

MAYOR ASKS AFFIDAVIT BEFORE POLICE PROBE

KU KLUX MAN IN TOWN SEEKS IRWIN HIGNETT TO RETURN TO INDIANA

High Official of Imperial Klan Says Hignett Is "Straight," But Regrets Indiscretion—Confirms Accuracy of Information Given and Denies Rumors of Arrest and Prosecution—Repeats Declaration That Present Klan Can Never Come to Canada.

'ROYAL RIDERS OF RED ROBE' ALREADY HERE

Another member of the Ku Klux Klan has come to London. He is in search of Irwin R. Hignett, "Klax," of the Klan, who last week provided The London Advertiser with material for three articles, completely exposing the Klan's constitution, purposes and rituals, and who has since left the city.

The new arrival reached London on Saturday afternoon from the Western States. The Advertiser withholds his name and rank, but has examined his credentials as a high official of the Imperial Ku Klux Klan, signed by Col. William Joseph Simmons of Atlanta, Georgia, founder of the order. The Imperial Klan is described as the central administrative body.

The stranger also carries deputy's cards from the sheriff's office of Wayne County, Indiana. He is a good-looking, husky, young man, with penetrating gray eyes, and an alert personality.

The Klansman has come to find Hignett on telegraphed instructions from his higher authorities. The London Free Press, in an unsuccessful attempt to discredit Hignett, and the accuracy of the information which he disclosed to The Advertiser, despatched telegrams to Klan headquarters and other bodies in the United States. Klan authorities, of course, ignored the Free Press appeals, but decided to find out just what excitement Hignett was creating here in London. Hence the second arrival.

Denies Rumors.
This is the explanation made to The Advertiser by the Klansman. He denies emphatically rumors already circulating that he has a warrant for Hignett's arrest, that he has asked the co-operation of local police, or that he is surveying London for organization purposes.

"Hignett has been indiscreet in some of the information which he published," the Klansman stated to The Advertiser, "and I wish to talk with him, and take the boy back home with me before he gets in any deeper. His wife is anxious about him, too, and we want to fix everything up."

Asked as to the extent of Hignett's "indiscretion," the Klansman gave as specific examples, The Advertiser's publication of the credentials and the oath of allegiance. "Hignett should not have let you have those things," he declared, "though I can't blame you for using them."

Commenting on The Advertiser's articles, the Klan official said: "The information which Sergeant Hignett gave you is perfectly accurate, and we make no particular complaint against your paper for disclosing it to the public, although there are a good many things about it we don't like very well. I am obliged to admit, however, that your articles are reliable and comprehensive."

No Penalties.
The Advertiser questioned the Klansman closely as to possible grounds for Hignett's arrest. Denying any such intention, the latter admitted, however, that Hignett had left certain unpaid bills in Indiana for which the Klan had assumed responsibility and which could be made the basis of legal action.

"But they do not amount to anything, and that has nothing to do with it," he declared. "I want to have a friendly talk with Sergeant Hignett and take him home with me to continue his work."

"Is he likely to undergo penalties for talking too freely?" asked The Advertiser.

"No, the boy has done nothing really wrong," answered the official, "but we want to prevent him from going too far. We'll probably put him back at work under a real strict boss, who will keep him at his business. He has great ability as a speaker and we want him."

"What will happen if Hignett refuses to go with you on a friendly basis?" asked The Advertiser.

"It may then be necessary," replied the Klansman, "to force his return by legal means because of his unpaid bills. He could probably be prosecuted in the ordinary legal way."

"Would it mean banishment from the Klan?" asked The Advertiser.

"Hignett is straight,"

"It might," replied the Klansman guardedly, "though I am quite sure that there will be no difficulty. Hignett is perfectly straight and we have high opinion of his character. He had a very trying war experience, and at times is not entirely respon-

sible for his actions. We make allowance for that, and therefore have no intention of dealing with him severely."

The Advertiser questioned the Klansman carefully as to the possibility of the Klan attempting an unwanted extension to Canada.

"Hignett told us that the constitution of the Klan makes a move to Canada impossible," said The Advertiser, "is that true?"

"Perfectly true," declared the official, "the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Incorporated, can never come to Canada."

"Meaning that your constitution would have to be and could be amended?" pursued The Advertiser.

"There would have to be a new constitution," replied the Klansman, "and I can tell you this with authority. The Ku Klux Klan will never come to Canada unless Canadians themselves make official application to headquarters at Atlanta, Georgia, for an amendment to our constitution and a Canadian charter. It will have to be Canada's move, not ours."

"How about Canadians in the United States?"

"They are not allowed to join," answered the Klansman, "whether naturalized or not. Every member must be American born."

No Need in Canada.

The Advertiser remarked that Canada was unlikely ever to make request for the Klan to come to Canada.

"Perhaps not," replied the Klansman, with a shrug. "I don't think myself, that Canada needs the Klan. Your government and administration of justice has preserved its integrity, and you have not our foreign problem as yet. In the United States there is no justice. Perhaps Canada's problems will yet develop in that direction. At present we envy you."

"The Klan's secrecy and mystery in exercising political influence is repugnant to Canadians," remarked The Advertiser.

"Perhaps so," said the American, with another shrug. "We find it necessary in our country. Out in your western provinces you have something of the sort already."

"What is that?"

"Royal Riders,"

"They are called 'Royal Riders of the Red Robe,'" answered the Klansman. "I know very little about them, but I believe they organized first in the Northwestern States with purposes similar to ours. They accept as members naturalized Canadians in the United States, and have now extended into your western provinces."

"To what extent?" asked The Advertiser.

"I don't know," answered the Klansman. "You ought to know more about them than we do. They have no connection with the Klan."

In the meantime, where is Irwin R. Hignett? He left London on Friday afternoon, following publication of the third article in The Evening Advertiser, expressing an intention of going east, and stating that he would return to London within the next few weeks. It is believed that he may have planned a visit to friends in the maritime provinces.

"Gumshoe Antics."

The Klan official now in London believes that Sergeant Hignett will return at once when he learns that he is wanted in Indiana, and that no action will develop beyond friendly explanation and persuasion. At present, the Klansman states, that he is amusing himself by watching the "gumshoe antics" of reporters from another local newspaper, who are shadowing him from Greek restaurant to hotel.

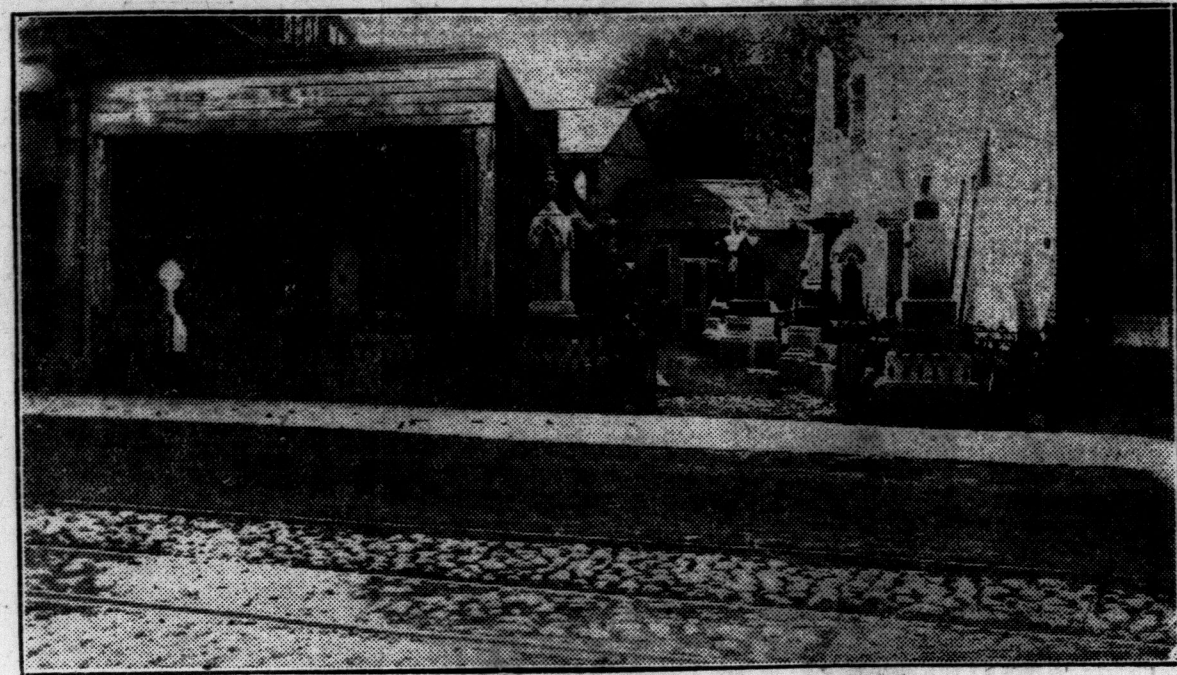
"They are evidently pretty peeved about missing Hignett when he was here," remarked the Klan official, "but they won't take up another wild interview with me, because I'm really not dangerous, even if you people here don't like me."

The next move seems to be up to one Irwin R. Hignett.

**Bowery Church Exemplifies
Worship of Ancient Sun God**

Associated Press Despatch.

New York, March 18.—With drawn curtains concealing the altar, an Egyptian scene, portraying the worship of Amen-Ra, the ancient Sun God, was held yesterday at St. Mark's-in-the-Bowery, by Rev. William Norman Guthrie. The service was prepared from religious writings on ancient Egypt, and included reading of a canto from the Gospel of Ostia.



WHERE FAMED ARTIST SPENT EARLY DAYS.

In all London the location shown in the accompanying picture probably bears the closest material relation to the late Paul Peel, London's famous artist son. The old photograph from which this picture was taken shows the marble works founded by Peel's father. The studio in which the artist studied painting and molded clay was in the rear of the marble shed. The figure in the foreground is that of Peel's father.

Mrs. M. Near Wires Funds To Long-Lost Son In West

Brantford Woman Receives a Letter This Morning From "Harold," Left in London Institution Ten Years Ago—Boy Leaves for Home Tonight.

Special to The Advertiser.

Brantford, Ont., March 19.—After ten years of longing and searching, Mrs. Mae Near of this city, has at last discovered the whereabouts of her lost baby boy, now a lad of 18.

In 1913 Mrs. Near, through the force of circumstances, was compelled to place her seven children in an institution at London, Ontario. She then went to Los Angeles, where she entered the moving picture business. After some years of this she prospered and returned to Brantford, instituting a nation-wide search for her children, who by this time had been scattered. She located all, but one of them, and that one—the baby of the family—Harold.

This morning Mrs. Near received a letter from Los Angeles and on opening it, she found it to be from the missing son. He was stranded in Los Angeles and could not get home. Overjoyed at finding her "baby," Mrs. Near immediately ordered her attorney to telegraph sufficient money to the coast city to bring her son back. This was done, and he leaves Los Angeles tonight to be united with his mother, after having known none for ten years.

In her search for her children, Mrs. Near found that one son and his wife had been murdered at Pontiac, Michigan, two years ago. Another had served overseas and come home a cripple. She located all, but one, when placed in the home, had died, but the remaining sons had all prospered, and within a few days the last of the lost shen will have returned to the fold to be welcomed with open arms.

**GERMAN NEWSPAPERS
SUSPENDED BY FRENCH**

Publishers and Editors Imprisoned, Others Deported From Ruhr.

Associated Press Despatch.

Coblentz, March 19.—Of the 1,450 newspapers published in the Rhineland and the Ruhr, 455 have been suppressed by the occupation authorities for periods varying from three days to several months, according to semi-official German figures. Suspensions in the Rhineland total 298. Forty-three of the journals have more than once been forbidden to publish, while 43 newspapers printed outside these areas have been denied the right to circulate in occupied territory.

Prison sentences, running as high as eighteen months, and fines of as much as 1,000,000 marks have been imposed on 82 editors and 81 publishers.

Fifteen editors and nine publishers have been deported with their families.

**WESTERN RAIL CLERKS
OF C. P. R. GET RAISE**

Increase in Wages Averaging \$5.50 a Month Is Awarded.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Winnipeg, March 19.—Increases averaging about \$5.50 a month, and ranging from \$4 to \$14, retroactive to Jan. 1, have been granted to clerks, freight and yard offices, and other miscellaneous employees of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, western division.

The negotiations were carried on by the committee of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Freight Handlers and station employees. Seventeen hundred men, from Fort William to Vancouver, are affected by the award.

DIES WHILE DADDY AWAY.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Hamilton, March 19.—Left with his uncle, H. Agrish, while his father, Jay Schramm, was on a visit to Winnipeg, little Harry Schramm, 3 years old, took convulsions yesterday, and died in a few hours.

Following the chant, the congregation knelt, and, led by Dr. Guthrie, began a prayer of adoration to Amen-Ra, the God of Heaven.

The ceremony followed the usual opening of an Episcopal service. From the ceiling of the church huge lanterns cast rainbow hues upon the kneeling congregation. Lights of green, blue, red and amber shades played here and there in the church as the monotonous tones of the ancient ritual were repeated.

GETS TWENTY YEARS FOR SLAYING AUNT

New York Man Pleads Guilty in Court to Second Degree Murder.

Associated Press Despatch.

New York, March 19.—Morris Reiser, indicted with his mother, his brother George, and his uncle, George Katz, for the murder of his aunt, Miss Bertha Katz, pleaded guilty of second degree murder when his trial was called in the supreme court in Brooklyn today. He was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment in Sing Sing, while the indictments against his relatives were dismissed.

Miss Katz was slain with a pistol in her home last July. After Morris' arrest, his mother gave herself up, declaring she had committed the crime, seeking revenge because of an alleged affair between her husband, "John the barber" Reiser, and Miss Katz. The prosecution was prepared to offer evidence that the indicted quartet had visited Miss Katz in a body, and that young Reiser shot her after an altercation.

**THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
RECEIVES INTERESTING LETTER
FROM QUEBEC MAN.**

Two films have been shown lately in Canada, under the auspices of the London Chamber of Commerce.

The first, which was made at the instigation of the London Advertiser's Club, deals with the work and industry of the city, while the second shows the life of the employed girl in London, her work and play.

In connection with the second film, the secretary of the chamber has received a letter from a man in business in Quebec, who says that he has done much for the work and industry of the city, while the second shows the life of the employed girl in London, her work and play.

**CURZON WILL PRESIDE
AT NEAR EAST PARLEY**

First Session Will Be at British War Office on Wednesday.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, March 19.—The first session of the preliminary conference on the near eastern situation to be held at the British foreign office Wednesday will be presided over by Lord Curzon, secretary for foreign affairs, after which the meetings will be conducted by the experts of Great Britain, France and Italy, the three powers party to the conference.

It is expected considerable difficulties will be met in dealing with the questions shrouded in the Turkish counter-proposals to the Lausanne draft treaty, but the tone of Ismet Pasha's covering letter, which is pointed to as evidencing the Kemalists' desire for peace, is a cause for the optimism which appears to prevail in British circles.

The allied experts are not expected to conclude their deliberations before the Easter holidays, and thus the resumption of the Lausanne meeting will be postponed until early in April.

**MINERS HOLD SERVICE
BEFORE STARTING WORK**

Associated Press Despatch.

Duquoin, Ill., March 19.—Daily prayer services for their safety have been introduced by miners employed at a large mine of the Valley Coal Company near here, it was announced today.

Short services are held each morning at the bottom of the shaft before the miners enter the various rooms to perform their work, mine officials relating the service while the men stand with uncovered heads.

PEEL'S FIRST STUDIO IN OLD MARBLE WORKS

But No Record Remains of Building in Which Famous Artist Was Born.

There is no record now of the old frame building in which Paul Peel was born. There is an old photograph, shown above, of the front of the marble works which Paul's father founded, and it was at the back of this building that the studio stood in which Peel, senior, taught his pupils, and in which Paul first drew his figures and molded his clay.

Peel, the father, who was an artist as well as a sculptor, taught drawing and draftsmanship in the old Mechanics' Hall on Ridout street, and also taught a few pupils in the studio at the back of his shop. Some twenty years ago this property was bought by David Wilkie, who was much more an artist than a marble worker. Later on Caleb Jones formed a partnership with Wilkie, and in the process of the growth of the business tore down the old studio and workshop, erecting in its place the new brick building that stands today.

Peel's interest in the concern, went back to art, and taught in the technical school, while Caleb Jones carried on the business.

Two years ago Jones sold out to the present owners, and today there is no trace of the original Peel house or studio.

The Peels lived for a time in the house with the turret on Richmond street to the south of the marble works, and later on Oxford street. There are now none of the Peel family living in the city, and very little in a material way remains to connect them with London.

SEES LONDON FILM, WANTS TO LIVE HERE

The Chamber of Commerce Receives Interesting Letter From Quebec Man.

Two films have been shown lately in Canada, under the auspices of the London Chamber of Commerce.

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**Games On Sunday
Diminish Crime?**

Lady Eve Would See Sports in Every London Park.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, March 19.—"Crime has diminished since the playing of games in the parks on Sundays was allowed," Lady Eve, wife of Sir Tristram Eve, declared, Lady Eve has just been elected the first woman chairman of the London County Council parks committee. "I should like to see games played on Sunday in every park large enough for the purpose."

The London County Council has established another precedent in favor of the fair sex by electing Mrs. Wilton Phipps the first woman chairman of the education committee of that body.

U. S. GRAIN EXPORTS HEAVY.

Associated Press Despatch.

Washington, March 19.—Grain exports from the United States last week amounted to 3,328,000 bushels, as compared with 3,147,000 for the week previous. Canadian grain in transit, exported from United States ports last week amounted to 1,077,000 bushels against 1,899,000 the week before.

REYCRRAFT SCORES MANY MAGAZINES OF NAUGHTY TYPE

Makes Vigorous Denunciation Before Ministerial Alliance This Morning.

BREED MORAL ILLS

Would Rather Expose Family to Smallpox Than to Some Periodicals.

"It is an attractive cover—and very little of it! If a man comes into the city with smallpox, he is locked up as a menace, and yet I would a thousand times rather introduce smallpox into my family than one of these books."

With a vigorous denunciation of magazines and periodicals of the "naughty group," Rev. F. W. Reyecraft, of the First Methodist Church, this morning brought before the local Ministerial Alliance, in the course of an address on "The Church and the Press," three brilliant-hued issues from local newstands, with the foregoing declaration.

"I have been thoroughly shocked by a recent perusal of our newstands," he said. "We are meticulously careful of our bodies, yet moral disease germs are pouring from all the newstands into our homes in floods, from books like these."

"Their wickedness is obvious. It is not a question of insinuation. Everything is given as the naked truth. The insinuation is, that behind all the marital relations of the present day is the strain of rottenness, pictured by these stories and articles."

Mr. Reyecraft read extracts, containing such significant statements as "highly immoral girl—but was she?" and the gist of certain tales, which, he pointed out as more incriminating than any words of denunciation.

Neglects Opportunity.

The reference to the magazines came as the climax to an address, in which Mr. Reyecraft characterized the press as neglecting a great opportunity to be a co-operative force with the church of God. Discussion amongst the clergy after the session suggested that all the local newspapers were not in accord with him, although all questioned, admitted that he had struck a point in connection with the literature found on local newstands.

"There are forces in the press which the church must contend," he said.

"The purpose of the press is supposed to be to enunciate or express the soul of the people, and if the press is not a servant of the people, it is a menace."

"The press is a force for political propaganda. There are many reasons why the press should be governmental; not last, but the most often expressed, and the most significant is that it has not the press behind it. The English, for example, believe it impossible to get a true statement of affairs, because all papers deal in propaganda. I say that Bonar Law is premier, because he is the pet of one big paper."

"Northcliffe expressed the great fault of papers in his phrase, the 'exaltation of the trivial.'"

Is Given Medicine.

"If a man steals on a back street, that fact is merely an item for the police court notes, but if he happens to be a deposed clergyman, or has had at any time relations with the church, the story is given a headline."

"And the fault is not entirely with the press. They live by their advertisements and their circulation means everything to their advertising. Therefore they must print what the people want. They cater to the sordid and lead the people under misapprehension of the real state of the social order, and yet the papers are sold."

"My criticism of the present day press is that it has not given the church due credit in connection with great movements, for example, the Red Cross and the patriotic society. In recruiting itself the great work of the church is given to the men of the church rather than street corners, and before fraternal societies."

"And if the press had been fair to the church, it would have been fair to the returned man and the man on the street to the church to-day."

"The biggest things in the world are not propaganda and politics, and the press could be a great co-operative force if it would recognize the leaders of the church as it recognizes the leaders of business and politics."

"And here I say, the church can take a lesson from businessmen and politicians. All organizations of the church should have their centers publicly open. When all are clamoring for space, editors are between the devil and the deep blue sea, and as a result, we get none at all."

**Crashes Into Pedestrian,
Then Takes His Own Life**

Motorist Writes Letter Telling Mother and Wife He Is "Rotter" and Apologizes.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Washington, March 19.—Twelve hours after an automobile, bearing a license number which police said was that of his car, had swept by a street car stop in violation of traffic law and seriously injured an alighting passenger, Hal A. Maine, 24, bond salesman, was found by his office yesterday morning dying from a self-inflicted bullet wound.

Maine, who died an hour later in a hospital, is believed to have spent the night in his office, the floor of which was littered with cigarette stubs, before shooting himself. He left this note to his wife and mother: "I am a rotter. I apologize."

The automobile which ran down the pedestrian was said to have been going 40 miles an hour, and swept out of sight with only a glimpse of the license number to trace it by.



SUING "BABE" RUTH.
Miss Dolores Dixon, who has entered a mysterious legal action against George Herman "Babe" Ruth, claiming \$50,000 damages.

FORT WILLIAM FAVORS ELECTIVE POLICE BOARD

Mayor Wenige Informed Resolution Passed Favoring Proposed Change.

Not represented at the recent "elective police commission" in London, the municipality of Fort William notified Mayor Wenige today that a resolution had just been passed endorsing the proposed change.

His worship explained that a request has been dispatched to Attorney-General Raney, seeking a suitable date when the several cities of Ontario, similarly disposed, can send their representatives to him for a conference in this respect.

The mayor is still enthusiastic as to the outcome, despite the comment today from Ald. Albert Judd that "the (Judd) would like to go down and do a little lobbying himself."

The proposal comes to the direct attention of the Toronto authorities.

Mayor Wenige stresses his point that but one of the municipalities represented at the recent convention, Guelph, voted against the suggested change, and that the latter delegates gave positive assurance, however, that they would not go to Toronto to register disapproval, as the legislation, if enacted, would be purely "optional."

Fort William has directed the Hon. H. Mills to champion the "elective police commission" movement in the legislature.

ROOFS AT PINE LAWN GOING UP IN THE AIR

Chairman Tallant Reports Disastrous Effect of Spring Zephyrs.

The Pine Lawn tangle was resurrected today in "city hall circles" when D. J. Tallant, chairman of the London Housing Commission, called for a session for Thursday to consider anew the "defective roofs on the city's houses in that district."

"Something will have to be done about the defective roofs on the city's houses in that district," Tallant declared. "I have seen the place, and I found that the wind had blown the shingles clean off two houses."

"We can't stand for this and we'll have to take steps to have this work undertaken as speedily as possible."

There is still a possibility that the commission will proceed with the work and charge the expenditure to the contractors and architect involved.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, FARMERS' SECTION, MEETS

The agricultural section of the Chamber of Commerce will hold a general meeting next Saturday to hear representatives of the United Farm Women of Ontario, the Ontario Farmers' Association, and the Milk Producers' Association are invited.

The chamber is anxious to hear from these representatives any suggestions that will lead to closer co-operation between city and country both from a social and a commercial standpoint.

BRICKLAYERS GET RAISE.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Hamilton, March 19.—The bricklayers have signed an agreement with their employers at \$1 an hour—an increase of 10 cents an hour.

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS.

"Today—Strong northerly winds; mostly fair and very cold."

Tuesday—Fair and cold at first, followed by somewhat higher temperature. A moderate disturbance is centered this morning over the Upper St. Lawrence Valley, and the western area of high pressure and accompanying cold weather now extends from Northern Ontario to the Gulf of Mexico.

Another area of low pressure with higher temperature has come in over the Western Provinces.

Temperatures.

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

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	46	34	Rain
Calgary	46	30	Cloudy
Winnipeg	4	—12	Cloudy
Port Arthur	6	—12	Cloudy
S. S. Martin	6	—12	Clear
Toronto	49	10	Snow
Kingston	42	22	Cloudy
Ottawa	44	12	Snow
Montreal	28	18	Cloudy
Quebec	36	20	Cloudy
Father Point	24	16	Snow
St. John	28	18	Cloudy
Halifax	38	28	Cloudy

Minus (—) means 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, 50; lowest, 25.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Highest, 37; lowest, 8.

Barometric Readings.

Sunday—8 p.m., 29.01.

Today—8 a.m., 28.95.