

THE WEATHER:  
WESTERLY WINDS, MILD.  
TUESDAY—MILD.

61ST YEAR. NO. 23840

# London Evening Advertiser

LONDON, ONTARIO, MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1923.—SIXTEEN PAGES.

"SPORTING GREEN"  
ON THE STREET AT 6:00  
WITH LATE NEWS.

THREE CENTS.

## THOUSANDS OF SHOPPERS CROWD CITY STORES Eight and One-Half inches of Snow Fell In London

### LAST MINUTE RUSH HEAVY IN ALL LINES OF BUSINESS

Merchants Report Brisk Trade  
and Early Shopping  
Appeal Fails.

TODAY IS THE LAST  
One More Busy Night at the  
"Exchanges" for Store  
Clerks.

The age-old slogan "Do your Christmas shopping early" is not apparently taken seriously by Londoners. Although Saturday was the big rush period of the shopping festival, the number of scurrying citizens who crowded stores this morning testified to the disinclination of thousands to the retailer's advice.

This morning housewives made out last minute shopping lists, while digitized husbands walked or rode homeward at noon with undignified toys under their arms. Every shop owner was evidently well satisfied with the last minute rush, however, for they had beaming countenances today.

In total department stores the jam was extraordinary, and girls being compelled to squeeze as closely as possible to the lever as possible to make room for one more. Proprietors without exception report good business.

This evening of course, will be the big night. Battling citizens and throngs of persons from outside towns are due to invade London stores. One more night and clerks will have hectic last "Will you exchange it if it isn't the right size?" One more night of mad, wild, happy buying and exchanging of gifts, and the city's downtown district will again lapse into the even tenor of normality.

The turnover Saturday afternoon, merchants say, eclipsed the preceding business done in any two preceding days. Tonight, however, the shopping festival is expected to reach its height.

A peculiar feature of this shopping season, one merchant said, "is that we have impressed on our customers the necessity of doing their purchasing early. Instead of taking the advice they did the reverse. I've never known of so much last minute shopping. Even the most expensive presents are being bought this morning. Usually the last day is devoted to the purchase of small articles."

### OLD NED SUCCEUMBS ON RICHMOND ST.

Heart Failure Said To Have  
Caused Death of Veteran  
Truck Horse.

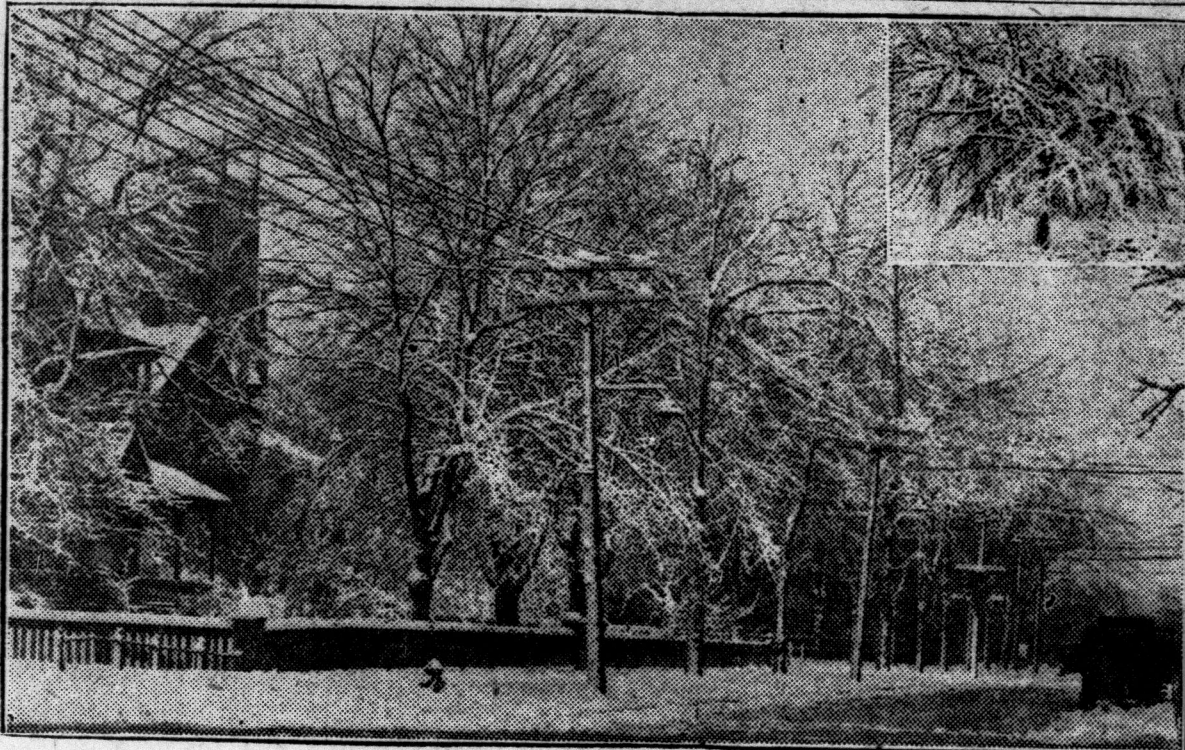
Old Ned, veteran truck horse of the Shelden Forwarding Company, fell dead at the corner of Dundas and Richmond streets at 9 o'clock this morning. Ned was 23 years old. For many years the horse has been known as "Old Reliable" by many fond human companions who drove him through all parts of the city day after day.

Hundreds of people stood around the horse as he was taken away by the fertilizer company. Apparently the sudden cold snap which took the city by surprise yesterday morning was too much for the aged steed. Although the cause of his death has not been ascertained, it is believed the slippery conditions of the streets put an extra strain on Old Ned and he succumbed, veterinarians believe, to heart failure.

### FIRE DESTROYS KITCHENER MILLS

Blaze of Unknown Origin  
Causes Loss of Over  
\$50,000.

Canadian Press Despatch.  
Kitchener, Dec. 24.—Fire completely destroyed the city mills of the Master Milling Company, Limited, shortly after 3 o'clock this morning. The loss, which is partially covered by insurance, is estimated at \$50,000. The cause of the blaze is not definitely known, but it is believed it started in the electric wiring in the vicinity of the flywheel. The flames spread rapidly, barely giving the employees who were working on the night shift time to escape from the building. The structure was of frame construction, and only the walls are left standing.



CHRISTMAS ORDERED BY SANTA CLAUS.  
Above an Advertiser staff photographer shows two views presenting the remarkable beauty of the snow which fell yesterday. The main picture shows a section of St. Paul's Cathedral covered with its white blanket. Inset is a shrub in Victoria Park gleaming with its silver coating and presenting an odd and picturesque appearance. The snow which fell all Sunday afternoon is said to have been ordered by Santa.

### LONDON NOW ADORNED WITH GARB OF WINTER

Eight and One-Half inches of  
Snow Fell on Sunday.

TRAFFIC IS DELAYED

Railway and Street Car Employees Busy Opening  
Up Lines.

London over the week-end discarded its unseasonable green robe and donned the garb of winter. Thus were the "green Christmas" prophets confounded and Santa Claus again vindicated in the eyes of sentimental folk who for days have been longing for an old-fashioned Yuletide.

Unless a natural phenomenon sets in it will be old fashioned enough to satisfy the most discriminate. Early Sunday morning the mercury crept down and a steady peppering of snow panned. Then the sleet turned to snow, the trees became laden with fleecy flakes and father was compelled to go out and shovel the path for the first time this year. This morning the temperature was just 10 points above zero.

The first frozen car was noted this morning. Also the first frozen radiator. Citizens had begun to believe the prophecies of those wiseacres who declared wide open Christmas was inevitable, and the change took them by surprise. The roads were affected and even the London Street Railway had difficulties. But with a typical Canadian Christmas in the offering all these troubles will be soon forgotten.

Of course goshawk merchants and coal dealers are jubilant. The former did a rushing trade this morning and fuel companies were busy with orders. One of the advantages of the snowfall is that it will give a permanent quietus to the tales of citizens who claimed all manner of natural freaks as a result of the warm weather. One man said his strawberries were blooming; another saw several snakes and still another noted a couple of sunflowers growing in the woods.

Cutters Are Out.  
For the first time this season a number of cutters were seen on the streets and last night a sleigh was carrying a red light. According to the Motor Vehicles Act every vehicle is required to have some kind of a light and in the case of cutters the old-time bells have given place to a bell.

### Tomorrow Is Christmas, Of Course

And so even reporters  
and editors will have a  
holiday.

For this reason the  
Morning Advertiser will  
be delivered at the homes  
of all subscribers.

The Evening Advertiser  
and the Sporting Green  
will not appear on Christmas Day.

### City Sweepers Cease Activities

The city's pavement sweepers were off duty this morning, and they have enjoyed an unusually long spell of activity this year. As a general rule, their duties cease about the 1st of December. Saturday was their last day this year, however, the officials state.

### THINK 10,000 WILL COME TO DISTRICT

Local Officials See Great Work  
in Immigration During  
Next Year.

ROOM IN ONTARIO

Active immigration plans of the government will probably result in bringing as many as 10,000 potential farmers to this district during 1924, the local immigration department believes. John Farrell, head of the department, says old countrymen will arrive in Canada in unprecedented numbers, commencing in the spring, and it is expected as many as 2,000 a month will come to Western Ontario. This exceeds all past records.

According to reports here, the federal government is furthering energetic immigration arrangements for the ensuing year, which will result in an exodus to Canada of at least half a million people.

"We have room for half a million farmers right in this district," an official said. "The idea that the west is the best part of the Dominion to populate is not right. Here in Ontario we can take care of practically all they send us."

To date the preliminary efforts of the Ontario and Dominion governments have been crowned with success. Satisfaction is expressed by both farmers and farmhands alike with the work of the local department in placing men. Nearly two thousand have been placed this year, and practically no trouble was experienced.

MASSEY WILL ARRIVE  
IN OTTAWA FRIDAY  
Canadian Press Despatch.  
Ottawa, Dec. 24.—Premier Massey of New Zealand is expected in Ottawa on Friday, and will remain in the capital for a couple of days before leaving for the west. It is unlikely that he will make a public address while here, but he will probably be given him by the government. He is understood to be in the city to discuss trade questions informally with members of the government while here.

FIELDING IMPROVES.  
Canadian Press Despatch.  
Ottawa, Dec. 24.—The condition of Rt. Hon. W. S. Fielding continues to improve. He is said to be better this morning.

### WARD THREE FINAL TOTAL PRESENTED

All Candidates Gain in Votes  
With Only One  
Exception.

DRAKE IS WINNER

WARD 3 FINAL FIGURES.  
Frank McKay ..... 1,611  
Edward Warren ..... 1,457  
Gordon Drake ..... 1,131  
John Ashton ..... 1,127  
Clayton DePote ..... 827  
Mell Catter ..... 461  
Max Lerner ..... 404  
J. Lashbrook ..... 351  
Morris Gootson ..... 271

Final figures were submitted this morning by City Clerk Sam Baker for the Ward 3 aldermanic recount, showing that, with one exception, gains were noted for the several candidates in addition to the vote announced election night. Ald. Frank McKay gains nine votes; Ald. Gordon Drake gains six; Ald. Clayton DePote gains five; Mel Catter eleven; Max Lerner one, and Maurice Gootson one.

Through an excusable error, J. Lashbrook was credited with sixty votes more than he was entitled to. A one was mistaken for a seven, but corrected by Judge Macbeth. The work of his deputies not only in Ward 3 but throughout the city.

### PENSION SCHEME TO BE DISCUSSED

Council of 1924 Expected To  
Deal With Plans Started  
This Year.

The contemplated inauguration of a municipal pension scheme will be considered by the 1924 city council.

Through the combined efforts of Ald. Albert Judd, chairman of the finance committee, and Ald. John Colbert, this question was frequently brought to the attention of the present council.

Much data was secured from other municipalities as to the nature of municipal pension schemes, if any, in these centers, all of which will be presented for comparative purposes early next year. This information was not available sufficiently early this year to allow a reasonable consideration of the proposal.

DIDN'T WANT TO STRIKE  
"SILENT COP" SAYS DRIVER  
A new excuse was sprung on Magistrate Graydon today by Peter Scott, who cut the corner of Talbot and Carling street in a motor truck recently.

"I didn't want to hit the silent policeman," explained Mr. Scott. "That was the only thing I could do. That's no excuse," declared the court. "Two dollars and costs, or two days in jail."

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.  
Anitania, New York, Dec. 24, from Southampton.

### TAKES STEP TO PREVENT SPREADING OF DISEASE

Ald. Douglass Submits Plan To  
Check Up Library  
Books.

CONSULTS DOWNHAM

Points Out at Present Question  
Depends on Personal  
Honesty.

Ald. Leonard Douglass, chairman of the board of health, is taking additional precautions to check diseases more common to children and prevalent at this period.

The chairman referred to the handling of books from the public library and he is consulting with Dr. W. S. Downham, city medical officer of health, in order that it may be arranged that the library authorities be notified of residences where contagious diseases have been noted. In this manner the latter will have a complete check upon all cases and there will be definite assurances that no books will be returned from or let out to these families while any of their members are under treatment.

Chairman Douglass points out that under the present arrangement the authorities must rely upon the individual honesty of the people, as there seems to be no sure method of checking.

Librarian Crouch stated that no books are returnable from houses where members of the family have suffered or are suffering from contagious diseases. The books are destroyed. Regarding the proposed fumigation of all books, he explained that this was tried out in several cities but without success.

It is also believed, based upon experiences of other communities, that this disease is not carried through the medium of books from the public lending libraries.

### Proud Old 'Turk' Ascends To His Former Pinacle and Keenly In Demand In City

Buyers Are Disappointed and  
Forced To Pay Higher  
Price.

REPORT RECORD SALE

Greatest Number Purchased in  
Years Is the Report of  
Poultrymen.

As quickly as the proud turkey descended the ladder of prices during the past week, today he scrambled up again, and on a rung midway between the ridiculous and the sublime, cackled loudly: "If you're willing to pay the price and can catch me, I'm yours."

There has been a greater consumption of turkeys in London this winter than ever before in the history of the city, poultrymen declared today. Thousands of turkeys were sold during the past week, and they were so prevalent on the local market that prices dropped to such a low level that housewives bargained this way: "A turkey at 22 cents a pound is cheaper than chicken, goose or any other form of meat. I'll buy several turkeys now, put them in cold storage and save money."

As a result of the tremendous sale, today the turkey became a scarcity. None appeared on the market, and few poultrymen have them at all. The only turkeys which sold this morning were ones put in cold storage a week ago, and the price asked for them ranged between 30 to 40 cents a pound.

Buyers who appeared on the market this morning, thinking they could snatch up a bargain in turkeys from farmers who had a large supply and feared there would be no sale for them, were disappointed. The few farmers who were lucky enough to have saved a few to sell today did not have to wait long to find a taker. Any turkeys which made their appearance sold like the proverbial hot cake, and got prices which on Thursday or Saturday would have been considered exorbitant.



A DOLL FOR CHRISTMAS.  
Audrey Florence Bewarick is another London girl to win one of the Doll Lady's beautiful dolls. Audrey is indeed proud that she has her doll for Christmas. She has taken her doll to live with her at her home, 89 Hamilton road.

### M'CORMICK PLANT BEING BUILT AGAIN

Reconstruction Is Started Following \$50,000 Fire On  
Saturday Afternoon.

ERECT TEMPORARY ROOF

Reconstruction work on the bake shop of the McCormick Manufacturing Company which was completely gutted by fire on Saturday afternoon, was commenced this morning. Frank McCormick stated to The Advertiser today that a temporary roof would be built and it is expected work in the bake shop would start again in a few days time.

Damage roughly estimated at \$50,000 was the toll of the fire, which only the roof was burned, the greater part of the damage was done by smoke and water. The losses include eight carloads of flour, valued between \$10,000 and \$15,000; four electric ovens, not long installed and said to be the best of their kind in the British Empire; several coal ovens and other equipment of lesser importance. The loss is totally covered by insurance. This has been the first conflagration at McCormick's since the building was constructed ten years ago, and the plant removed from the corner of Dundas and Wellington streets.

Think Rubbish Cause.  
It is believed that rubbish left on a heated stove in the bakehouse was responsible for the fire. This department is situated adjacent to the northeast wing of the building and, Please See Page 2, Column 1.

### MAY IS L. AND P. S. BOARD PROSPECT

Supporters Urge Retiring Aldermen To Enter Race For  
Vacancies.

The list of prospects for appointment to the London & Port Stanley Railway Commission has been augmented by the name of Ald. John T. May, retiring in Ward Nine at the close of the year. His supporters urge his appointment.

This enlarges the field to eight possibilities, including the two retiring members, Sir Adam Beck, M.L.A., chairman of the commission, and Percy Moore.

The other "prospects" are E. R. Dennis, Ald. George Burdick (retiring), Ald. Peter J. Watt (retiring), Philip Pocock and Dennis Tallant, chairman of the housing commission, Messrs. Tallant and Watt were defeated in the recent public utilities race.

### HOLLY IN GREAT DEMAND THIS YEAR SAY GROCERS

The Christmas spirit has seldom been so pronounced as at the present time, local grocers declare. They base their opinion on the extraordinary sale of holly. This favorite Yuletide decoration has been in almost twice the demand as last year, they claim. The price is lower, owing to the large supply.

### SAYS PEOPLE ARE CRYING ALoud FOR THE TRUTH

Rev. Charles Potter of New  
York Church Declares  
"Truce" Impossible.

DEBATE VIRGIN BIRTH

Dr. Leighton Parks Issues Pamphlet Attacking Age-Old  
Belief.

Associated Press Despatch.  
New York, Dec. 24.—Indications were today that the "Christmas truce" in the Protestant Episcopal Church would end with the controversy between modernists and Conservatives raging with renewed vigor at the expiration of the holidays.

Bishop William T. Manning's request for the "truce" was generally observed yesterday but the controversy was referred to in printed copies of the sermon delivered at Dr. Leighton Parks at St. Bartholomew's last Sunday and by Rev. Dr. William Norman Guthrie, pastor of St. Mark's-in-the-Bouwerie in discussing the Bible.

It has been the Sunday custom at St. Bartholomew's to distribute pamphlets of the preceding week's sermon. The pamphlets, distributed yesterday were of the "lecture" version of the "lecture" in which Dr. Parks invited a trial of heresy.

Clamped Upon Church.  
The doctrine of the Virgin birth, it said, "was clamped upon the church" during the middle ages on the basis of the doctrine of original sin. It was the conviction among those who held the doctrine that added, that virginity was a higher state than marriage and hence the story that Christ's mother was a virgin.

The very foundation of our Protestantism will be shaken," the pamphlet declared, "if the bishops of the church attempt to answer questions of theology with ancient traditions. There was 'no convincing evidence' it read 'that bishops speak with the authority of scholarship.'"

Diagrams Truce.  
The appeal for the "Christmas truce" was used by Rev. Charles Frances Potter, pastor of the West Side Unitarian Church as the basis of a renewed attack upon conservatism. Rev. Mr. Potter won the first of his series of debates last Thursday against Rev. John Roach Straton, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, asserting that was not the time for a truce, but for proclaiming aloud the declarations of the modernists.

### ACTION DROPPED AGAINST FARLEY

Gillanders States Further Steps  
For Identification Will  
Be Abandoned.

According to Crown Attorney J. G. Gillanders, no further action will be taken by Ontario police officials regarding the identification of Lorenzo D. Farley, who was thought for a time to be no other than "Fat" Norton, Melbourne bank robber. "I received a letter from the attorney-general's department, stating no further action would be taken," said Mr. Gillanders today. Farley will be taken to Jamestown, N. Y., by United States authorities to stand trial there for several offenses.

### THE WEATHER

FORECASTS.  
Westerly winds; fair and somewhat milder today and on Tuesday.  
Stations—High Low Weather  
Victoria ..... 42 38 Fair  
Calgary ..... 42 34 Clear  
Winnipeg ..... 34 24 Cloudy  
Port Arthur ..... 34 22 Cloudy  
Parry Sound ..... 32 14 Fair  
Toronto ..... 36 19 Clear  
Kingston ..... 34 18 Fair  
Ottawa ..... 34 18 Fair  
Montreal ..... 34 22 Clear  
Quebec ..... 32 18 Clear  
Father Point ..... 26 14 Fair  
St. John ..... 36 28 Snow  
Halifax ..... 38 30 Cloudy  
LOCAL TEMPERATURES.  
The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 40; lowest, 38. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 29; lowest, 11. Barometric Readings.  
Sunday, 8 a.m.—29.10.  
Today, 8 a.m.—29.15.