market and all the booths purveying luxuries dear to the heart of modern Tom Sawsers and Liza Junes reaped a satisfactory harvest.

The Crystal Palace "Samples."

The Crystal Palace maintained its reputation for being the most attractive building from a youngster's point of view. From early morning they were the prize designs submitted by class-mates and companions in a school-drawing exhibit. A lumbering elephant, one of the features of the Johnny Jones show, was watched with keen interest by dozens of tots who had never seen this particular vintage of circus animal before. The third largest locomotive in the world also excited close attention and, of course, "Bullba," the African dodger was called upon to evade many baseballs hurled with ferocious vim by hundreds of prospective candidates for big league berths.

Many side-shows and booths are still in the process of being erected and school children spent hours watching the activities of workmen.

The Midway a Magnet.

Along the midway, which this year boasts more attractions than ever, speleers made their initial appeal to crowds of waiting youngsters. As one ingenious "barber" slipped a dagger through his wrist and then proceeded to describe the manifold wonders that might be seen within for one dime, ten cents, youngsters opened their mouths and gazed in wide-eyed amazement.

One cynic volunteered the opinion that it was "a fake," but he was regarded as a joy-killer by his companions who flocked into the show under the canvas in streams.

In another section of the grounds hundreds of cups were given away free by a hardware store. Boys of all sizes, ages and nationalities all scrambled for the floor as the cups were tossed in the air. Some of them were caught, but the majority precipitated a free-for-all wrestling bout before lucky individuals secured a strangle hold on one and claimed it for his own. After that the boys just naturally had to try out their drinking cups and many invested the odd nickel to see what a drink of orangeade would taste like when poured into a tin receptacle.

Fifty per cent of the children carried lunch baskets with them and at the noon hour picnic parties were held on the grass despite the cold wind and dampness of the ground.

This afternoon a second contingent of youngsters invaded the fair grounds and children's day at the exhibition commenced in real earnest. The merry-making will continue until the late evening when five thousand potential citizens of London will turn to Page 2, Column 2.



FIRST PATRONS OF 1923 FAIR.
Claron White, 433 Ontario street, and Robert Reid, 824 Queen's avenue. These boys were the first persons to pass through the turn gates at the Western Fair early this morning.

Two London Youngsters First To Enter Big Fair

Robert Reid and Claron White Waiting Admittance When the Main Gates Opened at 7 o'clock This Morning.

Almost before dawn the big exhibition in preparation for which London puts forth its best efforts attracted many curious citizens to its gates this morning.

Adults and school children view with each other for the distinction of being the first spectators to enter the Western Fair, 1923, and the honor was won by two youngsters.

Robert Reid, 824 Queen's avenue, and Claron White, 433 Ontario street, grandson of Detective Nickle, got the laurels for being the most ambitious Fair boosters of the city. Rising before 7 o'clock this morning, this energetic couple were the first to cross the turn gate and enter the grounds as spectators ready to "take in" the sights.

Following an unusually early rise, the two youngsters ate a hearty breakfast and rushed pell-mell to the Fair grounds. They arrived out of breath, panting with excitement and keyed up with holiday and exhibition gaiety.

Surprised that few people had gathered at the entrance to the grounds, and skeptical as to the truth of reports regarding free admission for children under 12 on Monday, they loitered at the gates for a few moments, but when told that as yet no visitors had passed through the entrance, and that the first boy through would win the honor of being the first spectator for the exhibition of 1923, they rushed the gates. Robert Reid and Claron White were the winners. Will they be the first of a hundred thousand?

BENNETT'S REPORT PLACES SCHOOL PUPILS AT 11,062

The Assessment Commissioner Places London's Population at 61,867, a Gain of 498.

Assessment Commissioner Harry Bennett sets the "school population" at 11,062, in his annual detailed report submitted today. Of this number 974 are separate school attenders.

As The Advertiser has already recorded, the city's population is set at 61,867, an increase of 498. Confirming a previous announcement, the city's additional assessment jumps \$2,322,703.

Commissioner Bennett points out that while the work of his department has increased to a large degree, efficiency was possible with a reduced staff, a saving in salaries for the year of \$12,000.

His report follows in detail, as judged by the city authorities as one of the best that has been seen in years.

His Worship Mayor Wenige and Members of the City Council: Gentlemen—I have the honor to present for your consideration the annual report of the work of this department for the year 1922, and compared with the figures of 1921, these statistics also include the statutory exemptions, population and other information gathered by the assessors, particulars of transfers of property, appeals and other information which may be of interest to your honorable body.

Turn to Page 21, Column 1.

PERSISTENCE WINS IN LENGTHY CHASE AFTER MAIL THIEF

Determination of W. J. May Leads to Arrest of F. Snyder in Everett.

OF LONDON DISTRICT

The perseverance of the inspection branch of the Dominion Postal Service is no better exemplified than in the case of Frank N. Snyder, of Gainesville, Mich., who after a two years' chase, has been captured at Everett, Wash., and will be brought back to Ontario to face a charge of robbing a hydro-electric car near Amherstburg of a mail sack containing between \$5,000 and \$7,000.

Special credit for the robber's capture is due W. J. May, an inspector of postal service in the district superintendent's office here, for it was he who after two years of dogged persistence finally located his man on the western coast, and instigated communication with the inspector at Ottawa caused him apprehension by W. F. Trent, postal inspector at Vancouver, who was valiantly accompanied by Mr. Trent to Vancouver, where he is awaiting transport to Essex.

Reads Like Detective Tale.

If the full facts of the long chase and Snyder's ultimate capture were divulged the story would read like a modern detective tale, but D. J. McLean, district superintendent, and Mr. May, with their usual reticence, insist that it is just a matter of long standing that has been finally cleared up, and are loath to discuss the affair.

Mr. May is always in touch with mails in transit, and he said that he was first attracted to the case through the fact that the mail bag had been stolen while on a moving train. The robbery resolved, and Snyder's capture at the time of his apprehension, every effort was made by postal authorities and police to locate Snyder. He eluded capture for nearly two years.

"I tracked him to Durand, Michigan, for quite a while," Mr. May admitted, "but he always managed to slip away. I tracked him to Durand, and then he disappeared. The case dropped from sight then, but when I was in the Border Cities I followed little clues, and finally found out that he had gone across the continent to visit relatives at Everett. That was my clue."

Mr. McLean has returned to London after conferring with Border Cities officials on the Snyder case, and he said today that all the necessary evidence would be collected in preparation for the thief's return. Mr. McLean expressed the opinion that when Snyder was met at the other end of the country by a postal official he concluded that the net had been drawn tight, and so decided to confess and return of his own free will.

According to Snyder's confession, as reported by Trent, a conductor kicked the mail sack off a car on the railway near Amherstburg on Sept. 27, 1921, and the sack was taken from under a culvert and hid in a haystack. It was related that the sack contained between \$5,000 and \$7,000, and the men visited the haystack from time to time taking money from the pouch, which Snyder and a bank clerk, who it is claimed was concerned in the robbery, weighted it and threw it into a river, with the rest of the mail still in it.

Was Under Observation.

London officials stated that the mail clerk was under observation for some time, but no evidence could be gathered that would show up his connection with the theft. With Snyder's arrest, however, officials hope to clear up the bank clerk's side of the affair.

Snyder is married, and he motored across the continent from Gainesville, his home town. He is said to be six feet two in height, and weighing more than 200 pounds.

MAYOR OPENS NEW BUILDING AT FAIR IN BRIEF SPEECH

Everything in Full Swing For First Day of Fair—Buildings Look Well.

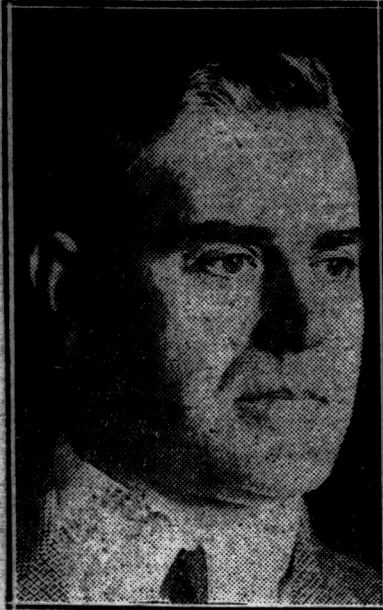
Under cloudless skies the gates to the 1923 Western Fair were opened this morning at 7 o'clock, and from that hour until Saturday night, they will remain open, with the exception of a few hours every night.

The grounds and buildings at the fair, far exceeding in appearance previous years, were thrown open and the crowds began to pour in, gazing at the exhibits, which this year eclipse any that have ever been seen here. Every building had its quota of early visitors, and while in many cases it was necessary to fight their way to the entrance, the fair was in its holiday garb, and will not change its appearance for six days.

Flags and flowers enter into the decoration schemes, and the board of the Western Fair Association have reason to feel highly gratified at the general ensemble of the whole exhibition.

At the Campbell street entrance several varieties of farm implements were being unloaded at 9 a.m., but with the completion of this everything was in its place and ready for the inspection.

Shortly before 11:30, at which hour Mayor Wenige was scheduled to open the new Manufacturers' Building, the crowds started to gather in the vicinity of the north entrance of the structure.



TRACED CLEVER POSTAL THIEF
W. J. May, inspector of postal service in London who was mainly responsible for the apprehension in Everett, Washington, of Frank N. Snyder, the Michigan man who it is alleged has confessed to a \$7,000 mail robbery in Essex during September 1921.

ALD. GREER URGES REAL RENOVATION OF THE CITY HALL

Would Defer Construction of New Municipal Building For London.

TIME NOT OPPORTUNE

"Why not defer immediate construction of \$20,000 or \$25,000 renovating the present structure to make it appear respectable?"

This is the suggestion from Ald. John Greer, who has consistently opposed all efforts to commence building activities this year and who has been the champion of the city hall bazaar if it goes to the people again in December, as he expects.

It is Ald. Greer's belief that the city would be better pleased if the 1923 city council abandoned all idea of building this or next year and set aside a few thousand dollars for "clean up" purposes. That this could fall within the province of the council is his impression at this moment.

"I do not consider that the time is opportune for a new building," Ald. Greer stated. "I recommend deferring action until we have more ready money at our disposal. I would suggest that we spend some money and fix up the front of the present hall, fix the stairs and other places within, and make the place fairly respectable. Then we could leave the new city hall project for five or even ten years."

"It is only a matter of business. When a man hits a depression he must govern himself accordingly. He may like to put in new machines in his plant, but he must content himself with improvements to the old until such time as conditions are brighter and finances are easier. That is my attitude on the city hall question."

EARTHQUAKE CAUSES PANIC TO RESIDENTS OF CALCUTTA

Calcutta, Sept. 10.—The population of Calcutta rushed to the streets in night attire today when the city was shaken by a severe earthquake. Panic ensued in many parts of Calcutta, and the terror among the native population was great.

When the shock, which was recorded at exactly 5:37 a.m., had ended, it was found that no buildings had been seriously damaged.



AUTO WRECK AT LAMBETH.
The above photo shows the predicament in which five motorists from Oshawa found themselves last night after colliding with a car owned by J. A. Young, Princess avenue, at Lambeth. The occupants of both cars escaped serious injury. Both cars were badly smashed, and the one shown above was sold to wreckers, not being worth the cost of salvaging.

Heir To Throne of Britain Wins Hearts of Voyagers On "Empress of France"

Prince of Wales Takes Life Aboard Ship Like Ordinary Passenger.

MODEST AND AFFABLE

His Royal Highness Reads the Scripture Lesson at Divine Service.

Special Wireless to The Advertiser.

On Board the Empress of France at Sea, Sept. 9.—The Prince of Wales may not be officially on board the Empress of France, but there is a fair-haired, smiling-faced young passenger on the list as Lord Renfrew, who, by his modest courtesy and affability has already won the esteem of all.

Lord Renfrew is accompanied by Brigadier-General Trotter, Sir Godfrey Thomas, Major E. D. Metcalfe and Scotland Yard men. The party occupies rooms 32, 34 and 36 en suite, and Lord Renfrew has quietly and unostentatiously fallen into the everyday life of the ship as would any English gentleman. He breakfasts in his own suite, but lunches and dines at the regular saloon; he walks the common promenade deck and dances in the general lounge as do other passengers.

The only exception—and a necessary one—is that a table and seats are reserved in an alcove of the lounge for his party. While Lord Renfrew is naturally the cynosure of many eyes, the passengers as a whole have respect for his obvious, though unexpressed wish, that he should not be considered as the Prince of Wales or a member of the royal family.

Took Part in Dance.

The first evening out from Southampton, Lord Renfrew appeared for a short while in the lounge, and his appearance naturally aroused girlish ambitions for a dance with the royal passenger.

His only dancing partner, however, on this occasion was Mrs. Captain Holt, who was seated beside him, and he again attended the dance, and this time chose a charming Toronto girl, Miss Margaret Parker, as his partner. A fancy dress ball was held Saturday evening, and Lord Renfrew entered into the hilarious gaiety with zest. He mixed with masqueraders, getting tangled in the streamers and bumped around like everyone else. Again he danced with Mrs. Holt and Miss Parker, and for once danced the Baillie of Toronto. For one dance the deck he apparently had no part in, and stood with his back to the rail looking on smilingly like many other similarly situated.

Deck gages have not yet claimed Lord Renfrew, but on Saturday afternoon, wearing a light-colored sweater under his coat and with his cap pulled down, he and Brig-Gen. Trotter walked three miles and a half around the deck at a brisk pace in a cold, blustering wind that had driven most of the passengers to shelter.

Bowers of Flowers.

As may be imagined, the passengers are taking a very lively interest in an unobtrusive way, in the daily life of the heir to the throne. The lounge and dining-saloon of the liner are veritable bowers of flowers in honor of the royal passenger.

Sunday was quiet on shipboard. Divine service was held in the saloon at 10:30, conducted by Bishop Holden of Shanghai. Rev. Dr. Chas. Alden, formerly pastor of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, New York, and now pastor of the First Congregational Church, Kansas City, preached. Lord Renfrew read the scripture lesson, which was the thirteenth chapter of I. Corinthians.

His clear, steady, sympathetic voice and unaffected manner gave the service an impressive tone to the reading. As he led the prayer, the greatest throne in the world, in quiet earnest tones, read: "And though I have all faith so that I may remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing; one who does not help being moved, and when I minister prayed for God's blessing upon Edward, Prince of Wales, many reverently and full heartedly said 'Amen.'"

Mrs. Lionel Clark of Toronto and Judge Tessier of Quebec, who were on board, lunched with Lord Renfrew. The afternoon was spent quietly in his own apartments, and a few turns on deck after dinner brought the day to a close.

ALDERMEN WILL FIGHT FOR 30-MILL TAX RATE

P. J. Watt Gives Written Pledge To Support the Mayor in Attempt.

Two members of the city council have given written assurance that they will enter the fight to give Londoners a 30 mill tax rate in 1924, or as near as it is humanly possible.

Alderman Peter J. Watt, ward one, sometime acting mayor, has affixed his signature to a proclamation that hangs in the mayor's office setting forth "30 mills in 1924" as the next objective.

"We'll get just as near as we can to it anyhow," Ald. Watt assures. "It will be a good target to shoot at, in any event."

Mayor Wenige heads the roster with Ald. Gordon Drake, ward three, in second place.

Will Endeavor To Fly To Pole

Special to The Advertiser.

New York, Sept. 10.—Hapson H. Hammer, Seattle businessman now at Pennsylvania, will try to reach the North Pole next summer by aeroplane.

"I am not going for honor, but to find out if there are any minerals there, and what at the pole can be utilized. It will cost me \$125,000, as I plan to take several planes with my ship. Flying over Northern Spitzbergen this summer when I went with Amundsen to offer relief, I saw what appeared to be old craters. Perhaps the country was volcanic like Japan in past ages."

DECLINES TO TELL COURT WHERE SHE GOT HER LIQUOR

Colored Maiden Manages To Keep Secret Despite Magistrate's Questioning.

TAKES JAIL TERM

Three Londoners, two male and one female, started in to celebrate the Western Fair on Saturday, and although the celebrations were all staged in different parts of the city, the police edged in on all of them, and three fines were registered in the big police court book.

"You're a respectable-looking man," opined the court, when a good-looking chap sprang to his feet in the prisoner's box, when his name was called.

"I'd like a chance, your worship. My business here is completed, stated the guilty one.

"All right—\$10 or ten days," came back the court.

"Thank you, sir. I met a friend and took a few drinks too many."

"Well, if this keeps up, I'll have to send you to jail without the option of a fine," was the final word of the court.

The magistrate did not have much success when it came to getting information out of a youthful colored girl who was charged with intoxication.

"Where did you get the whiskey?" questioned the court.

"It was gave to me," was the sultry reply.

"Who gave it?"

"I don't know."

"It's bad enough for a man to be here on this charge, but worse for a woman," observed Mr. Graydon. "Have you a father?"

"Yes."

"Where is he?"

"Dead."

"Who supports you?"

"I support myself."

"Where did you say you got the whiskey?"

"It was gave to me."

At this juncture the court decided that the young woman from Clarence street belied the reputation enjoyed by ladies in general that they cannot keep a secret, so he called it a day, fined her \$10 and costs, and as she could not pay the fine sent her to jail for ten days.

"You can think about it down there, and maybe you can remember who gave it to you, was the parting advice of Mr. Graydon, as the girl was led away, preparatory to a motor ride to Dawson Lodge.

A Russian paid his fine before court closed, that he would not lose a day's work.

THINK McMULLEN MADE GETAWAY IN PRISON BLAZE

Famous London Bandit Gains Liberty From Kingston Penitentiary.

FIVE MAKE BREAK

Canadian Press Despatch.

Kingston, Sept. 10.—McMullen, the Wyoming, Ont., bank bandit, a man named Ryan, alias Slade, believed to have been sentenced at Hamilton for robbery, and three other convicts, escaped from Kingston penitentiary today in a "smoke screen" which it is believed they set for themselves by firing some of the buildings, and got away, after a stern automobile chase, in which one of their number, probably McMullen, was shot and wounded by the guards. The swamp in which they are hiding is surrounded. It is thought they will be recaptured shortly.

The cleverly conceived smoke screen, for the officials are now thoroughly satisfied that the men, fired the building for the purpose of escaping, prevented the guards on any of the walls from observing them and enabled them to get over the wall and down the other side before any opposition could be offered them.

Meanwhile the fire merrily roared on, despite that the guards quickly took up the chase of the escaping men. They made their way across the adjoining property and there seized an automobile owned by Thompson. In this they sped northward through the city streets and made their way out Division street, with another automobile, containing a guard, in hot pursuit. The car with the escaping convicts smashed through a farm gate.

The guard, by an irony of fate, exhausted his last cartridge as the quintette left the stranded automobile and took to the swamp. Immediately the chase was joined in by other guards arriving in automobiles, and the swamp was searched and surrounded.

Among the prisoners who are believed to have escaped are McMullen, the famous London bandit, a man named Ryan, whose alias is Slade, and Brown, another alleged "bad man."

Guard Forsythe, who saw the party after securing the automobile, and who fired point blank at them, states that McMullen was at the wheel. If that is the case, he is the man who fled so freely in the automobile. The names of the others are not yet known at the institution.

At 2 p.m. they are still at large.

DRAINED BY RUNAWAY, ILDERTON YOUTH HURT

Dragged 300 feet by a runaway horse, which bolted when some milk was being unloaded at George H. May's dairy, 345 Wharncliffe road north at 10:30 o'clock, Joseph Burman, 29, of Ilderton, escaped with a severe gash in the head and a bruised back. At first it was thought his horse had been broken.

Sunday was quiet on shipboard. Peter McFarland of Ilderton. He was standing on the whiffletree of a democrat to which the horse had been harnessed, when the animal bolted, running out of the lane and across the Wharncliffe road north, dragging Burman with the wagon. The vehicle crashed into a telephone pole and halted the horse's flight.

Residents of the vicinity rushed to the boy's assistance and called Dr. W. J. Thuman.

The victim was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital, where an examination revealed that no bones had been broken.

The boy is doing well at present. The runaway horse was never known to be frisky, and had been driven to the city for a number of months without mishap.

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS.

Today—Light winds; fine and cool. Tuesday—Moderate winds; partly fair showers in some localities.

Pressure is highest over the Great Lakes and Western Provinces, with a shallow depression passing eastward into Northern Ontario.

The weather is fair and cool throughout the Dominion and the winds are everywhere moderate.

Temperatures.

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

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	74	30	Clear
Calgary	60	44	Fair
Winnipeg	70	46	Fair
Port Arthur	54	40	Cloudy
Parry Sound	54	35	Clear
Toronto	68	44	Clear
Kingston	66	50	Fair
Ottawa	70	48	Cloudy
Montreal	64	50	Cloudy
Quebec	66	52	Cloudy
Father Point	66	46	Cloudy
St. John	58	52	Cloudy
Halifax	74	54	Cloudy

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 67; lowest, 52.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 67; lowest, 46.

Barometric Readings.

Sunday—8 p.m., 29.59.
Today—8 a.m., 29.57.