

THE WEATHER:  
FAIR AND COLD TONIGHT.  
SATURDAY—LIGHT SNOW.

61ST YEAR. NO. 23892

LONDON, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1924. TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

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

THREE CENTS.

# ALL-NIGHT BATTLE IN SNOW CLEARS FIVE MILES

## Young Dane Ends His Own Life By Swallowing Poison

### TRAIN OPENS TRACK AFTER ALL-NIGHT BATTLE IN SNOW

Kelly's Siding Is Reached Early This Morning—Isolated Residents Without Bread Since Yesterday Morning—Futile Efforts Made To Clear Way With Shovels—Rescue Party Is Cheered.

#### TOWERING DRIFTS TORN AWAY BY FLOW

A wall of snow twenty feet high. Snow that turned back a steel locomotive hurtling into it at forty miles an hour.

Men and trains isolated in a white wilderness for more than two days. A nine-hour battle with five miles won. In the Yukon? At Blind River? No—right here at your doorstep.

#### TERRIFIC NINE-HOUR BATTLE.

At 8:25 this morning, after a terrific nine-hour battle through five miles of drift-filled track, the section of the London-Stratford line from Thorncliffe to Kelly's Siding was opened to traffic.

Sixty-five men who had been snowed in since Wednesday morning, and who had had no bread since Thursday morning, were brought relief. In addition to the men, a freight train of 22 cars, five engines and a plow were dug out and brought into London.

The trip of last night made by Superintendent C. Forrester with a special snowplow and engine, together with a crew of 30 snow shovelers, marks the final episode in the blizzard that swept Western Ontario last Tuesday night and which demoralized all traffic on branch lines, isolating many small towns and villages.

The story of the trip is almost epic, the struggles of the men with shovels of the plow, and the necessity of sending back to London at 1 a.m. today for an additional engine to break through the 18-foot drifts combining together to make a narrative that reads like fiction.

Scheduled to leave London at 8 o'clock last night in order that the men and equipment snowed in might be relieved, the special consisting of a heavy freight engine, No. 3508, two cabooses, a Russell plow and a total crew of nearly 40 men, did not get under way until 10 o'clock.

Gangs Arrive. At the hour arranged for, the gangs of men with shovels and engines at the Kelly's siding station, where the plow was to pick them up. As the minutes passed and no word was received as to when it would arrive, the men began to grow impatient.

At 10 o'clock sharp, the special left London, heading for Thorncliffe. The going along this section was fairly good, although the line had not been traveled since the blizzard. At the C. P. R. crossing a slight delay ensued owing to the semaphore being against the train. On proceeding the first of the drifts were encountered, but being small ones did not stop the train. The engines showed it down slightly. Three to four feet was the depth of the snow here and it presented no difficulty to the Russell.

Thorncliffe was reached at 10:45 p.m. and here the first real signs of the blizzard manifested themselves in huge drifts along the rail fences, the edges of the roads and the absence of all signs of traffic. On the station building the notice board, bearing the date Feb. 19, posted one train as being 25 minutes late, and another as on time. These were the last trains to leave London.

See page four col. three.

### CITY WILL OPPOSE EXPRESS EXEMPTIONS

Ontario Railway Municipal Board To Hear Appeal Tomorrow.

With other appeals the city's case against the Canadian National Express Company comes before the members of the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board, who convene in the Middlesex County court house Tuesday next at 10 a.m.

While the C. N. R. express authorities have won total exemption from business tax in Toronto and other Ontario municipalities, London is the only community to date to carry the fight to a higher court.

### GODFREY GETS REPORT ON CHINESE LAUNDRIES

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Feb. 22.—Hon. Dr. Forbes Godfrey, minister of health and labor, has received a report on Chinese laundries in Ontario. There are 341 such laundries in the province, of which the greater number are in Toronto. Twenty-six per cent of them are run by hired help, four per cent by proprietors themselves, and the remainder by their proprietors and hired help. Twenty per cent have unsanitary and unhealthy sleeping quarters.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 23; lowest, 13. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 23; lowest, 11.

Barometric Readings. Thursday—8 p.m.—29.29. Today—8 p.m.—29.39.



MISS JILL JOHNSTON,

whose marriage to the Rev. Charles Cameron Waller, principal of Huron College, this city, will be an important social event of Tuesday next in Montreal. The ceremony takes place in St. George's Church at 4 o'clock.

### GREER PROMISES TO BE AT PARLEY

Chairman States He Will Be on Hand at Meeting in Toronto.

Ald. John Greer, chairman of the board of works, gave The Advertiser definite assurance this afternoon that he would be on hand at the meeting of the private bills committee of the Ontario Legislature when the City of London bill is discussed, whether he is appointed to the deputation by Mayor Wenige or not.

"I feel it my duty to attend if I am able," Chairman Greer stated decisively and emphatically. "I will go at my own expense if the mayor carries out his evident intention not to include me on the deputation."

"I would have thought that the least the mayor could have done was to appoint a member from the board of works with some past experience. It shall feel it my duty, however, to be there in any event, as chairman of the board of works and in the city's interest."

#### COMMISSION TO MEET

A meeting of the police commission has been called for 4 o'clock this afternoon by Chief Birrell, secretary of the commission. General business of a routine nature will be transacted, according to Mayor Wenige, chairman of the commission.

### Monday Last Day of Offer of Special Contest Votes

Candidates Are Urged To Take Advantage of Last Few Days.

REMEMBER BIG PRIZES

Someone Will Receive Cash Awards For Work Done in Period.

Three hundred candidates started out this morning with determination to redouble their efforts in piling up votes before the closing date of the preliminary contest Monday night.

Although the \$500 in cash prizes is infinitesimal compared with the \$20,000 million to be divided at the end of the contest, every candidate is anxious to make a strong showing.

For every two yearly subscriptions brought in, whether renewal or not, 200,000 extra votes will be given today, tomorrow and Monday. On Monday, the final day of the small preliminary competition, candidates promise to work exceptionally hard, and they will be allowed to solicit subscriptions until late Monday evening, then mail their returns to the contest office.

The Advertiser is being given an excellent reception throughout the district. Every candidate reports that the ease with which sales are made has been one of the revelations of the contest.

"The splendid standard set by The Advertiser as a newspaper makes selling an easy task," is the way one candidate voiced the general feeling of all The Advertiser's valiant little band of salesmen.

Everyone is again urged to read the full-page advertisement. The contest manager is always anxious to keep candidates informed. If during the next few days any difficulties he can remedy are confronted, the contestants should get in touch with headquarters immediately.

### COMMITTEE PROPOSES TAKING OVER OF RUGGLES

Recommendation Will Be Presented to Shareholders at Meeting Tomorrow.

#### REVIVING CONCERN

Belief Expressed Business Could Be Placed on Paying Basis.

Shareholders of the Ruggles Truck Company propose to take over, rehabilitate and operate that corporation again.

This recommendation has been made by the members of the special committee of shareholders, who have been considering the proposal for several weeks past, and will be presented at a mass meeting of the several hundred members Saturday afternoon at the plant.

The committee is strongly in favor of reviving the concern. The Advertiser was informed this morning by members, and a certain plan of action will be presented to the shareholders Saturday for their definite approval or otherwise. Final action, however, is sought and anticipated.

Certain shareholders today voiced keen optimism that "their company can be successfully operated again, and they stand ready, they say, to urge purchase under certain circumstances."

The details of this tentative plan will be outlined by the committee, and the meeting thrown open for suggestions. The committee has been in a very constructive mood, and members of that group seem more convinced than ever that the Ruggles Company can be revived and administered with every success.

The shareholders of the company are being apprised today of the latest proposition.

#### WORLD'S DAILY OUTPUT FOR COAL IS BROKEN

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, Feb. 22.—A new world's record in daily output of coal has been established at the Pelaw main colliery, Newcastle, N. S. W., state advice here. The output for the day was 3,075 tons, the previous known record having been that of an English mine when 2,920 tons were raised.

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JAMES E. RICHARDS,

arrested at Toronto on a charge of robbing Scales & Roberts warehouse, when \$5,000 worth of tobacco was stolen. Richards was remanded for a week yesterday. His home is in Detroit.

### DOCK WORKERS ACCEPT TERMS

Delegates to Conference Will Recommend Settlement of Difficulties at Early Date.

Associated Press Despatch. London, Feb. 22.—The delegates conference of the dock workers has decided to recommend acceptance of the strike settlement terms to the members of the union. It was announced by Secretary Bevin of the dock workers this afternoon.

The delegates, who met this morning to continue discussion of the settlement effected between the leaders and the employers, adjourned shortly after 3 p.m. until Monday afternoon and are returning to their various districts to place their recommendations before their home bodies.

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### ALD. SMITH PROTESTS TRUCKS TAKING ROAD

Declares Practice of Certain Drivers Is Creating Inconvenience to Motoring Public.

Ald. Ed. Smith protests that delivery wagons and trucks have a little more regard for the rights of motorists and others.

"Delivery wagons on back streets are inclined, as a rule it seems to monopolize the center of the road, so motorists have great difficulty in getting past them," Ald. Smith stated, relating his varied experiences this morning.

"A coal wagon held to the center of the road on one street, and then when I turned into Princess avenue two milk wagons got in the center, stopping intermittently to deliver milk. A procedure like that should be checked. Motorists, as a rule, do not insist upon the center, and make all others go into the sides."

The following players have been announced as representatives of the Guelph Badminton Club, which will play a series of friendly matches against the London Garrison Badminton Club at the armories tomorrow afternoon.

Ladies' doubles—Miss I. Drew and Mrs. Hogg, Mrs. A. Walker and Miss E. Drew, Mrs. N. Ryan and Mrs. S. Ramsay. Mixed doubles—Miss I. Drew and G. Drew, Mrs. Hogg and Purcell, Mr. and Mrs. Ramsay, Mr. and Mrs. Ryan. Men's doubles—Purcell and Ramsay, Drew and Dunbar, Kennedy and Ryan.

### SNEAK THIEF TAKES CASH FROM TEACHER'S POCKETS

A youthful sneak thief visited Boyle Memorial School early in the week and got away with the contents of several purses owned by teachers who had left their bags in coat pockets.

Three dollars was taken from one purse and \$2 from another. Some small change was also collected by the thief.

Detectives were notified by the principal of the school, Mr. Ferguson, and have been supplied with a description of a youth who is suspected of stealing the money.

### ROADS TO CEMETERIES OPENED TO TRAFFIC

Roads to Mount Pleasant and Woodland cemeteries are both open to automobile traffic, County Engineer Charles Talbot stated this morning. Other county roads continue to be snowbound for the most part, although road foremen are doing their best to open up the highways for sleighs.

### Do You Want Alberta Coal? Sign the Petition Today And Ask Friends To Sign

Public Opinion Will Bring Action—Wishing For It Will Do Nothing.

#### FORMS ARE AVAILABLE

Stores and Banks Listed On Inside Page—500 Points in Ontario.

There are two things everyone can do for Alberta coal:

FIRST—Get your signature on the petition to the Premier of Canada asking for action.

SECOND—Ask your friends to sign.

It is all very well to say that Alberta coal is a fine thing and that something should be done about it. But the real job at the present moment is to secure signatures for the petition.

Public Opinion Will Do It. Only the force of public opinion seems likely to produce results. That is the purpose of the petition.

Blank forms are available at the banks, stores and hotels listed on an inside page, to which list the Hydro Shop and McCormick's Cigar Store, at 413 Richmond street, have been added.

500 Points Outside City. Outside London forms have been distributed in about 500 points with postmasters, chambers of commerce, newspapers, Rotary, Kiwanis and Lions' clubs, and Advertiser correspondents.

The Advertiser will send forms to any place in Ontario upon request. Sign the petition—ask your friends to sign—get action.

#### Special To The Advertiser.

Tillsonburg, Feb. 22.—Characteristic with all his municipal affairs, Mayor A. S. Rennie, who is now serving his third consecutive term as mayor of the Pandion town, is losing no time in bringing The London Advertiser petition for Alberta coal before local citizens, and notices have been sent out, urging everyone to sign at the earliest possible moment.

Tillsonburg fully expects to be among the first municipalities to return their signed petition to London.

### STREET RAILWAY MEN NOT YET DECIDED

Question of Demands Will Be Taken Up at Later Conference of Executive.

Whether the street railwaymen will make certain demands upon the company this year, as already proposed, is still a debatable point, according to ex-Ald. John Colbert, president of the union. Nothing definite was done in this connection at last night's regular session, he explains.

In order to open their agreement with the company before any change in wages or conditions can be affected, it is incumbent upon the men to give the company 60 days' notice. This notice has not been given yet, and the president states that it has yet to be decided whether this notice shall be given.

The advisability of making any demands this year is still a question for the consideration of the executive, he stated.

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### STUDENTS WILL FACE CHARGE OF ASSAULT

Crown Attorney Rigney Will Have Charge of Prosecution in Pense Case.

Kingston, Feb. 22.—It was announced this morning by Chief of Police Robinson that on the return to the city of Crown Attorney Rigney summons will be issued for the appearance in police court of a number of Queen's students who, it is alleged, last Tuesday evening forcibly took Fred B. Pense, a member of the Whig staff, from the vicinity of his home, hauled him before a student court and charged him with being the author of certain articles on dancing which were taken to reflect on Queen's. Mr. Pense was found guilty and sentenced to perform certain "stunts." The students will likely be charged with assault and also with wearing masks during the proceedings.

#### ASSESSOR STILL BUSY.

City assessors are still busy in ward four and Commissioner Bennett reports that none but normal increases are being noted except in very rare instances where it has been found that under-assessing has been quite noticeable.

### DR. E. H. CHERRINGTON, Secretary of the World League Against Alcoholism, who is visiting in Canada, declares Montreal is the wettest city in North America.

### FOUND DEAD IN BOARDING HOUSE ON DUNDAS ST.

Harold Holm Takes His Own Life By Swallowing Poison.

#### WAS OUT OF WORK

Dr. Ferguson Decides Inquest Into Death Is Not Necessary.

Out of work for three weeks and without funds, Harold Holm, 24 years of age, committed suicide late last night or early this morning at his Dundas street boarding house by drinking poison.

Holm was a native of Denmark and had been living in London for the past year at the home of Joseph McLachlan, 563 Dundas street. He was a splendid young chap, full of life and vigor, and very fond of the McLachlan children, Mrs. McLachlan stated.

"He went out last night about half-past nine," the boarding house mistress declared. "He was bright and cheerful at that time. I don't know what time he came in, for we did not hear him enter the house. He did not get up for breakfast, and we did not know anything was wrong until I sent the little girl up at 12:15 after she came from school to call him. It was a terrible shock to us, I can tell you."

The police and coroner were immediately notified and Dr. Ferguson was soon on the scene, followed by Detective Bolton.

The empty bottle on the dresser, labelled "poison" was mute testimony of the cause of death and Dr. Ferguson decided an inquest was not necessary.

Holm had no relatives in this country. Mrs. McLachlan stated. He had one good friend, Eric Strayburg, 25 Wellington street, a fellow countryman who rushed to the house when apprised of the fact that his friend was dead.

The young Dane before going out last night asked George E. Logan, Holm's father who lives in Denmark, to be quite wealthy, it was learned.

The remains were taken to the funeral home of George E. Logan. Holm quite his job at the London Shipping Containers three weeks ago after having a row with the foreman. He worked on a farm before coming to the city.

### REVISION OF SCHEDULE IS ADVISED BY MAYOR

Early Conference Recommended Between City and Street Railway Officials.

At a conference this morning with City Engineer W. P. Near, when street railway affairs were discussed, Mayor Wenige recommended an early conference between the city and the street railway authorities to consider the drafting of a new schedule agreement, as well as other items.

It is several years since the city council passed its bylaws designating the headway on the various lines, and as a matter of fact, recent careful checks of the system have shown conclusively that the company schedule is even more favorable than the last demands of the council.

The mayor feels, however, that it would be well to revise the schedule, not only in this regard, but with reference to the districts in which the company is affected regarding costs of snow removal.

### PROMISE READJUSTMENT.

As chairman of the finance board, Ald. Douglass today promised a complete city hall salary readjustment in 1924, the undertaking to include a thorough consideration of city officials' wages as well.

### Newsy Bits From Today's Classified Ads.

- Boston bull terrier lost.
- Suction sweeper for sale.
- Paperhanger wanted.
- Lower duplex to let.
- Rooming house for sale.
- Wanted, used car.