

FOUR DEAD IN TORONTO FIRE

The London Advertiser

Clever Forger Victimizes Five London Merchants

LAST EDITION

There Is No Chance of Saving the City of Sydney—Stefansson Wishes for Wireless Equipment—Would Have Combined Old Boys' Reunion and Peace Celebration in 1915—Education's Small Cost in London—Lottery Tickets Seized by Postoffice Inspectors.

LOTTERY TICKETS SEIZED HERE BY P. O. INSPECTORS

"Take-a-Chance" Sheets Confiscated as Result of Tip to Authorities.

WHOLE BATCH IS TAKEN

Londoners Who Expected to Take a Flier With German Government Disappointed.

Londoners who anticipated taking a little flier in German lottery tickets will be disappointed. They were expecting the "take-a-chance" sheets yesterday, but they will have to continue expecting for the postal authorities have confiscated every one sent through the mails to local "subscribers."

For some time the local postal inspectors have been investigating a tip that a number of German lottery tickets were being secured here, but no definite information was received until a description of the envelopes, containing the sheets, was received. The date of the expected arrival of the tickets was also tipped off to the inspectors and yesterday a suspicious looking envelope was opened. It proved to be one of the lottery ones. The sequel to its opening was the confiscation of the entire batch.

The postal regulations give the inspectors the right to confiscate all mail matter pertaining to lotteries. It was under this rule that the local men worked.

Fifteen years ago David Dibb, a postman, was the lucky winner in a lottery, getting \$15,000 on a ticket he purchased for a dollar.

DETECTIVES DISCOVER REGULAR ARSENAL

Officers' "Find" Proves to Be a Box of Smoke Wagons and Ammunition.

While seeking information today in a place, the whereabouts of which the police have not yet made public, Detective Robert Egerton discovered a suspicious-looking box which when broken open revealed a regular arsenal. The box contained seven revolvers of different caliber, a couple of dozen cartridge belts, a number of pistol holsters, and hundreds of rounds of ammunition.

Detectives Robert Egerton and Harry Down are working on the case, and at the present time have two men under suspicion. An arrest may be made before nightfall.

From the marks on the box and some of the goods they look as if they had been stolen from some private concern, and were being shipped through this city to a man the police are now searching for. The detectives have little to say regarding the discovery beyond the fact that the goods were hidden in a certain part of the city, and that they are working on the case.

STREET CAR DELAYS

Yesterday's Records of "Hold-ups" at Level Crossings.

Crossing	Time	Lost
G.T.R.-Rectory	8:05-8:10 a.m.	5 min.
G.T.R.-Richmond	9:25-9:30 a.m.	5 min.
G.T.R.-Richmond	9:25-9:30 a.m.	3 min.
G.T.R.-Rectory	12:24-12:27 p.m.	3 min.
G.T.R.-Rectory	6:52-6:56 p.m.	4 min.
G.T.R.-Rectory	11:17-11:27 a.m.	10 min.
G.T.R.-Richmond	11:18-11:22 a.m.	4 min.
G.T.R.-Richmond	6:12-6:16 p.m.	4 min.

THE WEATHER.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London for the 24 hours preceding 8 p.m. yesterday:

Highest, 50 above; lowest, 29 above.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today: Highest, 34 above; lowest, 21 above.

TOMORROW—COLD.
Toronto, March 18—8 a.m. Forecasts.
Today—Strong north and northwest winds; colder, with light snowfalls.
Thursday—Northerly winds and cold.
The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

High. Low. Weather.

Victoria..... 64 40 Clear

Calgary..... 62 36 Clear

Winnipeg..... 62 34 Clear

Port Arthur..... 58 30 Cloudy

Park Sound..... 42 20 Snow

Toronto..... 40 30 Cloudy

Ottawa..... 40 32 Cloudy

Montreal..... 40 32 Cloudy

Quebec..... 42 34 Cloudy

Father Point..... 42 34 Cloudy

Weather Notes.
A storm is developing near the middle Atlantic coast, while the western cold wave is spreading over Ontario and Quebec.

The temperature is below zero this morning in Northern Ontario, and snow is falling over the more southern parts of the province.

Storm signals are displayed at Atlantic ports.

ALL THAT IS LEFT OF 200 THRESHING MACHINES



Photo by Denkleberg, Sarnia.
Smoking ruins of the Goodison Warehouse and two hundred threshing machines destroyed by fire at Sarnia on Tuesday afternoon, with an estimated loss of \$250,000. The whole plant would have been endangered by a chance in the wind.

BOARD OF TRADE TO TALK SUBWAYS

Will Consider Whole Question of G.T.R. Improvement at Next General Meeting—Believe It Is Time to Act.

Track elevation and subways as a solution of the level crossing problem in London will be taken up by the London Board of Trade in the near future. At a meeting of the executive of the board held at noon today the question was discussed, and it was suggested that an effort should be made to get someone conversant with the whole situation to come and address the board on the subject at its next meeting.

NO TRACE OF BODY OF J. W. LANGRIDGE

Little Hope of Recovering Remains of Former Londoner for Weeks Yet.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Herbert, Sask., March 18.—Although many have been searching the Saskatchewan River near here, J. W. Langridge, who lived at Regina from Toronto in 1911 to become inspector of the river, has not been recovered. The body is not likely to be recovered for weeks, as the river is very swift and will be some time before the ice breaks up.

HEROIC HOTEL MANAGER IS FORMER LONDONER

William Gray, of the Burned "Woodbine," Learned Printing Trade in London.

William Gray, who proved himself a hero at the disastrous fire in the Woodbine Hotel at Toronto Tuesday night, is a former Londoner, a nephew of James Gray, the well-known drygoods merchant. He was formerly a printer, and learned his trade with the Southern Printing Company in this city. He was manager of the burned hotel, and when the fire was discovered started out to warn the guests of their danger. Coming to a room in which he believed one of the guests was sleeping, he broke down the door, and in doing so sustained severe injuries to his arm.

STEFANSSON SIGNS FOR WIRELESS EQUIPMENT

If Installed at Herschell, Karluk's Whereabouts Would Be Known.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, March 18.—How usefully wireless could span the spaces of the north is shown by a letter which Dr. Thomson, the member for the Yukon, this morning received from Stefansson, the explorer. The message comes from the mouth of the Mackenzie River and was dated January 28. "If we only had the wireless at Herschell now," the Karluk would have been wireless and we would now know her whereabouts—which I would give anything to know."

The memorandum of Mr. Stefansson has been laid before the Government by Dr. Thomson, who, for two years, has been urging the Government to put in a chain of wireless posts in the Yukon Territory and its neighborhood.

FIVE MERCHANTS VICTIMIZED BY CLEVER FORGER

Cash Checks for "Artist" Who Forges a Law Firm's Name.

OTHERS MAY BE STUNG

Complaints Received at Police Headquarters May Not Be All.

Five complaints of phony checks were received by the detective department today. All were from businessmen, who had cashed checks Saturday night to oblige a young man they would all like to meet just once more.

The victims are The King Edward grocery, A. D. Denny, grocer, J. H. Boughner, men's furnishing, Alf Cave, grocer, and J. H. Farry, grocer. In addition to these, the detectives have heard that there are a number of others who "fell" for the young man's game.

All the victims tell the same story. The young man came into their store with a check stamped Meredith & Fisher, or Jarvis & Vining, and made out for \$14.50. He would purchase goods that amounted to about fifty cents, and receive the \$14 change. All of the men who cashed the checks stated that they did not hesitate a minute in cashing the paper, and that they would have a hard time identifying the man who put it on them.

It is the belief of the detectives that the man is no novice at the game, for he had the checks stenciled: "Not good for more than fifteen dollars," and all were made out on Meredith & Fisher and Jarvis & Vining bank checks.

The young man is described as being about twenty-five years old, well dressed, and a very smooth talker.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS COST \$22.79 PER PUPIL

Expenditures for Education in London Materially Lower Than Average.

According to figures compiled by Inspector C. B. Edwards the cost per pupil for public school education in London last year was \$22.79. This includes kindergarten, household science, manual training, playgrounds, and sinking fund and interest on debt interest, and represents a decrease of 85 cents per pupil over the previous year.

The report of the educational department for last year shows that the average cost of education per pupil, throughout the province was \$27.48.

There are approximately 9,000 public school pupils in London, so that the total cost of their education in 1913 amounts to \$204,410.

ASQUITH PROMISES QUEENSTOWN INQUIRY

[Canadian Press.]

London, March 18.—Premier Asquith promised an Irish deputation which interviewed him today that he would appoint a committee of inquiry to investigate the question of the abandonment of the port of Queenstown by the big steamships plying between England and the United States. The deputation was headed by the lord mayor of Dublin and the lord mayor of Cork.

A NEW PRESIDENT ELECTED IN BRAZIL

[Canadian Press.]
Washington, March 18.—Dispatches received here announce the election of Wenceslaus Braz Pereira Gomez, formerly vice-president, as president of Brazil, to succeed President Fonseca who under the constitution could not succeed himself.

WOULD HAVE DUAL REUNION AND PEACE CELEBRATION

Board of Trade Executive Suggests Dual Fete in 1915—Could Inaugurate New City Hall at the Same Time—Levy for Waterways Union.

Postponement of the Old Boys' celebration until 1915, when it could be made the occasion of opening the new city hall and also the inauguration of new radial railways which it is expected will be completed by that time, was a suggestion made at a meeting of the executive committee of the board of trade held at noon today.

The celebration of the hundred years of peace between the United States and Canada will also be held in that year, and it was thought that the two celebrations could be combined with excellent results.

There was less opposition to the proposal than had been expected to reduce the duty on agricultural implements.

LONDON'S LAST (?) GLIMPSE OF 1914 WINTER



Photo by Hines.

Londoners had the opportunity last night and this morning of seeing one of the most beautiful natural phenomena seen in this city in years. The soft, large, full-crystallized flakes of pure white snow clung to the limbs and twigs of trees, telegraph and telephone wires, boulevard fences, roofs, eaves and window ledges, occasioning delighted and enthusiastic comment from all who looked or ventured out of doors this morning before the rising sun rapidly dissipated the generous fall of "the beautiful." The streets were carpeted, the lawns were snugly covered with a quilt of milk-white and downy texture. Even the Grand Trunk station and the new city hall were beautiful this morning. The naked trees had been draped in lovely, lacey, pure white lingerie.

But soon, too soon, the beautiful disappeared in a metamorphosis which left in its stead plain, unadorned, insidious, sticky, horrid mud. All too transient, the beautiful, intricate and elaborate artistic creation of Nature was soon completely away, unstable, magical, almost weird beauty of the picture had faded completely away.

LUNCH COUNTER FASHIONS CHANGE WITH THE YEARS

First It Was Baked Beans, Then "Wan Aig" and Now the Popular Bite Is Beef Sandwiches and Dairy Lunches.

The little man with the spectacles and otherwise inconspicuous appearance sidled up to the lunch counter and called for one coffee, two beef sandwiches and an apple pie. The Macedonian shouted: "Two beef" at the brown-eyed professor of culinary, who peered through the two by four looking at the rear of the dining-room esplanade, and then turned patiently back to the big range in the hash-oven. The Macedonian phalanx of apple, raisin, fig, guinea, apricot, peach, prune, and cranberry 19% per cent fractions of pie stacked on the ledge back of the counter. Then he snatched a saucer with his right hand and a cup with his left in highly-accredited, amiable fashion, ordered in the good book, pressed the milk faucet and then splashed out the caffeine, and shoved over the apple pie and the Mohammedan beverage to the lunch-counter patron. The latter was inclined to begin on the "two beef," and while he waited he turned to the man on his left and expressed himself thusly:

"Great study in psychology these quick lunch hangouts. They're typical of our Canadian life, don't you know?" "What has become of the old-fashioned business man who used to dine at his club from 1:30 to 3, dawdling over his coffee, sherry and cigars with the leisurely ennui of the aesthete or epicure, who regarded dining as the noblest of the finest arts?"

Study in Psychology.
"Lunch and fashion change at the quick-lunch dumps, same as anywhere else. About two years ago everybody used to eat baked beans. Then egg sandwiches came in vogue. The Weston sandwich got the next inning, and now you and half the rest of the patrons of this place order beef sandwiches."

A thin, catenous-looking young fellow came in and called for a "dairy lunch." A "dairy lunch," dear reader, costs only a dime, and consists of a cheese sandwich and a glass of milk.

"Not a bad order," said the little man with the spectacles, while he peppered and salted the last beef on both sides. "Taisin pie and cafe noir used to be the choice of his type when he got time to eat between cigarettes. Hey, Aristotle, some more of that near-postum, when you come back this way."

ONE KILLED; 3 HURT IN AMMONIA EXPLOSION

[Canadian Press.]
Cleveland, Ohio, March 18.—One man was killed and three injured, probably fatally, and several are reported missing as the result of the explosion of an ammonia tank in the plant of the Cleveland Brewing Company at noon today. The building was partially wrecked.

NO HOPE OF SAVING THE CITY OF SYDNEY

[Canadian Press.]
Halifax, N. S., March 18.—The City of Sydney, which was abandoned yesterday after running on the Sambre rocks 25 miles east of Halifax, was still clinging to the ragged edge of the rocks today. The constant pounding has shattered the steamer's bottom, and in the after part water was almost up to the decks. There was no hope of saving the vessel.

Captain McDonald said that the City of Sydney was enveloped in fog during the whole of her trip up coast from New York whence she was bound for St. John's, Nfld. It was while he was trying to pick up the lightship southeast of Sambre Island, that the steamer struck the rocks. She was several miles out of her course.

SHIPPING COMPANIES NOT YET ABLE TO AGREE

[Canadian Press.]
Berlin, March 18.—The prospects today were very slight of an agreement being reached by the British and continental shipping companies, who are in conference here over the allotment of transatlantic traffic. It was stated authoritatively that very little progress has been made during the two days' negotiations over the full conference.

Other lines represented at the conference complain that the Cunard and the Hamburg-American lines will not make sufficient concessions.

FOUR OF GUESTS AT TORONTO HOTEL PERISH IN FLAMES

Two Had an Opportunity to Escape, But Returned for Dog.

ANOTHER BADLY INJURED

Montreal Man Jumped From an Upper Window and Likely to Die.

[Canadian Press.]

LATER.
Toronto, March 18.—At 1 o'clock this afternoon it was definitely known that the death list in the Woodbine Hotel fire would not exceed four. Although only two bodies have been recovered, there is little doubt but that the two reported missing perished in the flames. The dead are:

Max Cohen and Fred Levison, New York.
Charles Wilmott, of Belleville.

Wm. Jeffrey, of Stratford, a traveller for McCleary's, London.

D. Miller, C. P. R., Montreal, reported missing was located this morning at another hotel. Among the guests registered at the time of the fire were:

W. H. Ginder, Hamilton; W. Gibbons, London; J. Graham, London; W. A. Hall, Hamilton; E. B. Harrison, Montreal; H. Levy, Montreal; T. Maynard, London; P. Montague, Ottawa, but these have all been reported safe.

Toronto, March 18.—At least four men were burned to death, while the fate of another is in doubt, and others were injured when the interior of the new Woodbine Hotel burned up last night.

The known dead are: Max Cohen and Fred Levison, of New York; two bodies found are believed to be those of Charles Wilmott, of Belleville, a well-known horseman, and a man named Miller. A fifth man is missing.

Edmond S. Giles, of Montreal, is dying at St. Michael's Hospital from injuries received when he jumped from a second story window of the Woodbine Hotel, the assistant manager of the hotel, sustained terrible cuts.

Cohen and Levison got as far as the fire escape, and there by their friend, J. A. Lee, of New York, but returned for a valuable bull pup. Mr. Lee continued down the fire escape, and saw no more of his friends.

With an appalling and dramatic swiftness the fire demon descended, just as hundreds of guests were making merry at the dining tables or preparing for the evening's entertainments. George A. Spears, proprietor of the Woodbine, was busy preparing for a special party in honor of Mrs. Spears' birthday, and all arrangements were completed for a big time in the Pompeian room. Several theatre parties were also in the hotel at the time.

The alarm first came from Bert A. Belmont, a mining man, who discovered that a bathroom was blazing. In an incredibly short time the whole third floor was blazing fiercely, and it was with difficulty that several guests found their way to the stairway through the dense smoke.

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Called to others to follow him to the fire escape, and, breaking open the door of room 204, reached the avenue of safety. Lee was on his way down the escape when the other two, who were apparently in the escape was so easy, turned back for a pet dog. They were not seen again.

Another badly charred body was found at 11 o'clock this morning. The progress of the fire had all the unreality of a nightmare. The first warning came at 7:30. An hour and a half after the first curl of smoke, the floors had fallen in, and the fire had sunk into a pile of smoldering embers.

At the time of the first alarm, when the guests above were choking in the smoke-filled passages and hurrying to save themselves, some 150 persons were in the dining room, and a few groups in the Pompeian room. For some minutes business pursued its natural course. The girl in the check-room continued to take in and send out checks amid the smoke wreaths, but soon hysteria seized the inmates, and they began to mad scramble to the exits.

Horror mingled with shouts of warning as guests and inmates sought a place of safety. The firemen drenched the building with water, but it seemed to pour off the building without quenching the flames, and efforts were then largely directed to confining the blaze to one building, in which they were successful. Water raining down from the ceiling of the hotel did not dampen the ardor of a crowd standing six deep at the bar, talking and laughing until the proprietor begged them to leave. It took half a dozen policemen to clear the bar, and even after it was cleared one man, who stole a fireman's coat from a reel wagon, walked around the hotel directing manoeuvres and every now and then visiting the bar for another drink. He kept it up for some time, until discovered in a dead stupor and taken to the police station.

Several spectators were injured by being struck with goods thrown out of the windows to the sidewalk.

Max Cohen has been Toronto manager of the United Feature Film Company of New York for the past three years. Frederick Levison, was recently appointed his assistant, and had been in the city three weeks. The fire loss will be \$200,000, covered by insurance. Mr. Spears took over the hotel last year at \$110,000, and in the fall a handsome annex was added, and the accommodation increased to 100 rooms at a cost of \$95,000. Nothing but the front wall and office and concrete bar are standing. The cause of the fire is said to have been defective wiring.

Continued on Page Eleven.