

THE WEATHER:
WEST WINDS, FAIR AND COLD.
SATURDAY—MILDER.

London Evening Advertiser

FOUR-PAGE ROTOGRAVURE
SECTION AND EIGHT COLORED COMICS
EVERY SATURDAY.

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LONDON, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1925. —EIGHTEEN PAGES.

THREE CENTS.

RAILWAY WILL DEFEY FARE ORDER

London Joins Protest Against Proposed Gasoline Tax

CONDUCTORS WILL ASK FOR FIVE-CENTS' FARE AND TAKE PENALTIES

Company Will Operate Cars at Five-Cents' Fare Until the Police Prevent It—Cars Will Go To Barns If There Is Interference.

WILL NOT ATTEMPT SERVICE AT LOWER FARE

Will Spring Surprise by Claiming That Franchise Has Expired—Would Be Thirty-Day Delay in City's Taking Over Streets.

The Advertiser is informed from authoritative sources that a series of highly-important developments are pending in connection with the order issued by the city council to the London Street Railway Company to revert from five cents to old low scale of 7 and 9 tickets for a quarter on March 8.

The present determination of the company is to continue service at five cents indefinitely, regardless of the order.

The company will then await developments under the clause governing direct action on fares in the franchise bylaw. This clause states:

"Any conductor or other employee of the company who shall request or demand from any passenger more than the fare prescribed by this bylaw (seven and nine tickets for a quarter, shall, on conviction thereof in police court, pay a fine of not less than five dollars for each offense."

No One Blamed In Girl's Death

Canadian Press Despatch.

Montreal, Feb. 26.—Accidental death was the verdict returned by Coroner McMahon in the case of Berthe Belanger, aged 21, who was fatally burned when sparks resulting from the taking of a flash-light picture caught in her "snowball" costume prior to a Mardi Gras masquerade party on Tuesday night.

PASS RATE RULING PLEASING TO SASK.

First Victory For Prairie Provinces Vital One, Dunning States.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Regina, Sask., Feb. 27.—The decision of the supreme court of Canada in the Crow's Nest rates appeal is very satisfactory to Saskatchewan, so far as it goes, according to Premier Dunning, who was interviewed last night.

"But the question of discrimination between points which were on the C. P. R. in 1897 and others established since that time, produces a difficult situation which can only be met satisfactorily by action by the parliament of Canada," the premier said.

"The Saskatchewan government regards the victory of the prairie provinces on the first question as the most important, as it provides an advantageous position from which to fight the next place of the battle," the premier added.

February

Something really ought to be done about February.

It is the month when that old standby, "I never feel the cold," is worked to the limit. It should be a month of many murders.

It is the son of January and the father of March. It doesn't live as long as the other eleven. Who could under that handicap?

February is maybe month. Maybe it will get warmer, maybe the days will get longer, maybe the coal man will forget his bill, maybe my galoshes will last—maybe.

It has its benefits. It is alleged to have frozen the flu germs. A man can buy alcohol for the radiator of his car without suspicion.

But nobody has found a real alibi for it. It lasts through the ages like the tumor of self-satisfaction.

Welcome, February—on August.

—A. W. J. B.



ABBY ROCKEFELLER, reputed to be the richest girl in America, whose engagement has just been announced to David M. Milton, a young lawyer. Miss Rockefeller is the daughter of John D. Rockefeller, Jun.

FLOOD DANGERS IN KENT PAST

Waters in Dover and Raleigh Townships Slowly Receding.

Special to The Advertiser.

Chatham, Feb. 27.—With the jam of river ice now extending from Lake St. Clair through the Maple city and steadily growing east of here, the danger point of the Thames valley flood is past. This is the firm opinion of Captain H. E. Crow, veteran navigator and student of the river Thames in all its moods. It took less than an hour for the ice jam to pile up in the river within the city limits, following which the flood waters receded two inches.

The river is blocked with ice for a distance of more than 20 miles.

Early this morning the fears of Chatham citizens were aroused when the water backed up into the basements of downtown business houses.

Most of the merchants warned of the danger of flooded basements removed their stock to places high and dry.

Reports from the inundated sections of Dover, Tilbury East and Raleigh townships this morning were to the effect that no rise of the water level had been observed. An encouraging report from Prairie siding was to the effect that the water had receded eight inches at that point.

Interest was today focussed on Dover West, which is now almost completely inundated. The rural telephone is the only means of communication, but messages received by this medium were to the effect that no hardships were being experienced and that live stock was safe. Boats which were used by farmers yesterday to move from place to place were no use today. Sufficient ice has formed on the flood water to prevent navigation, but it is not strong enough for a farmer to walk upon.

INVASION OF WAHABI IS DOUBTED IN LONDON

Report Says 10,000 Cross the Borders of Transjordan.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Feb. 27.—The reported invasion of Transjordan by 10,000 Wahabi tribesmen still lacks confirmation, and thus far there has been a tendency to regard it as at least exaggerated. For instance, it is thought improbable that Sultan Ismail would be able to assemble 10,000 warriors, and likely not more than half that number.

Transjordan is within the limits of the British mandate for Palestine and British airmen, with bombing planes, are stationed there. It is recalled that the British last August drove out a force of Wahabi invaders who reached Amman.

It is suggested that if a new invasion has occurred, the British may take a hand in behalf of their protégé, the Emir Abdullah, who is a son of former King Hussein of the Hedjaz, and a brother of King Faisal of Iraq, and the Emir Ali, the present nominal ruler of the Hedjaz.

THIRSTY ONES SMACK LIPS AS NEW BEER WAR LOOMS

Canadian Press Despatch.

Montreal, Feb. 27.—Much interest was aroused locally today by rumors that another "beer war" was imminent and the thirsty smacked their lips in anticipation of a cheaper ale in the near future. Inquiries at National Breweries headquarters elicited neither substantiation nor denial and a similar result was obtained at the office of the Frontenac Breweries.

GAS TAX TOO HIGH AS START

Ontario Motorists Rally To Protest Latest Plan of the Provincial Government.

MEETINGS CALLED

Believe Money Should Be Spent On Highway Maintenance Only.

Premier Ferguson's proposed three-cent tax on gasoline is a fiery cross blazing throughout Ontario.

Motor clubs everywhere are gathering to protest, while manufacturers and commercial travelers, their legal aids and their business interests are sounding the call to "stand by" for any eventuality.

The Ontario Motor League, representing over forty individual clubs, is arranging a mass meeting in Toronto, and the same thing is being done in every city in Ontario. In London tomorrow there will be an open meeting in the Tecumseh house at 2:30 p.m. in the rooms of the motor club, for which special invitations have been sent to the three county members in Toronto, J. W. Freeborn, G. A. Elliott and J. G. Lethbridge.

One Cent Enough.

Edward Bernard, secretary of the London Motor club, says that motorists in general, who are not studying the equity of the gasoline tax so long as the revenue is expended entirely on highway maintenance, are opposed to a three-cent tax and will make a determined stand in favor of a one-cent tax as a starter. The one-cent tax would produce a million dollars in revenue and he believes this would be quite a decent beginning.

While the city council has passed a resolution in favor of an immediate investigation into the price of gasoline in London, no action has been taken since Mr. Ferguson mentioned his three-cent scheme.

Alderman Douglass, though an ardent motorist, says he has not studied the matter sufficiently to be able to speak with any authority about it, but he is inclined to the belief that three cents is high. Nevertheless he favors a gasoline tax, so long as the proceeds go toward the upkeep of provincial highways.

May Take Action.

Even municipalities in their might have risen against this imposition.

The Queen City is expected to take action as a corporation on the ground that this is an indirect tax which comes exclusively within the province of the dominion government.

Motorists in London say they have good reason to think that this is only the beginning of a general move on the part of Ontario cities, and that the legions of owners of cars will appear as if by magic on the horizon within the next few days.

HIGHER PRICES FOR MEAT VISIONED IN ENGLAND

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Feb. 27.—The over-production of cattle has come to an end, the world's demand for beef has overtaken the supply, and therefore prices should be higher this year than in 1924, according to the annual review of the frozen meat trade published by the Weddel Company and recognized in Great Britain as an authoritative reference work.

BANK DIRECTOR DIES.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Feb. 26.—Sir Everard A. Hambro, director of the Bank of England, died today. He was a knight commander of the Victorian order and was born in 1842.



GEORGE E. REAMAN, educational director for Toronto Y. M. C. A., who has been appointed superintendent of a large reclamation home for underprivileged boys which is being established at Rossmore by the Ontario government.



WILL SKATE IN BIG CLUB CARNIVAL.

Above is Mrs. Charles Ivey, who will give an exhibition of figure skating with J. G. Bonnier at the big carnival of the London skating club at the arena on Friday, March 29. In addition to beautiful skating exhibitions by various members of the club, the program will include speed and stunt demonstrations, club waltzing, a children's court and several comedy events.

Facing February's Storm, Little Band of Veterans Honor Comrades' Victory

Ancient Oak Falls In Gale

Associated Press Despatch.

Paris, Feb. 27.—"Charlemagne's oak," five centuries old, and one of the largest and most ancient trees in the forest of Fontainebleau, fell a victim to yesterday's violent storm. The gale continued today and, according to the weatherman, the end is not in sight.

Members of R. C. R. March to South African Memorial in Victoria Park.

WREATH IS PLACED

Twenty-Five Years Ago "Bobs" Told of Cronje's Surrender.

Buffered by the blasts of a February gale a little band of soldiers stood at attention for a moment this morning to pay still another tribute to comrades who had passed away through gallant deeds for the empire.

Today marks the 25th anniversary of the battle of Paardeburg, when the members of the Royal Canadian regiment fought with the imperials on the veldt in South Africa; when Cronje, indomitable leader of the Boers, suffered his crushing defeat.

At 10 o'clock this morning a corps of C company of the Royal Canadian regiment, left Wolseley barracks in charge of Capt. W. S. Fenton, with an escort of colors.

Taking their way along Piccadilly street the soldiers marched to Waterloo, thence south to Central to the South African memorial in Victoria park. The bitterly cold weather proved a contrast to the veterans of the African campaign, and recalled the grim days of the war against heat and drought, and men so long ago.

Simple Ceremony.

The ceremony at the monument was of the simplest nature. The troop came to attention before the figure of the soldier, emblematic of those who had done their bit and rested where they fell.

Capt. V. Hodson of the Royal Canadian regiment, tenderly laid a wreath upon the monument. It took but a moment to express the deep feeling upon the part of brothers in arms who had been through two wars together, to express the undying sentiment and gratitude of the Canadian people who have said they shall not be forgotten.

It was intended to have the band present for the occasion, but the low temperature made the playing of appropriate music out of the question. The buglers were present, but were not heard.

Please See Page 3, Column 1.

KING MUST STAY IN BED FOR SOME DAYS YET

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Feb. 26.—King George, who is convalescing from a severe attack of bronchitis, had another good day, after a restless night. It will be some days, however, before he is able to leave his bed to arrange details of the course which has been ordered by his physicians.

LONDON BILL APPEALS FOR SMALLER COUNCIL

Believed the Government Will Sanction Plan To Reduce Size of Council.

ASKS LINE OF CREDIT

Call For Plan To Advance \$50,000 To Port Stanley Railway.

Changes in municipal government, endorsed by the city electorate in December, will come before the provincial legislature next week in the city of London bill and from present indications will be ratified without trouble. Ald. Edwin Smith, sponsor of the move for administrative reform, declared this afternoon that the government was bound to pass on the bill after the people had voted in its favor.

Some opposition to the reduction of aldermen and a city-wide vote is expressed by labor aldermen and other members of the council, but the efforts to put the bill before the legislature have not been accompanied by much discussion on the council floor.

However, it is not likely that the city will neglect a delegation to Toronto to press for indorsement of the bill. T. G. Meredith, city solicitor, will be accompanied by the mayor and one or two aldermen. If such a delegation can be arranged, Ald. Smith commented today, "But the council would not let this matter slip when it is the wish of the people. There is nothing to do but go on with the recommendations and present them to the government."

Bill Is Short.

The city of London bill, 1925, is one of the shortest in many years. It petitions for the changing of the inaugural meeting of council to the third Monday in December for the election of the council by a city-wide vote, for the reduction of the number of aldermen from 12 to 8, and for a two-year term for aldermen.

It also makes a request for power to back a line of credit up to \$50,000 for the London and Port Stanley railway.

It is likely that at Monday night's meeting of the city council an additional bill will be introduced.

Please See Page 4, Column 3.

FIVE WINDSOR FIRMS LOSE \$100,000 IN FIRE

Heintzman & Co. and John A. Nash, Jeweler, Are Main Losers.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Windsor, Feb. 27.—Damage estimated at \$100,000 was caused to the Heintzman building, one of Windsor's main business blocks, by a fire which broke out at 3 a.m. today and attacked the premises of five firms which had quarters in the structure.

Every piece of apparatus in the city was called into play, and 35 firemen worked for hours to quell the flames. With the temperature near zero, several of the fire fighters suffered from frost-bitten hands and faces.

The firms suffering damage were Heintzman & Co., owners of the block, which occupied the main part of the building with a piano store; John A. Nash, jeweler; Dr. G. E. Shaw, the chiropractor; Tucker & Jones, real estate; and the Border Cities Advertising Company.

Heintzman & Co. were the main losers, suffering a loss estimated at between \$50,000 and \$75,000. The Nash store damage is set at about \$25,000. Both these stores suffered mainly from water, as they are on the ground floor and the blaze was confined mainly to the two upper stories.

It is believed to have started in one of the toilet rooms on the second floor, which is rented by Dr. Shaw and is used for the storage of two firms. This floor was practically gutted, and considerable damage was done to the third story, which was vacant, having been let to the other utilities commission offices and the board of health.

The fire was extinguished by the city fire department.

Bellevue Gardens are bought by syndicate.

Associated Press Despatch.

London, Feb. 27.—The famous Bellevue gardens at Manchester, of which a great many people in Canada will have fond recollections, are being turned over to a London syndicate. For fifty years these "gardens" have drawn millions of north country folk with their varied entertainment: a menagerie, dancing, cycle track, etc., to say nothing of the occasional monster political demonstration and the perpetual shilling tea, which it is believed was unequalled throughout the world. The gardens throughout their career have been in the sole control of the Jenkinson family.

Nickle or Bayly Not Consulted

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, Feb. 27.—Neither Attorney-General Nickle or Deputy Attorney-General Bayly were consulted by Crown Prosecutor W. C. Mikel, who, at the Welland assizes allowed Frank Bamed to plead guilty to a charge of manslaughter, for which he received a sentence of six months by Mr. Justice Logie.

Neither Mr. Nickle or Mr. Bayly would comment on the case today.

WATSON ADMITS RECEIVING GOODS

Remanded by Judge Judd Until Wednesday—Two Others Will Appear.

James Watson of London pleaded guilty to three charges of receiving stolen goods, knowing them to be stolen, in the county criminal court this morning. He was remanded by Judge Judd until Wednesday, March 4, at 10:30. This remand was granted at the request of J. M. Donahue, counsel for Watson, as there are still charges of theft to be preferred against other parties arising out of this case against Watson.

On arraignment Watson had tendered a plea of not guilty before Judge Macbeth to charges of theft and altered his plea this morning. He elected trial by a judge without jury on all counts.

Mrs. Jane McCulley and Daphne Swenney applied for a writ of habeas corpus against Watson on Wednesday morning. Judge Judd said today that he would suspend sentence until the conclusion of these two cases.

Goods stolen from the store of W. C. Barrons at Belmont on November 19 valued at \$600, including boots, shirts, tea, sugar and 500 pounds of butter from the creamery at Kerr's wood on September 16 valued at \$200 were mentioned as the reason of the action. Some of the goods were found in the possession of Watson, but counsel stated that the evidence did not suggest more than the receiving of stolen goods. There was, he declared, no evidence of theft. Crown Attorney Judd was willing to accept this—and the charges of theft was changed to one of receiving stolen goods.

\$250,000 AUSTRIAN FIRE.

Vienna, Feb. 27.—The government railroad repair and paint shop and other buildings at St. Poelten, were destroyed by fire last night, together with twelve newly finished pullman cars, a saloon car built for the president of Austria, and 23 coaches. The loss is estimated at \$250,000.

The Weather

FORECASTS.

Today—Decreasing western winds; fair and cold. Saturday—Fair and becoming somewhat milder. The depression mentioned yesterday is now centered north of the Gulf of St. Lawrence with increased intensity, while the western area of high pressure has moved southeastward. High winds with snow or rain have prevailed from Ontario to the maritime provinces. The weather has been decidedly cold in Manitoba and more moderate farther west.

Temperatures.

The highest and lowest temperatures previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations. High Low Weather
Victoria 45 42 Fair
Calgary 24 12 Cloudy
Winnipeg 24 4 Fair
Port Arthur 6-20 Clear
S. S. Marie 0-4 Fair
Toronto 26 6 Clear
Kingston 24 4 Fair
Ottawa 28 6 Snow
Montreal 36 22 Snow
St. John 42 14 Cloudy
Halifax 42 22 Cloudy

(—) Below zero.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 35; lowest, 2.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 9; lowest, 2.

Sun rises at 6:55 a.m. and sets at 6:03 p.m.

Barometric Readings.

Thursday—8 p.m., 29.08.

Today—8 a.m., 29.25.