

# SON GIVING SENSATIONAL EVIDENCE AGAINST FATHER IN MONCTON MURDER CASE

### Relates Story of Alleged Improper Relations of His Father as One Reason for Family Troubles as Mother Was Jealous of Eldest Daughter—Declares Mother Told Him Father Would Burn the House if the Boys Who Were Working Away Came Home Again—Prisoner Weeps Bitterly When Favorite Child is Mentioned.

Special to The Standard.

Moncton, Feb. 20.—Neighbors first at the scene of the Albert county tragedy on Tuesday morning last and Martin Steeves, eldest son of the accused, were the principal witnesses on Saturday at the preliminary examination of O. Gaus Steeves, charged with the murder of his wife and five children.

Quarrels and fights between his parents and the cause of them, as well as threats made by the prisoner as detailed by accused's son, constituted a story somewhat sensational. Son's Sensational Evidence. The son declared that his mother accused his father of sleeping with his sister Clara about two months ago, and he further stated he thought his mother was jealous of Clara, after one of the children had told her that the father was in bed with Clara. He swore his mother told him his father threatened to burn down the house if the boys stayed home. So far during the examination the accused has not appeared greatly disturbed as the witnesses told their stories.

On Saturday, however, as a witness spoke of the accused's fondness for his daughter Beatrice, aged 15 years, the prisoner broke down and wept. Names of Family. In view of the evidence given Saturday it will be of interest to repeat the names and ages of the children who were victims of the fire, as well as those still living. The children perished in the fire with the mother were Hazel, age 15 years; Gains, age two years, whose bodies were found beside their mother apparently as they slept in the northwest part of the house; Beatrice, age 15; William, age 10, and Ernest, age 8 years, who slept in part of the upstairs room. The remains of the last mentioned children were all found together in the eastern end of the house ruins.

The surviving witnesses. The surviving children are Curtis, age 20 years; Gladstone, age 19, and Gains, age 17, all of whom were away from home at the time of the fire. The Niagara road along which the Steeves' house was situated was almost north and south.

Seven witnesses in all were examined at Saturday hearing. Those included John McElfish and his son George who were the first neighbors at the scene of the fire. William Killam who was at the fire, Dr. B. J. Dash, who conducted the inquest, Alfred Crossman, a neighbor of the Steeves family, Orlan Steeves, the eldest son of the accused, and Walter Chapdelaine who visited the scene of the fire.

Met The Accused. William Killam said he was at the fire about eight o'clock in the morning. He saw a pair of boots in front of the burned house on which were pieces of scuffing with which he could have broken in a door. As he approached the house he met the accused going away from the fire ruins. Accused never stopped but said his house was on fire and his people were all burned up in the house. He looked in the burning ruins and saw remains of people. He saw the accused again about 4.30 the same afternoon but had no conversation with him. At this time he saw several bodies in the cellar, they having been moved from where they were in the morning.

The Coroner's Evidence. Dr. B. Dash, coroner, testified holding the inquest. He arrived at the scene of the fire about 4.30 on the afternoon of the fire. He saw three bodies in the northwest corner of the ruins mixed up with debris on a bed. It appeared to him that the three had been in bed together. The bodies were badly charred; the skulls were all charred, but not so much as the rest of the bodies. He saw a pair of boots in front of the house, and only part of lower limbs, from knee down, left to see any bones.

The skulls were there in all six bodies. Other bones were badly charred. He didn't examine skull. Couldn't say if they were bruised or not. It would be absolutely impossible to tell if the skulls were broken or otherwise. He did not examine them. In the back of the house three bodies were lying quite closely, perhaps a few feet from each other. They were badly charred, worse than other bodies. The body of the dog was there.

(Continued on page 3.)

Two Drown in Home as Water Pipes Explode. Strange Blow-up of Water Main in Montreal Kills Two and Injures Many.

Thirteen Families Are Driven Out. Twenty-Eight Victims of Unique Disaster Rushed to the General Hospital.

Montreal, Feb. 20.—Two boys were drowned, damage estimated at over \$100,000 done, thirteen families were rendered homeless and 20 persons were taken to the Montreal general hospital, as the result of a burst high pressure water main feeding the East End of the city, which occurred at the corner of St. Urban and Dorchester streets early this morning. Of the 28 taken to the General Hospital, only two were seriously enough injured to be admitted to wards.

The dead are: Isaac Schachter, 83 years of age, 215 St. Urban street, and Abel Schachter, 2 years of the same address. Drowned in Cellar. S. Forton, Assistant Director of Public Works, said tonight that the water main which burst was a bad piece of piping which had broken frequently in the past three or four years. It carried a pressure of between 30 and 35 pounds to the square inch. The water worked its way into the houses filling the cellars and rising to the next floor, where it spouted upwards with such force that the tenants collapsed under the pressure. The Schachters have a family of seven children and saved all except the two boys who were drowned while trying to reach the window.

# Fifteen Rebels Are Killed in Ireland

### Eight Captured and Three Wounded in Clash With the Crown Forces.

Special to The Standard.

Cork, Feb. 20.—Fifteen civilians were killed and eight captured of whom three were wounded in an encounter this afternoon in the district between Lisahoid and Middleton, Cork county, according to a general headquarters report. This is believed to have been the largest number of fatalities among the members of the "Irish Republican Army" in any single encounter.

New York street traffic tied up by worst storm of the winter.

Residence of Archbishop of St. John's in Dublin, probably for the British authorities.

Sinn Fein take passports from young Irishmen found in Liverpool to prevent them coming to America.

Many fires in farm buildings near Manchester were thought to be due to Irish plots.

Fifteen Republicans killed near Cork in a battle with the Crown forces.

Ignatius Lynch, the notorious spy, arrested in Vienna, probably for the British authorities.

The last of the 200,000 EXTRA vote ballots are being given on clubs of subscriptions brought or sent to the contest department today.

Two contestants (one in each district) who turn in, or send in, the greatest amount of subscription money today will each be given a magnificent \$215 Starr Photograph.

The winners of the photographs will be announced Thursday after all returns are received from out of town contestants through the mails—and the photographs will be given away on that day.

AT THE IMPERIAL TODAY—Pauline Frederick in "Madame X."

AT THE UNIQUE TODAY—Billie Burke in "The Education of Elizabeth."

AT THE QUEEN SQUARE TODAY—In "Blind Youth."

OPERA HOUSE TODAY—Vaudeville and feature picture.

Two of the prizes to be given away in The Standard's big contest are opportunities to become Movie Stars with the Universal Film Company.

# McDONALD GOOD MOSHER'S REPLY TO CRITICISMS

### Resents Bitterly Suggestion That Nova Scotian Senator for New Brunswick Unfair.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—The attack on the Meighen Government by the St. John Standard for the appointment of J. A. McDonald, of St. John's, N. B., as senator for New Brunswick, has provoked a vigorous reply from A. R. Mosher, grand president of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees, of which organization Mr. McDonald is a member.

Mr. Mosher, in a statement issued this evening, praises the administration for its course in making the appointment, and declares that a few more such "political blunders" will guarantee its perpetuity in office. Mr. Mosher's statement follows:

What Statement Says. "The St. John Standard seems to acknowledge the fact that Senator McDonald is a man of outstanding ability and character, but still maintains that it was a political blunder and an outrage that he was appointed. One must naturally ask if such a man of ability and character must take second place to political considerations. In my opinion the Government has done well in this matter, and it is a step in the right direction. The Government will have nothing to fear from those whose only objection is that they did not get the appointment themselves."

A Good Guarantee? "A few such 'political blunders' as this will be the best guarantee of those responsible for Mr. McDonald's appointment that they could have for their perpetuity in office. I feel satisfied that the unprejudiced and reasonable minded citizens of the Maritime Provinces, including organized labor, will applaud the Government for this appointment. We need more men of Mr. McDonald's outstanding ability in the cabinet of the nation."

Cannot Control Vote. "Sure is not a political organization, and I would not like to see those who made Mr. McDonald a senator that they do so doing they have made for themselves their friends who will not forget to express their appreciation of it."

Mr. McDonald is a well known business man and manufacturer, and has a great many labor and other powers in the province who will join with me in resenting the attack made on him for apparently no other reason than that he is a friend of labor, a clear-headed and capable business man, and a political spell-binder.

The statement that he was born in Truro, N. S., is incorrect. He was born in Shediac, N. B., and has a home there at the present time."

Great Fires Start. Manchester, Feb. 20.—Altogether fourteen farm fires occurred in the vicinity of Manchester Saturday night. Machinery, buildings and stocks were damaged to the amount of \$40,000.

The sky was lighted up for miles around. The places visited by the incendiaries included Dunham, Ramston, Charlestown, Whitefield and the country around Southport. In one case a farmer and two of his sons were ordered by a man to put up their hands. When they refused to accede the man fired. They dashed for home and five more shots were fired at them, but without doing any harm.

Find Seditious Papers. Dublin, Feb. 20.—According to a report issued tonight by Dublin Castle search yesterday in rooms in South Frederick street disclosed evidence that they had been used as headquarters for the "Irish Republican Army." Important documents were seized. No arrests were made.

Shortly before noon today, according to the castle reports, an automobile with an officer and three auxiliary police was attacked while heling outside the Philharmonic church. A bomb was thrown and revolver shots were fired at the machine from four different directions. The occupants of the car returned the fire and then saved. One of the attacking party was seen to have been wounded, but all the men escaped. None of the auxiliaries was hurt.

RESCUE TWO CREWS. Provincetown, Mass., Feb. 20.—Life savers from the 16-foot Hull and Race Point stations tonight rescued with breeches buoy ten men from the barge Hatheford and Tuckahoe, which broke away from the tug Valley Mingo on Highland Light early tonight and were cast adrift in the heavy snow blizzard by a severe nor'easter. The men near his deck head, and with the weary barges were bound from Boston to Philadelphia.

INSPECTOR STOLE LIQUOR. Richmond, Va., Feb. 20.—H. D. Brown, state prohibition inspector, and Harry P. Sweet, Sr., former member of the state prohibition department, were indicted yesterday by the grand jury on charges of having stolen liquor and transported it.

# WORLD NEWS TODAY

CANADA. Two drowned and twenty-eight injured in heat of Montreal when a high pressure water main exploded.

SON GIVES SENSATIONAL EVIDENCE IN MONCTON MURDER CASE.

FIFTEEN REBELS ARE KILLED IN IRELAND.

McDONALD GOOD MOSHER'S REPLY TO CRITICISMS.

RESIDENTS OF ARCHBISHOP OF ST. JOHN'S IN DUBLIN, PROBABLY FOR THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES.

SINN FEIN TAKE PASSPORTS FROM YOUNG IRISHMEN FOUND IN LIVERPOOL TO PREVENT THEM COMING TO AMERICA.

MANY FIRES IN FARM BUILDINGS NEAR MANCHESTER WERE THOUGHT TO BE DUE TO IRISH PLOTS.

FIFTEEN REPUBLICANS KILLED NEAR CORK IN A BATTLE WITH THE CROWN FORCES.

IGNATIUS LYNCH, THE NOTORIOUS SPY, ARRESTED IN VIENNA, PROBABLY FOR THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES.

THE LAST OF THE 200,000 EXTRA VOTE BALLOTS ARE BEING GIVEN ON CLUBS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS BROUGHT OR SENT TO THE CONTEST DEPARTMENT TODAY.

TWO CONTESTANTS (ONE IN EACH DISTRICT) WHO TURN IN, OR SEND IN, THE GREATEST AMOUNT OF SUBSCRIPTION MONEY TODAY WILL EACH BE GIVEN A MAGNIFICENT \$215 STARR PHOTOGRAPH.

THE WINNERS OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE ANNOUNCED THURSDAY AFTER ALL RETURNS ARE RECEIVED FROM OUT OF TOWN CONTESTANTS THROUGH THE MAILS—AND THE PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE GIVEN AWAY ON THAT DAY.

AT THE IMPERIAL TODAY—Pauline Frederick in "Madame X."

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AT THE QUEEN SQUARE TODAY—In "Blind Youth."

OPERA HOUSE TODAY—Vaudeville and feature picture.

# ALL CONTEST RETURNS MUST BE IN TODAY

### Contestants Have Until Six O'clock to Make Returns Secured by Saturday.

Special to The Standard.

Prize winners known Thursday.

Two special phonograph winners will receive their rewards on that date.

Don't forget to send in your contest returns secured up to midnight of Saturday last, contestants.

City contestants may bring their returns in, as previously advertised, up to 5 p. m. today. Out of town contestants may mail their returns any time today.

See the closing rules of the contest as set forth in today's or Saturday's contest ad.

THE BRITISH ISLES. Sinn Fein take passports from young Irishmen found in Liverpool to prevent them coming to America.

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# Capt. Tom Wallace Dies At Toronto

### Conservative M. P. for West York and Son of Late Hon. N. Clarke Wallace.

Special to The Standard.

Toronto, Feb. 20.—Captain Tom Wallace, Conservative M. P. for West York, died today.

He was a son of the late Hon. N. Clarke Wallace, grand master of the Orange Order for Canada and ex-controller of customs. He was born in 1872.

PROVINCE IN REVOLT OVER SENATORSHIP.

Why Was Nova Scotian Made Representative for New Brunswick is Question.

DEMAND EXPLANATION BY HON. MR. WIGMORE.

Westmorland, Albert and Kent Counties, in Particular, Much Incensed Over Choice.

Special to The Standard. Moncton, Feb. 20.—"I don't know where I'm going, but I'm on my way," were the words introductory to a not over impressive refrain worked in Music Halls a few years ago by Vanderville artists.

It was bawled about by vocalists, sawed and drummed at by orchestras until by the weight of its popularity it became all "done out," and was relegated to the bone yard of once popular things.

If the opinion of the people of Westmorland, Kent and Albert counties (and one uses the word people advisedly) are any criterion upon which to form a judgment, the Melghen Cabinet might resurrect the words of the above mentioned refrain, revive the melody and to the beat of four-four time use it as their funeral dirge.

The Cause of Unrest. In view of the recent appointment made by the cabinet to fill a vacancy in the Senate by the death of Senator McSweeney, the electors of the counties mentioned are convinced the Mmo has come when the Melghen Cabinet should prepare for its obsequies, and they stand ready to help them along to a quick end. It is the opinion expressed here that the cabinet doesn't know where it is going, but it is on its way; it doesn't know where it is at, but it is carrying on; they have forgotten the people who placed them in office, and now show their short-sightedness and indifference to the present and future, by openly and publicly insulting them in naming John A. McDonald, a resident of Amherst, N. S., to wear the toga of a New Brunswick Senator.

What's The Mystery? What does it all mean? Why was it necessary to go into Nova Scotia and import a man for a New Brunswick position in the Senate? What claims had John McDonald on any party, least of all the Conservative party? Who is this McDonald anyway and what great mystery is back of this appointment, and why were the Conservatives, those who have always taken an active part, sacrificed their time and means for party success, not consulted before the appointment was made? These are the questions being asked by the party of Sir John Macdonald. The followers of the principles of Sir Wilfrid Laurier care the answers.

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Germany Under No Conditions to be Allowed Any Reduction in Indemnity.

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What She Did in 1870 She Would Have Done Again Had She Won.

Paris, Feb. 20.—Former Premier Poincaré in a signed article in the Temps today declares that Germany must meet the demands made upon her by the reparations commission.

"If Germany refuses to accept the demands made at the Paris conference," says M. Poincaré, "then the Versailles Treaty automatically comes into force. It is impossible that a third bill of costs can be drawn up at London. The French Government cannot count upon the firm determination of both chambers of parliament to reject any further delays that Germany may claim concerning the penalties and also obtain from our allies full endorsement of France's demands."

Seneler Than Year Ago. "Dr. Simons (the German foreign minister), speaks today in tones he would not dare adopt six months ago, although six months ago Germany was haggard than a year previously, German insolence is taking an ascending line which, if maintained, will mean that the victors will be humiliated by the vanquished and the victims jeered at by the executioners.

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