

THE WEATHER:
NORTHEAST WINDS, COLD.
TUESDAY—FAIR, COLD.

London Evening Advertiser

"SPORTING GREEN"
ON THE STREET AT 5:00
WITH LATE NEWS

61ST YEAR. NO. 23888

LONDON, ONTARIO, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1924. —SIXTEEN PAGES.

THREE CENTS.

TO PETITION PREMIER KING ON ALBERTA COAL

Counsel For Sidney Murrell Appeals For New Trial

PETITION BEGINS IN TWO PROVINCES FOR ALBERTA COAL

The Advertiser Introduces Petition in Ontario and Alberta Asking Premier of Canada To Take Action—Blank Forms Mailed Today—Co-operation and Advice Invited.

ASKS FOR COMMISSION TO REPORT ON COSTS

The Advertiser begins today the circulation of a petition addressed to the Premier of Canada, asking for definite action regarding Alberta coal.

This petition is being circulated throughout the province of Ontario and Alberta. It asks for the appointment of an independent "commission of competent men," who are "thoroughly to consider and report upon the situation," dealing particularly with transportation costs. The text, in full, appears below.

FORMS HAVE BEEN MAILED.

The Advertiser has forwarded blank petition forms with explanatory matter to all postmasters in Western Ontario, to chambers of commerce, Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, Lions Clubs, newspapers, and to its 200 staff correspondents.

With the co-operation of these and other organizations, it is hoped that the signed petition will represent a weight of public opinion sufficient to impress the federal government with the need for action.

CO-OPERATION AND ADVICE INVITED.

The petition belongs to the people of Ontario and Alberta. The Advertiser is merely introducing and directing its circulation, and invites the co-operation and advice of all interested bodies.

The developments of the past eighteen months leave little doubt of the national importance of Alberta coal and of the benefit to be derived should that supply be made available to the people of Ontario.

There has been a good deal of talk about freight rates with conflicting estimates and opinions. Nothing definite has yet been accomplished.

IT IS TIME FOR ACTION NOW.

The time has come for action, and that is the purpose of the petition. If you believe in the possibilities of Alberta coal as a national resource, you can play your part by signing the petition and by securing other signatures. The blank forms contain space for twenty-five signatures on each sheet, and the Advertiser will forward them on application to organizations or individuals supporting the movement. The signed sheets must be returned to The Advertiser before March 25.

TO UNITE EAST AND WEST.

There is more to Alberta coal than its commercial value. Alberta coal represents a mutual interest between east and west—a bond of sympathy which Canada needs. The Advertiser hopes that this petition, representing a demand common to both Alberta and Ontario, may play some part in encouraging better understanding between two great provinces.

TEXT OF THE PETITION.

"To the Right Honorable William Lyon Mackenzie King, Premier of Canada:

"The petition of the undersigned citizens of Canada humbly sheweth:

"Whereas, the Province of Ontario is to a great extent dependent upon the United States of America for an adequate supply of coal for both industrial and domestic purposes, and,

"Whereas, Canada has in the Province of Alberta an immense supply of coal which has been pronounced suitable for the requirements of the Province of Ontario, and,

"Whereas, the chief obstacle to the use by the people of Ontario of this supply is said to be the cost of transportation,

"Wherefore, your petitioners submit that it is in the vital interest of the citizens of Ontario and Alberta and of national development, that a plan be devised whereby Alberta's supply of coal may be made available for Ontario's demand, and pray that you cause to be appointed a commission of competent men who are wholly independent of railway companies or railway organizations, thoroughly to consider and report upon the situation, having in mind the necessity of permitting the Canadian National Railways to function according to commercial necessities, free from political influence,

"And so your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray."

NEW LIGHTING SYSTEM NOW GETTING A TEST

Four-Hundred-Watt Lamps Are Installed on Waterloo Road From Dundas to Central Ave.

System of lighting is being tested on Waterloo street, from Dundas street to Central Ave. The new system consists of 400-watt lamps on every other side of the street. The system is being tested by the city engineer, Mr. J. H. Munn, and the results will be reported to the council.

HIGHWAYS ARE OPEN FOR MOTOR TRAFFIC

Hamilton Road Also Passable—Proof Line Road Blocked, States Engineer.

Provincial highways from London to Ingersoll and from London to Mount Brydges are open for motor traffic, County Engineer Charles T. Talbot states. The Hamilton road from London to Ingersoll is also passable for motor cars, but the Proof Line road is pretty well blocked with snow. "There is splendid sleighing on the Sarnia gravel road, and on all country roads, but there isn't much chance for motor cars to get through," declared the county engineer.



REV. FLOYD T. HOLLAND, former Buffalo pastor, who commenced his duties at the Adelaide Street Baptist Church yesterday. The building was crowded at both services.

POLICE FIND NO TRACE OF TWO BANDITS

Officials Increase Vigilance Following Series of Thefts in London.

WARNING IS ISSUED

London police officials have nothing new to report for publication at any rate, regarding developments in the Neal Baking Company robbery early Sunday morning, when safe blowers got safely away with \$1,250 in cash and checks.

"Nothing new to report," declared Inspector of Detectives Thomas Nickle this afternoon, and the same answer to queries was given by Chief L. roll, and detectives assigned to the case Sunday.

Increased vigilance has been the watchword of local police since the daring robbery of the Scates & Roberts tobacco warehouse on Dundas street nine days ago, when robbers used a stolen motor truck to carry away thousands of dollars worth of cigarettes, cigars and tobacco.

London has been the storm center of a wave of petty thieving for the past three weeks, culminating in the Neal robbery.

Houses on the Pipe Line road, Victor street, Waterloo street, Salisbury street, Quebec street and Hellmuth avenue have all been entered by thieves recently, and in some cases a goodly amount of cash and other valuables have been taken.

Householders are warned by police to take every precaution to guard against these gentry, who generally gain admission to houses by means of a skeleton key.

Andy Gump Good Salesman

In \$20,000 Prize Contest

Helped by All Other Funny Characters On Advertiser's Comic Page.

MANY OTHER FEATURES

Advertiser, Therefore, Is Much Desired by People in Western Ontario.

"Give me a worth-while product and I'll sell it." That's what Andy Gump said when he made those combination hair brushes and mirrors. And now he's proving it. For Andy Gump is one of the best salesmen in The Advertiser's \$20,000 prize contest.

Barney Google is another good salesman. So are Toots and Casper. Mutt and Jeff, Reglar Fellers and all the rest of The Advertiser's funny characters.

People who like the Gumps, Spark Plug, Mutt and Jeff and the Boarding House want The Advertiser because it is the only newspaper in Western Ontario that carries these world-famous comic strips.

That's the angle one of the most successful candidates takes when he sells The Advertiser. This is how he explains his methods:

WESTERN STUDENTS PASS WITH HIGH MARKS

Small Percentage Falls Below Fifty Per Cent in Examinations Recently Held.

STATEMENTS WRONG

Dr. Neville Replies to Attack on System at the University.

Because false stories regarding the results of the mid-year examinations of the Arts department of the University of Western Ontario have been published by the Free Press, Dr. K. P. R. Neville, registrar, has investigated exactly what the reports of the professors of each department meant.

It was said that the students of the university were contemplating appealing to authorities at Toronto because the faculty of Western had raised the passing mark from 40 per cent to 50 per cent when the average number of credits per year was reduced from 18 to 15. The faculty introduced the principle that a student who by combining class work and examination mark could not make 40 per cent, could not write a supplemental examination.

"The student who cannot reach this mark has not a very promising chance of passing a supplemental," Dr. Neville pointed out today.

According to Dr. Neville, the total Please See Page 2, Column 3.

FRENCH DEALERS BOOST PRICES

Paris Merchants Have Picked Up Tricks of Trade Introduced by Germans.

Associated Press Despatch. Paris, Feb. 18.—The German merchants' remarkable facility in marking up prices at market fall, taught the French retailers the tricks of the trade and the public now is getting a taste of modern methods in the feverish changing of price tags.

The newspapers and the public are complaining loudly that many stores have already anticipated Premier Poincaré's as yet unvoted 20 per cent increase in taxes, and instead of raising prices from ten to five per cent as the economists say is justified, they are shoving up the selling figures from 10 to 60 per cent.

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EDWIN DENBY, Secretary of the U. S. navy, who has resigned his position in the Canadian cabinet as a result of publicity covering his connection with the oil leases scandal in Wyoming.

EDWIN DENBY QUILTS POST IN CABINET

Secretary of U. S. Navy Hands In His Resignation to President Coolidge.

FOLLOWS OIL SCANDAL

Associated Press Despatch. Washington, Feb. 18.—Edwin B. Denby has resigned as secretary of the navy and his resignation has been accepted.

After repeatedly declaring he never would quit the cabinet under the fire of those who have criticized his part of the oil leasing program, the secretary notified President Coolidge this morning that he was ready to step out.

His decision followed a telephone conversation between the president and Mr. Denby, in which all of the latest aspects of the situation were talked over in the light of information received from the president by Republican leaders in the senate.

Recently a number of the secretary's friends also have been consulted by Mr. Coolidge, and they are understood to have advised the president that they fully understand the embarrassment that might result in retaining Mr. Denby in the cabinet while the oil annulment suits are in progress. Not only is Secretary Denby a party to the oil leases, having affixed his signature along with that of Albert B. Fall, former secretary of the interior, but he repeatedly has defended his part in the proceedings and has declared publicly since the present controversy arose that he believed the contracts legal and would be willing to pursue the same course again.

REVISION APPROVED OF ASSESSMENT ACT

Commissioner Bennett States Definite Salaries Needed by Provincial Legislature.

While it would be necessarily a lengthy and tedious task, the revision of the municipal assessment acts, as proposed in the Ontario legislature, would be a move to meet with the indorsement of the municipal officials throughout the province, Assessment Commissioner Bennett reasons. The commissioner explains that the government, in many instances, particularly in regard to the income tax, could prescribe definite rulings to be followed. In many cases every commissioner is a law unto himself, he stated.

ELECTRICAL MAP OF WORLD FOR WEMBLEY

Two London Engineers Design Ingenious Attraction For Imperial Exposition.

Two electrical engineers of Pettet's Pattern Works of 665 Dundas street, have designed an enormous electric map of the world which is to be sent as an exhibit to the imperial exposition to be held at Wembley, England, this summer.

The map shows the various trade and transportation routes of the world, clearly outlined with small colored lights. The invention will be on display to Londoners for some time before it is sent to England.

Hales States Three-Fourths Of Liquor Sold As Medicine Not Required By Purchaser

Chairman of Commission Addresses Members of London Ministerial Alliance.

POINTS OUT ABUSES

Charges That Jews in Toronto Are Most Flagrant Offenders.

Abuses of the Ontario temperance act were detailed to the London Ministerial Alliance this morning by James Hales, chairman of the Ontario License Commission, who attributed the most flagrant abuses of law to the Jewish element in this province.

"I make no apology for mentioning Jews as the greatest offenders we have in this respect," he said, mentioning also Jewish doctors as being considered by the board the greatest "sinners" with regard to issuing of excess prescriptions, and the number of Jewish druggists in the city of Toronto, who had taken advantage of their license as such to sell liquor.

"Of the business of between three and four million of dollars which is done in this province by government dispensaries," Mr. Hales said, "I consider it is well within the limits of safety to say that more than three-quarters of the liquor sold ostensibly for medicinal purposes is not required. The tremendous sale is not due to the laxity or carelessness of doctors, but to the pressure of thirsty people, who force their demand for liquor on their physician on pain of taking away their contribution to his practice."

Selected Means.

"It was necessary to select some means of supplying the demand for liquor as medicine, and government selected doctors as the most efficient. I do not think that any class in the community could have been selected to undertake this duty and perform it without a percentage of abuses, not even excepting the clergy to whom I am talking."

"Liquor as medicine is one of those customs which we must outgrow. The question is raised, however, of giving it to elderly people. I don't believe Please See Page 12, Column 4.

SOLDIER SETTLERS FAVOR MIDDLESEX

Figures Show Fifty-Six Have Purchased Homes in County.

Soldier settlers all have a soft spot in their hearts for Middlesex County as a place to live and make money.

Figures furnished by Bert Foyston, B.S.A., who has charge of soldier settlers in this district, show that 56 returned men have purchased farms in this county through the soldier settlement board.

Next in line is Bruce County with 45 ex-service men tilling the soil while Perth and Huron counties each boast 26.

Six of the eight men who have applied for farms from the board, have had their qualifications approved and they will soon be "back on the land."

"This district stands third in the list of 13 as far as payments are concerned," stated Mr. Foyston. "On February 15, we had received 42 per cent of amounts due by 13 ex-soldiers and I think by spring, we will head the list."

Mr. Foyston pointed out that a number of good farmers had hogs and cattle to sell and would be able to meet their obligations in the near future. Toronto and Simcoe districts at the present time and their financial burden were not as heavy as those in the counties of Middlesex, Perth and Bruce.

DEFECTIVE CONCRETE TILE IS DELAYING SEWER WORK

Certain delay in sewer work has been noted lately, the city engineer reports, owing to a consignment of defective concrete tile. The tile will be replaced, however, at no expense to the city.

It is the engineer's opinion that the splitting results directly from winter conditions. He does not consider that there was any inherent defect in the tile. The same was manufactured in the winter and was not fully matured, he concludes.

WILL INSPECT COMPANY.

Brig-Gen. W. B. King, G.O.C., left for Walkerton today to inspect "B" company of the Bruce regiment there. The regiment is under the command of Lieut.-Col. Emmerton and Captain S. D. James commands the company which will be inspected.

APPEAL IS BASED ON DECISIONS OF JUDGE

Counsel For Sidney Murrell Serves Notice Asking For New Trial.

"MURDER OR NOTHING"

Objection Raised to Charge of Mr. Justice Lennox to Jury.

The first legal effort to stay the hanging of Sidney Murrell on April 10 was taken by J. M. Donahue, counsel for Murrell, today when he served notice of an appeal for a new trial on Crown-Attorney Albert M. Judd and W. F. Nickle, K.C., Ontario attorney general.

Murrell was found guilty at the winter assizes on February 5 of the murder of Russell Campbell in April 1921, while robbing the Home Bank. Sentence of death was passed by Mr. Justice Lennox on February 9.

The crown attorney was served with the notice at police court by Mr. Donahue in person.

Counsel for the condemned man is basing his appeal for the most part on decisions of law made by Mr. Justice Lennox during the course of the trial, it is understood.

Mr. Donahue believes that his lordship erred in allowing Murrell to stand aside after he had touched the Bible. Counsel stated at the time that in his opinion the juror had been sworn to decide the case, and his place in the jury box. The judge, however, did not consider the matter in that light and the man was asked to stand aside for the crown prosecutor, T. J. Rigney, K.C. of Kingston.

Mr. Donahue also objected to the judge charging the jury that their verdict must be "murder or nothing," and withdrawing from the jury any consideration of manslaughter.

The fact that the crown did not produce the bullet fired into the body of Russell Campbell, nor the clothes that the young man wore the day he was murdered, is also mentioned by counsel, who further alleges that there was much inconsistency of evidence not connected in the case put forward by the crown.

The judge also erred, counsel claims, in not allowing Murrell to tell his story from the time the robber band left London. His lordship stated at the time, he was not interested in a long recital of what happened before the bank was robbed, and confined Murrell's evidence to what happened from the moment he entered the bank until he was taken to the London jail, a prisoner.

It is not known whether Mr. Donahue will issue a similar notice of appeal on behalf of his client "Slim" Williams, another victim of Murrell's in the robbery and who has also been sentenced to be hanged on April 10.

TAX OFFICE CHANGES TO MEET INCOME RUSH

Alterations in the Carling Block To Make Work Easier.

The interior of the department of native taxation building, Carling Block, is being completely renovated in order that a large office room may be provided for citizens to conduct their taxation business at the office.

Counsel for young Samuels adopted a rather unusual procedure when, at the preliminary hearing, he called several witnesses in an effort to show there were grounds which would justify committing the boy for trial on a manslaughter charge. The court decided, however, that the statement of one witness, who declared the defendant was driving at an excessive rate of speed just before the accident, made a trial inevitable.

The system of collecting returns is also being changed by the department, so that when the rush season is on citizens will not be delayed in waiting their turn at a narrow aisle and wicket.

DEPARTMENT APPROVES PLAN TO CLEAN FILTERS

Suggestion of City Council Is Accepted With Few Modifications by the Province.

The provincial department of health approves, with modifications, the city council plan to clean bacteria filter beds at the coves. City Engineer Neer reports after the information conference Saturday with the authorities at Toronto.

Following the suggested modifications of the department a report will be made and the initial cost of \$9,500 will be reduced to \$7,500 while the cost of maintenance will likely be slightly higher than estimated.

Plans for the new sewerage disposal plant for the Wellington-High street job are rapidly nearing completion, the engineer reports.

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MANITOBA FIRM SUFFERS \$100,000 LOSS BY FIRE

Associated Press Despatch. Roland, Man., Feb. 18.—Damage estimated at \$100,000 was caused here early Sunday morning, when the Roland Supply Company's building, M. J. Horn's hardware store and Higgins & Co.'s general store were destroyed by fire.

A large part of the damage was suffered by various lodges housed in the upper part of the Higgins block, where vestments and insignia of several lodges were stored. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

THE WEATHER

Northeast winds, fair and cold to night and Tuesday.

A pronounced area of high pressure extends from the Yukon across the western provinces and the Great Lakes to the Atlantic. The weather has been cold over the Dominion with light snow in Saskatchewan.

Stations.	High Low Weather
Victoria	12 — 42 Cloudy
Calgary	12 — 2 Snow
Winnipeg	12 — 6 Cloudy
Port Arthur	18 — 4 Cloudy
S. S. Marie	16 — 8 Clear
Cochrane	19 — 8 Clear
Toronto	21 — 11 Clear
Kingston	20 — 6 Clear
Ottawa	22 — 2 Clear
Montreal	14 — 4 Clear
Quebec	16 — 8 Clear
St. John	16 — 12 Clear
Halifax	22 — 14 Clear

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, 27; lowest, 15.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 20; lowest, 16.

Barometric Readings.

Sunday—8 p.m.—29.51.

Today—8 a.m.—29.55.