THE WEATHER:
TODAY—CLOUDY AND COLDER.
TOMORROW—COLDER; SNOW FLURRIES.

London Evening Advertiser

"ISN'T IT THE TRUTH?"
IS FILLED WITH REAL LAUGHTER
EVERY DAY.

62ND YEAR. NO. 24464 | LONDON, ONTARIO, MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1925. —EIGHTEEN PAGES. | THREE CENTS.

COUNCIL, SWORN IN, TACKLES RAILWAY TANGLE

Seek Stranger Who Flim-Flammed City Service Stations

RAILWAY FIRST CONCERN MOORE TELLS ALDERMEN

GEORGE POTTER,
221 Maitland street, who was the unanimous choice as president of St. George's society at the annual meeting Friday night.

1926 Council Holds Inaugural Session—Tackles L.S.R. Question This Afternoon.

CHAIRMEN CHOSEN

Edwin Smith Leads Finance Committee—W. J. Kilpatrick Board of Works Chairman.

Mayor John M. Moore and the 1926 city council lost no time at the inaugural meeting of the council at 11 o'clock this morning in arranging to grapple with the serious transportation problems that face the city.

A meeting was arranged for 4 o'clock this afternoon with every member of the council present. They will decide on a list of questions to submit to the London street railway as to service, fares, paving, franchise, etc., and will ask for a definite reply to all questions within a week. The street railway will be asked to submit a proposition to the city and so will the management of the Metropolitan Bus Company, on motion of Ald. Dixon Glass.

Ald. Edwin Smith was elected chairman of No. 1 committee, and Ald. W. J. McCormick, chairman of No. 2 committee.

In his inaugural address Mayor Moore declared that the street railway problem was the most important question facing the council, and required immediate attention. The mayor referred to the necessity for relief work for the unemployed, and the necessity of preparing a fitting program for the Centennial during August, 1926. He asked for the whole-hearted support and co-operation of the council during the coming year.

Retiring Mayor Speaks.

At one minute to eleven, Mayor George Wenige took his place for the last time in the imposing mayoralty chair he has occupied for three years.

"It is my privilege and pleasure to call the council together for the last time," said Mr. Wenige. "It is my privilege, because it is still one minute to eleven, and I hold office until that time. It is my pleasure, because I won't have the worry in connection with the trials and tribulations of civic affairs in 1926.

"It is a pleasure to introduce to you, Mr. Moore, to whom I will hand over the keys of office for 1926."

Mr. Moore then came forward and was presented with a large key by the 1925 mayor. Mr. Wenige stepped from the dais, and Mr. Moore garbed in morning dress, took his place as London's chief magistrate for the ensuing year. His first official act was to call on Dean L. Norman Tucker of St. Paul's to lead the council in prayer.

Mayor's Address.

City Clerk Samuel Baker then certified that all councillors present had been elected to office and had duly qualified, after which the mayor read his inaugural address as follows:

Gentlemen,—I congratulate you upon your election to the council of 1926, actuated as I believe you are by the duty as good citizens to serve the community when called on to do so. I feel confident that we can depend upon each other's co-operation in seeking the best interests of the city as a whole. We are proud of our city. Good government is our aim, and our personal prejudices will, I trust, be forgotten as we consider and decide the questions which come before us to be dealt with.

The council of 1926 is different from any of its predecessors, in that its membership is reduced to eight, all being elected by the city at large and one-half for a two-year term.

The reasons for these changes were: 1. To give continuity to the delibera-

Continued on Page 12, Column 7.

FERGUSON HEARS WESTERN'S PLEA

Premier Considers Deputation's Request For $250,000—Would Make No Comment.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—Col. W. J. Brown, chairman of the board of governors of the Western university, London, interviewed Premier Ferguson this morning respecting aid for that institution. Col. Brown urged that the full assistance rendered in past years be continued until such time as the university had succeeded in working out a method of finance capable of meeting all its needs.

The request was made in view of the decision of the government at the last session that governmental aid to the universities would be curtailed. Premier Ferguson promised to consider the matter, but discussing the question after the interview would make no comment.

Lieut.-Col. Walter J. Brown, executive secretary for the university of Western Ontario, was accompanied by James Granger and Arthur White, members of the board of governors of the same university, on the trip to Toronto this morning.

A quarter million dollars was asked by the delegation as a grant for the year. Last year Western was granted $250,000, and the same amount the year before. It is the custom of the government to set the amount of the grant each year, and Mr. Ferguson is unfavorable to the idea of making the grants to the smaller universities by provincial statute.

It is expected that the delegation will return tonight.

SCHOMBERG BANKER BAILED UNTIL AFTER CHRISTMAS

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—Harry Coffey, manager of a branch bank at Schomberg, who has been in the Toronto jail under arrest on several charges of theft, was home over the week-end on bail which was provided Saturday at $50,000. He will be out until after Christmas, when the case will be heard in the county police court. Coffey had refused previous to Saturday to allow bail to be provided.

APPROVE PARLEY PLAN.

Associated Press Despatch.

Paris, Dec. 20.—The cabinet council has approved the signing of a protocol to serve as a basis for the discussion at the Franco-German commercial negotiations.

The Weather

WEATHER

Fresh to northwest winds, cloudy and becoming somewhat colder tonight and Tuesday with snow-flurries.

Stations.	High	Low	Weather
Victoria	46	42	Rain
Calgary	20	16	Cloudy
Winnipeg	16	8	Cloudy
Port Arthur	20	6	Cloudy
Toronto	38	34	Cloudy
Montreal	26	26	Cloudy
Quebec	22	22	Snow
Halifax	32	22	Cloudy

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 36; lowest, 26.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 35; lowest, 31.

Barometric Readings.

Sunday—8 p.m., 28.97.
Today—8 a.m., 29.05.

New Council Year Ushered In At London's City Hall

MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND OFFICIALS ATTEND INAUGURAL COUNCIL SESSION.

The inaugural session of London's new city council was held this morning, with Mayor John M. Moore presiding. There was an interested audience of citizens. The principals in the first scene of municipal activity for 1926 are shown above as they were photographed by an Advertiser staff photographer. In the group above are shown, reading from left to right, outside the city hall. Front row: Ald. Paul Doig, Dean L. Norman Tucker, rector of St. Paul's, Mayor John M. Moore, Ald. Dickson Glass, Sergeant-at-arms Jack McNamara. Back row: Ald. Edwin Smith, Ald. V. P. Cronyn, Ald. H. H. Bottrill, Ald. James McCormick, City Clerk Samuel Baker, Ald. W. J. Ashton and Ald. W. Kilpatrick.

Shortest Day of the Year Is Longest For Merchants

Scientists Right About Time, But They're Wrong If They Mean Store Clerks.

SHOPPING SPEEDS UP

Young and Old, Rich and Poor, Join in Assault Upon Stores of City.

Today is the shortest day in the year, according to the facts as taught by the scientists, but the merchants of London are unanimous in terming it the longest they have experienced since this time last year, the reason being that the tardy citizens who have deferred the purchase of Christmas presents until the last minute are today screwing up enough courage to tackle this arduous task.

Most of the downtown stores have been advising Londoners for the past month or so through advertising and signs, to shop more in the mornings, with the aim of avoiding congestion in the afternoons, but apparently more than half the ratepayers have refused to believe in signs until today.

The increase in morning shopping was quite appreciable today, according to several merchants, who said also that they expected this to be one of the biggest days of the Christmas season, pointing to the fact that persons who wish to send gifts to friends in distant cities would have to mail them today in order to insure their arrival before Christmas day.

Longest in Stores.

"It may be the shortest day in the year, but it is shaping up as the longest for us," one man declared. "We'll be busy until midnight anyway attending to customers, and it will likely take us an additional hour to straighten up the place for tomorrow's business."

Today saw every local shop filled with half-worried people doing their best to discover suitable gifts for those hard-to-please relatives and friends. Sale clerks, harrassed on all sides by impatient customers, managed, however, to preserve their equanimity and remember the all important matter of keeping cheerful.

Young and old, rich and poor, feeble and healthy, all combined to make up the mass of folk who besieged the counters of the stores, and who lent to the downtown streets a metropolitan aspect.

Substantial citizns, captains of industry and dignified professional men, were seen to lay aside their dignity for the time being and fraternize gleefully with little tads from grade four in marveling at the intricacies of toy railways, dancing monkeys and construction sets.

Tomorrow About Same.

Although today is the shortest day in the calendar year, tomorrow will be practically the same with possibly a second's difference. The sun rose this morning at 7:51, and will set this afternoon at 4:44. On the 23rd and 24th the sun will rise at 7:52, and for the next four days it will rise at 7:53. Then for the next nine days the time will be 7:54.

This may seem strange, as it is known that the days begin to get longer after Dec. 21, but according to Professor Kingston of Western University, only the mornings are shorter during this period, the sun setting later in the evening each day. About Jan. 2 or 3, however, the sun will begin to rise earlier in the morning. By that time the evenings will have lengthened by about nine minutes, although the mornings have shortened to the extent of some three minutes. After Jan. 3, however both the mornings and afternoons will begin to lengthen.

Frost Bites May End Chinese War

By J. RUSSELL KENNEDY.
Special Cable to The Advertiser and the Chicago Daily News. Copyright.

Tokio, Dec. 19.—Reports from Mukden indicate that the intense cold in that region may succeed where negotiations have failed to bring about a cessation of hostilities. News from China is scarce, but an unconfirmed report states that two rival brigade commanders have arranged an armistice on account of the troops suffering from frost bite.

Three thousand Chinese students in Tokio are planning a demonstration in protest against increase in the Japanese troops in Manchuria.

BELIEVE EIGHT SAILORS LOST WITH MISSING SHIP

Associated Press Despatch.

Miami, Fla., Dec. 20.—Hope for the safety of the schooner Bessie M. Dustin, with a crew of eight men, which sailed from Boston Nov. 20 for Miami, has been abandoned here by the Steadman Products Company, to whom the schooner's cargo, valued at $400,000, was consigned. No word from the vessel has been received since it cleared from Boston.

MAN FACES DEATH AMID ICE SAVES LIVES OF FIVE CHILREN

Refuses To Leave Sinking Floe Till Ten Other Persons and Team of Horses Are Safe—Sleigh Breaks Through Ice Into 51 Feet of Water.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Pembroke, Dec. 21.—Eleven persons, including five children, had a narrow escape from drowning Saturday afternoon, when the sleigh on which they were driving across the Ottawa river, crashed through the ice in mid-stream where the water was 51 feet deep. Through the heroic work of Len Murphy, of Pembroke, driver of the sleigh, all were rescued. After everybody was s[illegible] the solid ice he managed to [illegible] but lost the sleigh.

Without any warning the horses and sleigh, along with all its occupants, crashed through the ice into the icy water. Three men, Lorne Keown, of Sheenborough, Alexander La Pierre and Peter Leblanc, were able to clamber onto the solid ice and helped two women who were on the sleigh, to reach solid ice. Murphy, however, remained on the slowly settling ice and, although up to his neck in water, rescued each of the children, throwing them to Keown on the ice. Four of the children were daughters of Keown. After uncoupling the horses, Murphy had to swim to the solid ice. He later rescued his team.

DIOCESE RAISES FUND OF $235,000

Roman Catholic Parishes Contribute to Building of Seminary.

Roman Catholic parishes in the diocese of London presided over by Bishop M. F. Fallon, have just completed one of the most successful drives in their history, raising $235,000 as a supplementary contribution to the building fund of the new half million dollar St. Peter's seminary.

Some years ago Bishop Fallon toured his diocese in the initial effort to bring about the establishment of the new seminary. His lordship then raised a handsome sum which was invested in government securities when the war delayed building operations. The impending completion of the new building on Sunshine park, at the north end of Waterloo street, made necessary new subscriptions to carry the project through and the undertaking was committed by his lordship to the care of the diocesan vicar-general, Right Rev. Mons. O'Connor.

Mons. O'Connor raised the $235,000 without calling on those who had previously subscribed. In certain cases such as the cathedral in London there was a call for a comparatively small amount to round out the total of the original quota. The bishop in the first drive did not cover certain parishes in various parts of the diocese and these have all contributed handsomely now.

The success in raising so substantial an amount by purely voluntary subscription is regarded with satisfaction in Catholic circles, and the effect will be to place the new half-million-dollar seminary upon a sound footing from the day of its formal opening, which is to be attended with brilliant ceremony next autumn. As announced in the Advertiser some days ago, invitations are now being issued to the four American cardinals and more than 50 archbishops from all parts of Canada and the United States.

ROME DENIES REPORT OF PLAN FOR EMPIRE

Semi-Official Statement Says Story Is Absurd and Harmful.

Associated Press Despatch.

Rome, Dec. 21.—Semi-official denial was given today to the report published abroad that plans are on foot to proclaim Italy an empire on Jan. 1.

The Stefani Agency, official news disseminating organization, says: "We are authorized to declare that this absurd news is absolutely fantastic and has been spread with bad intentions."

DOUBLE FATALITY AT DELAWARE BEING PROBED

This afternoon an inquest into the deaths of Ruth Marie Collins, age two, and her brother Edwin, both of whom died as the result of a motor accident at Delaware last night, will be held in that village, having been ordered by Coroner Dr. J. G. Blce.

High Constable Wharton after assisting in impanelling the jury, left London shortly after noon to attend the inquest.

YOUNG STRIBLING TO WED; WILL NOT STOP FIGHTING

Macon, Ga., Dec. 21.—W. L. (Young) Stribbling, Georgia light-heavyweight, will wed Miss Clara Virginia Kinney, Macon society girl, but he will not quit the ring, he has announced.

"I shall continue fighting," Stribling said. "Until he is champion," his b-ride-to-be added.

The date for the wedding has not been announced. Stribling will continue his schooling, he said, saying he still planned to enter the university of Georgia.

TO EXAMINE MAN'S BRAIN TO FIND SECRET OF HANDS

Associated Press Despatch.

Salem, Mass., Dec. 21.—The brain of Professor Sylvester Morse, noted authority on zoology, who died here yesterday, was removed today and sent by express to the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, in Philadelphia. This action was taken in accordance with instructions left by Professor Morse, who desired that it be examined to determine the relation, if possible, between his brain and his hands which made him ambidextrous. Professor Morse was able to use either hand with equal skill.

BRANTFORD MANUFACTURER MUST PAY FOR STOCK DEAL

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—Judgment for $2,700 with costs has been awarded by Mr. Justice Logie in favor of Samuel W. Quance, farmer, of Hannon, Wentworth county, against C. E. Brown, manufacturer, of Brantford. In December, 1919, Quance agreed to purchase 20 shares of Monarch Tractors, Limited, the shares to be redeemable by the company in five years. He gave his note for $1,600, paying $400 in cash.

Quance became dissatisfied with his bargain, and in February, 1920, threatened Brown that he would sue him for misrepresentation. Brown then gave him a written guarantee that he would receive 7 per cent dividends on hs stock, and that at the end of five years the shares would be redeemed at $100 per share. The dividends were not paid, the shares were not redeemed, and the company is now bankrupt.

Complete Hotel Deal Next Week

Promoter Will Be Here To Sign Final Articles With Local Committee.

GUARANTEE READY

J. G. Trainer's Visit Expected to Inaugurate Actual Construction at Once.

James G. Trainer, vice-president of the Renlart Realty and Construction Company, New York, is coming to London between Christmas and New Year's prepared to sign the articles for the building of London's new million-dollar hotel on federal square.

In a letter to John S. Moore, London and Western Trusts Co., Mr. Trainer stated that he is coming to London with a guarantee from the operator as to the furnishing and operating of the hotel, and that he himself will be prepared to sign on behalf of his company for the building of the hotel.

"Ground may be broken in the spring," observed Mr. Moore today, "or the company may want to break ground even earlier than that. Mr. Trainer has asked to meet the local committee to complete the deal and I will arrange for that meeting."

"The proposition is going to be a complete success," wrote Mr. Trainer to Mr. Moore, "and we will come prepared to make a reasonable deposit in cash and a guarantee that the house will be completely equipped, free from liens, providing it is handled by our company."

The local committee to meet Mr. Trainer includes J. J. McHale, chairman; John S. Moore, Mayor J. M. Moore, Gordon Ingram, R. H. Dowler, R. G. Ivey and A. T. Little.

THREE CHILDREN DIE IN HOUSE FIRE

Ottawa Family Suffers as Flames Sweep Home—Mother Unconscious.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—Three children were burned to death, the mother was slightly burned and is still unconscious from shock and a 5-year-old boy walked out of the burning house uninjured, as the result of a fire which broke out at No. 9 Merton street here this morning.

Those who lost their lives were: Florence St. Germain, aged 4 years; Norman, aged 3; Mark, aged 5 months.

Mrs. St. Germain is suffering from burns around the head.

Leo, aged 5 years, escaped through the back of the house after trying to pull the other children to safety.

Emmanuel St. Germain, the father of the children, was at work when the fire broke out.

CAPTAIN OF LENAPE DIES.

Associated Press Despatch.

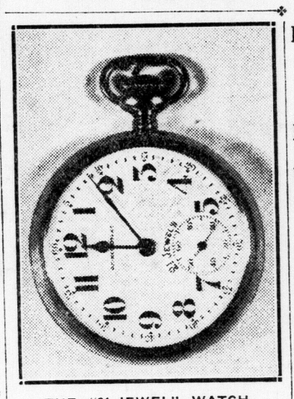
Lewes, Del., Dec. 20.—The last voyage of Arthur Chambers, veteran pilot, saved 367 persons. The man who on Oct. 18 last guided the burning steamship Lenape in a 30-mile dash died yesterday at the age of 76.

WINS 183 TO 1.

Associated Press Despatch.

Paris, Dec. 21.—Vaifleurie, a four-year-old colt, rewarded his few backers with the longest odds paid at a French track in the last thirty years yesterday at Vincennes, when, in a mixed snow and rainstorm he proved the best slush horse in a field of ten trotters, winning by a half length. The odds against Vaifleurie were 183 to 1.

SALESMEN DEFRAUDED BY BOGUS BOOTLEGGER



THE "21-JEWEL" WATCH.
Here is one of the four watches palmed off on service station employees in this city by a flim-flam man whom police are now seeking. It is conservatively estimated to be worh 85 cents.

Big Lincoln, Loaded With Rum, in Trouble, So Owner Borrows at Service Stations.

FOUR IN ONE NIGHT

Watches Left As Security Later Found To Be Made of Tin and Celluloid.

Mr. James Monsel, self-styled big bootlegger, rich Detroiter, and jeweler, is wanted by London police for fraud. He is the slickest and most dexterous player of a flim-flam game of any who ever operated in the city, as seven local gasoline service station men, "beaten" out of mor than $100, will testify.

Monsel, cleaned up big in London last week and leaves as a token of remembrance seven glistening, 21-jewel, gold watches behind—watches which on closer scrutiny are found to be made of tin and celluloid with a market price of 79 cents.

Four Imperial oil and three Supertest service stations were Monsel's marks. He visited each within the space of a few hours Wednesday evening, and departed from each with a $20 bill tucked in his pockets.

Big Car Stranded.

Each time he told the same story and with remarkable suavity established his own trustworthy reputation. At the Imperial Oil station of 54 King street he related to Webb Levitt how he was stranded a few miles out of London with a Lincoln car, loaded with cases of liquor. The machine was broken down, he said, and was parked in a farmer's garage for repairs. He had come to London to spend the night with a big roll of bills. He became engaged in a poker game and was cleaned of every cent he had. He wanted only a small loan so that he could get back to his car.

"Here," he said, "you can keep my gold watch as surety until I return. It's a valuable thing, one which I would not lose for any money."

He then detached the shining piece of jewelry from a watch chain and handed it over for inspection.

Stamped "21 Jewels."

It was an elaborate bit of mechanism which ticked gaily. Its quality of 21 jewels was glaringly stamped across the face. Even its delicate machinery looked genuine.

Monsel obtained money from Imperial Oil stations at Quebec and Dundas streets, Richmond and Clarence streets, Corbett's station on Wellington street, and three city Supertest stations.

It was not until two days later that the service station men, becoming suspicious, compared notes. The watches were brought to a local jeweler, who declared them to be "just pieces of junk, worth about 50 cents." The golden backs were found to be gilded tin and the main works were composed of a celluloid material.

Sergeant of Detectives Harry Down was told the story and he has charge of the case.

Monsel's flim-flam, police say, is similar to the opal ring game played upon several Londoners successfully two years ago.

Monsel wore a blue overcoat, a light fedora hat and a polka dot scarf. He is described as good looking, dark, five feet eight inches in height, and a good talker.

NEW CHURCH FOR CITY'S SOUTHWEST

Rev. J. Versey May Take Pastorate of Second Disciples Congregation.

COURSE UNCERTAIN

Rev. James H. Versey, since the announcement of his resignation as pastor of the Church of Christ, Disciples, a short time ago, has been the recipient of most cordial expressions of confidence and appreciation of his great work at the Christian church during the past six years.

Though Mr. Versey preached his farewell sermons in the Christian church yesterday he has not yet definitely decided the course which he will follow in the immediate future. Mr. Versey intimated to The Advertiser, however, that a need is felt for a second Church of Christ in the city, to serve the south and west sections, and that he has been asked to take up this work.

During the time of his service as a minister of the gospel, in England, in Jamaica, in United States, and in Canada, Mr. Versey has made a specialty, so to speak, of financial work in the different congregations with which he has been connected. It has been his practice to assume the pastorate of churches where debts were heavy, and it has been his lot to first pay off those debts and then proceed to the remodelling or rebuilding of the church property, leaving the field well established before proceeding to another similar task elsewhere.

In this connection Mr. Versey has been pastor of two congregations where the buildings have been completely remodelled and he has inspired eight other congregations to pay off their debts. And his work in London, in persuading the congregation here to build a fine new church, costing $44,000, has been no exception to the rule of his experience.

On Provincial Boards.

Mr. Versey is a member of the official board of the corporation of Disciples of Christ in Ontario; agent for the forward movement fund and president of the Disciples' Ministerial association of Ontario.

While in London Mr. Versey has always taken an active interest in the ministerial alliance, serving as secretary, president and honorary president of that organization.

At its last meeting the alliance passed the following resolution, taking cognizance of Mr. Versey's resignation from the Christian church: "That whereas

Continued on Page 4, Column 2.

Victim of Ice Tragedy

DROWNS IN BELLEVILLE HARBOR.
While playing on the ice in Belleville harbor on Saturday, Eugene Ainsworth, son of Commandant Harry Ellsworth of the Belleville corps of the Salvation Army, and a young companion, Bernard Brown, slipped into the water and were drowned. Lloyd Ellsworth, a brother of Eugene, gave the alarm. Above is shown the Ellsworth children. On the right is Eugene and Lloyd is on the left. In the center is Baby Leonard, who died recently. Commandant Hurd of London is a close friend of the Ellsworth family, which is well known throughout army circles in Canada.

TORONTO NOMINATES THREE FOR MAYORALTY

Foster, Cameron and Fieldhouse Named—Contests in All Wards.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—Thre were nominated for the mayoralty and nine for the board of control at the Toronto civic nominations, which closed at 1 o'clock today.

Those nominated for mayor were: Thomas Foster, mayor for 1925; R. H. Cameron, member of the board of control, and Sam E. Fieldhouse, who ran for mayor last year, but received on a few hundred votes.

Those nominated for board of control were: Joseph Gibbons, A. E. Hacker, D. C. MacGregor, W. D. Robibns, B. S. Wemp, Sam McBride, F. G. I. Whetter, W. B. Hamilton, W. C. McBrien and R. P. Hall. The first three were on the board last year, while Sam McBride and B. S. Wemp were aldermen. W. C. McBrien was chairman of the board of education for 1925, and is attempting to step into the higher body.

There will be contests in all the wards for aldermenic honors if the nominees all remain in the field.

BERLENBACH TO FIGHT.

Associated Press Despatch.

New York, Dec. 21.—Paul Berlenbach, light heavyweight champion of the world, has agreed to meet on Feb. 5 the winner of the Mike McTigue-Tiger Flowers 15-round contest here Wednesday night. In a conference with Jess McMahon, matchmaker at Madison Square Garden, Berlenbach said he would not draw the color line.