

THE WEATHER:
FAIR AND COLDER TONIGHT.
THURSDAY—SNOW.

London Evening Advertiser

LONDON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1924.—FOURTEEN PAGES

BRITISH AMBASSADOR TELLS
REAL STORY OF LEADERS IN GREAT WAR
ON PAGE 13.

THREE CENTS.

61ST YEAR. NO. 24154

EIGHT KILLED WHEN AIR EXPRESS CRASHES

Finger Prints Show Criminal Record of London Prisoner

AIR LINER CARRIES 8 TO DEATH

London-to-Paris Express
Crashes Shortly After Leaving
Croydon Aerodrome.

BURSTS INTO FLAMES

Pilot and All Passengers Are
Killed When Motors
Cease To Function.

Associated Press Despatch.
Croydon, Eng., Dec. 24.—Eight persons were killed when an aeroplane crashed at the aerodrome here this morning. The plane which crashed was the big air express from London to Paris. It fell shortly after leaving the aerodrome and burst into flames, killing the pilot and all seven passengers.

The passengers, who were on their way to Paris for Christmas, were well in the air when the machine suddenly banked over Purley Down in a gust of wind, went into a nose dive and burst into flames through the explosion of the gasoline tank. All eight in the machine were burned to death and the machine was completely destroyed.

Helpless To Aid.
There were two women among the passengers, five men passengers, including Dr. Borbosa Lima, a Brazilian, and Cedric Trudgett, representative of the Chiltern Review, and the pilot. An eyewitness of the tragedy watching the plane, said he noticed it was flying low but it suddenly banked, cleared a nearby house and then staggered in the air. Almost immediately a gust of wind caught the plane, it fell and fell like a stone. The machine touched the ground and burst into flames. "I ran to the spot," said the eyewitness, "but by the time I got there the whole machine had burst into flames. The only things I could see were the sunken wheels of the machine under the wreckage. I could see the charred remains of bodies—that of the pilot and the passengers. Their clothes were gone and their bodies were black."

Charred Remains Removed.
Fire brigades from Purley and Croydon hurried to the spot, but were unable to arrive in time to be of any assistance. Even when they reached the machine, the firemen could not approach because of the smoke and flames. The wreckage of the plane was a mass of twisted metal and debris. The only thing left to be taken out of the wreckage was the body of the pilot, who was found under the wreckage. The body was removed to the police mortuary.

LONDONER'S CLOSE CALL

The Paris-London air express is undoubtedly the fastest trip across the English channel this summer. The air journey from England to France proved extremely popular among Canadians and Americans who visited Europe this year. The trip was made more as a thrill and experience than a pleasurable mode of travel.

Many Londoners took the journey from old London to Paris and back and several expressed the opinion today upon hearing of the disastrous accident outside Croydon that the aerial route was far from safe.

Two citizens experienced a slight mishap on a trip from Paris to London when the plane in which they were riding turned on its nose during an ascent. Although no one was hurt eight occupants of a machine on the wheel carriage punctured as the plane was bumping along the ground in its ascent the machine was turned on its nose.

RAILWAYMEN BLAMELESS IN SOO LINE DISASTER

Associated Press Despatch.
Stevens Point, Wis., Dec. 24.—Railroad employees responsible in any way for the safety of the Soo Line passenger train which plunged into the Chippewa river at Chippewa Falls last Saturday afternoon, killing eight persons and injuring seven others, were exonerated by a conference of railroad and state officials last night.

General Superintendent C. E. Urbans said after the conference that the investigation had shown the wreck was due to a broken belt in a switch, caused by the cold.



ABOVE IS SHOWN A TYPICAL POLLING BOOTH IN A PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE CITY, IN WHICH, THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE WEEK, A VOTE IS BEING TAKEN TO DECIDE WHETHER THE CONGREGATION, AS AN INDIVIDUAL UNIT, SHALL ENTER THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA ON JUNE 19 NEXT, OR REMAIN OUT OF THE UNION. THE ADVERTISER PHOTOGRAPHER SHOWS IN THE FOREGROUND A MEMBER OF ST. ANDREW'S CONGREGATION CASTING HIS BALLOT ON THE MOST IMPORTANT

CHICKEN THIEVES TRACED TO CABIN

Recent Zoo Killing May Be
Connected With Latest
Raid.

High Constable Wharton and County Constable Charles McConnell are on the trail of chicken thieves who raided the coop of a Mr. Ward on the River road last night. The thieves were traced to a lonely cabin near the river by Mr. Ward and a neighbor, who found a deer hide, several cow skins, and some of the chickens.

It was thought that a deer in Springfield park had been killed, but an artist, who has been employed by the police, said that the deer was not killed by the thieves. The only thing left to be taken out of the wreckage was the body of the pilot, who was found under the wreckage. The body was removed to the police mortuary.

STATE CASE NARROWS IN \$50,000 BLACKMAIL

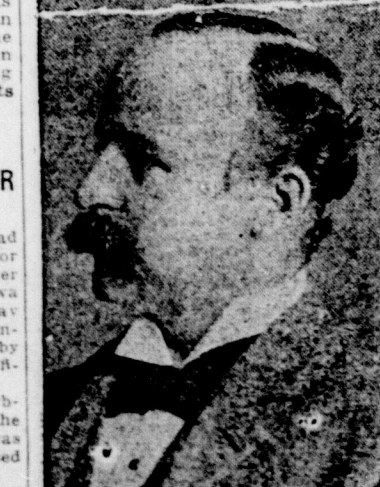
Four Now on Trial for Alleged
Extortion From Victor
A. Searles.

Associated Press Despatch.
Boston, Dec. 24.—The government yesterday discontinued the charges against two of the six defendants who are on trial for alleged extortion of \$50,000 from Victor A. Searles, an artist, who has been shown by testimony to have drawn a check for that amount that was cashed by Wm. J. Corcoran, former district attorney of Middlesex county, the principal defendant.

The prosecution then rested its case, and Corcoran announced that he would offer no defence. Those against whom the charges were dropped were Michael J. Lyons and J. Warren Kane, alleged to have been in the employ of the blackmailing that forced payments amounting to thousands of dollars from wealthy men compromised by women lured of the gang. Whatever Kane and Lyons did was on orders from Corcoran, the district attorney said.

LAW LIBRARY TO CLOSE

The Middlesex law library, situated at the court house, will close at 12 o'clock each day during the short vacation, which lasts from Dec. 23 till Jan. 6.



CHIEF JUSTICE ANGLIN, of the supreme court of Canada, whose membership in the privy council has been approved by King George.

Fireman Hurt In Dream Jump

Associated Press Despatch.
Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 24.—Thomas Steel, a fireman, is in a hospital suffering from injuries received as a result of a dream in which he answered an alarm and jumped out of his bedroom window on the second floor of his home into an air shaft, in the belief he was "shinning down" the pole in his fire station.

M'COY IN JAIL AS JURY GETS YULETIDE HOLIDAY

State Demands Verdict of First
Degree Murder in Closing
Arguments.

Associated Press Despatch.
Los Angeles, Dec. 24.—"Kid" McCoy sat in his cell in the county jail today while the jury which will determine his fate on a charge of killing Mrs. Theresa Mors was liberated until after Christmas.

Arguments in the former publisher's trial were completed in superior court yesterday with the prosecution demanding a verdict of first degree murder. In his closing argument Deputy District Attorney Ostrom declared it was not pleasant, on the threshold of Christmas, to be demanding the death penalty for any man, but "if we have not law enforcement, what is to become of us?"

Heavy Deposits Made At Banks

Local Managers State Christ-
mas Business Exceedingly
Good.

London bank managers state that merchants have enjoyed excellent Christmas business, judging by the size of their bank deposits. "All my customers have been making large deposits, especially during the last week," stated one "well-known manager. "The jewelry trade has been good and the same goes for clothing. Deposits are as good if not better than they were a year ago."

SHIP FROM VANCOUVER HITS PANAMA BANK

Associated Press Despatch.
Panama, Dec. 24.—The steamship Anglo-Egyptian, from Vancouver for Gibraltar, with wheat, struck the east bank of the Panama canal at Lapita Point yesterday, and is now beached at Gamboa. She will be returned to Balboa for repairs.

LEAGUE'S ANSWER AWAITED IN JUGO-SLAVIA CHARGE

Associated Press Despatch.
Geneva, Dec. 24.—No answer has been received by the League of Nations from Jugo-Slavia with regard to the raids in Albania. The latter country recently requested an inquiry into the alleged Jugo-Slav raids in Albanian territory.

ONTARIO WILL NOT KEEP ROADS OPEN

London's Offer To Aid in
Clearing Main Arteries
Is Declined.

The Ontario government does not intend keeping open provincial roads east of London this winter. In a letter directed to W. P. Near, city engineer, this advice was given today by W. L. Squires, deputy minister of highways.

A week or so back Mr. Near offered the province the use of city snow-plows in helping to keep main arteries open. It is believed that if the province started at the beginning of winter and kept the roads plowed, the accumulation of snow would never be great. In this way traffic could be kept up all winter long.

25 BELOW ZERO HERE, ATLANTIC CITY THINKS

"Great Canadian Winter"
Spells Terror To Residents
of South.

"London is in the throes of an Arctic winter. It is 25 below zero. The snow is banked high to the roof tops. The city is frozen in solid for the great Canadian winter. The town pump has ceased to function."

ROAST TURKEY TO GREET JAIL GUESTS TOMORROW

Dinner Lineup at the County
Bastille Will Be Weighty
One.

CITIZENS KIND
Vegetable Soup
Celery
Roast Turkey, Cranberry Sauce
Mashed Potatoes
Mashed Turnips
Creamed Carrots
Plum Pudding
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BARRETT DENIED MONEY IN MINE WORKERS' ROW

Associated Press Despatch.
Halifax, N. S., Dec. 24.—The supreme court here yesterday Mr. Justice Neilson dismissed the claim of Silby Barrett to funds amounting to about \$6,000, paid into court from the Ontario of District 26, United Mine Workers, when International President Lewis deposed the McLaughlin-Livingstone executive and set up a provisional executive with Silby Barrett as president. The funds will now await claiming by the newly elected executive of the district.

FLIGHT CALLED OFF

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HUNTED MAN CAPTURED BY FINGERS

London Criminal Record of
Prisoner Is Furnished
City Police.

GIVEN SHORT TERM
Second Case of Identification
Carried Out by
Harpur.

Through the finger print system of identification, the long criminal record of Leo Flannigan, sentenced in the local police court a few days ago to serve nine months for having narcotic drugs in his possession, has been revealed to the police. Flannigan will probably have to complete terms in three Canadian prisons upon the expiration of his term in the county jail.

He has been positively identified as an escaped prisoner of the Fort William industrial farm, and a man who has served fourteen jail terms in the past fifteen years. Flannigan's finger prints were taken by police constable Walter Harpur, head of the local bureau, department at Ottawa and this morning word of his long record was received. His finger print identification corresponded exactly with that of a man called James Davies, and his photograph bore out the fact that he had travelled under five aliases.

Flannigan's record showed that he had been convicted in seven Canadian cities: Hamilton, Montreal, Belleville, Toronto, Sudbury, Guelph and Sault Ste. Marie. The charges against him included theft, larceny, assault, attempted robbery, escaping custody and trespassing. He had travelled under the assumed names of James Davies, George Watson, James Richards, James Duffy and Leo Flannigan.

NEWLYWEDS MEET Death Together

Christmas Tour Ends in
Tragedy as Car Plunges
Into Bay.

Associated Press Despatch.
New York, Dec. 24.—A young married couple driving home in a small automobile laden with Christmas packages died in each other's arms last night, when the steering gear went wrong and the car plunged upside down into the ice strewn water of Pelham bay.

NOVA SCOTIA MINER KILLED BY FALL OF STONE

Associated Press Despatch.
New Glasgow, N. S., Dec. 24.—Howard Smith, 38, a worker in the Allen shaft, was crushed to death by a fall of stone on the 1,200-foot level last night. Three others were buried by the fall, but were released shortly after, uninjured. The body had not been recovered at mid night.

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PASTOR HIGHT IS GIVEN LIFE; MRS. SWEETIN 35-YEAR TERM

Pair Are Found Guilty of
Poisoning Husband of
Woman Prisoner.

BOTH ARE UNMOVED
Jury Deliberates For Eleven
Hours Before Reaching
Verdict.

Associated Press Despatch.
Mount Vernon, Ill., Dec. 24.—The jury trying Lawrence M. Hight and Mrs. Elsie Sweetin for the poison murder of her husband, Wilford Sweetin, early today returned a verdict of guilty. Hight was given life imprisonment, while Mrs. Sweetin was given 35 years in the penitentiary.

The jury had deliberated about 11 hours, retiring at 10 o'clock last night. It considered the case almost continuously during the night and this morning except for a short time for breakfast. The jurors stated after the verdict that the jury had been unanimous from finding both defendants guilty from the ballot, but there had been difference as to the punishment to be inflicted upon Mrs. Sweetin. The decision as to her, the jury said, represented a compromise.

Only two of the jurors had favored infliction of the death penalty upon Hight. None voted for the hanging of Mrs. Sweetin. The two defendants received the verdict in silence and with no outward display of emotion. Attorneys gave notice that they would ask for a new trial.

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H. H. COUSENS TO SUCCEED SIR ADAM

Former General Manager of
Toronto Transportation Com-
mission Being Trained for
Post.

WIDE EXPERIENCE
Beck Said To Be Greatly
Alarmed Over Impending
Power Shortage.

The frequent expressed fears of friends of Sir Adam Beck that some dire consequences may befall when he lays down the controlling reins of the hydro-electric power commission, were recently allayed by Premier Ferguson with the unexpected declaration that the government for some time has been training a man for the job.

The fact that the statement attributed to the premier was quite plainly made came to light here today with the added declaration that the man in training is Henry Herbert Cousens, who resigned the post of general manager of the Toronto transportation commission last April to accept appointment as vice-president of the Brazilian Traction Light and Power Company's properties with headquarters at Rio de Janeiro. If Mr. Cousens receives the appointment, and it is not doubted by Londoners in touch with the provincial government, he will leave control of a corporation with a capitalization of \$150,000,000 to assume charge of public enterprises representing an investment of more than \$242,000,000.

WOMAN, 55, NOW HELD FOR MURDER OF MATE

Arrest Brings Sensation in
Coshocton County, Ohio—
Arsenic Found.

Associated Press Despatch.
Coshocton, Ohio, Dec. 24.—Accused of having poisoned William Allison McCurdy, 65, her husband, Mrs. Clara S. McCurdy, 55, mother of five children, was confined in jail here last night on a charge of first degree murder. The arrest was made at her home at Warsaw, near here, and caused a sensation throughout Coshocton county, where the family is prominent.

A report submitted to the grand jury by doctors who analyzed McCurdy's vital organs disclosed that large quantities of arsenic were found. Evidence in his possession, Prosecutor Joseph B. Shepler said, indicated that poison was administered on two occasions. He has found two possible motives, he declared, but he refused to divulge what they are.

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The Weather

FORECASTS.
West to north-
west winds;
mostly fair and
colder tonight and
Thursday; local
snow flurries.
The pressure is
low over the
great lakes and
on the Atlantic
coast, and quite
high near the
Pacific coast and over the western
states.

Snow has fallen in Ontario and West-
ern Quebec, while in the maritime and
western provinces the weather has been
fair.

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

Station	High	Low	Weather
Victoria	32	26	Clear
Calgary	—12	—19	Clear
Winnipeg	0	—20	Cloudy
Port Arthur	48	—18	Clear
Perry Sound	29	24	Snow
Toronto	24	24	Snow
Kinross	28	26	Snow
Ottawa	26	26	Snow
Montreal	24	22	Snow
Quebec	29	18	Snow
Father Point	14	14	Cloudy
St. John	26	29	Snow
Halifax	33	24	Cloudy