

# The Chatham Daily Planet.

VOL. XV.

CHATHAM, ONT., MONDAY MAY 21, 1906.

NO. 118

## WHITE VESTINGS

—FOR—

FOR SHIRTWAISTS AT  
SPECIAL PRICES

The hot weather of the past few days has brought a big demand for light weight materials. **White Goods** are being purchased in large quantities for dresses and shirt waists. We anticipated a big run in white and provided ourselves with an immense stock in all the popular lines. A special purchase of White Vestings, which are being so largely used, enables us to offer extraordinary values for the coming week.

**16 CENTS**

Ten pieces at this price, which is very low when you consider the quality of the goods. They come in the most desirable of this season's designs, and are easily worth 20c. and 25c.

**19 CENTS**

At this popular price we can show you a big assortment of choice designs, including brocades, the popular satin dot and other fashionable patterns. The quality of the goods is regularly 25c. and 30 cents, but our heavy purchase, and close selling saves you from six to eleven cents per yard.

**22 CENTS**

A collection of the very best lines to be had in the regular way at 30c. and 35c. awaits your inspection here at 22c. per yard. All are select designs. You know the quality. We can't replace these goods again this season at such a price, so you will do well to make an early selection. See them in the East Window.

## Thomas Stone & Son

THE VERY BEST  
**LAWN MOWER MADE**  
IN CANADA.

With five tempered steel blades and dust proof  
Ball Bearings is selling for

**\$9.00**

—AT—

**WESTMAN BROS.**

OTHER GOOD MOWERS, \$3.00 to \$5.00 each

BIG ASSORTMENT OF

## Refrigerators!

We have the most complete line of Refrigerators ever shown in this city, from the ordinary kind at \$6.00 up to plate glass lined, solid oak, exterior refrigerators at \$60.00.

Particularly nice is a White Granite Lined one with water cooler and tap complete.

**GEO. STEPHENS & Co.**

Mason & Risch Pianos, White Sewing Machines.

## A VERY LARGE TURNOUT

Members of the Twenty-fourth Attend First Church

AN EXCELLENT SERVICE

The members of the 24th Regiment and bands paraded to divine service in the First Presbyterian church yesterday. There was quite a good turnout of members, and the boys showed much improvement over previous parades.

In the absence of Rev. A.H. MacGillivray the service at the First Presbyterian was taken yesterday morning by Rev. George Gilmore, of Blenheim, who preached the sermon from the text: "And it came to pass when the time was come that he should be received up, he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem." Rev. Mr. Gilmore devoted a large portion of the morning service to prayer, and it looked but fifteen minutes to the twelfth hour when he commenced a rather lengthy sermon, which was interspersed with a few points.

The preacher's theme was "Courage," and he endeavored to make clear that there were two kinds of courage—true and false courage. The false was often-times mistaken for the true. He emphasized the fact that there are men who have a sort of a brute courage—men who really have no clear conception of the danger they are facing, but the true hero was he who went out to face the foe knowing the full risks of pain and death he was running. But there was another kind of hero who merited greater praise than the hero of wars, and he was the hero of everyday life. For this kind of a hero there was seldom any laurels in this world, and he invariably died unremembered and unsung.

Jesus Christ, the speaker said, was the world's greatest hero. Then he set his face steadfastly to Jerusalem, as indicated in the words of the text, he was fully aware of the trials and suffering that awaited him. His suffering during those hours must have been great, but he went bravely to his doom. From Christ's courage, mortals might take a lesson, and the greatest courage a man or woman could show was that necessary in carrying out the Lord's work here on earth.

The musical part of the service was of a special nature and was under the direction of John R. Smith, the capable choir director. A solo was rendered during the service by Mr. Collins, of Toronto, and a duet was sung by Miss Lucy McKellar and Mr. R. W. Angus.

## LEAVING CHATHAM

Mr. A. E. Lenfestey for 26 Years Employed by The Planet Goes to St. Thomas.

Albert E. Lenfestey, for 26 years a member of The Planet staff, being employed in the Job Printing Department, left to-day for St. Thomas, where he has accepted a position on the staff of the Municipal World.

Mr. Lenfestey, during his residence here, has made many friends, and has taken a keen interest in public affairs. He is at present a valued member of the Public School Board.

Last Saturday evening the employees of The Planet presented Mr. Lenfestey with a well-filled purse and the following address:—

To A. E. Lenfestey:

The members of The Planet staff, in every department, learn with regret of your early departure for St. Thomas. During the twenty-six years you have occupied a position in this institution you have always proven yourself an experienced printer, a steady workman and an all round good fellow.

We feel on the eve of your departure that we should give you some token of our regard for you and we hope you will accept this purse in the spirit in which it is given—as a reminder of the esteem in which you are held by "the boys."

We wish you and your estimable partner in life health, happiness and prosperity in your new home.

"Fess," we will miss you.

Signed on behalf of the employees, R. J. BIRCH.

Mr. Lenfestey made a suitable reply. He has been a very popular Chathamite and will be greatly missed here.

## DAMAGE WAS LIGHT

The firemen were called out last Saturday evening about ten o'clock to the residence of Wm. Robertson, Baxter street. The family had gone up town, leaving a fire in the dining room stove. The heat set fire to the wall and a big blaze had started when it was noticed by Hamilton Nicol. He rang for the fire department and the response was prompt. The blaze was extinguished before any serious damage was done.

## W. H. HARPER MEETS DEATH UNDER SAD CIRCUMSTANCES

One of Chatham's Most Prominent Business Men Burned to Death While Sleeping Alone in his Summer Cottage at Erieau—Neighbors Attracted by the Flames but They Were Unable to Save the Unfortunate Man—A Distressing Accident

The saddest and most distressing event which has happened in this vicinity in years occurred at the Eau Claire cottage, when W. H. Harper, of this city, was burned to death in his summer cottage.

The news was brought into the city soon after the accident occurred, and it spread very rapidly. Everywhere it was received with sadness and regret, and sympathy was expressed on all sides for the bereaved widow and family. There was not a more popular nor better known man in the city than Mr. Harper, and his death, under such sorrowful



The Late W. H. Harper.

circumstances, caused a decided gloom to permeate the business section of the city to-day.

Early in the spring of each year Mr. Harper has been in the habit of taking trips to the Eau Claire, stopping over Sunday. In this way he was able sometimes to enjoy a little quiet fishing, he being an enthusiastic angler, and he also prepared his cottage to receive the rest of the family when they went out later in the summer.

He had been going out this year, as usual, and last Saturday he left the city on the 4.20 with the intention of spending Sunday at the resort. He went out alone. S. M. Glenn was to have gone with him, but Mr. Glenn was unable to leave at the last minute. Mr. Greening, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Park and two children and Mr. and Mrs. A. Park and two children, however, also went out on Saturday.

On Saturday evening a strong north wind was blowing and he was unable to do any fishing. On Sunday he spent the day walking around the Eau Claire, and went to his own cottage about half-past ten o'clock last night. About half-past four, Mr. Greening woke up and found the Harper cottage on fire. He aroused the others who were at the Eau Claire, and everything possible was done in an effort to save the unfortunate man, but the fire by this time was past all control. Mr. Harper was burned to death. His limbs were completely burned and all that remained for identification was his charred body.

Mr. J. M. Park and Mr. Greening remained at the Eau Claire this morning, but Mr. Archie Park returned home. Mr. Park, in conversation with a Planet representative, in connection with the sad affair, said:

"I think it was the most horrible and distressing scene I ever witnessed, to have to look at that burning building, realize that there was a man in it, and know that there was no way of saving him from death. I shall never forget it."

"We went out on the same train together and he was looking forward to spending a quiet day at the Eau Claire. He slept alone in his own cottage Saturday night. I saw him in the morning yesterday. He and Mr. Greening were taking a stroll out on the piers. They were coming back when Jack Park and I were starting out. The four of us stopped and talked for a while, then we went on and he and Mr. Greening went to their cottages. I saw Mr. Harper again in the afternoon, when we were all going for a stroll around the piers again."

"My children were going to have some baked potatoes in the evening and they asked Mr. Harper to come over and have some. After tea he did come over, and Mr. Greening came down, too. About half-past

seven he started to go home and I wanted him to stay with us over night instead of sleeping alone in his own cottage. He replied, no, he would be all right alone. He was a little cold sleeping there Saturday night, but he was going to put on a good fire and he would be all right. We stood on the track in front of my cottage talking for some time, and then we parted. I went in the house and Mr. Harper and Mr. Greening walked down to Mr. Greening's cottage and Mr. Harper went in and stayed there until about half-past ten. Mr. Greening then wanted him to stay there all night, but Mr. Harper again declined and said he would be all right in his own cottage. He was down just a week ago and stayed alone and was all right."

"I went to bed about 12 o'clock and I noticed a light still burning in Mr. Harper's cottage. The Greening household retired about the same time and they, too, saw the light. I was up at about two o'clock this morning and, as far as I could see, everything was all right."

"The next thing I knew about it was when Mr. Greening came to my cottage about half-past four and woke me up. As soon as I awoke I saw the reflection and knew there was a fire. The reason Mr. Greening noticed it first was because he lives right opposite Mr. Harper and the reflection through the window and the roaring of the fire woke him up. There was a strong east wind blowing at the time."

"Mr. McKay, Mr. Grant, Mr. Greening, Jack and myself were soon on the ground with pails of water, but the fire had got a big start and the wind fanned it into a big blaze. All we could do was to throw water on the part of the building where we thought the flames were. Two cottages west of Mr. Harper's, owned by Chas. Will, Hamilton and Mrs. Bell, were both burning when we got there, and all three of them were burned to the ground. When we got there the front of the Harper cottage was standing intact but the inside of it was a roaring mass of flames. The buildings burned very quickly, and by five o'clock all three of them were completely gone."

"When we found Mr. Harper he was badly burned. He was still lying on his bed, of which nothing was left but a small piece of the mattress and springs. It is supposed that he was suffocated to death before the flames reached him, as he was lying partly over on his face, which would be caused by the struggle during suffocation. If he had not been suffocated by the smoke, and had been aroused by any noise, he could easily have saved himself by jumping from the window which was right at the head of his bed. His watch and chain were lying close to his remains. The ring of the watch was melted, but the chain and watch were all there."

"The cause of the fire is a mystery to everyone. It could have caught in two ways—either from the stove which Mr. Harper said he was going to light, or by the explosion of the lamp which the neighbors saw lit at twelve o'clock. Mr. Harper was a great reader and often read by lamp-light after he retired. In this way he may have fallen asleep, leaving the lamp burning, and the explosion on the other hand he would undoubtedly have been aroused by the explosion and would have been able to escape through the window. The evidence of the fire, however, goes to show that he must have been suffocated as he never left his bed. The theory that the stove set fire to the building seems to be the most reasonable one."

Dr. Thanks, coroner, was telephoned for, but deemed an inquest unnecessary, as death was clearly accidental. Mr. Park telegraphed the sad news to Ben Harper, who received the message that an accident had happened. He was unable to get Blenheim to secure fuller particulars and it was not until the train came in at nine o'clock this morning that the news was circulated around town, or that the family were acquainted with the sad circumstances."

Mr. Harper was a man 55 years of age and was one of the most prominent and respected business men in the city. His death is mourned by everyone who knew him, for there was not a more popular man in the city than "Billy" Harper, as he was called by his friends. His presence will be greatly missed both in business and social circles. He

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It is a great evil as well as a misfortune to be unable to utter a prompt and decided no.

## THE FIREMEN ENTERTAIN

Saturday Night Was a Hummer at Fair of Nations

VERY SUCCESSFUL WEEK

Saturday night the final evening of the Fair of Nations, was Firemen's Night at the rink. There was a splendid attendance, and for a time the booths did a magnificent business. A large number from the surrounding country attended Saturday night.

One of the chief features of the evening's program was the exhibition run by the fire brigade. Everything passed off in excellent style and the firemen made the run from the department to the alarm box near the Sanitarium in one minute and twenty seconds. This was very fast work considering that the turn at the C. P. R. corner is one of the sharpest in the city.

A large crowd were out to see the run. King and Sixth streets were black with people. Fire Chief Pritchard took his position at the alarm box on William street, leaving Foreman Frank Ryall in charge at the department. The firemen lined up and awaited the call to action. The alarm was sounded precisely at 7.45. Almost simultaneously with the going of the bell, the crowd who were watching saw the fire horses spring from their stalls. There was a clash of fastening snaps and dropping chains, and in another instant Drivers Holmes and Johnson were up on their high seats, and the hose wagon, followed by the truck, whizzed through the open doors and tore down King street at a maddening speed.

The Fire Chief had kindly made provision that the press representatives might ride the ladder truck that they might better enjoy and view the run. The Planet man will never forget that run. When the alarm sounded he pulled out his watch to note the time, grabbed one of the side-ropes of the wagon, and the next instant he was being jerked through space at a rate that almost made his hair stand. Mud-missiles from the wheels and the horses' hoofs swished past his face, the wagon reeled and pitched and swung sometimes it didn't appear to be touching the pavement at all. The reporter tried to remember a prayer and awaited the inevitable. But there was no mishap, and the wagon bounded past the alarm box just one minute and twenty seconds after the alarm was sounded.

"Pretty fast work," remarked Fireman Robert Coyle, and Fireman Tucker assented with a "Not so sleepy." The run was made in excellent style and time, and the Fire Chief and his good men are to be congratulated on the unique success of the exhibition.

Later in the evening the program commenced on the rink. The grand march of the Nations was repeated, and the crowd afterwards repaired to the concert hall where the musical program was put on.

W. W. Scane made a genial and efficient chairman over this portion of the evening's entertainment.

The program was as follows:

Selection—Orchestra.  
Song—W. Elger.  
Song—E. Brown.  
Selection—Orchestra.  
Song—S. Anquetil.  
Turn—A. Darling.  
Selection—Orchestra.  
Song—Fred Starr.  
Selection—Orchestra.  
God Save the King.

## Sporting Shoes Bowling

White and Dark Blue Canvas, High Lace and Oxford, Blucher Cut or Straight Lace, the newest and best is with leather inner soles, prevents dampness and sweating the feet.

## Tennis and Lacrosse ...Shoes...

in all kinds. All new bright goods, and cost no more than the old sorts.

**Geo. W. Cowan**  
KING STREET

## Celebrate

the birthday of the greatest woman monarch of Great Britain, Victoria the Great,

## May 24th...

We have the goods, full of life and noise and splendor for this great day.

Fire Crackers

That Crack

Torpedos

That Go Off

Fireworks

That are Beautiful

Display some of our National **FLAGS**, make the 24th a fete day, such as it deserves.

## SULMAN'S

**BEEHIVE**, King and Sixth Streets...

## COL. RANKIN RETAINED

Toronto, May 21.—G. F. Henderson, barrister, of Ottawa, has been appointed as the second drainage referee for Ontario. He will assist Col. J. B. Rankin of Chatham. The salary that goes with the appointment is \$2,500 a year. That of Col. Rankin remains at \$3,500. Mr. Henderson will be permitted to retain his private practice, except as to appearing in cases which would come under the Drainage Act.

## AUCTION SALE

The ladies of the Fair have decided to hold an auction sale of the goods left over at the different exhibits. This will afford an unusual opportunity to our citizens to buy many beautiful and useful articles at auction prices, and at the same time assist in increasing the fund for the erection of the addition to the hospital.