

THE WEATHER:
COLDER TONIGHT; SNOW,
SUNDAY—COLDER.

London Evening Advertiser

LONDON, ONTARIO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1924. —THIRTY-EIGHT PAGES.

CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS
FOR ALL THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS
ON PAGE 22.

THREE CENTS.

61ST YEAR. NO. 24145

CANADIAN WARSHIP PURSUING BANK BANDITS

Veteran Labor Leader Samuel Gompers Dies In San Antonio

BOLSHEVISM IN RUSSIA IS DOOMED

"Grandmother of Revolution"
Predicts End of Radical
Reign in Country.
DUKE RIDICULED
Famous Russian Woman De-
clares Cyril Has No Chance
as Next Ruler.

Associated Press Despatch,
Prague, Czechoslovakia, Dec. 13.—
Czarism is dead in Russia, and Grand
Duke Cyril's premonition that he
considers himself the future ruler of
Russia is ludicrous in the opinion of
Catherine Breshkovskaya, the "grand-
mother of the revolution," now 81
years old. She has broken her silence
for the first time in many
months, because she says she cannot
understand how anybody can take the
grand duke seriously.

Bolshevism, on the other hand, is
"an idea foreign to Russia," in the
opinion of Breshkovskaya.

"The Russian people won't stand
for it indefinitely," she says. "Its
success is due to the fact that the
160,000,000 people that make up Rus-
sia were taken by surprise, and that
since then the arms have been in the
hands of the few that joined Lenin.
Oh, I know my Russian people. For
many decades I have suffered with it
and I know its wishes. It doesn't
want Bolshevism. Just as little does
it want czarism. It wants work,
peace and its religion. The down-
fall of the soviet government is bound
to occur soon."

DAVID J. NOLAN HURT WHEN AUTO DITCHES

David J. Nolan of the McLeod-
Nolan Cigar Company met with a
painful accident yesterday when in
turning out of the way of another
car in the face of strong headlights
near Belle River his car took to the
ditch. He was alone at the time and
he was badly crushed, though no
bones were broken.

W. R. YENDALL IS NAMED SILVER MINE DIRECTOR

At the annual meeting of share-
holders of the Oxford-Cobalt silver
mines, in Woodstock, W. R. Yendall,
manager of the Richards-Wilcox
Company, London, was elected to the
board of directors as a repre-
sentative of the London shareholders.
It was also decided to do a limited
amount of diamond drilling from the
present 150-foot level before pro-
ceeding with further underground de-
velopment.

LAD FATALLY HURT TRYING TO PROVE GUN UNLOADED

Canadian Press Despatch,
Windsor, N. S., Dec. 13.—Charles
Hilley, 11, of St. John's, near here,
was shot through the stomach and
believed fatally injured yesterday
when he endeavored to prove to his
friends his gun was not loaded. Ad-
vised that the gun was loaded, he
declined it was not, and to prove his
assurance, he placed the muzzle
against his abdomen and pulled the
trigger.

FORTY PERSONS IN PERIL AS JAP SHIP WRECKED

Associated Press Despatch,
Tokyo, Dec. 12.—Eight bodies have
been washed ashore and about forty
persons are in peril aboard the spe-
cial service ship, Kwanto, wrecked in
a blizzard off Tsushima, Western
Japan. A destroyer rescued five offi-
cers and fifty men and forty others
reached shore. The Kwanto carried
a crew of 150 men.

The Weather

Lower Lakes
and Georgian
Bay—
clouds and
drizzle
with
occasional
snow
flakes.
Sudden
strong
winds
from the
northwest
and
clouds
and
drizzle
with
occasional
snow
flakes.
LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
The highest and lowest tempera-
tures recorded in London during the
24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last
night were: Highest, 34; lowest, 25.
The official temperatures for the
12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today
were: Highest, 36; lowest, 32.
Barometric Readings.
Friday, 8 a.m.—23.63.
Today, 8 a.m.—23.43.



FLAMES SWEEPING GREER PLANT.

Above an Advertiser photograph shows the plant of A. B. Greer & Son, York and Talbot streets, being swept by the flames. Shooting in all a spectacular manner into the sky, the flames attracted attention all over the city. Dense volumes of smoke filled the streets in the downtown section.

FIRE LOSS AT GREER PLANT IS PLACED UNDER \$100,000

Rear Section of Building, With
Contents, Escapes
Flames.
CHIEF LOSES CAR

An examination by insurance men
and Fire Chief John Aitken of the
ruins of the A. B. Greer & Co., which
was destroyed by fire early this
morning, revealed that the loss is
considerably less than at first be-
lieved.

Although the front portion of the
building was completely destroyed,
the rear escaped with little damage,
and valuable motor bodies which
were in the process of construction
were saved.

The loss was estimated this morn-
ing to be between \$75,000 and \$100,000.
This is completely covered by insur-
ance.

Most of the damage was suffered
through the loss of motor cars in
the ground floor of the building. A
new roadster, which was to have
been turned over to the fire depart-
ment for the fire chief in a week's
time, was burned.

Offices in the front part of the
building were saved, and Mr. Greer's
house, a few feet to the west of the
factory, escaped with only scorched
walls through the excellent work of
the city firemen, who confined almost
all their efforts to prevent spread of
the fire.

Fire doors leading from one depart-
ment to another confined the blaze to
the center of the building.
Early this morning a portion of the
east wall broke and fell to the street.
Ropes were strung around
the sidewalk within safety distance
of the building to protect the public
from a probable cave-in of the front
and east side walls, which are only
of one-layer construction.

At 1:20 o'clock this morning, after fighting
the blaze for more than eight hours,
both night and day shifts of all fire
departments were called out during
the night and did duty until early
this morning.

Fire Chief Aitken stated to The
Advertiser today that the fire was
the largest in the city for the year
and despite their best efforts to fight
it had never experienced.

All Destroyed.
The fire broke out about 1:20
o'clock this morning. The establish-
ment is one of the largest of its kind
in Western Ontario.
Auto bodies, hearses and other
vehicles in the building were practi-
cally all destroyed, but a few were
saved to safety. The plant was
working to capacity, and the building
was well filled with "jobs" from var-
ious parts of Western Ontario.
Whole Building.
When the firemen first reached the
scene the fire was spread through-
out the center part of the building,
and despite their best efforts con-
tinued to spread until the entire
three-story block was a mass of
seething flames, fed by highly-in-
flammable materials used in the con-
duct of the business.
The home of A. B. Greer, next door
to the burning plant, began to burn
shortly before 2 a.m. Furniture was
carried to safety.
All the fire-fighting apparatus in the
city was called to the scene, and
at 3:30 a.m. all the "off platoons"
about.

Please See Page 3, Column 6.

GOMPERS IS DEAD AFTER HARD FIGHT

President of A. F. of L. Passes
Away at San Antonio,
Texas.

CONSCIOUS TO END
Veteran Labor Leader Dis-
cussed Funeral Arrange-
ments With Friends.

Associated Press Despatch,
San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 13.—Samuel
M. Gompers, president of the Amer-
ican Federation of Labor, died at 4:10
this morning. The primary cause was
acute heart disease with pulmonary
oedema, complicated by advanced
nephritis and arterial hypertension.
Mr. Gompers had been improving
early in the night and had taken two
or three naps, but a change occurred
at 2:30 a.m., and his heart began to
fail, refusing to respond to drugs.
Mr. Gompers was conscious much
of the time and was able to talk to
his physicians about administering a
hypocermic.

Apparently he knew the end was
near and called some of his closest
friends to his bedside, with whom he
talked over his funeral arrangements.
As Wm. D. Mahon, Detroit, president
of the Amalgamated Association of
Street and Electric Railway Employ-
ees, came to his bedside, he reached
for his hand, called him "Bill" and
to his handclasp responded with a
feeble effort.

James Duncan, vice-president of the
American Federation of Labor, who
had known Mr. Gompers for 44 years,
was another close friend who was
among the first to be summoned.

All officials of the federation who
were members of Mr. Gompers party
on the trip from Mexico City, where
he was taken ill, were present when
he died.

Immediately after Mr. Gompers
death, members of the executive
council of the federation and other
officials held a meeting for the pur-
pose of drawing up a formal state-
ment and making funeral arrange-
ments.

Mr. Gompers' faithful nurse, Miss
Mathilda May, of Atlantic City, 44
years, was another close friend who
was with him when he died. He was
picked up on the roadside and taken
to a hospital where he had been placed
for shelter. He had refused hospital
attention. His wife today said
that during the past four years
Murray had given nearly a hundred
blood transfusions for his health.

Failed To Respond.
"The heart rate on arrival was 160,
but under the influence of digitalis it
slowly slowed down to 140 at 11 p.m.
From this time he was improving
until a sudden collapse occurred at
2:30 a.m., when his heart refused to
respond to stimulation."

"Epinephrin" was used and he was
bled a pint and a half of blood to
relieve congestion of the lungs. After
each procedure he rallied for a few
minutes but almost at once collapsed.
"I was told he had been suffering
from diabetes. Two specimens taken
during the evening were free from
sugar, and this disease did not partici-
pate in the final attack."

"The heart was fibrillating (absolu-
tely irregularly) when he arrived, but
it is not known how long this con-
dition had existed."

"I told Mr. Gompers at 3:30 that
he was in a critical condition and
might not pass through the night.
He understood, but did not respond,
his heavy breathing preventing any
spoken words."

ELECTED 43RD TIME.

Associated Press Despatch,
New York, Dec. 13.—At the annual
session of the American Federation
of Labor at El Paso, Texas, last
month, Mr. Gompers was elected
president for the 43rd time. That
session was followed by a joint meet-
ing of the American Federation of
Labor and the Mexican Federation
of Labor, of sessions of the Pan-
American Federation of Labor and
the inauguration of President Calles
of Mexico, which officials of all three
organizations attended at Mexico
City.

While at the Mexican capital, Mr.
Gompers was stricken with a recur-
rence of the ailment that had kept
him more or less an invalid for some
years. Complicated by a slight cold
and aggravated by the high altitudes,
the aged labor leader was unable to
attend the closing ceremonies of the
inauguration.

Landing in America from London
an ignorant immigrant boy at 15 he
took up the family trade of cigar-
making in New York. He led his
more timid comrades into revolt
against the conditions that made the
work of a cigarmaker almost intoler-
able in the old days.

While still in his teens he was in-
strumental in the installation of a
revolver in the factories who re-
lieved the tedium of the automatic
tasks by reading aloud to the cigar
makers. He gained in education as a
result.

Takes A. F. of L. Lead.
Gompers was 31 years old when
he took the reins of the federation.
He kept them, with the exception of
Please See Page 23, Column 6.



SAMUEL M. GOMPERS,
president of the American federation
of labor, whose death occurred at
San Antonio, Texas, at an early hour
this morning. The primary cause of
his death was acute heart disease.

FRASER VALLEY FLOOD RECEDES

Railway Companies Do Not
Anticipate Any Further
Washouts.

Canadian Press Despatch,
Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 13.—Flood
conditions in the Fraser valley and
lower mainland showed considerable
improvement last night, with pros-
pects for normal resumption of traf-
fic on all lines some time today.
No further washouts are antici-
pated by railway officials. Large
gangs of men have been working
night and day to repair the damage
caused by the heavy rains of the
past three days.

In the meantime all Canadian Na-
tional railway trains have been de-
toured over Canadian Pacific railway
lines between New Westminster and
Baqee.

N. Y. Girls Seek Health In North

Trio Plans Dog Team Tour of
Hudson Bay Region.

Canadian Press Despatch,
The Pas, Man., Dec. 13.—The
bracing air of northern Manitoba will
be tried out as a health restorer by
a party of young women from Auburn
N.Y., who will arrive here on Dec. 30
to make a dog-team tour of the
northern wilds along the shores of
Hudson Bay.

In search of health and physical
development, Miss Florence McIntosh
and two girl friends have arranged
for three picked dog teams, together
with competent guides, to take them
on the lengthy tour.

The federation of German women's
clubs has protested to the govern-
ment against the publication of the
revolting details of the trial.

Will You Help?



ARMY LAUNCHES HAPPINESS CRUSADE.
The Salvation Army Christmas pot, a familiar sight on city streets
throughout the Christian world. The pots attended by Salvationists made
their appearance in London today. An Advertiser photographer has snapped
Lieutenant Reta Dickson (left), Brigadier McAmmond, chief of the London
division, and Captain F. A. Hawkes, all of the Clarence street citadel. "Keep
the pot boiling" is the Army slogan. The funds go to provide hampers of
Christmas cheer to destitute families of the city.

NANAIMO BANDITS MISS MINERS' \$100,000 PAYROLL

Foolproof Section of Royal
Bank Safe Guards Sack
of Cash.

LOOT IS \$40,000
Western Coast Waters Combed
For Speedboat Carrying
Thugs to U. S.

Canadian Press Despatch,
Victoria, B. C., Dec. 12.—H. M.
C. S. Patrician was despatched
last night from Esquimalt in an
attempt to overtake the bandits
who looted the Royal Bank at
Nanaimo yesterday, and are re-
ported to be speeding across the
Gulf of Georgia for the Ameri-
can shore. The Patrician left
about 9 p.m.

Canadian Press Despatch,
Nanaimo, B. C., Dec. 13.—It was
learned late last night that the band-
its who held up and robbed the
Royal Bank of Canada here yester-
day afternoon secured about \$40,000.
The robbers did not get the miners'
pay roll, amounting to more than
\$100,000. This sum was contained in a
sack, was in a section of the safe
which could not be opened. It was
the pay roll that the bandits were
after, officials believe.

SPEED BOAT IS USED.
Canadian Press Despatch,
Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 13.—The
bandits who held up the Nanaimo
branch of the Royal Bank of Canada
and escaped with about \$40,000 of
the bank's funds, were endeavoring
last night to reach the American
side of the international boundary in
a speed boat, according to a long-
distance telephone message to the Can-
adian Press from Nanaimo. The mes-
sage stated that the bandits made
their escape from the bank in a
speed boat, and two and a half
miles off the main island highway.

Contrary to first reports, there
was but one car outside the bank,
into which the robbers jumped with
their loot and escaped. Boat Harbor
is an abandoned landing stage now
commonly frequented. The police theory
is that the men in planning the rob-
bery selected Boat Harbor as a likely
place to have a speed boat waiting
for them, in an attempt to get across
the international line. Police boats
are searching and combing the waters
of the Gulf, craft having been de-
tached from Nanaimo, Vancouver,
Victoria and other places.

American police have also been
notified to be on the lookout for the
bandits.

GERMAN SLAYER ADMITS THREE MORE MURDERS

Associated Press Despatch,
Hanover, Germany, Dec. 12.—Fritz
Knaumann, on trial for the murder of
three men and a score of men and boys,
yesterday admitted three additional
murders.
The federation of German women's
clubs has protested to the govern-
ment against the publication of the
revolting details of the trial.

RADIO LECTURE WILL BE GIVEN THURSDAY

The popular lecture of "Radio,"
illustrated by moving pictures and
lantern slides, to be given by Lieut.-
Com. C. P. Edwards, C.B.E., M.E.I.C.,
of the radio department of the
federal department of marine and
fisheries, under the auspices of the
local branch of the Canadian Engi-
neering Institute, will be delivered in
the auditorium of the central col-
legiate institution next Thursday eve-
ning at 8 p.m.

BETTER WORKMANSHIP CUTS COST OF PAVING

A saving of five cents a square
foot was made in the laying of con-
crete walks in the city during the
past year, a record that is the best
in years. Last year the cost was a
trifle over 20 cents a foot.
Better workmanship has been re-
sponsible, W. P. Neat, city engineer,
said today. "The men speeded up
their work and made some good
records. On Riverview Heights work
they laid 25,000 square feet of walk
in one nine-hour day."
Materials, chiefly cement, have been
slightly cheaper this year, but most
of the credit goes to the men who
were engaged on sidewalk gangs.

JUDGE HARDY WILL SPEAK TO LONDON ROTARIANS

The address at the regular weekly
luncheon of the Rotary club on Mon-
day will be given by Judge A. B.
Hardy of Brantford. Judge Hardy
will speak on the subject of "The
Bar Association of England."

RABBITS PLENTIFUL.

Rabbits were offered on the local
market this morning in the largest
quantities so far this year, and the
sales were brisk.

These animals seem to be much
more plentiful this year than in for-
mer years, and in the opinion of
James Dean, market clerk, will be
offered on the market all winter.

RAIL STRIKE IN BRITAIN NOT FEARED

Formidable Demands of the
Workers Fail to Create
Undue Excitement.

COMPROMISE LIKELY
Negotiations Between Men and
Companies Expected To
Cover Long Period.

Associated Press Despatch,
London, Dec. 12.—The formidable
demands of the railway workers as
outlined two days ago have created
no excitement so far. It is realized
that the negotiations between the
men and the railway companies will
occupy several months before there
is any probability of the breaking
point being reached.

The railway companies assert that
the man's demand for an all-round
increase of £10 a year in their wages
with extra pay for night work; a 44-
hour week instead of a working week
of 48 hours; 12 days' holidays yearly
instead of six days; pensions for the
engineers, would involve an increased
expenditure of £30,000,000 a year by
the companies.

The railway workers declare that
the cost to the companies of grant-
ing their demands would not be more
than £15,000,000 of increased ex-
penditure. It is difficult to figure
whether the railway companies' de-
mands shall be met in full
without delay or whether they ex-
pect to achieve them gradually.

HANCE LOGAN LEAVES FOR SOUTHERN POST

M. P. Is Named Trade Com-
missioner to West Indies,
British Guiana.

Canadian Press Despatch,
Halifax, N. S., Dec. 13.—Hance J.
Logan, M.P., who has been appointed
as the trade commissioner to the
West Indies, British Guiana and
other islands surrounding the Carib-
bean Sea to discuss trade and
commerce with the governments of
Canada, British Guiana, Barbados,
Trinidad and British Guiana.
He will be accompanied by a tech-
nical transportation officer, as well
as the acting chief of the com-
mercial intelligence branch of the trade
and commerce department and by
Horn Co. as secretary. He will
return to Canada by way of
Columbia, Jamaica and Cuba.

M'GLASHEN NOT GUILTY IN DEATH OF SOUTHAM

Whitby Jury Returns Verdict
in Trial Arising Out of
Car Crash.

Canadian Press Despatch,
Whitby, Ont., Dec. 12.—Late to-
night a verdict of "not guilty" was
returned by the jury in a trial of
Leonard M'Glashen, 34, of Whitby,
causing the death of Lieutenant Wil-
liam Southam, an Ottawa, by leaving
truck on the highway at Dunbar-
ton, near here, without a rear light
on the night of May 7 last. The
evidence, which was somewhat con-
flicting, occupied the entire time of
the court of general session for On-
tario county today.

FEDERAL ELECTION IN '25, D. SUTHERLAND PREDICTS

Canadian Press Despatch,
Guelph, Dec. 12.—A dominion elec-
tion in 1925 was predicted by Donald
Sutherland, M.P. of Oxford, who was
the principal speaker at the annual
organization meeting of the North
Wellington Liberal-Conservative as-
sociation held in the Arthur town
hall this afternoon. Mr. Sutherland
confined his remarks principally to
the tariff and his address, which was
a stirring one, was listened to with
interest by the large gathering which
packed the municipal building.

ALBANIAN FIGHTING HAS BEEN RENEWED

Associated Press Despatch,
Rome, Dec. 12.—Official denial was
made at the Albanian legation here
yesterday of reports published by
some of the newspapers of an insur-
rection in Northern Albania. The be-
lief was expressed that the reports
were circulated by those who aimed
to put Albania in a bad light on the
eve of discussion of Albanian inter-
ests before the league of nations.