

## PAT'S SISTERS IN DETROIT DENIES M'GREGOR

### Six Burned To Death In Exeter Farm House Fire

**'I KNOW WHERE PAT IS,' SAYS SISTER, 'HE IS SAFE AND WILL NOT BE CAUGHT;'**  
**LONDON MAN RECOGNIZES M'GREGOR**

Advertiser Reporter Finds Pat's Sister in Detroit—Norton Visited Her.

IS PAT IN DETROIT?

Says California Man a Stranger—Tells of Norton's Desperate Career.

Special to The Advertiser by a Staff Reporter.  
Detroit, June 2.—Absolute denial that the photo of the man known as "George McGregor," and being held in Susanville jail, California, is that of her brother Ernie "Pat" Norton was made to The Advertiser this morning by Mrs. O. S. "Pearl" Holmes, 3405 14th street, Detroit, sister of the long-wanted bandit.

But with the denial came also an admission that she knew the whereabouts of "Pat," and that he had visited her home within the past year.

She refused to divulge where he was at present or in what section of the country. She did state, however, that he was not in Detroit and that he had a good position and was doing well.

Mrs. Holmes, who was seen at her home early this morning, greeted the reporter warmly and after a few minutes' preliminary conversation stated that she had seen in the paper that her brother was supposed to have been caught. Producing the photograph of McGregor, the reporter asked if she could recognize it as anyone that she knew. After staring hard at the picture for a few minutes, she replied:

"I have no idea who that is. I don't think that I have ever seen the man whose picture this is. It certainly is not Ernie, as I saw him less than a year ago right in this house and there is absolutely no resemblance."

**Eyes Never Flickered.**  
Her eyes never flickered when she saw the photo and her tone was quite emotionless, more or less proving her statement that she did not know the man.

Mrs. Holmes, who is a pleasant woman of about 30 years, was dressed in a neat house dress and boudoir cap. The room in which she saw The Advertiser was well furnished, and the house itself a rug brick duplex. She did not appear to be at all worried at the questions asked, and when requested to outline "Pat's" history as she knew it she did so.

**Was Always Reckless.**  
"Always," she started, "even when he was a kid of 14 or 15 (you know that he left school when he was 14 and never went to high school at all), he was a sort of reckless dare-devil. He was always doing stunts which frightened his mother and myself, but we could not break him of it. When he was 14 he ran away and was gone for some months, never letting us know where he had been or what he was doing. I have known him to leave the house in the morning without saying good-bye to us and not come home for probably six months, and in all that time we never knew whether he was dead or not. I have seen him drop from an overhead bridge near our home at Strabane, near Hamilton, Ont., on to the top of a freight car, and that would be the last we would see of him."

"When he grew older, it was the same thing. We had no control over him at all. When he got in with a bad bunch, and it was one scrape after another, till it finally ended up in this affair at Melbourne which they say he was connected with. Perhaps he was. I don't know. Mother used to settle many of his troubles and debts, paying for a diamond ring that he had stolen in St. Thomas, and also for a motor car, for which he had received the money and spent. He would seem to appreciate this at the time, but it was not long before he would forget and start again."

**Divorced First Wife.**  
"Then he got married. I forget who his first wife was. We never knew much about her, except that she was an American. He lived with her a short time; afterwards he secured a divorce. His first wife is now married again and living in Virginia. He is the father of a 7-year-old girl who is with her. His second wife took the girl, who is now keeping house for Norman Bogue, farmer, at Lambeth. I went over and saw her a little while ago. While I was there I was struck by the resemblance of her small 3-year-old



THE STORM CENTRE.

This is the picture which is the present storm centre of the Norton-Murphy case. It shows "George McGregor," who is now living in jail in Susanville, California, following his arrest with Sidney Murrell, Chief Birrell and Sergeant of Detectives Down believe it is Pat Norton, miss leader of the Murrell gang. Norton's sister, located and interviewed by an Advertiser reporter in Detroit this morning, declares that the man is a stranger. Caretaker John McIntosh, of the Y. M. C. A., says the picture is that of a mysterious man who slept in the boiler room of the Y. M. C. A. for several days following the Melbourne murder.

son to Ernie. May is a nice girl—one of the finest I have ever met.

"Then this bank robbery and murder at Melbourne came along. I don't know whether he was in it or not. Or, at least, I won't say whether I do. He might have been. That is about all I can tell you."

"You are sure you do not recognize the picture?" asked the reporter. "Absolutely not," she replied, "and I ought to know. I saw him not so very long ago and there is no resemblance at all."

**Knows Where Pat Is.**  
"Yes, I have an idea where he is, but I won't tell you, and you could not expect me to. Blood is thicker than water, and if he can keep away from the police, I am certainly not going to be the means of his being caught. I will tell you, however, that, as far as I know, he is working hard and doing well. He is not in Detroit. That much, also I will tell you, but nothing further. He has been in communication with us, and has seen and visited, but when it comes to telling you and then having the police catch him, I am sorry, but I won't give out any information."

**"Has He Changed Much?"**  
"No, he has not changed much in the past nine or ten years. At least I don't think so."

"How did you know that there might be a possibility of police coming after him if they knew you knew where he was?"

"Well, in this morning's Detroit Free Press there is an item that a man being held in California might be "Pat" Norton. When I saw it I was shocked, as I was sure he was not in California, and still I don't think he would be fool enough to stay with the Murrells after their escape from jail."

Mrs. Holmes showed the reporter the paragraph in the paper, which she had ringed around with blue pencil.

**Sure Pat Is Safe.**  
Mrs. Holmes seemed to be quite sure that her brother was safe, and would not be caught, stating that if he was it would be through an accident or slip-up on the part of somebody else. She was also quite eager to disclaim all knowledge or recognition of the picture, but beyond saying that she knew where he was she would give no further information.

Referring to her mother, Mrs. Norton, she said that her mother, after leaving London, had come to Detroit with a younger son, Oral, at present about 18 years old, and a delicate youth. After staying here for some time, she went to Canton, Ohio, where the boy had secured a good position. A breakdown forced him to quit work, and last Easter the mother returned to the old home at Strabane, Turn on Page 2, Columns 2 and 3.

Caretaker at Y. M. C. A. Says "McGregor" Slept There After Melbourne Murder.

RECOGNIZES PHOTO

Man Said He Came From Montreal—Assistant Caretaker Disagrees.

Did Robert Ernest (Pat) Norton, fourth member of the Melbourne bank bandit gang, sleep in the basement of the London Y. M. C. A., while posing as scurrying Western Ontario for him, a few days after the Melbourne murder?

John McIntosh, caretaker of the Y. M. C. A., believes that "The Advertiser's" picture of "McGregor" taken in California is that of a man who for a period of ten days following the Melbourne crime ate and slept in the boiler room of the Y. M. C. A. "McGregor" is the man whose photograph Chief Birrell and Sergeant of Detectives Down believe to be the missing Pat Norton.

The caretaker's curiosity was first aroused by the first picture of Norton which The Advertiser printed. It was a picture of "Pat" taken some years ago.

"He was a bit fuller in the face than that picture would lead you to believe," said the caretaker. The Advertiser showed him the recent picture taken in San Francisco jail.

Mr. McIntosh studied it carefully, and then said: "I am positive that is the man who slept here."

"I am going to see him, if I can, when he comes here," he added. "I guess they'll let me, won't they?"

**Two Days After Murder.**  
"The fellow came to the Y. M. C. A. about two days after the Melbourne affair," Mr. McIntosh continued. "The first time I saw him was when I was asked if I had any objections to him getting a wash-up and a sleep in the boiler room."

"He stayed around there for more than a week. He told me that another fellow who had been with him had gone on to Detroit. They were looking for work. His friend had obtained a job in Detroit, and he was expecting him to get one for him too. We used to give him odd bits of change as he was without money."

"He told me that he came from Montreal. He had a lady's watch, and said that it belonged to a girl in Montreal."

"He used to come in with pie and all kinds of sweetmeats. He said this girl in Montreal sent this food to him."

"I never saw him out in the daytime, except once. He used to go out by the side way, where the ashes go out, and he seemed a bright fellow."

"He would be about the same age as that which has now been given as 'Pat's'."

"He used always to turn to the Murrell case when he opened the paper. And he used to make comments about the case."

"He left here, he went to the assistant caretaker's home to stay for a while. He was out of work, and Mr. Robinson (Mr. Robinson was the assistant caretaker at the time) took pity on him."

"I found two or three boarding houses for him, but he wouldn't go to them."

"After he left Mr. Robinson's he disappeared. He just dropped out of sight."

**Robinson Not Sure.**  
W. J. Robinson of Moir avenue, who was living at 11 Charles street at the time the man stayed at the Y. M. C. A., could not identify the picture. Neither could his wife. "If that is the man who stayed at the Y. M. C. A., he has changed quite a bit," Mr. Robinson told The Advertiser.

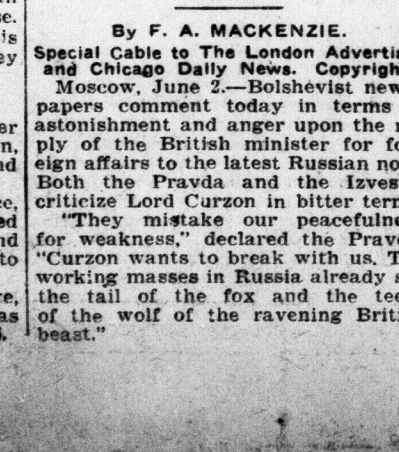
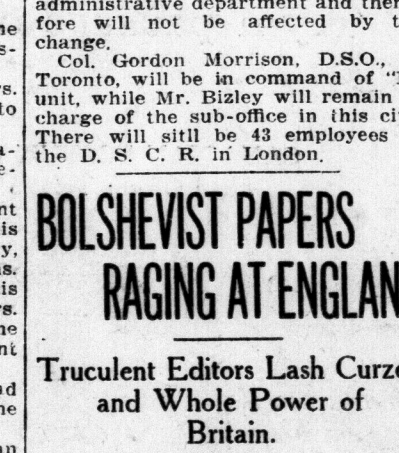
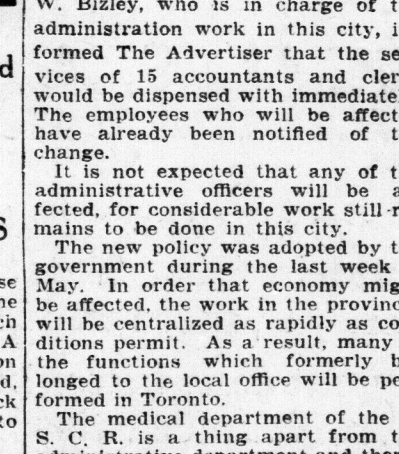
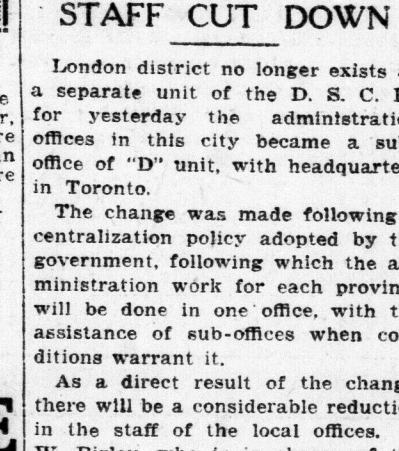
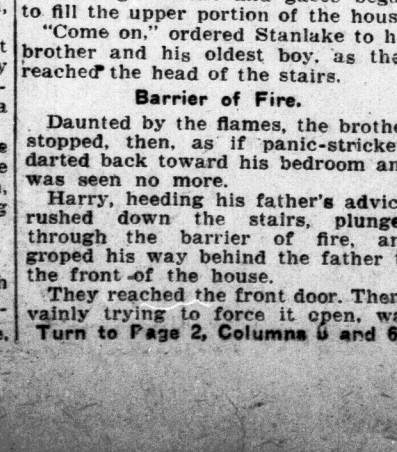
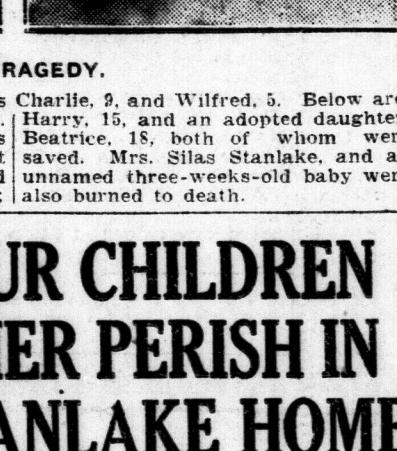
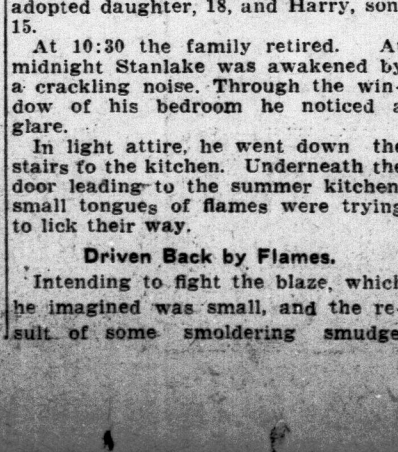
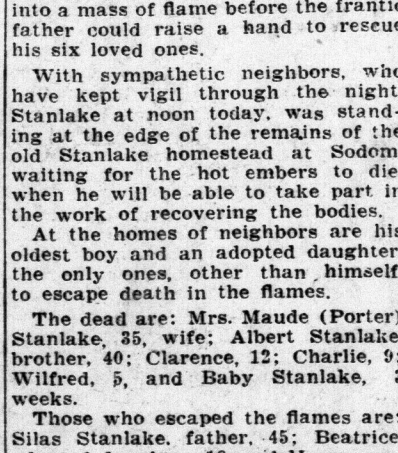
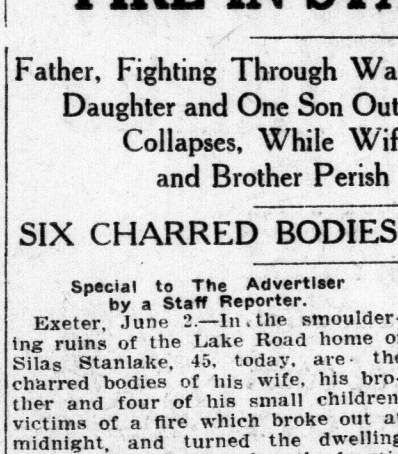
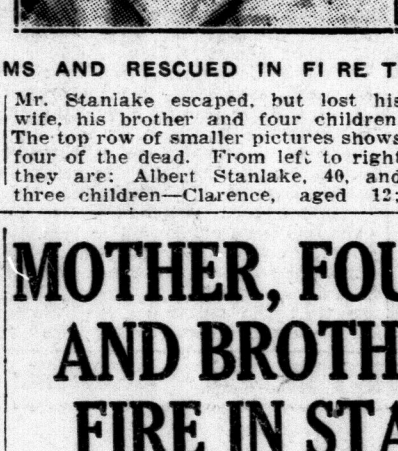
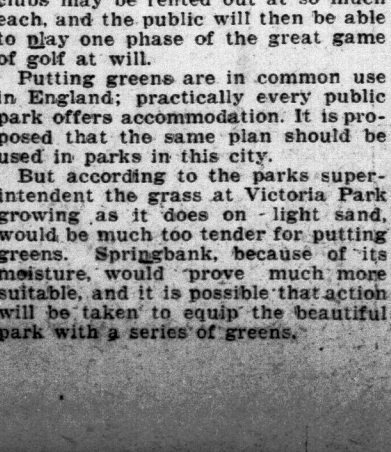
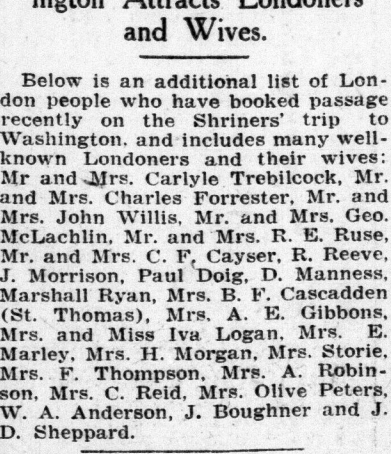
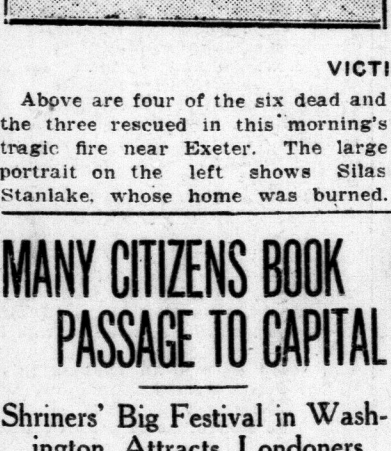
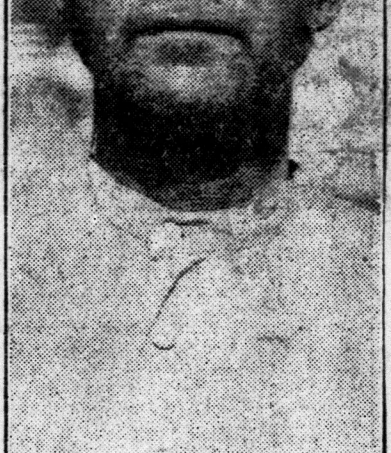
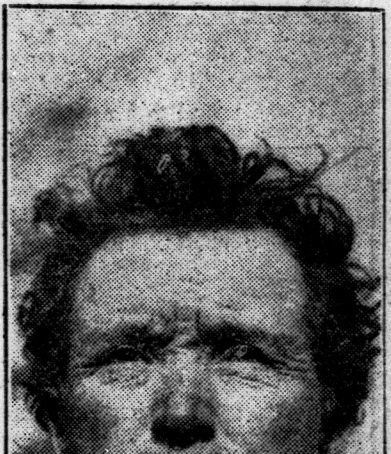
"This fellow went by the name of 'Pat Conley.' He told me that his brother and his father were on the Dublin police force. He stayed at my home on Charles street a few days. I took pity on him because he had no money and was out of work."

"He said he had secured a job with the city, and had worked about an hour, because he did not like the kind of work he was given. Conley told me he had been a railroadman in Montreal."

"Just after he left here, he is supposed to have obtained a job at the Grigg House, but only worked one night. I heard that he left for Detroit."



WHERE THE FIRE FIEND TOOK SIX LIVES.  
Here The Advertiser shows the still-burning ruins of the Silas Stanlake home at Sodom, three miles west of Exeter, where fire at an early hour this morning took the lives of Mrs. Silas Stanlake, Alfred Stanlake, a brother, and four Stanlake children. Clarence, 12 years old; Charlie, 9; Wilfred, 5, and an unnamed baby, 2 weeks old. Silas Stanlake, his 13-year-old son, Harold, and an adopted daughter, Beatrice, were saved. The story of the fire is given below, and other pictures are on inside pages.



Above are four of the six dead and the three rescued in this morning's tragic fire near Exeter. The large portrait on the left shows Silas Stanlake, whose home was burned.

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## SIR ADAM'S DELAY IS NERVE-RACKING TO BOYS IN BLUE

Frenzied Followers of Power Potentate Desire Definite Decision.

EXECUTIVE PEEVISH

Cameron Wilson's Attempt To Elicit Announcement From Hydro Knight Proves Fruitless.

Events are hastening to a showdown among the local Conservatives. The sparks were flying at a special session of the executive this morning and another meeting has been called for tonight. If no decision is made by that time it is anticipated by members of the party, exclusive of the "inner circle," that a forced announcement will be forthcoming.

If all reports are correct the party is in a turmoil, and there is no appreciation of Sir Adam's delay. Cameron Wilson was responsible for the emphatic declaration last night. The Advertiser was informed at noon today that "Sir Adam would be in the field. Whether he knows whereof he speaks or is merely voicing the 'wish father to the thought' has yet to be determined."

There is further evidence at hand that the squabble about the London and Port Stanley pay list will be a big factor in the local campaign, and members of the council declared this afternoon that they had "been approached by members of the Conservative Association seeking their cooperation to thwart Mayor Wenige and his associates in this matter."

Sir Adam Beck is taking a mighty long time to make up his mind about the local nomination. And if he doesn't say something to the executive about it pretty soon they are liable to draw up a proclamation of their own and give it wide-spread publicity.

The boys at Tory headquarters are getting fidgety and are a bunch of them haven't forgotten that they cooled their heels until a late hour last night waiting for their candidate to prove.

But the latter is fast adopting Dr. Stevenson's methods. He was somewhat "conscious by his absence." And when "President" J. Cameron Wilson finally located him he had little to say, and nothing of a definite nature.

Sir Adam had to see "a few friends" this morning and this necessarily set back the promised declaration of intent.

The Conservative situation represents the famous "chaotic erraticism" one sometimes encounters. Everyone knows about as much as his neighbor—nothing.

Ald Judd states with evident disgust that "he never heard about any Turn to Page 2, Column 7."

## VICTIM OF SUICIDE BURIED IN ST. MARYS

Funeral of Mrs. "Dolly" Whiting Held This Afternoon.

Mrs. P. "Dolly" Whiting, who, in a mood of loneliness and discouragement took a fatal dose of strychnine in her room at the McCallum Apartments Thursday morning, was buried today from the home of her sister, Mrs. David Farr, St. Marys.

The remains were transferred from the funeral parlors of E. C. Kilham to St. Marys Thursday night by motor.

The girl victim, who was but 23 years of age, had been her mother, Mrs. Claire Kennedy, and becoming desperate after several attempts to obtain employment, she decided to end her life while her mother was away. Dr. W. J. Tiltman immediately called but she died just as she was being taken into St. Joseph's Hospital.

## THE WEATHER

**FORECASTS.**  
Today—Fair and moderately warm; moderate westerly winds; fair and moderately warm.

Sunday—Fair and moderately warm. Pressure has risen over northern Ontario and has fallen along the maritime coast and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which over the western end of the continent, it continues relatively low. The weather has been here from Ontario eastward, and unsettled with showers in many parts of the western provinces.

**Temperatures.**  
Stations—High Low Weather  
Victoria—54 40 Rain  
Calgary—40 26 Rain  
Winnipeg—30 60 Clear  
Port Arthur—20 50 Fair  
Edmonton—20 50 Fair  
Toronto—50 53 Clear  
Kingston—64 54 Fair  
Ottawa—64 50 Fair  
Montreal—74 58 Fair  
Quebec—66 52 Clear  
Father Point—46 42 Fair  
St. John—48 48 Clear  
Halifax—56 48 Fair

**LOCAL TEMPERATURES.**  
The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 88; lowest, 48.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 78; lowest, 59.

**Barometric Readings.**  
Friday, 8 p.m.—29.29.  
Today, 8 a.m.—29.32.

## MANY CITIZENS BOOK PASSAGE TO CAPITAL

Shriners' Big Festival in Washington Attracts Londoners and Wives.

Below is an additional list of London people who have booked passage recently on the Shriners' trip to Washington, and includes many well-known Londoners and their wives: Mr. and Mrs. Carble Treblelock, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Forrester, Mr. and Mrs. John Willis, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. McLachlin, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Ruse, Mr. and Mrs