

THE WEATHER:
SOUTHERLY WINDS, FAIR.
WEDNESDAY—SNOW OR SLEET.

61ST YEAR. NO. 23859

London Evening Advertiser

LONDON, ONTARIO, TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1924. —SIXTEEN PAGES.

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

THREE CENTS.

RIGNEY TO CONDUCT MURDER TRIALS FOR CROWN

Laborites Warn Baldwin of An Immediate Test Vote

RIDDELL TO PRESIDE AT THREE TRIALS FOR MURDER

Timothy J. Gigney, K.C., Will Again Conduct Case Against Murrell and Williams.

FAMILIAR WITH CASE

Will Act For Crown in Charge Against Topping Also.

The "lineup" for the murder trials of Sidney Murrell and "Slim" Williams is now complete. It was officially announced from the office of the crown attorney today. Hon. Mr. Justice Ridgell, who is looked upon as one of the keenest and best judges on the supreme court bench, will preside at the trial, having been assigned to the winter sittings which open at the court house on Feb. 4. Timothy J. Gigney, K.C., of Kingston, has again been appointed to prosecute the case, for the crown against the two Melbourne bank robbers. Having conducted the trial against the two men last October when the jury disagreed, it was generally expected that the attorney-general would again nominate Mr. Gigney for the job, in view of the fact that Mr. Gigney would be more familiar with the case than any outside prosecutor.

Mr. Gigney will also prosecute against Clarence Topping, self-confessed slayer of Miss Geraldine Durston. The Kingston lawyer has written for all available information in connection with the Murrell and Topping cases, and it will be forwarded to him within a few days by crown attorneys here.

J. M. Donahue will again look after the interests of Murrell and possibly Williams. The latter was not entirely pleased at counsel's move in putting him in the box at the last trial, and told jail officials that he would sooner have a separate trial this time with another lawyer conducting his defense.

Williams, however, is without funds, and would probably have some difficulty in securing new counsel.

D. A. G. Swanson, who will conduct the defense of Clarence Topping, visiting Topping at the county jail yesterday afternoon for a few minutes. He was accompanied by relatives of the young Strathroy man.

NEWSBOYS' CLUB PLAN PROGRAM FOR SEASON

Rotary Club and the "Y" Again Sponsoring Local Organization.

The Newsboys' Club will be conducted as last year under the leadership of the Rotary Club and the Y. M. C. A.

Rotarians R. I. Watson, William Jarman and Walter Kelly were present last night. Mr. Watson and W. H. Spearman of the "Y" outlined for the boys the proposed program. The following boys were present last night: Charles White, Edward Donahue, Jack Wilkins, Clarence Pennington, Bill Newton, Norman Cameron, James Hill, William Russell, Walter Brooks, Al Drake, E. Wilcox, William Howlett, Edward Warren, William Young, Cliff Roberts, John Pope, and Art Cappadonia.

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS.
Today—Southerly winds; fair.
Wednesday—Strong easterly winds, with snow or sleet.
A pronounced cold wave has come into the Western Provinces from the north.

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

Stations	High	Low	Weather
Victoria	44	38	Cloudy
Calgary	39	6	Snow
Winnipeg	8	8	Cloudy
Port Arthur	12	10	Cloudy
Sault Ste. Marie	10	8	Snow
Toronto	28	17	Fair
Kingston	24	10	Fair
Ottawa	18	6	Fair
Montreal	22	6	Clear
Quebec	16	2	Clear
Father Point	16	12	Clear
St. John	30	12	Clear
Halifax	20	18	Fair
Miles	—	—	—

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 22; lowest, 7. The official temperatures for the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 23; lowest, 12.
Barometric Readings.
Monday—8 p.m.—29.52
Tuesday—8 a.m.—29.35



T. J. RIGNEY, K.C., Kingston lawyer, who will again conduct the case for the crown in the murder trials of Sidney Murrell and "Slim" Williams. He will also prosecute against Clarence Topping.

CHARLES TURNER MAY RETAIN POST

Tax Collector Has Consultation With Treasurer and Aldermen.

Charles Turner, city tax collector, who tendered his resignation yesterday to the city council, will likely re-consider his decision at least, City Treasurer Bell reports.

"We had a conference yesterday, about 1 o'clock," the treasurer explained. "The collector was here in my office, and Ald. Leonard Douglass, the chairman of the finance committee, and Ald. Drake both were here and the question was discussed with Mr. Turner. Although nothing definite was accomplished in our effort to have him re-consider his move, I believe that he will consider our proposal favorably."

The treasurer also points out that it will be necessary for the council to consider the appointment of a competent assistant tax collector.

U. S. MOTORIST BREAKS CITY REGULATIONS

O. V. Lewis Gets Summons Every Time He Comes to City.

Every time O. V. Lewis comes to London from the United States in his car he forgets the parking regulations. The result is that he invariably appears in police court to answer a charge of violating the motor vehicles act.

This morning he told the court he had been apprehended locally on three occasions he had come here. As regular as clock work he gets a summons the day after arriving in town.

Mr. Lewis, a prepossessing young man, laughed at his own discomfiture and everybody in the court room laughed with him.

"We don't give you a very handsome welcome, do we?" the court observed. "I'll let you off this time if you pay the costs."

EARLY MORNING BLAZE CAUSES \$1,500 LOSS

Home of N. Williams, 30 Craig Street, Is Completely Gutted.

Damage estimated at \$1,500 was caused by a fire which nearly destroyed the two-story frame home of N. Williams, 30 Craig street, at 3:40 o'clock this morning.

An overheated stove was given as the origin of the fire by Fire Chief John Aiken.

The house was uninhabited at the time the fire broke out. Mr. Williams was staying with his parents, and Mrs. Williams was in the hospital. Neighbors were aroused at 3:30 from the noise of cracking timber.

The fire had gained considerable headway before firemen arrived. The interior of the house was completely gutted. The loss is covered by insurance. Mr. Williams stated today.

PHYSICAL TRAINING CLASSES.
A physical training course has been started at the Lord Roberts School under the supervision of Sgt. H. W. Johnstone, militia official. The R. C. R. classes there are now being held on Monday, Tuesday and Friday of each week from 4:30 to 5:30 in the afternoons.

PROTECTION PROPOSALS ABANDONED BY BALDWIN

Political Experts Regard Move As Clever Conservative Ruse.

DEFEAT PREDICTED

King Opens Parliament For the Most Momentous Session in History.

London, Jan. 15.—The parliamentary Labor party today decided to bring up the question of confidence in the Baldwin government for decision during the debate on the reply to the speech from the throne. At a meeting prior to the assembly of the House of Commons an amendment to the reply was framed, reading as follows:

It is, however, our duty respectfully to submit to your majesty that your majesty's present officers have not the confidence of this house."

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Jan. 15.—The much mooted question of how the Baldwin government in view of its overwhelming defeat in the recent elections on the new protective issue, would handle the subject in the king's speech at the opening of the new parliament, candidly referred to the country's rejection of the tariff proposals and indicated their abandonment by the government.

Mr. Baldwin thus faced the situation squarely in what is generally regarded as his swan song as the political expert sees nothing but defeat for him in the forthcoming vote of confidence.

But on analysis this swan song proved in the opinion of experts to be a shrewd and clever effort to spike as far as possible the guns of Labor, which is expected to assume power soon.

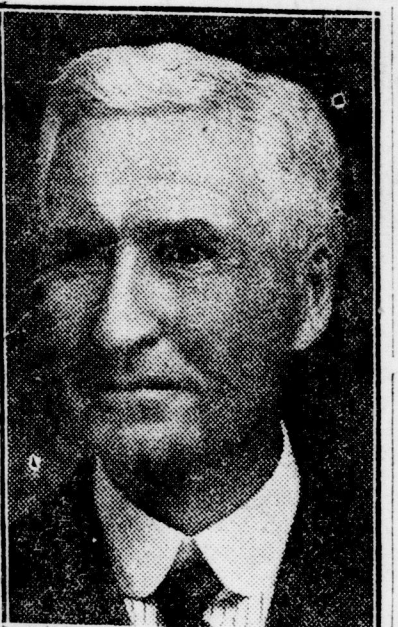
A large part of the speech was devoted to a discussion of bills which the Baldwin government would submit for the benefit of the working classes were it permitted to remain in power.

Baldwin Looking Ahead.

The speech furnished one of the most extensive lists of proposed measures favorable to labor that was ever placed in a king's message. In fact, the Labor party itself could hardly have issued a more striking pronouncement.

The plans cited included proposals for the betterment of industrial conditions, provisions for the much-needed houses for workers, amelioration of unemployment and the readjustment of old age pensions.

It was not that the Conservatives please see page 5, column 1.



JOHN B. CAMPBELL, prominent Londoner for many years, who passed away at his home on Central avenue last evening.

GOVERNMENT WILL ISSUE C.N.R. LOAN

Fifty Million Authorized at the Last Session of Parliament.

SECOND SINCE JULY

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, Jan. 15.—A new fifty million dollar loan for the Canadian National Railways is to be issued shortly under the auspices of the department of finance.

This will be the second loan issued by the Dominion government for the Canadian National since the last session of parliament. In July a loan of \$22,500,000 was issued for the purchase of rolling stock, which with the issue of \$75,000,000, it was shown today in department of commerce figures for the 12 months ending December 31.

Both loans were authorized by parliament at its last session, and the time of issue was left to the railway and governmental authorities.

U. S. FINISHES YEAR WITH FAVORABLE BALANCE

Associated Press Despatch.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The United States finished the calendar year for 1923 with a favorable foreign trade balance of \$375,948,000, it was shown today in department of commerce figures for the 12 months ending December 31.

Graydon Scores Methods Of American Immigration



Thomas Taylor, an Englishman, Brought From Pontiac to London.

REMANDED FOR WEEK

The action of American immigration officials in bringing Thomas Taylor, an Englishman, to London from Pontiac and dropping him at the C. N. R. station without money was severely scored by the magistrate in police court this morning.

Taylor, having nowhere to go, came to the police to aid him in his plight. He had been an inmate of the Pontiac Asylum for the Insane, but stated he went there voluntarily to receive treatment. He was not mentally unsound, he added, and the clearness and evident intelligence with which he explained his case bore out his statement in this regard.

"I can make \$10 a day anytime because I have a profitable trade," Taylor said. "I was released from the Pontiac institution and the immigration authorities immediately seized me and deported me to Canada. They said I would have to remain here one year before returning to the United States. If you let me go I shall guarantee to find a job before nightfall."

"I can't do that, for your own protection," said the court. "It seems to me that you are in a poor state of affairs when immigration officers can dump men here in London without money or means of subsistence. I'll remand you for a week. In the meantime we shall get in touch with your relatives in Montreal and see what they can do for you."

Taylor said his brother living in Montreal could do no more than support his wife and family. He preferred to go to Hamilton, where he had friends. The court decided to consider his case later.

SCORES DIE WHEN JAPAN IS ROCKED BY QUAKE

Six Hundred Homes Demolished in Tokio and Other Cities.

EMPEROR IS SAFE

Fire Raging in the Suburbs of Tokio While Train Is Thrown in River.

Associated Press Despatch.

Tokio, Jan. 15.—Fifty persons are believed to have been killed in Tokio, Yokohama and the outside districts in today's earthquake, while many persons were injured. No casualties among foreigners have been reported. The statistics were given out by police. One report has it that 600 houses were demolished in Yokohama.

Odawara, a city on Kawasato Bay, about 75 miles southwest of here, suffered the greatest damage from the tremor, as it did last September, when vast sections of both Yokohama and Tokio and surrounding cities virtually were destroyed.

Water mains were ripped from the places and smashed by the quake and water flooded the streets and hundreds of homes in the two cities following the shock this morning.

The buildings of modern construction which were badly damaged and many instances still in partial ruin from the disaster of last September, were further damaged by today's tremors.

The cabinet went into session immediately after the earthquake to consider relief measures and to obtain information regarding the extent of the damage.

The stock market suspended operations owing to the failure of communications.

PUBLIC UTILITIES PROVES EFFICIENT

Hydro Is Suspended Only 90 Minutes Out of 2,500 Working Hours.

A remarkable record for efficiency was that established by the public utilities commission during 1923 when but 90 minutes out of 2,500 working hours were lost due to interruptions in the hydro service. There were a total of 15 interruptions.

Of this amount, 50 minutes was lost on the night of June 25, the provincial election date, when a thunderstorm of great intensity demoralized the service shortly after midnight.

The remaining 14 interruptions averaged from one minute to seven in duration, and of these seven occurred during sleeping hours.

Of the 14, the four were local interruptions, these being caused by a burned transformer, two shot insulators and trouble with a lightning arrester. The remaining 11 were all out of the jurisdiction of the local commission.

This record is considered all the more remarkable when it is realized that London is some 200 miles from the source of power.

BUILDING RECORDS MAY BE SMASHED

Sixteen Construction and Alteration Permits Issued So Far This Month.

City building authorities anticipate that January's record for 1923 will be effectively smashed.

While to date, sixteen construction and alteration permits have been issued, for work estimated at \$24,894, it is expected that the board of education authorities will register the new West London school, a matter of about \$180,000.

Last January's record stood at about \$140,000, but \$95,000 of this was school construction also.

ARRANGE SPECIAL SESSION FOR TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

London traffic problems, with Mayor Wenig's various recommendations from his inaugural address, will be considered at a special session of the city council. This was proposed and decided at yesterday's meeting of the board of works.

Rumor London Motor Club Will Now Lose Privilege Of Selling Auto Licenses

Ferguson Government Believed To Be Considering Change in System.

J. H. CHILDS MENTIONED

Total Sale in District For Year Is Expected To Net \$3,000.

Rumors have it that one more political plum from the tree of patronage will fall to a London Conservative. According to reports the name of ex-Ald. J. H. Childs has been forwarded to Toronto as the logical person to handle the sale of 1924 automobile licenses for this district.

If Mr. Childs is given the appointment it would mean the London Motor Club would no longer issue the license plates and would have on their hands an office and equipment outfitted for the purpose last year, costing \$700 which cannot be used for any other purpose.

Last year the licenses were sold by Arthur Keene and the London Motor Club. A commission of 25 cents on each license plate is allowed by the provincial government.

Mr. Keene sold some 5,000 auto plates and the London Motor Club sold nearly 4,500. The total sale in London and district this year is estimated to be in the neighborhood of 12,000. This would bring in about \$3,000 to the person or club given the appointment.

Last year the London Motor Club, according to C. E. Bernard, secretary, spent \$1,850 in outfitting an office, advertising, and employing a clerk to look after the sale. The revenue from the sale of 4,500 licenses amounted to \$1,125. They lost almost \$500, but Mr. Bernard points out that had they been given the entire issue for this district they could have handled it at practically the same expense.

The year would have ended with a surplus of nearly \$1,000 which would be spent on road guides, road signs and betterment of road conditions.

The motor clubs in Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton and Peterborough are handling the sale of licenses for some years. Clubs in London, Windsor, Chatham, St. Thomas, St. Catharines, Brantford and Stratford were all appointed issuers last year. All of these clubs have been re-appointed this year with the exception of London and Brantford.

According to law, licenses have to be secured by motorists on or before February 1. Notice of appointment is expected to reach the city within a few days. The London Club feel they're the only people in a position to handle the expected rush sale, having an office and staff ready to accommodate purchasers.

ROBBERS GET \$26,000 IN ST. LOUIS HOLD-UP

Associated Press Despatch.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 15.—Six men, armed with revolvers, entered the West End Trust and Savings Bank here this morning and after firing several shots to intimidate the employees, escaped with \$26,000 in cash.

BOY, STRUCK BY BULLET RETURNS TO HIS SCHOOL

Living up to his prophecy of last night, Harry Kincaid, 119 Garfield avenue, returned to Tecumseh School this morning feeling none the worse for his experience of yesterday when he narrowly escaped serious injury from a bullet fired by a chum. The bullet grazed the lad's stomach.

LINDSAY FACTORY IS DESTROYED BY FIRE

Loss of \$100,000 Is Suffered by R. M. Beal Leather Company.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Lindsay, Ont., Jan. 15.—The three-story brick office and the large four-story brick harness factory and warehouse of the R. M. Beal Leather Company was completely destroyed by fire this morning. At 2:15 a.m. the alarm was sounded and 15 minutes later the huge structure was a mass of flames. The loss is estimated at \$100,000. Fire started in the office end of the building and spread to the top story of the warehouse and factory and with the falling in of the roof they spread to the lower story. Nothing could be saved and frequently the firemen had narrow escapes from death when the walls commenced to fall, electric and telephone cables snapped and large flying embers and smoke fell like a barrage. The loss includes thousands of dollars worth of harness.

Some 40 men have been thrown out of work.

ICE NOT THICK ENOUGH TO START CUTTING WORK

Although John Frost has worn a few chilly smiles this winter, he has not manufactured ice thick enough to be stored away in the various ice houses of the city.

Officials of the Crystal Lake Ice Company stated today that cutting operations would not be started on the Coves till Saturday. At the present time the best the weatherman can manufacture is ice seven inches thick.

AWARDED GOLD MEDAL

Military headquarters announced today that Cadet Harry Stirling (Woodstock), Platoon Leader Ford Steadman (Watford), and Charles Dyson (Lorne avenue school, London), were awarded the Strathcona Trust gold medals as the best shots in their respective inspectorates for last year.

SERGEANT-MAJOR MRS. WARD

prominent Salvation Army worker, who is perhaps the oldest active member in Canada Mrs. Ward is 84 years old, and has been connected with the Salvation Army since its inception 40 years ago. Last night she was honored by headquarters, being presented with two volumes of the life of William Booth.

CITY GARBAGE COLLECTORS ASK BINDING AGREEMENT

Present Request to City Council For Official Recognition.

FIRST MOVE SINCE 1921

Seek Assurance Working Conditions Will Not Be Altered.

After a lapse of more than two years the members of the city garbage men's union have presented a request for official recognition from the city council.

City authorities acknowledged that the formal request will be submitted in due course to the members of the board of works and then to the city council for final disposition.

This is said to be the first move of its kind since 1921, and the city officials explain that the council did not enter into any agreement with the men as now appears to be requested.

"This is practically what it amounts to," one of the officials in touch with the situation explains. "The men, in their request for a formal agreement, ask for certain things, and they define the working hours, etc."

"But as we see it, they are getting now practically what they ask other than a formal agreement with the city for the current year. In other words, the reduced wage assurance that their present working conditions, etc., will not be altered materially during the year."

During 1923 the garbage men were among the outside civic employees who were hit by the 10 per cent salary reduction instituted by ex-Mayor Cameron Wilson and his associates. The reduction was effective throughout the term until restored just as the council of that day went out of office.

BIG POTATO ACREAGE PREDICTED IN COUNTY

Rate Seed "Spuds" Are Being Sold Augurs Well For Year's Crop.

At the rate Middlesex farmers are buying seed potatoes, a record acreage for 1924 will be planted, according to those in touch with the county potato situation.

"More seed potatoes have been purchased at this time of the year than I have ever known," stated one big potato grower.

"There will be an especially large acreage of early potatoes planted," he continued. "Good seed potatoes are selling from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per bag, home grown stuff, while certified seed may be bought from \$2 to \$2.50 a bag. From what I can gather there will be over 2,000 acres of potatoes planted in Middlesex this year. In 1923 the acreage was about 1,500."

HORN IS HELD FOR BILL, BUT POLICEMAN AIDS

Merchant's Method of Collecting Account Fails To Work.

There may be more than one method of skinning a cat, and naturally there are deep and devious ways of collecting bills that have long been overdue. One London merchant thought he was well on the way towards collecting an outstanding account yesterday, but in the words of the young man in the case, he has another "blow" coming.

A widow, who recently moved her good and chattels to Wallaceburg, left a big bass horn, owned by her husband, to be sold by the youth, and he was doing his best to make a sale.

A musician in the employ of the merchant, finally obtained the horn on trial, and he promptly "sold" his roubles to a policeman, with the result that the horn is once more in his possession. He is still looking for a sale.

BANDIT IS BETTER

Jail officials in discussing the condition of Sidney Murrell today, stated the Melbourne bank bandit was progressing favorably.