

THE WEATHER:  
COLDER, NORTHWEST GALES.  
TOMORROW—CLOUDY, COLD.

# London Evening Advertiser

FOUR-PAGE ROTOGRAVURE  
SECTION AND EIGHT COLORED COMICS  
EVERY SATURDAY

1ST YEAR. NO. 24227

LONDON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1925—SIXTEEN PAGES.

THREE CENTS

## BARBAROUS WOMAN BABY-BEATER MUST KEEP OUT OF LONDON

### STORM'S CASUALTIES MOUNT AS LATEST REPORTS ARRIVE FROM STRICKEN MID-WEST

Estimate of Dead in Tornado—  
Swept Sections Placed at  
Over One Thousand.

INJURED NEARLY 3,000

Fire in Wake of Tornado Adds  
to Horrors of Prostrated  
Districts.

TOWNS OBLITERATED

Human Lives Snuffed Out in  
Twinkling as Twister Hits  
Without Warning.

Associated Press Despatch.  
Murphysboro, Ill., March 19.—  
Southern Illinois today presented a  
vast tableau of death and destruction  
as its horror-stricken inhabitants  
awaited more definite reports  
on the toll of lives taken by yesterday's  
tornado, which swept clear  
across the central southern part of  
the state.

With the stricken towns almost  
completely isolated, definite reports  
as to general loss of life were lack-  
ing, but estimates placed the num-  
ber well above the one thousand  
mark, with many more injured. The  
amount of property damage also  
lacked definite figures, but was sev-  
eral million dollars.

Smoke still poured from the debris  
of Murphysboro's smoldering ruins,  
while its citizens searched for the  
dead early today. The main business  
section was virtually wrecked, and  
streets were filled with poles and  
debris and wrecked automobiles.

Dynamite Is Used.  
Bert Scooby, an undertaker from  
Marion, Ill., who came through West  
Frankfort on route here, said two  
undertakers there had sixty or sev-  
enty bodies each.

"The whole northwest corner of  
West Frankfort is razed, and conditions  
there are as bad as they are here,"  
Scooby said. "Three school  
buildings were practically destroyed.  
The tornado scooped out the center  
of the high school, turned houses end  
over end and devastated block after  
block."

Dynamite was used here late last  
night to stop the fire. At Parrish and  
West Frankfort the number of dead  
was estimated at 700, while the toll  
of human life in this city was be-  
lieved to be around 150. From 150 to  
400 are said to have been killed in  
Desoto, where most of the victims  
were children either buried under the  
ruins of their schoolhouse or trapped  
in the flames that burst out after  
the structure had tumbled into a  
mass of twisted steel and crumbled  
brick.

About one-third of West Frankfort,  
a town of 9,500, was nearly wiped out  
by the wind.

Freak instances accompany a  
tornado were numerous. At Desoto  
the hurricane raged with such fury  
that planks torn from piles of lumber  
were carried to Duquoin, 15 miles  
away.

At Desoto, too, a grain elevator  
was yanked from its foundation and  
moved forty feet without being de-  
molished.

A brakeman on the Illinois Central  
who witnessed the disaster at  
Desoto, described it thus:

"A crash of thunder, preceded by  
two blinding flashes of lightning, after  
which there was nothing left of the  
town."

COVERED 700 MILES.  
Associated Press Despatch.

Chicago, March 19.—The most de-  
vastating storm in nearly half a  
century swept through portions of  
six mid-western states last night,  
collecting a nearly 4,000, and causing  
estimated damage of many millions.  
Early today the casualties were cal-  
culated as 891 dead and 2,332 injured,  
though from some sections definite  
reports had not been received.

Twenty-six cities and towns in  
five states were hit by the tornado.  
Fire completed the destruction of  
large sections of many of these  
cities. The storm swept a path from  
Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to Eliza-  
beth, Indiana, with one branch of the  
tornado over Witham, Tenn., and  
into Central Kentucky.

The principal cities affected were:  
Murphysboro, Desoto and West  
Frankfort, in Illinois; and Griffin,  
Owensville and Princeton in Indiana,  
and Witham, Tenn.

So prostrated were portions of  
Illinois and Indiana through which  
the storm passed in a series of er-  
ratic howl that definite figures on  
loss of life and property were im-  
possible early today, although avail-  
able reports trickling in from terri-  
ble scenes.

### City Saved from Tornado By Geographical Position

A biting gale, accompanied with sleet, the tail-end of the  
disastrous tornado which ravaged the central states to the south,  
struck London early this morning. The geographical position of  
Western Ontario saved the district from suffering the fate of a  
dozen towns across the border.

London is just on the dividing line between the tropical re-  
gions and the polar circle. Storms originating in the torrid south  
gather in violence until they reach a point to the south of the  
lakes. There they are met by a cooling force of the northern  
temperatures. They decrease in strength as they sweep this  
country.

This is the opinion of Dr. R. C. Dearth of the department of  
physics, University of Western Ontario. He says that the low-  
pressure areas of the south start the destroying tornadoes north-  
ward. If the low pressure had continued the tornado would have  
increased in intensity until it reached here.

According to the barometer at the university, the night was  
worse here than it seemed. Between 7 o'clock last night and 5  
o'clock this morning a drop of six-sevenths of an inch was regis-  
tered. It was a bad night. The barometer has since showed a  
rise. Up to 11:30 this morning it had moved up half an inch.

The pressure of Lake Erie to the south would not have a  
noticeable modifying effect on such a storm, says Dr. Dearth, who  
says that in local cases it might have a tendency to annul the  
force. A continental disturbance covering a vast expanse of ter-  
ritory would sweep across the lakes until it met the contrary  
forces of the northern areas.

### TAIL-END OF TORNADO HITS WEST ONTARIO LIGHT BLOW

L. and P. S. Service at Port  
Stanley Interrupted For  
Six Hours.

FALLS FEELS EFFECTS

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, March 19.—Described by  
officials at the observatory here as  
"moderate or a little more than mod-  
erate" the area of extremely low pres-  
sure that originated in Texas on  
Tuesday night, moved northward to  
Illinois and Indiana, accompanied  
by a tornado that caused heavy loss  
of life and untold property damage  
in those states, swept into Ontario  
early this morning, and is now cen-  
tered over Central Ontario.

Real March weather, accompanied  
by the "moderate depression," and  
the wind reached a velocity of 40  
miles an hour in this city. High  
winds are general throughout Cen-  
tral Ontario, and in Northern Ontario  
freezing rains were reported.

Wire communication was inter-  
rupted to a more or less degree, and  
the observatory officials stated this  
morning that many of their reports  
from various stations were missing.

DAMAGE AT FALLS.  
Canadian Press Despatch.

Niagara Falls, Ont., March 19.—  
Considerable damage was caused in  
Niagara Falls and district this morn-  
ing by a gale which reached the  
proportions of a hurricane. Poles  
were torn down and traffic on local  
and main lines of the Niagara, St.  
Catharines and Toronto Railway in-  
terrupted, there having been no  
service since 9 o'clock. The Inter-  
national Railway was also affected.

Roads were torn off several touring  
cars and other automobiles damaged.  
Matthew Gibbs was driving a bakery  
wagon when wagon, horse and man  
were lifted from the center of a  
street bridge and thrown against the  
rail. A huge electric sign was torn  
from the Webb theatre and wrecked.  
This morning the roof of the  
Cristolum building at the plant  
at Chippewa was blown off by the  
terrible wind and part of it thrown  
on a railway track, and part in a  
nearby field. Thirty men were work-  
ing inside at the time, but all es-  
caped injury. The streets are lit-  
tered with debris, including pieces of  
chimney stacks, stumps, fencing and  
trees and limbs of trees.

The wind reached terrific proportions  
around nine and at that time  
many of the buildings were trem-  
bling in the wind. No report of injury  
has been received.

BLEW OUT OIL SWITCH.  
Canadian Press Despatch.

St. Thomas, Ont., March 19.—High  
winds today caused the blowing out  
of a large oil switch at a hydro sub-  
station here and tied up the service  
in St. Thomas for an hour. Port  
Stanley service was interrupted for  
six hours.

LOST BONDS ARE LOCATED.  
Canadian Press Despatch.

Halifax, N. S., March 18.—The  
postoffice department here announce-  
ed today that a parcel of bonds val-  
ued at \$12,000 reported lost in trans-  
it a week ago, has been located in a  
mail bag.



PRINCE GEORGE,  
whose condition was reported as sat-  
isfactory following an operation per-  
formed this week for the removal of  
his tonsils. He is the youngest son  
of the king and queen.

### KING DEPARTS ON HEALTH TRIP

British Ruler Leaves For Genoa  
Where Royal Yacht  
Awaits.

NO DEMONSTRATION

Associated Press Despatch.

London, March 19.—King George,  
accompanied by Queen Mary and the  
members of their suite, quietly left  
Buckingham palace this morning en  
route to Genoa, Italy, where the  
royal yacht awaits to take his  
majesty on the cruise prescribed by  
his physicians following his recent  
attack of bronchitis.

Although the morning was cold  
and misty, a big crowd had collected  
along the route to the Victoria sta-  
tion and there were cheers for the  
king. As the voyage is strictly  
private, only the usual military  
honors were paid and there was  
nothing in the way of a ceremonial  
as the train pulled out of the station.  
The crowds stood bareheaded, but  
there was no demonstration.

At Dover their majesties will em-  
bark on the steamship Biarritz and  
at Calais they will board their spe-  
cial train, proceeding direct to  
Genoa.

RUSSIANS WILLING TO REPAY  
PRE-WAR DEBTS TO FRANCE

Associated Press Despatch.

Paris, March 19.—Soviet Russia is  
willing to negotiate the question of  
repayment of Russia's pre-war debts  
to France, Leonid Krassin, Soviet  
ambassador, is reported to have  
declared today.

"It is not possible for us to recog-  
nize the debts of the czarist regime,  
but an endeavor will be made to fix  
a reasonable toll," he is reported as  
having said.

Professor Preobrazhenski, a financial  
expert of the Russian government,  
has arrived in Paris to negotiate an  
agreement on the debt problem.

WILL INSPECT RECORDS  
OF ALL U. S. EXCHANGES

Associated Press Despatch.

Washington, March 19.—Instruc-  
tions to examine the books and trad-  
ing records of all exchanges in the  
United States and those of a large  
number of brokers were sent today by  
Secretary Jardine to field agents of  
the grain futures administration.  
The action constituted the agricul-  
ture department's first step in its  
investigation of the causes of the  
recent violent fluctuations in the  
price of wheat.

The orders went to Chicago, St.  
Louis, Kansas City and other points.

### PERS WILL BE CUT TO 25 MONTH

Premier Ferguson, When Ques-  
tioned, Smiles and Says  
"Wait Until Tomorrow."

CAUCUS HELD TODAY

Entire Temperance Legislation  
Is Reviewed by Conservative  
Supporters.

Special to The Advertiser  
by a Staff Correspondent.

Toronto, March 19.—Though there  
is complete reliance officially, the  
report in the government organ this  
morning that liquor prescriptions will  
be reduced from 50 to 25 per month  
appears to be accepted as correct.

Premier Ferguson was interviewed  
on the subject just as he was on his  
way to attend the Conservative  
caucus, but he was thoroughly non-  
committal. "They didn't get it from  
me," he declared, and to the further  
query as to whether there was any-  
thing in the story, he smilingly re-  
sponded: "I'll tell you tomorrow  
morning."

The caucus today was held to hear  
and discuss the government's O. T.  
A. amendments prior to the bill be-  
ing brought down in the legislature  
this afternoon or tomorrow. The  
view in unofficial circles is that the  
proposal to reduce the number of doc-  
tors' prescriptions is not forward  
with the idea of trying to counteract  
the opposition which the 4.4 per cent  
beer provision has provoked among  
temperance people.

Although two Conservative mem-  
bers voted for Hon. W. E. Rane's  
amendment to the address, condemn-  
ing the 4.4 beer proposal, there was  
an expectation that when the legisla-  
ture came down there would be  
more deserters from the government  
than from the opposition. The view  
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tors' prescriptions is not forward  
with the idea of trying to counteract  
the opposition which the 4.4 per cent  
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temperance people.

Since the board is not permitted  
to carry over surpluses from year to  
year arrangements are being made  
to acquaint the city council with the  
new figures, and formally request that  
the board's appropriation be placed at  
\$80,000.

The surplus estimated by the  
board were as follows: Public  
schools, \$113,808; technical high  
school, \$9,673.64; collegiate institu-  
te, \$22,089.40.

The actual surpluses, as given to  
the board yesterday by James Bell,  
city treasurer, were as follows: Public  
schools, \$25,210.13; technical  
high school, \$12,795.39; collegiate in-  
stitute, \$19,707.65.

Thus it will be seen that of the  
\$113,824 increase of actual surplus  
over that estimated by the board,  
\$13,400 occurs in the public school  
department. This is explained by  
the fact that interest and sinking  
fund on the new \$185,000 Empress  
public school remained unpaid for a  
year.

In the communication to the coun-  
cil, which will be forwarded directly,  
the board's appropriation, now fixed  
at \$80,000, will embrace the three  
departments, as follows: Technical  
high school, \$13,895; collegiate institu-  
te, \$22,022; public schools, \$65,083.

It is understood, of course, that the  
surpluses of the several departments  
affect only the estimates for opera-  
tion and maintenance, and in no way  
affect the debt requirements of the  
board, which stand at \$554,000  
for acquisition of land and con-  
struction of buildings this year.

A greenhouse at the foot of the  
Fairley hill suffered from the gutter  
water to such an extent that Mr.  
Swift, the proprietor, is considering  
taking legal action against the city  
for damage to his crop.

A pump was installed during the  
night and after many hours' pump-  
ing the water in the furnace pit was  
just beginning to lower. Should cold  
weather set in before the fire is  
started again the total crop of let-  
tuce will be destroyed. Very little  
effect from the flood is being felt at  
Port Stanley. The water remains at  
current level in the creek, but the  
summer is swift.

LETUCE ENDANGERED  
Special to The Advertiser  
St. Thomas, March 19.—Muddy  
Kettle creek is overflowing her banks  
this morning as a result of the heavy  
rainfall in this district Wednesday  
evening. Hundreds of acres of land  
along the creek basin are flooded and  
a number of homes isolated.

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LONDONER'S RELATIVES  
ARE IN STRICKEN TOWN

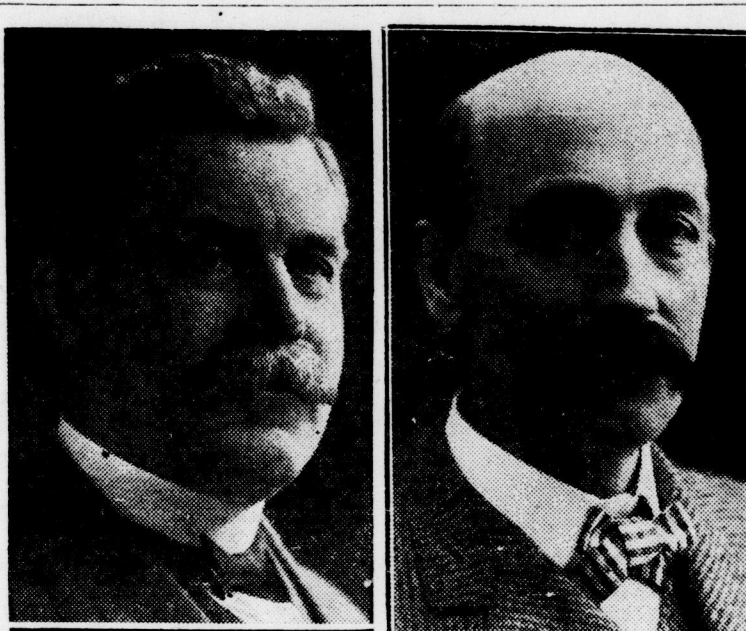
Fear is held for the safety of four  
former Londoners who have recently  
been residing in West Frankfort,  
Missouri, where more than 700  
deaths were caused yesterday from  
the tornado. Sergeant Andrew Devlin,  
M.M., of the 18th battalion, his  
two brothers, Martin and Patrick,  
and his mother, Mrs. James Devlin,  
are all living in the wind-swept  
area. Their brother, Bernard Devlin,  
of this city, sent several tele-  
grams inquiring of their safety this  
morning, but has not yet received a  
reply.

He believes that they are living in  
the northwest section of the town,  
a district in which most of the  
damage was caused.

GERMAN CANDIDATES ARE  
USING "CIRCUS" METHODS

Associated Press Despatch.

Berlin, March 19.—Canadian cam-  
paign methods are figuring in the  
German presidential race. The news-  
papers today announced that the  
Democratic nominee, Dr. Hellpach,  
will use the radio, movies, postcards,  
a railway campaign car, and other  
modern devices. The Nationalist or-  
gans denounce this as a "circus ad-  
vertising scheme."



HEAD WELFARE FUND CAMPAIGN.  
James Gray (left) and Col. W. M. Gartshore will take charge of the  
Welfare Fund Association campaign in London this year. Mr. Gray has  
agreed to act as president for 1925. Colonel Gartshore is one of the two  
vice-presidents, the other being Philip Pocock. The annual meeting of the  
association will be held on March 26 in the Tecumseh house.

Board of education estimates for  
the current year are being reduced  
by the board from \$94,205 to \$90,-  
063.

The reduction is made possible  
simply because of the fact that the  
actual surplus of the board last year  
amounted to \$57,713.68, as compared  
with \$43,571.04 placed in the estimates.

Since the board is not permitted  
to carry over surpluses from year to  
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### WOMAN GRANTED FREEDOM

Mrs. Elva Mason Ordered To  
Remain Out of London  
by Magistrate.

GOES WITH BROTHER

Cruel Attacker of Step-Grand-  
son Is Penitent When  
Brought Into Court.

Mrs. Elva Mason, although con-  
victed of having brutally beaten a  
baby one-year old, can have her free-  
dom if she is willing to make her  
home with her brother in Ottaville,  
and promise to stay away from Lon-  
don in the future. This was the  
lenient ruling of Magistrate Graydon  
when the woman appeared in court  
this morning for sentence.

George Stover, Mrs. Mason's son,  
was given a month in jail a week  
ago today for slashing the child with  
the buckle on his belt, the baby his  
step-son. Its mother is Mrs. Flor-  
ence Stover, who has been married  
to her second husband a little more  
than a month. It was her pitiful tale  
of the barbarous attacks on the baby  
that led to the arrest of her husband  
and mother-in-law.

Two weeks in jail softened the  
defiance of Mrs. Mason, and she was  
overcome with apparent penitence  
when brought up from the cells to-  
day. Profuse in her appreciation of  
the court's mercy she vowed that she  
would lead a good life from then on.  
She had done it before, she said, and  
could do it again.

Gordon Tennent, the woman's  
counsel, informed the bench that he  
had completed arrangements where-  
by her brother would care for her  
and give her a home.

The magistrate impressed upon  
Mrs. Mason the seriousness of her  
position, reminding that her rela-  
tions with young girls in her home  
on Clarence street were questionable,  
and that far more serious charges  
than that of ill-treating a babe might  
have resulted.

CANADIANS REGISTERED  
AT THE BROOKERS HOTEL

Canadian Press Despatch.

Palm Beach, Fla., March 19.—A  
number of visitors from Canada  
were guests at the Brookers hotel,  
destroyed by fire here yesterday. The  
following Canadians were registered:  
Mr. and Mrs. K. J. James, Montreal;  
Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Greening, Hamil-  
ton; Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Garrow,  
Montreal; Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lewis,  
Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Mac-  
Lean, Toronto; E. H. McMullen,  
Winnipeg; Mr. and Mrs. Robert  
Rodd, Kingston; Mr. and Mrs. L. H.  
and L. H. Jun. Timmons, Montreal;  
Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Young, Hamilton.

BYNGS AID STRICKEN MINERS,  
Associated Press Despatch.

Ottawa, March 18.—Their excel-  
lencies the governor-general and  
Lady Byng of Vimy today sent in a  
subscription of \$200 for relief of dis-  
tress among the miners of Cape  
Breton.

The Weather

FORECASTS.

Today—North  
and northwest  
gales; colder;  
with snow fur-  
ries.

Friday—Moder-  
ate winds; partly  
cloudy and rather  
cold.

The disturbance  
which was in  
the southwestern  
states yesterday has moved rapidly  
northeastward with increasing energy,  
and is now centered in Southern Ontario  
as a severe storm.

The weather continues cold in Mani-  
toba and Saskatchewan, but has become  
milder in Alberta.

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

| Stations.   | High. | Low. | Weather. |
|-------------|-------|------|----------|
| Victoria    | 50    | 42   | Rain     |
| Port Arthur | 42    | 34   | Clear    |
| Toronto     | 48    | 40   | Cloudy   |
| Kingston    | 50    | 40   | Cloudy   |
| Ottawa      | 42    | 34   | Cloudy   |
| Montreal    | 42    | 34   | Rain     |
| Quebec      | 38    | 32   | Snow     |
| St. John    | 44    | 28   | Cloudy   |
| Halifax     | 46    | 40   | Cloudy   |

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.  
The highest and lowest temperatures  
recorded in London during the 24 hours  
previous to 8 o'clock last night were:  
Highest, 54; lowest, 27.

The official temperatures for the 11  
hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:  
Highest, 45; lowest, 34.

Sun rises at 6:24 a.m. and sets at  
6:28 p.m.

Barometric Readings.  
Wednesday—8 p.m., 29.19.  
Today—8 a.m., 28.74.