

London Evening Advertiser

60TH YEAR. NO. 23527

LONDON, ONTARIO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1922.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ASSIST UNEMPLOYED

ONTARIO WILL NOT HELP MEN LACKING WORK

Hon. F. C. Biggs Informs City Official of Government's Decision.

PROBLEM NOT ACUTE

Feeling Prevails That Municipalities Are Able to Care for Jobless.

The province of Ontario declines to render the city of London any financial assistance this winter with respect to unemployment. Official notification to this effect was received this morning by City Engineer H. A. Brazier from the Hon. Frank C. Biggs, minister of highways.

The latter's communication is in response to the inquiry that went forward to Toronto several days ago from the city hall, as to the government's attitude this year, and Mr. Biggs explains that after a thorough consideration of the situation throughout the province it has been decided to take no action.

"The government feels that the unemployment situation is by no means acute," he stated, "and does not justify any expenditure at the present time by the government. Any expenditure incurred by the municipalities must be borne by them. If serious developments occur, of course, it will then become a question of further consideration."

The minister of highways explains further that the issue has also been taken up with the authorities at Ottawa, when it was found that the federal government is of the same mind. It is felt, from all reports, that conditions have materially improved throughout the Dominion and that there is no real hardship anywhere that cannot be overcome by the separate communities.

This does not mean, of course, that London will halt such work as was commenced early this week for the express purpose of providing employment for such bona fide citizens as were out of work. This work will continue as scheduled, the city engineer reports, and as much work as possible will be offered. "We will employ just as many as we can and split the work up among them, as in other winters," he is proud to say.

City hall authorities explain that one of the features of the past year was that Mayor Wilson and his associates provided in the estimate just such a contingency, and the sum of \$30,000 is available. This amount will do much toward alleviation of the local situation.

Last winter both the federal and the provincial governments shouldered a big share of the expense for a similar undertaking, which relieved the city materially. London received this money two or three months ago, as arranged.

In any event the city's unemployment problem is not considered by any means serious, and everything bids fair for a much better winter season than since before the war.

CITY OF LONDON BILL LIKELY UNESSENTIAL

So Says Dr. Stevenson, M.P.P., With Regard to Sewer Debentures.

There seems to be a broad diversity of opinion as to whether the new council will be able to weather the storm of 1923 without the assistance of the City of London bill.

Dr. Hugh Stevenson, M.P.P., has a suggestion to offer with respect to the North London sewer debenture issue. While acknowledging that he is not positive upon the point, he believes that this matter can be satisfactorily dealt with by an appeal to the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board.

The member for London gave assurance to The Advertiser today that he would institute definite inquiries in Toronto upon this phase, and would have a reply within a brief period. He believes that by recourse to this body, the city could dispense with the services of the City of London bill, and not a considerable saving.

ANNOUNCE EXTRA TRAINS FOR NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Local officials of the Grand Trunk announce the following extra trains, which will be run today to accommodate the holiday traffic: Extra No. 16, leaving Windsor at 4 p.m. and running through to Toronto, leaving at 10:30 p.m. from Hamilton to London, leaving the former city at 3:08; extra No. 17, leaving London at 4:30 for Oshawa.

The second section of No. 16 will be run on Monday as well as today.



"BEWARE SIGNS" CARRIED BY KLU KLUXERS. Now that the movie colony is shifting from Hollywood to Miami, the Florida Klu Kluxers are making ready to preserve the local morals. This picture of the Miami klansmen was taken just before a midnight parade through the streets of their city en route to Homestead.

CONTINUE TO HUNT FOR HOODED BAND

Additional Troops Search Gloomy Swamps For Clue to Crime.

Special to The Advertiser.

Mer Rouge, La., Dec. 23.—Additional troops converged today upon Moorehouse Parish, where, in a region of muddy lakes and gloomy swamps, the authorities of the law are gripped with a mystery hooded organization with power of life and death over its victims. Another Michigan gun company is en route from New Orleans, and two companies of infantry are on the way.

They will be posted in every public building along every road and trail, while federal agents run down the hooded terrorists. As the troops assembled to reinforce those who are already on the ground, the decomposed torsos of the hooded band were found in pine caskets in a lodge room here, awaiting examination by surgeons.

The bodies were disfigured from the bottom of Lake La. Poudre by a terrific explosion early yesterday after they had laid in the mud and ooze there since last August. The men had been bound with wire and thrown into the lake. It is believed members of the hooded mob that killed them dislodged the corpses by setting off dynamite in an attempt to hide them elsewhere.

ORDER OF CRUSADER NEW BRITISH CLUB

Society Similar to Ku Klux Formed in Old London.

Special Cable to The Advertiser.

London, Dec. 23.—A secret society similar to the Ku Klux Klan of America and the Fascisti of Italy, is springing up in England, the Daily News declares today. The organization is called the Order of Crusaders. It was founded two years ago, and recently launched an intense recruiting campaign.

Its total strength, however, is kept secret.

The garb of the order consists of crimson robes, with a large cross blazoned on the front of the gown. Interviewed, the grand seigneur declared he knew a little of the Ku Klux Klan and the Fascisti, but asserted, "I am not prepared to answer questions as to our relationship until I consult our committee."

"I think the Fascisti would be a good thing for England. Names of the officers of the crusaders are not a secret."

ON ERRANDS OF MERCY. SEARCH CAR FOR BOOZE

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—While out on errands of mercy last night delivering Christmas parcels to the poor, two prominent society women had their car stopped by a man giving his name as Albert Fox, and stating that he was on the provincial police force sent was searching automobiles for liquor. The owners of the car refused to permit a search by Fox, but called the police and drove to the police station, where a search was made. No liquor was found.

HOLIDAY SHOPPERS BREAK ALL RECORDS

New York, Dec. 23.—Holiday buying in New York has broken all records, and \$250,000,000 has been spent by the shoppers here, it was estimated today in business quarters. This sum represents an increase of from 15 to 20 per cent over last year.

Nearly every line of Christmas trade has reported an increase in sales, and more persons than ever have been required to handle the business. In the 5,000 drug stores alone nearly 200,000 persons have been employed.

RESUME WORK ON DOCK.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 23.—Resumption of work on the Esquimaux dry dock was formally ordered by Hon. J. H. King, federal minister of public works on his arrival here yesterday. The work is expected to be completed about June, 1924, and will cost a total of \$1,500,000. Tenders for \$500,000 worth of operating plant and equipment will be called for soon.

Lloyd George's Article on Ireland Is On Page Four of This Edition

Lloyd George is writing thirty articles for The London Advertiser—his own views on what has happened and what may happen to the nations of the world. He is telling what he knows, with all the brilliancy, fire and perception which he alone possesses.

Two of these articles have already appeared on the last two Saturdays. The third has now been cabled and is published in this edition on page five. It will also appear on Monday morning.

Today's article deals with Ireland—the drama of her fight for freedom from the days of Gladstone to the signing of the treaty in 10 Downing street a year ago. It is less history than a series of vivid pictures and impressions.

Lloyd George's articles to The Advertiser will appear also on the next three Saturday afternoons and Monday mornings. Thereafter they will be published each second week.

LLOYD GEORGE'S ARTICLES ARE IN THE ADVERTISER ONLY.

OFFICIALS EXPECT MERRY CHRISTMAS

But All Say the Public Can Get in Touch With Them in an Emergency.

Most of the city officials anticipate a quiet Christmas and they will all be within easy call of the city hall should their services be required in the case of an emergency.

None of them will be out of the city. City Building Inspector Piper gives assurance of a quiet time and adds that if the strain becomes too great (two holidays in succession) he may be located at his usual desk in the city hall. "I can get busy on those city hall plans, you know," he commented, "if I get tired of the easy life."

City Engineer Brazier will also spend the day as quiet as possible and can be easily located, he said, should anything develop that would require his attention at once.

The city treasurer, "Jim" Bell, is another who will take advantage of the double holiday and enjoy a period of relaxation, content to leave all questions as to a possible city of London bill to be decided Tuesday morning.

Sam Baker, city clerk, anticipates a real old-fashioned Christmas day, with Christmas trees everywhere. There will be a host of relatives and friends at his place, he says, and a real good time is expected.

FRENCH SOCIALIST WILL VISIT CITY

Another International Figure, Eugene Longvaj, May Address London Labor.

London, Ontario, is rapidly assuming a position of no mean importance. It is quickly becoming a regular stop for figures of national importance who visit America from time to time.

The next visitor expected in the near future is Eugene Longvaj, leader of the Socialist group in the French parliament, who is now in New York City. He will visit certain of the more prominent Canadian communities, it is assured.

In regular session last night the members of the local branch of the Canadian Labor Party commented upon his presence on this side of the Atlantic, and it was determined to extend him an invitation to address a public gathering in this city.

Mrs. Ford, who was in a highly nervous condition when she appeared in night court, collapsed when Judge Charles Bartlett announced her release.

RELEASED ON CHARGE OF KILLING HUSBAND

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 23.—Mrs. May B. Ford, arrested a fortnight ago on a charge of attempting to engage a professional gunman to kill her husband, N. J. Ford, farmer, was released from the county jail early today under bond of \$15,000.

HYDRO RADIALS CAUSE BIG STIR AT HAMILTON

Battle Grows Bitter On Question of Expenditure of Six Millions.

BECK ATTACKS THORNTON

Intimates Head of National Railway and C. P. R. Joined.

Special to The Advertiser.

Hamilton, Dec. 23.—The campaign here over hydro radicals is beginning to warm up. Three meetings were held last night in different parts of the city, two addressed by the pro-radial, and one by the anti-radial speaker.

Sir Adam Beck covered the same ground and produced the same arguments in favor of municipally owned lines as he gave last evening at the I. O. O. F. Hall.

Both meetings were only fairly well attended, many empty seats giving indication of only moderate interest. An incident, which took away any dullness at one gathering, was a passage at arms between two old political antagonists, T. J. Stewart, M.P., and W. O. Sealey, former M.P. here. It grew out of a challenge of Mr. Stewart, who is strongly opposed to the bylaw, issued to Mr. Sealey to point to one radial railway in Canada that was paying. The outcome was a disagreement, which did not have a decided Christmas tone. Mr. Sealey failed to name any road which is making dividends, and Mr. Stewart found no reason for cooling in his opposition to Hamilton's venture for over six millions.

During all his addresses Sir Adam continued to devote considerable attention to Sir Henry Thornton, and last night, perhaps through a slip of the tongue, he said the head of the National Railway and the C. P. R. were joined. He was thrusting in all directions against possible enemies to radicals, and declared that opposition to this scheme was coming from the C. P. R., and that Sir Henry Thornton seemed unable to realize that he wasn't any longer in the service of private railway companies, but in that of public ownership.

The statement of the new president of the nationals, linked with the imaginary influences of the Canadian Pacific, caused a unit of some form or other in Sir Adam's mind, which the hydro knight didn't make clear enough to amplify or make clear. He waited the speech of the radical, and he stopped and there a figure breathlessly. As he came nearer they saw he was smiling broadly. In the middle of No Man's Land he stopped and yelled, "Merry Christmas, Canadians."

In a moment the enemies had become temporary friends.

"Happy Christmas," gaily wished the men from the Dominion.

"Proches Welcomes and glad wishes New Year," replied the affable foe.

Schooners of good German beer were extracted from bulging pouches, cigarettes lit, and presents exchanged. Both Hun and Canuck, however, remained as wise to their own line as possible. Bully beef was tossed to Henle, and tobacco thrown to the Canadians.

"Here's to you, Fritz," said one young Canadian captain, who was fortunate enough to have traded a plug of chewing tobacco for a pint of beer. "Here's to you—drinking, and may we both be back in our home towns next Christmas."

About Harvey O'Higgins.

Harvey O'Higgins, noted Canadian writer, spent his early years in this city. One Christmas morning when he was a young man the postman came to his door with three envelopes. O'Higgins looked at the address on two of them, saw they were from friends, opened the flaps and withdrew the Christmas greeting cards. The third envelope had the name of a well-known New York publishing firm on the corner. Mr. O'Higgins gazed at it delightedly. No doubt it was a check for that short story he had written. He had never been able to sell a story up to this time, and as the manuscript had not arrived with the letter, he presumed it was acceptance of his story in the form of a substantial check.

He opened the envelope with great gusto and a rejection slip fell out. The embryo writer wept and wailed. Chagrin and disappointment spread over his face. His Christmas was ruined.

To make things worse, he had

BUILDING PERMITS EXCEED LAST YEAR

Inspector A. M. Piper States Total for 1922 Has Reached \$2,589,360.

Building still continues in London, if construction and alteration permits issued by Building Inspector A. M. Piper are any indication.

Last year's record has already been eclipsed, the inspector stated today, reporting that the 1922 total has reached \$2,589,360, as against the sum of \$2,527,510 for 1921.

With mild weather promised by the weather man throughout the winter season, it is predicted that the building trades will be busy the greater part of the coming season, and right up until spring.

WOODSTOCK PUBLISHER BUYS CHATHAM PAPER

Chatham, Ont., Dec. 23.—The announcement made this morning that the good-will and plant of the Chatham Daily News, along with the weekly Banner-News, together with job printing and bindery, has been acquired by W. J. Taylor, publisher of the Woodstock Sentinel-Review. The formal transfer will take place January 1. The retiring proprietor, A. G. Woodward, has been identified with the News for more than 22 years.



HEIR TO SPANISH THRONE. The heir to the Spanish throne, the Prince of Asturias, is shown here (left, front rank) marching in the corporal's position in the Royal Regiment. This photo was snapped as the regiment passed the Royal Palace in Madrid after returning from battle manoeuvres.

Unusual Christmases Told By Soldiers and Civilians

Recalls Days of War in France, When the Enemy Became a Friend, With the Exchange of Cigarettes and Yuletide Gifts.

From the time that flint-haired old Scrooge had his Christmas dream to that frigid day when heroic Captain Scott, alone in a vast Antarctic waste, scribbled the last words of his diary, the Yuletide has been fraught with odd experiences.

Londoners can tell you a thing or two about Christmas. Right here in the prosperous homes of merry citizens, the festival does not pass without leaving memories of rollicking comedy and often sombre drama. Memories of sorrow, too, for some, and thoughts of dreary adventure in lands where cheer and sadness stalk arm in arm.

Diffident persons dislike telling the story of the "most unusual Christmas" they ever had. But the reporter, displaying commendable persistency, managed to extract from them some peculiar tales of past Christmas.

Yuletide in Ireland. In 1918 it was thought in Ireland that the yuletide spirit would prohibit the possibility of bloodshed. Michael Mulcahy, now trainman in London, was arranging a Christmas tree in his mother's home in Dublin. He had affixed electric bulbs to the branches, and expected a fine old time for the children. That evening they poured into the house and gazed with startled eyes at the myriad array of good things appended to the tree.

While gifts were being distributed a crash of shot and gunfire proclaimed the approach of republicans. The bullet struck an electric fuse, and the lights were extinguished. The children were promptly sworn eternal allegiance to the rebels, and the allotment of the gifts was allowed to continue uninterrupted.

"Stand to," said a masked gentleman, peering through the window. "Are ye for the republic or agin' it?" "We were borned," said the children, "and we were borned with allegiance to the rebels, and the allotment of the gifts was allowed to continue uninterrupted."

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In 1917, said Col. Eric Reid to The Advertiser, the boys awoke in France on Christmas Day. Now, the Canadians were ever noted for their sobriety overseas. But on Christmas everyone was given a large portion of rum. The officers and men visited each other, and in honor of the day, received tumblers of sparkling wine from the various O. C.'s of the unit. We were to entertain the general that day, and our colonel would not allow the band to take any alcohol, because he wished them to play in the general's honor. Six o'clock arrived, and the general with it. The feast was all set. The band was asked to play the National Anthem, but all that appeared was a lone clarinet player, who others discovered a cache of rum and, taking advantage of the spirit of fellowship, had participated not wisely but too well. Ordinarily, they would have been court-martialed, but the yuletide spirit prevailed, and they were allowed to enjoy their lark unpunished.

South African Tales. Tales worthy of the most sensational fiction have been told of incidents on Christmas Day. In the city are veterans of the South African war, who entertained themselves killing off Boers on Dec. 25, 1900. Interviewed today, many recalled past yuletide adventures, but all look forward to Christmas of 1922 beside a crackling grate fire at home.

Poor Old St. Christopher Deposed From Throne in Skeptical Russia

Moscow, Dec. 23.—Santa Claus is not to find Christmas little to his liking in the principal cities and towns of Soviet Russia this year; in fact, to the young communists he will be "person non grata."

Members of that organization contending that Christmas and St. Nicholas both are worn-out myths, have announced that the celebration of the Russian Christmas, beginning Jan. 8, will be marked by a series of elaborate carnivals, in which Santa Claus will be assigned no part. They have further decided that the singing of

POLICE BOARD LOWER BUS FEE TO \$5 A SEAT

Action Taken at Special Meeting Last Night by Commissioners.

WENIG'S SUGGESTION

Bus Operators Must Take Out \$15,000 Liability Guarantee, Says Council.

Police commissioners, at a special meeting last evening, reduced the omnibus tax of \$10 per seat to \$5 a seat. None of the other clauses of the bylaw, which was passed at the November 21 session, were amended or deleted.

When the bus operators were first given copies of the bylaw, early this month, they at once called a meeting of protest, and were unanimous that the tax the commissioners sought to levy was prohibitive. They engaged counsel, and placed the matter before the council. The aldermen suggested that the tax be cut in two.

Mayor-Elect George Wenig, Ald. Albert Judd, and others, declared at the time that a fee of not more than \$5 a seat was warranted.

The bylaw will go into effect January 1.

Friday's session was the result of the vigorous protest registered by the bus men and by various civic officials.

Operators will be required to file a bond with the city treasurer before obtaining their licenses. They must take out a guarantee liability of \$15,000 for the protection of the traveling public, and of \$1,000 for damage cases.

The commissioners decided not to alter the clause, which provides that only passengers for whom seats are provided can be carried.

Under the bylaw, as it now stands, the buses are only allowed to stop for the purpose of letting off or taking on passengers.

BURIES WIFE ALIVE IN OZZING LIME PIT

Chauffeur Kills Mother of His Children to Marry Another Woman.

Special to The Advertiser.

New York, Dec. 23.—Abraham Becker, chauffeur, tried on a charge of slugging his wife and burying her alive in a lime pit, was found guilty of first degree murder by a Bronx jury early today.

Becker, in which convicted Becker is alleged to have killed the mother of his two children so he would be free to marry another woman.

Mrs. Becker's body was discovered in the lime pit on Nov. 29 by a detective seeking to solve the mystery of her disappearance last April.

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TREASURER RE-ELECTED.

Melbourne, Australia, Dec. 23.—S. A. Bruce, treasurer of the Australian commonwealth, was re-elected last Saturday in his old constituency of Flinders, Victoria, according to the latest general election returns.

The first result of the voting for senatorial candidates last Saturday has just been announced. Mr. E. Ogden, Labor party, has been returned to the Senate as representative for Tasmania.

THE WEATHER

Today—Light local snow. Sunday—Westerly winds; mostly cloudy; not much change in temperature. moderate disturbance which was off the middle Atlantic coast yesterday morning has moved northeastward to Cape Breton, developing into a storm of considerable energy, and causing gales with snow and rain in the Maritime Provinces. The weather has been comparatively mild over the Dominion.