

THE WEATHER:
MODERATE WINDS, CLOUDY.
TOMORROW—COLDER, SNOW.

London Evening Advertiser

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

61ST YEAR. NO. 23898

LONDON, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1924—TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

THREE CENTS

PROVINCE TO LOSE \$50,000 BY DEFALCATIONS

Ontario Urban Trustees Will Meet In London Next Year

CURRY MUST MAKE GOOD FOR THEFTS OF CLERKS

Premier Ferguson Declares New Defalcations Have Been Discovered.

MAY TOTAL \$150,000
Prosecutions Are Expected To Follow Soon as House Adjourns.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Toronto, Feb. 29.—Premier Ferguson said this morning that J. Walter Curry, registrar at the Toronto registry office, would be held responsible for the Ontario government for money lost by defalcation by two clerks in his office. The sum is stated to be \$50,000. The premier said the clerks were employed by the government. The alleged defalcations were unearthed by an audit. The government has started audits in many departments, Premier Ferguson said this morning that many irregularities had been discovered. "The whole trouble has arisen through the fact that no audit of receipts was ever made," said the premier. "Loose bookkeeping and lack of supervision is largely responsible for the existing state of affairs." It is stated that the total losses will run about \$150,000. The discoveries made by audit will mean a shakeup in the civil service in many departments. "These changes will be started immediately after the House rises. It is also stated that prosecutions of some of those alleged to be responsible for defalcations will be instituted."

MAY DROP CHARGE AGAINST SISTERS

Constable Peters States Neighbors Will Aid in Cleaning Place.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Chatham, Feb. 29.—The charges against the Radmore sisters, Luella and Mary, the eccentric Romey Township spinners who are now in the county jail on charges of cruelty to animals, may not be pressed by the authorities provided the present conditions on the farm are remedied. High Constable Peters, who visited the farm yesterday, declared today that if the home is made presentable, equipped with furniture and household utensils and conditions on the farm improved generally, the authorities would have no desire to press the charges. People residing in the vicinity of the Radmore place are in sympathy with the women. Many of them have expressed a desire to assist the Radmores and arrangements are already under way for a "cleaning up bee" to be staged on the place. For years the women folk in the vicinity of the Radmores have been more than willing to aid the sisters but were afraid to approach them regarding their mode of living. The Radmores lived to themselves absolutely.

CANADA'S FIRE LOSSES.
Toronto, Feb. 29.—Fire losses in Canada for the week ended Feb. 27 are estimated by the Monetary Times at \$433,100, compared with \$1,122,100 for the previous week, and with \$2,251,200 for the corresponding week last year.

The Weather

FORECASTS.
Moderate winds; mostly cloudy and somewhat colder tonight and Saturday; local snow flurries.
Pressure continues comparatively high over the Great Lakes, while the disturbance which was near Sable Island yesterday has moved to the northward of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.
Temperatures.
The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:
Stations. High. Low. Weather.
Victoria..... 46 44 Cloudy
Calgary..... 42 28 Clear
Winnipeg..... 42 20 Fair
Port Arthur..... 38 14 Cloudy
Sault Ste. Marie..... 26 4 Snow
Cochrane..... 14 0 Cloudy
Toronto..... 20 24 Cloudy
Kingston..... 32 18 Fair
Ottawa..... 36 8 Cloudy
Montreal..... 34 14 Cloudy
Quebec..... 34 10 Cloudy
St. John..... 30 22 Clear
Halifax..... 32 24 Fair



AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF POLICE.

Above is shown Miss Luella Radmore, pitchfork in hand, and surrounded by four of her large pack of dogs, watching the arrival of the authorities on the morning of her arrest. Miss Radmore, dressed in clothes made of bags and wearing rubber boots, was brought to Chatham with her sister and is now held on a charge of cruelty to animals. Authorities found their farm near Port Alma in a filthy state.

LONDON RENTS SECOND HIGHEST IN PROVINCE



HON. ERNEST LAPOINTE.

Canada's minister of justice, who will introduce a bill in parliament at an early date to amend the Penitentiaries Act.

'STOP' STREETS WOULD REGULATE TRAFFIC

Ald. Douglass Believes This Plan Is Solution of London's Problem.

There are growing indications that Ald. Towle's through streets proposal will be largely modified before it passes the city council, if at all. Ald. L. H. Douglass, chairman of the finance committee, suggested today in amendment that "stop" streets be inaugurated as the most sane policy. He mentioned York, King and Dundas streets and Queen's avenue for tentative consideration. It is his contention that "stop" streets would tend to offset speeding, while through streets designated as such would be but an invitation in that direction. Ald. Douglass would have all vehicles stop when they come to the streets he names, but he would designate no city streets as through thoroughfares, as advocated by Ald. Towle.

HIGH STRUNG PIANO TONES UP THEIR NERVES

People Walk Below a Ladder, But They Take No Chances With Pianos.

It has never been actually determined whether the disinclination of the public to pass under a ladder is based on fear of getting a shower of paint over their hats or just plain superstition. This morning, however, it was proven that the dislike of the public to passing under a hoisted piano is fear and nothing else. A huge piano was being raised with pulleys outside Flynn's tobacco store. A little group of the curious watched the operations, and when the music box was appended about twenty feet in the air, it was expected the crowd would pass by. Not one walked under the hanging piano, however. Although the chances of the instrument falling were negligible, the public apparently believe that discretion is better than being smashed.

MAYOR HAS SYSTEM TO ELIMINATE CITY TAXES

Would Inaugurate the Metering System, But Fears Time Not Ripe.

OUTLINES HIS PLAN
Thinks It Would Tend To Reduce Waste and Carelessness.

Municipal legislators, aldermen and others, are prone to abide too much by precedent, Mayor Wenighe charges. In the main they do not look to the future sufficiently for the welfare of the community. The mayor has some very advanced ideas and policies in the regard. In the first instance he would abolish all city taxes. This proposal may appear startling to the casual observer and impossible but the mayor believes that it can be done and with satisfactory results. His worship would inaugurate, with the co-operation of all municipal boards the metering system of assessing but he fears and regrets that they are not ready for it. "All our public utilities and public ownership projects should be operated in such a manner as would produce such substantial surpluses as would practically eliminate taxes as they are now assessed and collected." The mayor instanced the fire department. This branch of city service could be placed on a meter system; those who had the fires would have to be assessed for them. If he did not have a fire throughout the year at his place of business or residence, he would not have to pay anything toward the maintenance of that department. And the tax upon fires would have to be sufficiently large to carry the department. In that way also he believes there would be fewer fires in a year. More care would be exercised by the people. As a result, much smaller department would be required. And so on. The mayor would place the sewer system on the same basis. Those who use them would be metered accordingly and to the extent of their use.

TWO SCHOOLS MEAN ONE MILL ON TAX RATE

Education Committee Will Ask Council for \$700,000 Debtenture Issue.

Almost one mill will be added to the tax rate if the city council seeks to grant the request of the college board and issue debtentures for \$700,000. This was stated by Secretary W. A. Tanner today after figuring out the annual charges on such an issue. Over a period of 20 years, with interest at five and a half per cent, these would be \$58,569. The decision to request two schools was arrived at by members of the committee yesterday afternoon, and the board will be asked, next Tuesday, to make a formal request of the city council for this amount of money.

SCHOOLS WILL BE RE-DECORATED SOON

Spring Cleaning For Temples of Learning To Be Started Shortly.

As soon as weather permits, the work of decorating the city schools in need of this work will be started. According to Capt. W. H. Robinson, superintendent of works, two schools, Riverview and Tecumseh, will be redecorated externally, while Tecumseh, Chesley Avenue, Lorne Avenue and Pottersburg schools will have the interiors painted and decorated. This work, authorized by the board, is essential to these schools, as it has not been done for a number of years, and the rooms are beginning to assume a dingy appearance. Several other schools will be touched up here and there.

RETURN STENOGRAPHER.
It is understood that provision will be made for the return of a stenographer to the mayor's office. This position was eliminated when Mayor Wenighe assumed office early in 1923.



PRINCE CYRIL, younger brother of King Boris of Bulgaria, will visit the British Empire Exhibition in London this summer. Militarists of Bulgaria are anxious to have Cyril replace his timid brother upon the throne.

PRISONERS SING HYMNS IN CELLS

Condemned Men Change From Lifting Ragtime to Favorites of Youth.

Williams, Murrell and Topping are still singing in their cells at the county jail. They have forsaken lifting ragtime and sobby ballads for the sobering yet beautiful hymns that they learned in their early youth. Last week the three men who are to be hanged on April 10, passed the time by warbling "My Cutie Went Away" and "That Old Gang of Mine." This week the young men switched over to "Lead Kindly Light" and "Onward Christian Soldiers." These two hymns seem to be their favorites, although "Rock of Ages" is also very popular with them. Murrell and Williams both possess good voices, while Topping although "not so good," does his best. In the evening, prisoners who have been working outside or around the jail help the boys out and suggest songs to them. Regular song services are the order each night before lock-up.

LINER IS BADLY BATTERED DURING RECENT STORM

Associated Press Despatch.
Plymouth, England, Feb. 29.—The Royal Netherlands steamship *Atjeh*, voyaging from Central America and West Indian ports, arrived here yesterday badly battered by a hurricane, which reached its height on Feb. 22. Her bows were smashed and the smoking-room, saloon and cabins swamped.

Efforts in Special Drive Rewarded by Cash Prizes

Advertiser Will Give \$500 To Candidates Securing Most Votes.

FOR SEVENTEEN DAYS

Winners in Recent Campaign Will Be Announced in Near Future.

Five hundred dollars will again be awarded by The Advertiser—four special prizes—to the leaders of the three groups during the next 17 days. This is the second additional bonus of \$500 offered since the contest.

The extra awards should be a big incentive for candidates to work harder the next seventeen days than they ever worked before. The new 250,000 extra vote offer for every two subscriptions will make it comparatively easy to pile up large scores. The winners of the recent preliminary contest will be announced any day now.

Any person bringing in one to six subscriptions a day or less is almost certain to gain one of the numerous prizes at the rate things are going now. With milder weather approaching it is much easier for candidates, particularly rural candidates, to get around among prospects and double the number of their subscriptions. Cash only should be accepted, regardless of whether the subscription in question is a six months, yearly or long term renewal.

The next seventeen days will probably prove to be the most important of the contest. In two weeks it is expected the standings of candidates will be more or less fixed. That is why real effort and salesmanship counts so much right now.

GRAYDON REMANDS SUSPECT FOR WEEK

Oscar Warner Pleads Not Guilty to the Neal Bakery Robbery.

ARRESTED AT SARNIA

Elects Summary Trial by the Magistrate in Court This Morning.

Oscar Warner, 22, apprehended in Sarnia yesterday and brought here in custody of Detective Bolton last night to answer a charge of theft, pleaded not guilty in police court this morning. Warner, who is suspected of having broken into the Neal Baking Company on February 17th and stealing a substantial amount of cash, was remanded a week by Magistrate A. H. M. Graydon to secure his witnesses and employ a counsel. The prisoner is a thick-set, short, young man. When asked whether he wished immediate trial or trial by jury in June Warner stated he wished to be tried by the police magistrate as soon as possible.

TAYLOR IDENTIFIES SPECIAL TO THE ADVERTISER.

Sarnia, Feb. 28.—William Taylor came to Sarnia this morning, following information sent to London by Sarnia city police, and this afternoon he picked out Warner from twenty or more men shown to him, declaring that the man was one of the party who carried out the Sunday morning robbery. Detective Thomas Bolton of London and Detective James Byerley of Sarnia took Warner into custody. The prisoner offered no statement in reference to the charge. He was taken to London by Detective Bolton on the 5:25 train.

Warner is a young man, noticeably short in stature, though of fairly heavy build. He came to Sarnia two months ago from Ottawa, he has admitted, and had been employed with local plumbing firm. Local police were aware that his description tallied very closely with that of one of the robbers broadcasted from London, and Detective Byerley had the man under surveillance for some time. When he came here two months ago he worked with W. J. Barrie, local plumber, for several weeks, but has since been passing as a stock salesman, and at the time of arrest was trying to sell shares in a moving picture concern.



REV. G. QUINTIN WARNER, elected a member of the Ontario Urban School Trustees Association at the closing session of the association's convention in Kingston today.

FARMER IS GIVEN TWO MONTHS' TERM

Charles Wyatt Is Sentenced For Fraud in Connection With Weight Receipts.

Two months in the common jail was sentence imposed on Charles Wyatt, confessed perpetrator of fraud, by Magistrate Graydon this morning. Wyatt was caught changing the figures on weight receipts for his grain, thereby cheating customers out of varying amounts. It was the first case of the nature apprehended here in 22 years. Wyatt had nothing to say in court, but Crown Attorney Albert Judd made an appeal in his behalf. Mr. Judd said three cases of fraud by Wyatt had come to light, and in each of these his father had made restitution. To date the young man had had a good, clean record. Many former friends and employers testified to his previous good character, and one concern said it would give him a job.

Magistrate Graydon said the prisoner did not seem to appreciate the nature of the offense. If others descended to such dishonesty and deceit as he had committed the business of the market could not be carried on. In giving the prisoner two months in common jail the court said it was acting extremely lenient and in consideration of his father's respectability.

BUILDING BOOM SHOWN BY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Figures To Date For 1924 Show \$100,000 Increase Over Period Year Ago.

The February building report issued by City Inspector A. M. Piper shows an increase of \$6,000 over February of 1923. The 1924 total to date shows an increase, however, of more than \$100,000 over the corresponding period of 1923. The detailed report follows: 36 permits during February. 1924..... \$61,670 27 permits during February, 1923..... 55,535 68 permits since January 1, 1924..... 237,070 6 permits since January, 1923..... 136,250

PUBLIC UTILITIES ASKED TO CONSIDER PROTEST

Mayor Promises To Take Up the Matter of Water Rates.

On behalf of certain residents who petitioned him, Mayor Wenighe today directed a communication to the members of the public utilities commission, of which he is a member, asking them to consider protests against their water rate charges. "The mayor states further that a deputation will also look its presence to the protest at the next regular session of the commission. "I will also attend," he stated. In his letter to the protesting rate-payer, the mayor states: "I agree with you that the small householder should not be expected to pay as the larger householder."

DECLARED HOLIDAY.
Following the usual custom at the University of Western Ontario, Ash Wednesday, March 5, has been declared a holiday by Dean W. Sherwood Fox.

TRUSTEES DECIDE ON LONDON FOR CONVENTION

Kingston Convention Closes With Election of Officers For Next Year.

DEALS WITH ACT

Dr. J. H. Putnam of Ottawa Favors Abolition of Matriculation Exams.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Kingston, Feb. 29.—The urban school trustees' convention concluded this morning with the election of officers and the transaction of other business. London Ontario, was decided on as the meeting place for next year. The following officers were elected:

President, A. M. Cunningham, Hamilton; vice-president, J. G. Elliott, Kingston; executive, F. B. Edmunds, Toronto; Mrs. Agnes Hodges, Brantford; F. W. James, Chatham; T. H. Kirby, Ottawa; A. McGie, Belleville; Rev. C. Q. Warner, London. Dr. J. H. Putnam of Ottawa, in addressing the convention this morning, stated that it had proved impossible to put the adolescent act into effect because of public opinion. He stated his opinion that "if a boy has not reached the fifth grade at the age of 15, this is the best possible reason for letting him out of school." He advocated the organization of junior high schools and the ultimate doing away with matriculation examination. He also advocated vocational schools throughout the province.

ALD. DRAKE SUGGESTS A SCHOOL EACH YEAR

Also Scores the Unit System of High Schools Now in Vogue.

Ald. Gordon Drake, ward three, suggests that members of the board of education revise their collegiate plans and build one branch high school in 1924 and the other in 1925. "I don't know what we are going to do about this problem," he stated. "It seems like a big undertaking for this year. It would be a good move if they constructed a school out in East London, and one in South London next year." Ald. Drake incidentally scored the unit system of high schools, and hinted that "The school board let somebody put it over them when they decided not to put the students all under one roof."

TRAFALGAR SCHOOL NEEDS MORE MONEY

New Building Will Probably Cost \$15,000 More Than Expected.

The city council will in all likelihood be asked to furnish more money for Trafalgar school, recently completed, according to information received this morning. Number two committee of the board of education is meeting within a few days for this purpose, and although no information could be obtained as to the amount required, it is understood that it will be in the neighborhood of \$15,000. The school cost \$97,000, of which \$70,000 was a transfer from Victoria School, but there is still a small amount needed to complete the cost. In addition to this, the committee may also discuss the estimates, as when they were taken up at a previous meeting, the chairman, S. F. Lawanson, was out of the city. He will occupy the chair tonight, and they may be run over rapidly.

Newsy Bits From Today's Classified Ads.

Gold watch and chain lost.
Burwell apartment to let.
Used rugs for sale.
Farm wanted.
Lovett St. cottage for sale.
Light delivery wagon wanted.