

THE WEATHER:
FAIR, COLDER TONIGHT.
SATURDAY—COLDER.

London Evening Advertiser

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

61ST YEAR. NO. 23886

LONDON, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1924—TWENTY PAGES

THREE CENTS.

LOCAL OPTION SCHEME OFFERED TO SAVE TORIES

'Kiwanis Club Urged To Aid In Fight For New Schools

TORIES IN CAUCUS SEEK TO ESCAPE LIQUOR PROMISES

Believe Local Option Plan Would Meet With Approval on Both Sides—Fear Country Vote Would Defeat the Purpose of Sending Referendum to People in Early Summer.

WOULD "LET GOVERNMENT PARTY DOWN EASY"

By WILLIAM SHARMAN.
Special to The Advertiser. By a Staff Reporter.
Toronto, Feb. 15.—A local option proposal is offered to save the Ferguson government, according to members of the Tory party in caucus this morning.

As anticipated, the O. T. A. was discussed at great length, and the fact is emphasized that the rural members on the government benches, while they may be "wet" in caucus, threaten to be "dry" in the Legislature.

A return to the local option scheme has been proposed and supported by many of the Tory members as the safest way "to let the party down easy."

While this proposal may not have the indication of the premier and his close advisers, it would be calculated to please all factions. The majority of the cities went "dry" at the last referendum, while the rural constituencies went "wet." That "local option" would please the majority of the people of Ontario is the argument from a formidable section of the Tory party at this juncture.

As one of the members of the government stated recently, "We are not going to let the farmers run the country. If they want it dry out in the country let them have it that way, but if we want it wet in the cities we should be allowed to have our way there."

This view is held by a number of the government supporters, but apparently there is none of them with the courage to openly advocate it in the Legislature yet. It is hoped by this way to please both the wets and the dries and avoid making the government come out definitely and announce its platform on the temperance policy.

RANNEY ASKS ABOUT O. T. A.
Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, Feb. 15.—Hon. W. E. Ranney continues to place questions on the legislative order paper relative to Ontario temperance act matters. Today he asks if any member of the government before the last election made a promise that if the Conservatives were elected there would be a liquor referendum. He wants to know who made it, where and when, if such a statement was made.

J. G. Lethbridge, (East Middlesex), asks if the government intends to introduce legislation this session looking to the improvement of hotel conditions in the province. Mr. Ranney further inquires if the government is going to promote the sale of securities act (Blue sky law), or if another act is to be brought in to take its place.

W. H. Fenton (North Bruce), asks the following questions relative to the disposition of school funds now in court:

Is the \$95,392, paid into court in 1922, to abide by the decision of the court, and if so, was the case heard for consideration, and when will it be heard. He wants to know the questions that have been put to the court, and the amount of money that was paid into court in 1923 to separate and public schools of the province. If those amounts were not all paid he asks how they will be affected by the case in the courts, and further, if the amounts have been received from anyone against further withholding payment of money due to separate schools. He asks finally if the government intends to bring down legislation on the subject.

THE WEATHER

FORECASTS.
Fresh northerly winds; mostly fair and much colder tonight and on Saturday.

The weather has been comparatively mild in Ontario and cold in all other parts of the Dominion.

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

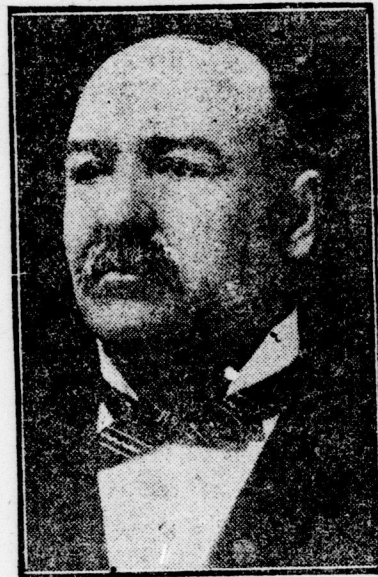
Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	52	36	Fair
Calgary	52	16	Cloudy
Winnipeg	50	10	Fair
Port Arthur	26	10	Clear
Sault Ste. Marie	20	4	Clear
Cochran	13	4	Cloudy
Toronto	24	12	Fair
Kingston	20	12	Snow
Ottawa	20	6	Fair
Montreal	16	8	Clear
Quebec	18	4	Cloudy
St. John	18	2	Fair
Halifax	26	2	Cloudy

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 34; lowest, 16.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 30; lowest, 18.

Barometric Readings.
Thursday—8 p.m.—29.10.
Today—8 a.m.—29.18.



CAPTAIN J. F. BERNIER.
Canadian explorer, is now in England, preparing for a voyage to the Arctic during which he will confirm the dominion's claim to several northern islands.

MINISTER VISITS CONDEMNED MEN

Rev. G. Quintin Warner Has a Talk With Sidney Murrell and "Slim" Williams.

Rev. G. Quintin Warner, rector of Cronyn Memorial Church is acting as spiritual advisor to Sidney Murrell and "Slim" Williams who are to be hanged on April 19 for the murder of Russell Campbell at Melbourne in April, 1921.

Mr. Warner visited the jail yesterday afternoon and spent some little time with the prisoners who are both listed on the jail files as Anglicans. Murrell it is said, attended the Cronyn Memorial Sunday School as a little boy, but was not a regular attendant.

Clarence Topping professes the Baptist faith. He has not asked for any minister to visit him, but it is understood that Rev. Dr. Bowley Green may be asked to visit the condemned young man whose home is in Strathroy.

FARMER LEAVES ESTATE TO AGED PEOPLE'S HOME

Robert Sherry, London Township farmer, who died on Jan. 20 last, left his entire estate of \$4,622.77, after the deduction of funeral expenses, to the Aged People's Home of this city.

The will, which was filed for probate by the Canada Trust Company, was dated June 21, 1912.

Mr. Sherry's ten-acre farm, valued at \$2,800, was situated on the first concession of London Township, and part of lot 20.

BISHOP DOWLING IMPROVES.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Hamilton, Feb. 15.—The condition of Bishop Dowling continues to improve.

See New Candidates' List In the Advertiser Today

Revised Standing of Contestants in Big Race Is Published.

OPPORTUNITY CALLS

Extra Offer of 300,000 Votes

Good Only To February 25.

A stitch in time saves nine.

The ancient saying is particularly appropriate just now for those working in the Advertiser contest.

The reason is the 300,000 extra vote offer. This offer closes Feb. 25. It means that for every two subscriptions brought in before that date 300,000 additional votes will be given. It also means that every \$100 in subscriptions will be worth three times as much in votes before Feb. 25 than it will at the end of the contest.

That's why extra energy and hard work are worth so much more to candidates right now.

There are eleven automobiles to be given away, representing \$20,000 in cash. Four cars will be awarded in each of two separate districts. Then there is the \$500 special prize for the person who guesses the nearest correct number of votes the winning candidate obtains at the close of the contest.

To add zest to the big campaign another prize of \$200 will be awarded the candidate who sends in the most subscriptions before Feb. 25. By "subscriptions" is meant back subscriptions, renewal subscriptions and

PROGRESSIVE PARTY MAY BOLT BEFORE SESSION ENDS

Indications Point to Early Fusion With Provincial Liberal Party.

ISSUES DISCUSSED

Doherty's Followers Expected To Soon Tire of Efforts To Press Official Protest.

Special to The Advertiser. By a Staff Reporter.

Toronto, Feb. 15.—Will the supporters of the late government, whether they be U. F. O., or Progressive, eventually bolt to the historic Liberal party.

Recent movements behind the screen at Queen's Park would lead the casual observer to assume that such a development is to be expected before the close of the year, if not before the termination of the present session.

As a matter of fact, it will be of general interest to know that members of the United Farmer party and the Liberal party gathered yesterday in unofficial caucus and discussed leading issues of the day.

Neither of the party leaders were present, naturally, but the more fact that the Liberal and Farmer members are exchanging views in one another's committee rooms leaves no doubt in the minds of even the casual observer that the day is not far distant when the representatives of the two groups in the house will amalgamate in their efforts in reality, if not in name.

While the Progressives have issued their direct ultimatum to the Ferguson administration that they will protest at each and every opportunity throughout this and subsequent sessions, the feeling is general, in view of the fact that the government will only overrule them, that the supporters of the late government will eventually tire of this procedure.

That the inevitable will then follow, as a matter of course, is the view of the majority of the rural members of the old-line parties, chiefly the Liberal ranks.

While yesterday's interchange of views was informal, it will lead to more substantial action, it is felt.

GIVES BIRD LECTURE IN SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

E. H. Lewis, chief federal migratory bird officer, will give a lecture on "Birds," at the Central Collegiate auditorium, 8 o'clock this evening.

The address will be illustrated with motion pictures. A musical program has been arranged by the literary society of the Technical High School under whose auspices the lecture is to be given.



MISS MARY GRANT, clerk of London Township, who was honored by the Elgin County Municipal Association Thursday with a life membership. Miss Grant is one of the outstanding personalities in Ontario Municipal circles, and takes a native interest in all municipal matters, whether city, county or township.

KIWANIANS ARE URGED TO GIVE AID

Dr. Grant Makes Stirring Appeal on Behalf of Secondary Schools.

TOUR IS ARRANGED

The same stirring appeal for great secondary school accommodation which so moved the Rotary Club last week, met with a similar response from the Kiwanis Club as Dr. A. J. Grant, chairman of the collegiate committee of the board of education, delivered it today.

Dr. Grant announced that an inspection tour was being arranged for various local organizations interested in the schools, and the Kiwanians were asked to send representatives.

"We are living in a mighty strenuous age of competition," Dr. Grant said, "and we ought to bend our backs to groom our young people so that they will have some chance in competing with the youth of other cities."

Today Dr. Grant talked chiefly of the financial aspect of building the schools.

"If we had to face the great outlay for building these schools, it would be a different matter, but it means only three-quarters of a mill on the tax rate, about 75c each per annum. And the longer we wait the greater will be the need. Meanwhile we are paying over the nose for secondary accommodation."

Dr. Grant protested vigorously the advisability of submitting a money bill.

"It wouldn't be a square deal to the workmen who may not be a property-owner, but who have had enough to bring property into the world. And we should have to compete with the indifferent vote and that of the man who has perhaps raised his own family, and set a cold face toward giving anybody else's family a chance. The only means I see of securing what we absolutely need in school accommodation is by stirring public sentiment on the conditions which exist now."

Julien Eltinge, well-known female impersonator, was a guest at the meeting and sang as well as giving a brief speech. Solos were given by Mr. and Mrs. Chalcraft, who were guests.

Kiwanian Joe Isaacs was the booster.

Newsy Bits From Today's Classified Ads.

White Leghorn Pullets for sale.

Modern House, 9 rooms, to let.

Four good salesmen for London and Middlesex wanted.

Office Man wanted.

Evaporator, buckets and spouts for sale.

Farm, 100 acres for sale, in tobacco and bean belt.

Ex-Ald. W. A. Wilson, Prominent Businessman, Dies Suddenly Today

Returns From Short Walk and Passes Away Before Medical Aid Arrives.

VETERAN COUNCILLOR

Worked For Many Years in the Interests of London on Council.

William Arthur Wilson, ex-alderman, businessman and well-known Londoner, died at his home, 234 Hyman street, shortly after 8 o'clock this morning.

Mr. Wilson, although he had been suffering from a severe cold, was in comparatively good health until this morning. When he arose from bed, he went out for a short walk. He returned to his home at 8 o'clock and laid down upon a couch. He was seized with a heart attack, which held him almost instantly. Mr. Wilson passed quietly away before medical help could be summoned.

Always an outstanding figure in civic affairs, Mr. Wilson first served on the city council in 1911. He was elected to the council again in 1914 and 1915. Commencing in 1918, he served for four successive years, and in 1923 he was elected again. He held the position of chairman of No. 2 committee in 1920.

He was often urged to enter the mayoralty contest, and several days ago he told City Clerk Baker it was his intention of running for this office in the 1924 elections.

Prominent Conservative.

Mr. Wilson was a prominent member of the Conservative party, and had the distinction of nominating Sir Adam Beck at the last Conservative convention previous to the provincial elections. He contested ward two as an aldermanic candidate at the last civic elections and was defeated. This, however, did not deter him from promising to come back again, while he was firmly pledged to the party.

Please See Page 6, Column 3.

HUMANE SOCIETY WILL PRESS CRUELTY CHARGE

Cecil Ecker, of Kent County, Appears Before Magistrate Arnold at Chatham.

Cecil Ecker, a farmer residing near Ridgetown, faced Magistrate Arnold in Chatham police court this morning on a charge of cruelty to animals, as a result of investigations Thursday by Humane Inspector George Tustin and Dr. Blackall, V.S. of this city.

"The case was adjourned a week," stated Inspector Tustin. "We went to the Ecker farm with provincial constables, and found that one horse was in such bad shape it had to be shot, while the rest of the live stock were in a starving condition. We will appear against the man next week to give evidence."

TRUSTEES TO INSPECT OTHER COLLEGIATES

Committee of Five To Visit Western Ontario Cities Next Week.

Collegiates in nearby cities are to be inspected by a committee of five representing the board of education, next week, when Chairman Bryden N. Campbell, Trustees Dr. A. J. Grant, Roy Cairncross, Architect L. E. Carothers and Principal E. A. Miller will visit several of the surrounding collegiate centers with a view to embodying their good points in the two new colleges for London, which the board will ask the city council to build.

Walkerville, Windsor, Galt, Kitchener and other schools will be inspected, a report being made at the next committee meeting. The date of the inspection has not yet been set, but it is expected it will be next week.

C.N.R. FREIGHT TRAIN JUMPS TRACK NEAR OAKVILLE

Canadian Press Despatch.
Hamilton, Feb. 15.—A combination of thirteen and twenty-three C. N. R. freight cars proved unlucky this morning about a mile north of Oakville. The first thirteen were lucky and stayed on the track, but the last 23 jumped off, one turning turtle. The line was blocked for hours, and the first train to reach here this morning from Toronto came via Stratford.

RETAILERS ASK HIGHER TAX COVER TRANSIENTS

Deputation of Merchants Submit Request For Amendment to Act.

BUSINESS AFFECTED

Claim Is Made Peddlers and Hawkers Gaining Unfair Advantage.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, Feb. 15.—Urging the introduction of a private bill which would, if passed by the house, bring about drastic changes as far as the retail trade is concerned, a deputation waited on Hon. Lincoln Goldie and Hon. George Henry at the Parliament Buildings this morning.

The deputation was composed of retail merchants from all over the province. The deputation was introduced by President W. McCully of Stratford, while Mayor Waters of Ottawa, a member of the association, acted as spokesman.

The deputation urged the introduction of a bill which was presented in draft form which would amend the Hawkers and Peddlers and Traders Act. It was pointed out by Mayor Waters that at the present time hawkers and door-to-door peddlers have a tremendous advantage over the legitimate retail trader owing to the fact that the latter was subjected to all forms of taxation, while the transient trader paid taxes to no one.

The bill would provide that the carrying of samples from door to door and taking orders for other than retail merchants or wholesalers would be an offence unless license fees, set out by the bill, were paid the municipal treasurer. The bill would eliminate the selling of wares from a car on a siding; trading by boat or other vehicle.

A scale of license fees set out in the bill are as follows:

Cities over 100,000 population, \$200 to \$400 for motor cars, \$150 to \$300 for wagons, and \$75 to \$150 for push-carts and pack sacks. For cities less than 100,000 population and for towns and villages a graduating scale is established.

Hon. George Henry informed the deputation that the bill would have to be introduced as a private measure, but he was sure that it would receive every consideration. The measure will come before the municipal bills committee, when the retail merchants will speak to their proposal.

WIFE OF ST. CATHARINES PASTOR EXPIRES TODAY

Canadian Press Despatch.
St. Catharines, Feb. 15.—Alice, wife of Rev. G. K. B. Adams, pastor of St. Paul Street Methodist Church, died this morning after four days' illness from pneumonia. Just a few hours after her brother, Joseph Stultifitz, had passed away at Barrie. Her only son, Reginald, was killed at Passchendaele in 1917. Her husband and one daughter, Mrs. (Dr.) Elmore of Beamsville, survive, as well as one sister, Mrs. D. E. Starr of Toronto, and two brothers, Fred of Lindsay and Albert of Trenton, Ont. She came to St. Catharines with her husband from Paris two years ago.



EX-ALD. W. A. WILSON, prominent London business man and veteran city council member, who passed away early this morning.

NORTH AND SOUTH ROADS BLOCKED

Londoners Leave For Lucan With Shovels, But Forced To Return.

Roads in Middlesex County are completely blocked with snow, county authorities stated today.

Highways running north and south are almost impossible for automobiles it was said. A few brave motorists started out for Lucan today, equipped with snow shovels, but gave up the attempt after digging their way along the Proof Line road. Springbank drive is still open to automobile traffic, trucks from the Byron Sanatorium having no difficulty in negotiating a passage.

Old Dobbin has come back into his own as a link between city and country. He can plough along through three feet of snow without any great difficulty and doesn't need to be dug out of snow drifts. On some roads around the city, however, fence tops into the fields, and back to the roads again.

MORE FACTS NEXT WEEK AS TO THE HOME BANK

U. A. Buchner, Inspector of the Bank, Back From Toronto.

U. A. Buchner, Home Bank inspector, who returned from Toronto yesterday, where he was in conference with those in charge of winding up the defunct institution's affairs, said he would have something to announce regarding the meeting shortly.

"Just now we are not allowed to give anything for publication," Mr. Buchner said. "Another meeting will be held next week and probably something definite regarding the decision of the government in connection with the Home Bank situation will be available."

MARBLER FOR BOYS JACKS FOR GIRLS

Are the National Games of Canadian Boys and Girls in Springtime.

Who Will Be Champions of London? Who Will Be Champions of Canada?

Contests For Boys and Girls in London Under the Auspices of The Advertiser, and in Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg and Edmonton.

TURN TO THE ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENT ON 5 OF THIS EDITION