

THE WEATHER:
MILD, RAIN AND SLEET.
THURSDAY—COLDER.

London Evening Advertiser

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

61ST YEAR. NO. 23860

LONDON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1924. —TWENTY PAGES

THREE CENTS.

ROBINSON TO TEST SANITY OF CLARENCE TOPPING

Twelve Hundred Miners At Springhill Lay Down Tools

DR. ROBINSON TO EXAMINE GIRL SLAYER FOR SANITY

Outcome of Report Is Expected
To Settle Future For
Topping.

IS LOGICAL CHOICE

Acted For Crown in "Scobie
Dan" McDonald's Case at
Walkerton.

Whether Clarence Topping, self-confessed murderer, will pay the extreme penalty for shooting Geraldine Durston or whether he will be sent to the Ontario Reformatory, Guelph, will practically be decided one way or the other by Dr. W. J. Robinson, superintendent of the Ontario Hospital here, who will examine Topping as to his sanity some time before February 4.

Dr. Robinson is famous for not denying that he had been asked to make a report on Topping. It was his evidence that convicted "Scobie Dan" McDonald of insanity last winter, and it may be that his evidence in the Topping trial will also establish the insanity of the love-crazed Strathroy youth who in a signed confession in the hands of crown authorities admits shooting Miss Durston.

Inspector of Prisons W. W. Dunlop told The Advertiser today that Dr. Robinson would undoubtedly examine Topping as to his mental condition in the interests of the crown. Dr. Robinson was the logical man to make the examination, Mr. Dunlop stated.

Dr. Robinson would not affirm nor deny that he had been asked to make a report on Topping.

The case against McDonald, tried in Walkerton, was every bit as strong as the evidence that will be submitted in the Topping trial.

Dr. Robinson was called in to examine McDonald, and on the witness stand declared that the prisoner was unquestionably insane. In the face of the doctor's evidence, supported as it was by companions of McDonald who fought overseas with him, the jury lost no time in bringing in a verdict of insanity.

It was rumored today that Dr. Robinson had already conducted an examination of Topping, but this could not be verified by jail officials, who stated that there had been no interview "to their knowledge" between Dr. Robinson and Topping.

The latter spends a great deal of time in sleep and also does considerable reading. His family keeps him well supplied with papers and magazines.

PHILADELPHIA COPS WILL LOSE SOFT JOBS

Associated Press Despatch.

Philadelphia, Jan. 16.—Six hundred Philadelphia policemen now ensconced in clerical jobs will shortly be out on the street "pounding beats," Brig.-Gen. Smedley D. Butler, director of public safety, announced yesterday after a conference with Charles Hall, president of the city council.

Mr. Hall submitted a list of 640 men in the force who are assigned at present to clerical work.

The first instance of defiance by bandits to the new regime came at noon when eight armed men overpowered the driver of a truck belonging to a commercial alcohol firm near the waterfront, hurled him from his seat and drove off with the vehicle which they unloaded and abandoned seven blocks from the scene of the holdup.

Champions and Chance

is what Tex Rickard calls the story he has written for The Advertiser.

There are twenty chapters, colorful, vivid, surprising, from the bad old days of two-gun men to the inside stuff on the Dempsey-Firpo battle.

The first chapter appears on The Advertiser's sporting pages this Saturday.



CLARENCE TOPPING, confessed slayer of Geraldine Durston, who it is expected will be examined by Dr. Robinson for his sanity.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL SUMMONS MAYOR

Will Journey to Provincial Capital—Business Is Kept Secret.

Attorney-General W. F. Nickle of Ontario has summoned Mayor George Wenige to Toronto for a conference. The official communication reached the mayor's office this morning requesting him to journey to the provincial capital at his earliest convenience. The mayor states that he will act as desired by the attorney-general but declines to announce for publication the exact purpose of the interview, whether private or otherwise.

"I have a good idea what he wants to see me about," was the gist of the mayor's comment.

DECIDED DECLINE NOTED IN DISEASES IN LONDON

According to the weekly report of communicable diseases issued by the Institute of Public Health today, scarlet fever is decidedly on the decline locally. No cases of this disease were reported for the past week. Measles, too, is slightly on the decline only 15 cases being reported. Nine cases of chickenpox broke out in the city during the past week and 3 cases of diphtheria. This report, according to Dr. W. S. Downham, is encouraging in view of the fact that scarlet fever and measles have, for the past two months, been epidemic.

Two Interruptions Occur In London's Hydro Service

Power Off 63 Minutes in Early Morning and 15 Minutes at Noon.

IRONY OF YESTERDAY

Follows Announcement of the Splendid Service During Past Year.

Citizens of London this morning experienced two interruptions in hydro power, one local and the other beyond the control of the local authorities.

For 63 minutes this morning the power in certain sections of the city was off, commencing about 6:30 a.m. This was caused by an insulator giving way, having been cracked by the frost and precipitating the high tension lines at the corner of Richmond and Grey streets into disorder. Five out of six wires became dead, each of them covering 13,000 volts. The interruption was particularly noticed in the residential district, although downtown consumers of electricity also experienced much inconvenience. Due to repairing, the interruption was more or less intermittent, the last break, due to the local tie-up, occurring about 9 o'clock.

Some cause in the transmission lines between Toronto and London was responsible for the second interruption about noon, when the power was off for about 15 minutes. This was beyond the control of local authorities, occurring on the provincial lines. The fact of these two tie-ups coming this morning would seem to be an ironical action on the part of hydro, E. V. Buchanan having issued a statement yesterday to the effect that but 20 minutes were lost during 1923.

RAILWAY'S CHECKS ARE FORMALLY REFUSED

Treasurer Hands Over Checks For Presentation to the Finance Committee.

LEFT TO COUNCIL

Mayor and Associates May Be Faced With Another Lawsuit.

City Treasurer James Bell decided this morning not to formally accept checks received yesterday from the London Street Railway corporation, for an amount of more than \$5,000 as a portion of the company's share for the Richmond street and other paving enterprises completed during 1923. The treasurer handed over the checks in question today for presentation tonight at the inaugural session of the finance committee.

Mr. Bell discussed the question with City Clerk Sam Baker, and it was the opinion of both that the decision should be left at the discretion of the city councilors. In view of the obvious difference of opinion between the street railway authorities and some of the members of the new city council.

Unless Mayor Wenige and his associates move with the utmost deliberation and diplomacy they may have another lawsuit on their hands. During 1923 the city council by unanimous vote passed a resolution agreeing to allow the company to pay its share of the various payments scheduled for construction, in ten annual instalments, subject, however, to a subsequent agreement between the contracting parties, and without prejudice to bylaw 315, the original franchise.

The agreement was never drafted, and City Engineer W. P. Near reported at Monday's session of the board of works, that as far as his department was involved, the city had undertaken the work under the provisions of the penalty clause of the 1923 resolution, but with the advice of the city solicitor.

But the company is evidently preparing to adhere to the resolution passed in council and its first payment is for a little more than \$5,000 and not for the total amount of the bills just submitted by the engineer for more than \$50,000.

In view of this development and possible legal entanglements, the treasurer prefers to await the desires of the councilors. Members of the finance committee will consider the question tonight, Chairman Douglass states.



HON. J. S. MARTIN, Ontario Minister of agriculture, who will speak at the Western Ontario Dairyman's convention tonight.

C.N.R. POLICE SEARCH FOR 2 INMATES

Escaped From Ontario Reformatory, Men Believed in This District.

ONE FROM LONDON

The entire detective force of the Canadian National Railway in London is concentrating on a "tip" from Stratford received early this morning that William McDonald and Byron Switzer, two escaped inmates of the Ontario Reformatory, Guelph, were headed this way on a freight train. Two Stratford railroad men saw two suspicious characters in the C. N. R. yards shortly after 5 a.m., but did not connect them with the Guelph prisoners until after they had read the morning papers, carrying an account of the escape.

Two freight trains left for Sarnia and London respectively a short time after the men were seen, and it is believed they are en route.

Please See Page 16, Column 3.

PATIENTS TO BE SENT TO WHITBY HOSPITAL

Transfer Will Be Made From Local Institution by Special Train Next Week.

Twenty-four patients of the Ontario Hospital, East London, will be taken down to Whitby on Tuesday next week. Dr. W. J. Robinson, superintendent of the hospital, says the reason of the transfer is simply that the London institution is overcrowded, and that it is merely taking patients from one government hospital to another. The patients selected are those who are most easily removed and who have relatives living in the vicinity of Whitby. They will be taken down on Tuesday on a special train in charge of hospital attendants.

TEACHERS ARE OFFERED SPECIAL RAPID COURSE

Dean Fox Announces New Plan To Be Introduced at University.

An opportunity is likely to be given public and high school teachers of Western Ontario to improve their scholastic status this year. The University of Western Ontario is making arrangements whereby special rapid courses can be given teachers throughout this district who are not able to attend the courses at the university. Dean W. S. Fox announced this morning.

According to Dean Fox the courses should prove to be of great advantage not only to the teachers themselves but to the students of Western Ontario public and high schools. "The course of instruction would indirectly do much to improve the standard of students coming up for matriculation," said Dean Fox.

"The classes will be held in any part of Western Ontario where more than 15 teachers decide to enroll. A professor will be sent to these parts, and in a few hours an ordinary week's work at the university will be covered."

PRINCIPAL ILL.

T. S. H. Graham, principal of the London South Collegiate Institute, is confined to his home with a cold.

\$20,000 WILL BE GIVEN AWAY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

The Advertiser Offers Cash Prizes, Automobiles and Chests of Silver in Great Circulation Campaign—Readers and Friends Have First Opportunity.

SEE FULL DETAILS ON PAGES 10 AND 11

Would you like to have \$2,000 in cash? Or would you like a Hudson Coach Automobile? Or would you like a McLaughlin Six-Cylinder Special Touring Automobile?

Then turn to pages 10 and 11 of this edition. Your chance is there because The Advertiser plans to distribute \$20,000 in prizes to its readers.

The plan is based on a circulation campaign and for the first time in the history of such campaigns in Eastern Canada the winners will have a choice between cash and equivalent prizes.

\$20,000 FOR NEW READERS.

The motive behind this \$20,000 offer is simple. It is to open the doors of London and all Western Ontario to thousands of new readers of The Advertiser. The plan has been under consideration for several months. The Advertiser feels that the most pleasant way to add a large number of new readers is to include present friends and subscribers in the plan so that they may have opportunity to share its benefits.

Before the campaign is complete a large number of friends and boosters of The Advertiser will have been handsomely rewarded for their part in this great circulation event.

A YEAR OF IMPROVEMENT.

The Advertiser has devoted a year or more to improving the quality of the paper. It now wants a large number of new readers who will become permanent friends. The effort, which in the ordinary way would require many months, can be accomplished in a few weeks by the present plan of \$20,000 in prizes with cash commissions to subscription boosters of the paper.

The Advertiser's territory has been divided into three districts, the City of London, and two outside districts.

TWO GRAND PRIZES.

There will be two grand prizes of \$2,000 each, one for London and the other for the outside districts, so that candidates in the latter will not be matched against city contestants for a grand prize.

The three districts are as follows:

NUMBER ONE—The City of London—All territory within the city limits.

NUMBER TWO—The Counties of Middlesex, Lambton, Kent, Essex, Huron, Perth and Elgin.

NUMBER THREE—The Counties of Bruce, Grey, Wellington, Waterloo, Brant, Norfolk and Oxford.

This Contest is open to everyone. You do not need to be a subscriber of The Advertiser to enter your name.

You may enter your own name or the name of your wife or daughter or some friend, whom you would like to see win one of the big cash prizes.

This is not a lottery or a game of chance. These prizes will be awarded on merit only. Energy, perseverance and ordinary intelligence will get anyone anywhere. They will win the big prize in this campaign for you if you employ them. An early start is the best guarantee of a successful finish. Cut out the entry blank and send it to The London Advertiser today.

Here is how you may enter your name:

THE LONDON ADVERTISER,
London, Ontario.

Gentlemen:—Please enter my name in your \$20,000 Prize Contest, and send me all particulars.

Name

Street

Town or City

Mail this coupon to the office of the London Advertiser today.

WESTERN NOT TO SEND DELEGATE TO O. A. C.

Await Completion of New "U" Before Invitations Will Be Accepted.

No representative of the University of Western Ontario will be present at the Jubilee Convocation of the Ontario Agricultural College, it was announced this morning by members of the student body.

It has always been the custom among the universities of Ontario to send a representative to other universities on occasions of university festivities. Until recently Western has always sent a representative. The student body of the university feels they should accept no invitations from other universities until they are in a position to invite representatives to their own college. This rule will be followed until the students enter the new university buildings now under course of construction.



FIVE TIMES REEVE.
This is Russell Holmes of Wabash, who has entered upon his fifth year as reeve of Camden Township. Mr. Holmes was councillor for three consecutive years.

SPRINGHILL COAL MINERS STRIKE

Cape Breton Employees Are Awaiting Orders From John L. Lewis.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Springhill, N. S., Jan. 16.—The 1,200 miners in the employ here of the Dominion Coal Company, a constituent company of the British Empire Steel Corporation, ceased operations this morning, the maintenance men alone being at work.

The Springhill miners were not affected by the wage cut announced yesterday.

AWAIT LEWIS' ORDERS.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Sydney, N. S., Jan. 16.—Whether the present acute industrial crisis in Cape Breton arising out of the failure of the British Empire Steel Corporation and its miners to reach an agreement on wages and the consequent 20 per cent cut put into force by the company will result in another strike there depends largely upon the nature of the reply which John L. Lewis will make to the advice which have been forwarded to him by the provincial officers of District 26, United Mine Workers of America. About 9,000 of the 12,000 miners in the district are in the Cape Breton fields.

"MILK BOTTLE" THIEF IS CAUGHT AT LAST

Stuart Baker Admits Charge in Court—Remanded For Week.

Because numerous complaints had reached the police station that money left by residents in milk bottles was being purloined in wholesale fashion by some unknown thief, a couple of constables were told to investigate. As a result Stuart Baker, a young man under 21, was nabbed at 85 Wilson avenue.

In court this morning Baker was charged with stealing cash from milk bottles. He pleaded guilty and offered no explanation for his action. He said he worked as a junior at the Molsons Bank and received \$8 a week.

"There was no reason for my stealing amounts ranging from \$2 to 5 cents from milk bottles," the court said. "Why did you do it?"

Baker explained that he lived with his parents, and had been working for six months. He was not required to pay board.

"I can't understand why you should commit theft," the court stated. "You'll be remanded for a week until we inquire into your case."

HARRY REID, WELL-KNOWN SPORT LEAVES POSTOFFICE

Harry Reid, who was employed at the local postoffice in the registration department, and who was granted leave of absence for six months to go to California with his wife, who was in ill-health, has tendered his resignation. Mr. Reid was a popular member of the staff and an outstanding hockey and baseball player in the civil service teams.

EARLY END TO BALDWIN REGIME IS CERTAINTY

Political Observers Are Positive That Macdonald Move Will Succeed.

POLICY OF ECONOMY

Labor's First Steps Will Be Relief For Conditions of the Poor.

Associated Press Despatch.
London, Jan. 16.—Nobody, however interested, professes to draw from yesterday's proceedings in Parliament any indication that the defeat of the government may be averted, and the passage of Labor's resolution of no confidence in the present government, which Ramsay MacDonald is to move, is still regarded as a foregone conclusion.

Even if the government should be able to win enough supporters to survive the vote on the condemnatory declaration of the parliamentary Labor party, it would have to face the hostile amendment tabled by the Liberals which says that the ministers, having declared themselves incapable of dealing with the problem of unemployment without the policy of protection, which has been decisively rejected by the electorate, and failed in the conduct of both domestic and foreign affairs, cannot longer be entrusted with the responsibilities of government.

As the amendment of the official opposition takes precedence over this, it is altogether unlikely that the Liberal amendment will ever come before the House. Another declaration, this by the Scottish Laborites, declaring that the King's speech does not give hope "for the betterment of the millions of working people now living on the verge of starvation," is also probably doomed, as the government presumably will be forced to move it.

The proceedings in the Commons last night were unquestionably dominated by Mr. MacDonald's lengthy exposition of the aims of Labor. Especially noteworthy was his plea for "a new beginning" in foreign affairs and his assertion that Great Britain must play a greater part in the restoration of Europe; for the old world, he said, was far nearer the state of affairs that existed in 1912 than anyone cared to realize.

WENIGE ENCOURAGED BY COURT'S DECISION

Believes It Proves Conclusively Council Has Right To Cut Expenditures.

Mayor George Wenige is vastly encouraged, he states, by the decision just handed down by the first divisional court of Ontario, whereby the City of Peterboro is not to be held liable for payments of police salaries in that municipality. The police commissioners found they were out the necessary funds after the city council had reduced their estimates.

"This sustains the opinion given the City of London last year by former Attorney-General W. E. Ramey," the mayor stated. "This is a very important ruling from the courts and shows conclusively that the city council has the right to reduce the expenditures of the police commission if such action is considered expedient."

BASIL MORAN SENTENCED TO SIX MONTHS IN JAIL

Special to The Advertiser.
Guelph, Jan. 16.—Pleading guilty before Magistrate Watt this morning to a charge of stealing \$195 from John Searle of Guelph Township, Basil Moran, a local young man, was sentenced to six months in an indeterminate term of months in the Ontario Reformatory. Moran was arrested at London, Ont., yesterday.

THE WEATHER

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 37; lowest, 12. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 36; lowest, 29. Barometric Readings.
Tuesday—8 p.m.—32.9.
Today—8 a.m.—28.4.