

THE WEATHER:
NORTHERLY WINDS, CLOUDY.
TOMORROW—COLDER.

London Evening Advertiser

61ST YEAR. NO. 23908

LONDON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1924.—EIGHTEEN PAGES.

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

THREE CENTS.

CASEY JOHN IS FOUND NOT GUILTY OF MURDER

JOHN HELD ON CHARGE OF ROBBERY AT DETROIT

Former Londoner Re-arrested
When Cleared on Charge
of Murder.

DENIES CONFESSION

Letter From Mother Believed
To Have Added Weight
in Decision.

Special to The Advertiser
by a Staff Correspondent.

Detroit, March 12.—Jack "Casey" John, alias Downey, former Londoner, was found not guilty of murdering Floyd Johnson, oil station attendant, last September, by the jury at 11:30 this morning. Immediately after Judge Edward Jeffries, before whom John was being tried, heard the verdict, the prisoner was re-arrested on a charge of committing robbery while armed.

In spite of an alleged admission to the police that he had murdered Johnson and notwithstanding evidence of Mrs. Dorothea Wilson, who said John told her he had pulled the trigger, the latter established an alibi for the murder.

The letter read to the jury yesterday from Mrs. Margaret Downey of London, Ont., exercised a profound effect on the court and doubtless had much to do with the verdict.

When John was being tried with three others for complicity in the Wyoming bank robbery two years ago, Mrs. Downey sent a similar letter to the court, and John was acquitted.

The trial, adjourned several times owing to John's poor physical condition, did not open until Monday last. Yesterday the details of the holding in this city which resulted in Johnson's death were told. John and a companion named Harris were arrested two days after the murder at 4727 Second avenue, John having been shot down in flight, according to testimony of officers.

The letter from John's mother, read in court by Edward Attkin, his counsel, was as follows:

"I am an old woman. He is all I have. If you send him to prison you will send me to death. As you hope for mercy from the Great Judge, I appeal to you to show mercy to my erring son."

The Weather

FORECASTS.

Today—Fresh northerly winds; cloudy.

Thursday—Northerly winds and slightly colder.

The storm, which has been unusually severe near the middle Atlantic and New England coasts, is now moving eastward, and heavy northeast gales prevail in the Maritime Provinces.

The weather continues cloudy and mild in Ontario and Quebec, and moderately cold in the West.

Temperatures.

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

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	32	25	Cloudy
Calgary	28	25	Cloudy
Winnipeg	28	15	Snow
Port Arthur	32	20	Cloudy
Cochrane	32	0	Clear
Toronto	39	32	Cloudy
Kitchener	35	32	Cloudy
Ottawa	34	22	Cloudy
Montreal	35	26	Cloudy
Quebec	36	30	Cloudy
St. John	40	30	Snow
Halifax	40	34	Snow

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

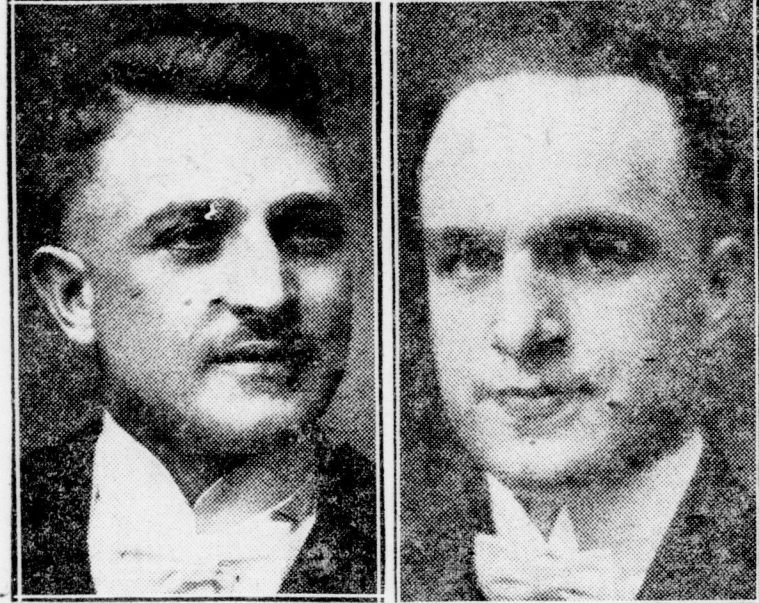
The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 35; lowest, 32.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 37; lowest, 22.

Barometric Readings.

Tuesday, 8 p.m.—29.08.

Today, 8 a.m.—29.00.



CHARLES W. DAVIS, SON OF A WEALTHY ENGLISH MERCHANT, CONFESSES OFFENCE.

WAR VETERAN ADMITS FORGERY AND BIGAMY

Charles W. Davis, Son of a Wealthy English Merchant, Confesses Offence.

SPEAKS SIX LANGUAGES

Was Located by Police Conducting Poultry Farm Near Clondebyne.

Special to The Advertiser.

Chatham, March 12.—Charles W. Davis, aged 27, son of a wealthy English merchant, graduate of an exclusive British university, proficient linguist, admitted in county police court this morning that he had made an awful mess of things when he confessed to forgery, wife desertion and bigamy. He was remanded to jail for sentence by Magistrate Arnold.

Davis, in October last left Lucy Brillings, the girl with whom he went through a form of marriage, and was discovered by provincial police a week ago working in a poultry business at Clondebyne, near London. He confessed to bigamy to provincial officers. Every mail brings letters from him, and he has not without its romantic incidents.

Davis speaks six languages fluently. He served four years during the late war with the Royal Field Artillery and participated in battles on all fronts, with the exception of the Italian.

Information secured by provincial police indicated that Davis' career was not without its romantic incidents.

The convention of Western Ontario fruit growers to be held in Hyman Hall on March 20, promises to be exceptionally well attended, according to reports reaching R. A. Finn, of the department of agriculture. Every mail brings letters from fruit men and district representatives stating they will be present.

The convention is being held under the auspices of the Ontario government fruit branch, the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association and the London branch of the association.

A number of noted and practical fruit growers, as well as government officials, will address the meetings, while there will also be exhibits of machinery and other fruit growers' supplies. W. J. Robb, who resides in town, which he has asked permission to show by-products of apples, such as sweet cider, vinegar, jellies, etc.

FIVE PRISONERS TAKEN TO ONTARIO REFORMATORY

The population of the Middlesex county jail was reduced by five Wednesday morning when Provincial Bailiff Ryan carried off a quintet of Governor Dawson's best customers to the provincial reformatory at Guelph. The bailiff had nine other prisoners in tow, which he had gathered at St. Thomas and Chatham.

G.W.V.A. AWAITS WORD OF PENSION GRANTS

Officials of the G. W. V. A. are waiting patiently to hear from the appeal board, which was held in the courthouse here recently, regarding the granting of pensions to veterans who are in financial distress.

"There is bungling going on somewhere," declared one official today. "Unless we hear from the board in reasonable time we will start the fireworks here. It seems a pity that these men are subject to long periods of suffering before anything is done for them," he stated.

PAVEMENT PROBLEM COMES UP MARCH 20

Ontario Legislature Will Consider Validity of the Payments.

COUNCIL DELEGATION

No Change Is Contemplated in Personnel of the Representatives.

London's street railway paving problems go to the private bills committee of the Ontario Legislature Thursday, March 20, at 10 a.m., according to an announcement at the city hall.

The government authorities have notified the city that the city of London bill will receive its initial consideration on that day, according to present arrangements.

Mayor Wenige and a deputation from the city council will appear before the committee to urge the passage of the requested legislation, the chief item involving the payment of the street railway's portion of the Richmond street and other paving jobs of last year.

In this connection, Mayor Wenige, questioned again, stated that he contemplated no change in his selection of the delegation from the council as follows: Ald. Leonard Douglass, chairman of the finance committee, Ald. Edward Warren, Ald. Harry Bottrill and Ald. John Anderson.

While not included in this deputation, Ald. John Greer, chairman of the board of works, has already assured that in all probability he will attend on behalf of his committee, whether the mayor chooses to alter his list or not. This question may receive further consideration at the next council session, however, Monday night.

The city is asking the Ontario Legislature to ratify the resolution passed by the 1923 city council, whereby the street railway company was given the right to pay for its share of the paving work in ten annual instalments. City Solicitor T. G. Meredith submitted the opinion that such an arrangement was not in keeping with the provisions of bylaw 516.

SEWER PLANS WILL GO TO HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Question Will Be Brought Up by Council When at Toronto.

The provincial department of health will be asked to consider plans for the contemplated sewer disposal plant for the Wellington-High street job when the city council goes to the capital next week on behalf of the city of London.

City Engineer Near states that sketches will be ready by that time as it is the desire of the board of works that this question should be introduced to the health authorities at the same time.

The council is also seeking, through the city of London bill, permission to construct street sewers at a cost of \$200,000 without a vote of the people, the engineer will accompany the deputation to the private bills committee.

IMPOSSIBLE TO CLOSE ANY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

No Place For Pupils Should the Rectory School Be Closed, Inspector Greer Says.

"It would be impossible to close any public school in the city," declared Chief Inspector V. K. Greer, when informed that Ald. Gordon Drake had said that Rectory Street School could be closed for public school purposes and the pupils redistributed.

"By an extreme rearrangement of boundaries," he continued, "we might be able to change around a portion of the pupils, but it would be only a portion. To close the whole school would be out of the question, and at present there is no school that could be closed."

Newsy Bits From Today's Classified Ads.

Cross off rosary lost.

Room and board, Dundas street.

Dairy farm for sale.

Maid for general housework.

Seven-room red brick house for sale.



HARVEY LINCO, who tends Rosedale furnaces and gardens by day, and does paintings in oil at night. He specializes in trees and foliage, and has won a first prize at the Canadian National Exhibition.

PROBE OPENS INTO DRURY GOVERNMENT BOND DEALS

Hamilton Financier Writes, Suggesting He Be Called at Inquiry.

SMITH IS PRESENT

Assistant Provincial Treasurer

C. Matthews' is First To Be Called.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, March 12.—The public accounts committee of the Ontario Legislature started its investigation into the Drury government loans this morning. Before evidence was taken the chairman, W. Finlayson, M.L.A., read a letter from G. R. Harris mentioned prominently with the buying in of bonds by the government. The letter written on the letter paper of the Browning, Harris, Denman & Co., Hamilton, stated that there had been considerable prominence given to his firm, and declared that as he had absolutely nothing to be ashamed of, and that he hoped the committee would call upon him to give evidence before the committee and explain the transaction.

C. Matthews, assistant provincial treasurer, was the first witness. Hon. W. H. Price explained that the first matter to be taken up would be the treasury bills sold in New York in April, 1923. These amounted to \$10,000,000.

Hon. Peter Smith, former treasurer, was in attendance at the committee meeting.

The examination of Mr. Matthews was first taken up by Col. Price. Mr. Matthews stated that he had been deputy provincial treasurer since September of 1920. He had been in the employ of the department since 1905.

Delves Into Loans.

Col. Price delved into the issuance of treasury loans during 1923.

"What was the first you heard of these treasury loans?"

"The first I heard was when I was named a letter from Mr. Douglas K. Rideout in April of 1923."

Col. Price read the letter in question, which offered to discount \$10,000,000 in Province of Ontario treasury bills.

"From whom did you receive this letter?"

"From the minister's office."

"From the minister himself or from his secretary?"

"I'm not sure."

"When you received the letter, had the transaction been completed?"

"I'm not sure."

Please See Page 4, Column 8.

HOUSING COMMISSION HAS GREATLY IMPROVED

It is the opinion of D. J. Tallant, chairman of the housing commission, that the work of that department has been improved manifold since the first month through the appointment of John Cunliffe as general manager and collector. The latter will save the city his salary within a reasonable period, he predicts.

As an instance, he points out, that only yesterday the new official collected about \$800, an outstanding amount from 1920.

Advertiser's Big Contest Will End In Three Weeks

Two Candidates Will Be Enriched by \$2,000 When Prizes Awarded.

RACE IS STILL CLOSE

Twenty Secondary Prizes Valued Up To \$1,000 Will Be Distributed.

Two thousand dollars in three weeks.

Pretty good money, isn't it? Yet that is what two candidates stand to gain.

To date few contestants have given much extra energy to the campaign. Nearly 100 are so closely grouped together that it is impossible to guess who the winner will be.

Whether you get \$100 or \$2,000, however, depends on the effort you put into the campaign from now on.

At 10 o'clock next Monday night the last big extra vote offer comes to a close.

What you do between now and then will depend largely whether you will be the winner of one of the \$2,000 cash prizes.

See page 13 of today's Advertiser for new vote standing.

THIRTY HURT WHEN CAFES IN DETROIT ARE BOMBED

Outrage Early Today Believed To Have Been Work of Feudists.

BATTERY IS FOUND

Customers in Coffee Houses Are Buried in the Wreckage.

Special to The Advertiser.

Detroit, March 12.—Thirty persons were injured, the lives of 100 others imperilled, two buildings wrecked and windows smashed by blocks in the vicinity of the Greek colony when a dynamite bomb exploded in the doorway of a coffee house on Monroe avenue a few minutes before 4 o'clock this morning. The blast rocked the entire town district. The injured persons were cut by flying glass and taken to the hospital.

The places wrecked are both coffee houses located at Nos. 573 and 579. A stairway at 577 Monroe was also demolished.

More than 100 persons were asleep on the second and third floors of various adjacent coffee houses at the time and they were hurled from their beds and rushed to the street in a panic.

Monroe avenue from St. Antoine to Beaubien street, was filled with broken glass, every show window in the block having been broken by the blast. A score of customers in the coffee house of Nick Smirnes, 577 Monroe avenue, were almost buried in the wreckage of the front of the building. None were seriously injured.

The police found the casting of a dry cell battery near the scene of the explosion. This, they believe, may have been part of the apparatus used to detonate the bomb. It is believed that the bomb was placed by feudists, and that the outrage was the outcome of a shooting in the neighborhood in which an Italian was wounded about three months ago.

ST. THOMAS AIDS IN COAL PETITION

Stores, Offices and Factories Take Up Work and Hundreds Signing.

Over thirty stores, offices and other business places in St. Thomas are exhibiting Alberta coal petitions.

Hundreds of householders have signed in a few days, and applications for forms have been received from some of the largest industrial plants, where the employees signed on blank forms, every show window in the block having been broken by the blast. A score of customers in the coffee house of Nick Smirnes, 577 Monroe avenue, were almost buried in the wreckage of the front of the building. None were seriously injured.

Signatures continue to reach The Advertiser office from all parts of the province. These should all be returned by the end of March.

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND POPE REACH TERMS

Reconciliation Effected Whereby Properties Dispute Will Be Settled.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, March 12.—The Daily Express gives great prominence today to a statement to the effect that the dispute between the pope and the Italian government is about to be settled and that in consequence the pope will no longer consider himself a prisoner in the Vatican.

The terms of the agreement by which the trouble will be ended, says the newspaper, are: First, the government to surrender to the Vatican the whole of Vatican Hill, of which the Vatican now holds only a part; second, the government to build at its own cost a palace, or a series of houses, for the accommodation of the cardinals, the holy see in return handing over to the government scattered properties throughout Rome in which the cardinals now are housed; and third, the independence of the pope to be guaranteed by the League of Nations.

The statement adds that under the agreement the pope will remain an independent sovereign and Vatican Hill will have the status of an independent country.

ACCOUNTANT REPEATS INEFFICIENCY CHARGES

British Columbia Commission Continues Probe in Oliver Administration.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Victoria, B. C., March 12.—Examination of E. J. Rossiter, formerly railway construction accountant for the government, originator of the corruption and inefficiency charges against the Oliver administration and principal witness for the party, in the inquiry by royal commission, was again the outstanding feature of the proceedings before Mr. Justice Gallie today.

Mr. Rossiter stuck to his guns and repeated his allegations of gross looseness in the keeping of accounts between the government and the Northern Construction Company in connection with the construction of the Great Western Railway in the second construction period from the fall of 1918 onward.

WILL WITHDRAW DUTIES.

Associated Press Despatch.

Lisbon, March 12.—The government has decided to withdraw all duties on imported meats for the purpose of reducing the cost of living.



DR. E. FREDERICK FYLE, a graduate of University of Toronto, and a resident of Geddes, South Dakota, who has been missing since Dec. 14. His Goddies friends have offered \$2,000 reward for information as to his whereabouts.

LAST OLD FIRE HORSE WILL NOT BE FOR SALE

"Old Doc" Will Spend Rest of His Days Peacefully Grazing.

There is no fear of Old Doc, the guaranteed steed of the fire department, who will complete 25 years of faithful service on April 15, being sold.

This was definitely assured when John Anderson consented yesterday to give Doc full freedom on his farm, where he may romp and enjoy himself at will. When Doc leaves the fire hall he will be hooked up to any gravel wagon or work a dairy milk route. His last resting days will be days of envy to his four other companions, who two days ago, were sold to a local teamster.

Although a protest was lodged because the horses had been sold to this man, the chief stated this morning that it was just a case of "too many fingers in the pie."

"The man has paid his money for the horses and what right has anybody to interfere?" asked Chief Aiken.

MEET FRANK CRANE

on The Advertiser's editorial page every day.

Dr. Frank Crane is known the world over for his wholesome simplicity. He is writing something for The Advertiser every day that will make you feel better.

Miss Lyla Warren

was one of the first to enroll her name in The London Advertiser contest, and is holding a leading position today in District No. 2. Miss Warren resides in Courtright, and has an army of workers in her home town and district who are lending her every assistance to win the grand prize Hudson coach.

because he has won no golfing honors than any one on the continent.

Hagen has written for The Advertiser a personal story of his career—"The Making of a Champion."

Read it on The Advertiser's sporting pages every day.