

# MERCURY DROPS TO NINE DEGREES BELOW ZERO

## Defeat of Baldwin Is Expected By Margin of 70 Votes

### COLD WAVE IN DISTRICT IS WORST IN MANY YEARS

Mercury Drops to Nine Degrees  
Below Zero This  
Morning.

WARMER TOMORROW

Damage Is Not Serious, Pipes  
in City Reported  
Frozen.

London is once more in the grip of King Winter, he having descended from his throne with a vengeance last night, when the temperature dropped to nine below zero and had only risen to seven below zero at 8 a.m. today. At press time however, it was up a few more degrees, but still below zero.

Citizens who rose early Sunday morning were surprised to find that the wellow weather of Saturday, with its accompanying fall of soft, wet snow had changed overnight to down near zero, touching two below at 8 p.m. The mercury, however, did not stop there, but just to show that it would not be governed by the wishes of the people, continued its downward march until it reached the figure 9. There is stopped and took breath, and evidently considering that that was far enough for the present, started to climb, but very slowly.

But the descent of the mercury was not the most disagreeable feature of the week-end. This came along when a strong northwest wind took hold and commenced to drive powdery snow into drifts. The wind was cold and made it seem as if the temperature was nearer 20 below than 10. This morning the wind was still going strong, and although the thermometer showed a let-up in actual zero weather, nevertheless it was not felt.

The fact that it was 9 below, according to official figures given out by the South London weather bureau, is a branch of the Dominion Meteorological Service, did not bother other thermometers. These went their own way, some of them getting down to 15 below, while those on exposed corners downtown showed around 12 or 14, making the man on the street shiver and turn up his collar.

Previous Low Mark.

According to figures from the weather bureau, the previous low mark for this season was Jan. 6, when the mercury touched one below. Feb. 24 was the coldest day last winter, with a temperature of seven below zero, while a year ago today, the maximum and minimum were 37 and 20 above zero.

The coldest week on record was that of Jan 7 to 13, 1912, when the

### SOUTHEAST LIBRARY OPENS NEW QUARTERS

Will Provide Better Service For  
the Reading Public.

The southeast branch of the public library will occupy its new quarters in the new Trafalgar school on Tuesday and Wednesday, the present rooms being closed on these two days.

The room was set aside by the board of education for this purpose and will be used by the library until such time as it is needed for educational purposes. The branch in its new quarters will be able to furnish a better service to the public, the opportunity being greater.

The hours of opening will also be changed so that the library will be open on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday afternoons from 2 to 6 p.m., and from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays.

The Doll Show comes next Saturday in Masonic Temple. It is open to all kinds of dolls and there are thirteen prizes offered. Read all about it on Page 14 of this edition.



REV. FLOYD T. HOLLAND, Buffalo pastor who has accepted a call to the Adelaide Street Baptist Church. Mr. Holland will assume his pastorate here in February.

### CHEAP METHODS KEY TO OIL VALUE

Prof. R. Freeman, of Western,  
Comments on New Find  
in England.

Whether the newly-discovered shale fields in England are to have any commercial value depends entirely on the discovery of some cheap and economical means of getting the oil from the shale, according to Prof. R. Freeman of the University of Western Ontario. Mr. Freeman is the lecturer on political economy in the university, and left England only last summer.

He said: "There are today several shale deposits in England and Scotland, but they produce such a small percentage of the petroleum imported and used over there that they have practically no influence on oil prices or on the oil market. The present, and indeed the only process of distilling oil from shale, is not cheap enough to make any shale beds commercially valuable. As to the newly-discovered beds in West Somerset, as far as I can see, their whole value depends on the cost of getting the oil. Just now, it is cheaper to import it."

### MANY APPLY FOR ARMY AID IN COLD SPELLS

Salvation Officers Busy Relieving  
Distress in the  
City.

This is the kind of weather that taxes the resources of the Salvation Army.

When the thermometer touches zero the request for coal, food, and clothing becomes more acute and the army increases the work it does in the winter time many fold.

Many cases where families have just arrived from either the old country or from Europe and are not entitled to fuel from the city, the Army lends a helping hand.

The sufferings of the people are so much increased at this period, officials say. Some cases there are of less than six months old and there is no coal in the house and no food. These cases are not common, yet they do exist and the Army is always kept busy seeing that the everyday needs of the youngsters and their parents are met.

Officers investigate all cases before making any grants and they say that it is very rarely that they find either undeserving cases or cases where the family is in receipt of any other aid.

### LABOR PARTY ELECTS TEMPORARY OFFICERS

Ex-Ald. John Colbert Accepts  
Presidency of the Local  
Organization.

Local Labor continues its activities on all fronts.

Meeting in special session Sunday afternoon members of the individual branch of the London Labor Party elected temporary officers for the year. Ex-Ald. John Colbert, accepting the presidency and Ald. Frank McKay, the vice-presidency. William Stewart was elected as secretary.

The organization will meet every Sunday this year, when current topics will be considered. This is the so-called white collar unit of the local political labor movement, the branch open for all those with labor propensities, whether trades unionists or otherwise. It is the culmination of the "broadening out" scheme urged last year locally by President Colbert.

### CITY PUBLIC OWNERSHIP PLANS ARE ATTACKED

Utilities and Port Stanley Railway  
Commission Scored by  
Mayor.

QUESTIONS SURPLUS

New Officers For Board Are  
Elected For the Present  
Year.

London's public ownership affairs, as now administered—the public utilities department and the London & Port Stanley Railway Commission—were roundly scored by Mayor Wenige at today's annual session of the London & Port Stanley Railway Board.

It was the mayor who introduced the situation as it involved the city's electrical and waterworks departments. He referred to the 1923 debenture issue of \$250,000 for this purpose, voicing the opinion that this transaction left the city in a worse condition than before.

"They say that we are that much better off with this \$250,000 issue," the mayor stated. "I do not think that we are. Against that amount the utilities commissioners have already an overdraft against it of \$23,500, while they owe the city as much as \$75,000 as the profits from the waterworks department. This \$250,000 is only paying up what they owe. It merely balances things up."

Mayor Wenige went on to say that "the Port Stanley commissioners were about the same." Ald. Edwin Smith asked "how many of these schemes are we in." The mayor's reply was snappy. "Not many, thank goodness." He reiterated his belief that all municipal spending bodies should inaugurate and adhere to a "pay as you go" policy, granting debentures only within the amount of their retiring debentures for that year.

Extent of Lease.

While discussion of the Port Stanley Railway situation was progressing, the question was asked as to the extent of the lease. City Clerk Baker reminded that they had about another 90 years to go on a 99-year agreement. The only chance for them to cancel this agreement would be explained, to appoint such members to the commission who would favor such a cancellation, if such was desired.

"Where does the surplus go from this road, if there is one?" asked the mayor.

"You should know as you are a member of the commission," he was told.

"I can't see where the road ever paid," the mayor declared.

"Their surpluses are in their annual statements," stated Ald. Haydon. "What is done with the surplus."

Please See Page 10, Column 3.

### Gasoline Price Advances 2 Cents Per Gallon In City



TAYLOR STATTEN, secretary of the Canadian National Boys' Work Board, will be in the city tomorrow evening and deliver an address at the boys' institute of the local Religious Education Council in the First Presbyterian Church.

SEWER JOB TIED UP.

The Wellington-High street sewer job was tied up today, City Engineer Near reports, throwing more than a hundred city men out of employment. With the return of milder weather, however, it is expected that the work can be continued indefinitely.



"AL" SMITH, "wet governor" of New York, whose campaign to become Democratic nominee in the presidential race this year has been given a decided boost by the party's decision to hold the June convention in New York City.

### RAIL STRIKE CAUSES CUT IN SERVICE

Fewer Trains Are Run in Great  
Britain as Walkout  
Proceeds.

BOTH SIDES FIRM

Railway Companies Promise to  
Provide Better Facilities  
Tomorrow.

Associated Press Despatch.  
London, Jan. 21.—Great Britain's main railways were being run on skeleton schedules today as the result of a strike of locomotive crews on all the lines which took effect at midnight. The strike, called by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen after an overwhelming vote of its 35,000 members against acceptance of a reduction in pay decided upon by the railway wages board is not supported by the National Union of Railwaymen, the big nation-wide organization, nor are the railway clerks involved.

The locomotive men belonging to the Associated Society, were claimed by that organization to be "coming out solidly," and an early result of their action was to bring about wide curtailment of train service and a resort to motor cars by the suburban population in getting to work.

The railway companies expressed the hope that they will get a better service going in the course of a day or so, and they congratulated themselves on having delivered London its milk to-day.

There will be no losers. Everyone will get a prize or a cash commission. Call us by telephone or write for lists of subscribers in your town and start right in to canvass for renewal subscriptions. Your friends will be glad to renew their subscriptions for you, and in this way you will get a big lead in votes.

Use the entry blank on this page and mail or bring it to The London Advertiser Contest office.

Call local and long distance telephone No. 7352.

WILL CONSIDER SALARIES.

Donald Wright, Labor member of the Port Stanley Railway Commission, stated that his proposed revision of the salary list on that road would receive early attention from the commissioners. This question was frequently broached during 1923, but referred back for a report.

There is the form by which you may enter yourself or a friend in The Advertiser's \$20,000 circulation drive.

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, London, Ontario.

Gentlemen:—Please enter my name in your \$20,000 Prize Contest, and send me all particulars.

Name .....

Street .....

Town or City .....

Mail this coupon to the office of The London Advertiser today.

### STILL ROOM FOR MANY IN CONTEST FOR \$20,000

Some Counties Have Few  
Workers, Giving Splendid Opportunities To All.

WILL BE NO LOSERS

Eleven Big Cars or Cash Prizes  
and Commissions Are  
Given.

Have you enrolled your name in The London Advertiser \$20,000 cash and automobile contest?

Fifty dollars in cash will be given to the person sending in the name of the candidate who secures the greatest number of votes in the contest.

Twenty-five dollars in cash will be given to the person sending in the name of the candidate who secures the second greatest number of votes.

Several businessmen in Western Ontario have enrolled their names; no doubt, realizing that it is a good business proposition, and one that may never come again. Two thousand dollars is a lot of money to earn, especially in a few short weeks.

Two thousand dollars is the grand prize in district No. 1 and will be awarded to the person securing the greatest number of votes in this district.

In Country Districts.

Two thousand dollars in cash, the grand prize for the country districts, will be awarded to the person securing the greatest number of votes outside the City of London.

One thousand dollars in cash is the first prize in each of the three districts.

Winning contestants have a choice of seven automobiles or their equivalent in cash.

There is still lots of room for contestants, some counties have only a few representatives so far, so that those who are hesitating to enter the race for the \$20,000 in prizes, need hesitate no longer.

Good Anywhere.

Subscriptions to The London Advertiser may be taken anywhere in the province and will count for the candidate in the district in which he is registered. This means that a candidate living in London may secure subscriptions to The Advertiser outside the City of London, and still receive credit.

Candidates should watch for the 200-vote ballots which appear in The Advertiser each day. Every coupon counts 200 votes. Ten friends saving coupons would give a contestant 2,000 votes a day.

This competition is open to everyone. Men and women, young and old.

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### Seven Pittsburg Firemen Meet Death When Plunged Into Tank of Burning Oil

Atlantic Refining Plant Is Scene  
of Conflagration at Early  
Hour Today.

BODIES RECOVERED

Ladder on Which Men Were  
Fighting Flames Suddenly  
Breaks.

Associated Press Despatch.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 21.—Seven men, three captains and four hosemen of the Pittsburg fire department were drowned in oil while fighting a fire at the Butler street plant of the Atlantic Refining Company today. The bodies were recovered after the fire had been brought under control, with the monetary loss unestimated.

The dead are: Captain W. Edw. Jones, Captain Rudolph Eliske, Captain John H. Frazier, Hosemen Patrick Abbott, Robert Smith, John Markham and Samuel Bollinger. A number of firemen also were injured.

The fire broke out in a tank containing ten thousand gallons of oil, shortly after 5 o'clock. Shortly before 9 o'clock the captains and their men were on a ladder which extended above the top of a tank adjoining the burning oil. The oil in this tank was being drawn off when the ladder broke, and the men fell into the tank. A chemical extinguisher, automatically released by the heat of the burning oil nearby, the authorities said, covered the oil and fumes arising from it was believed to have overcome the struggling firemen. They sank almost at once and the bodies later were recovered through the manhole at the bottom of the tank. The other firemen suffered severely because the mercury was two degrees below zero as they fought the flames.

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### BALDWIN IS TO GO DOWN FIGHTING TO LAST DITCH

The British Premier Proposes  
Handling Situation Without  
Gloves.

READY FOR THE VOTE

Latest Estimates Place Majority  
Hostile to Government at  
Seventy.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Jan. 21.—The passage of Labor's no confidence motion in the House of Commons tonight will mean the disappearance of the political observers predict will prove to be the last purely Conservative government in Great Britain, ushering in a new era in British politics.

Among the chief speakers at today's final debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne are Prime Minister Baldwin, David Lloyd George and Ramsay MacDonald. Some of the political gossips say that the premier means to handle the situation "with gloves off."

The division which has been fixed for 1 p.m. The vote will take about 15 minutes and so the results should be known not later than 11:30 p.m. The very restricted accommodations for the public in the House of Commons will be packed for the applications for admission to the galleries have been greatly in excess of the available space. Latest estimates placed the majority hostile to the government at about sixty or seventy, with very few Liberals supporting Mr. Baldwin, or abstaining from balloting.

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