

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1921

## MURDER DRIVER IN HIS TAXICAB

Toronto Man Clubbed and  
Robbed—Dies in Hospital  
—Only Clue Blood-stained  
Iron Spike.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)  
Clubbed on the head with an iron bar  
in the hands of someone as yet unknown,  
dragged from his taxicab and apparently  
robbed of considerable money, and left  
helpless and bleeding on the roadside  
near Finch's Corner, on Saturday night,  
Harry Stron, aged about twenty-four, of  
717 Richmond street west, died in the  
General Hospital at eleven o'clock Sun-  
day morning, without recovering con-  
sciousness. The cause of death was a  
fractured skull, and according to the hos-  
pital authorities, Stron had several ter-  
rible wounds on the head. The weapon  
with which the deed was committed, an  
iron spike about fifteen inches long, such  
as is used by railroad workers, was  
found a few feet from a pool of blood  
in which Stron had lain after he was at-  
tacked by his slayers. County Constable  
Stewart and Detective-Sergeant Ward and  
Carter have been assigned to the case,  
but as yet little is known as to the iden-  
tity of the unfortunate taxi driver's as-  
sailants.  
Investigation shows that Stron, who  
had his stand at Farnham avenue and  
Yonge street, left that place about 6:15  
on Saturday evening with a load of peo-  
ple. As to the identity of the persons  
nothing is known; they were not particu-  
larly noticed at the time they boarded  
Stron's cab.  
What happened to Stron when he ar-  
rived at the spot where the murder was  
committed can only be deduced by the  
evidence left at the scene of the crime—  
the blood-stained iron spike, Stron's cap,  
the abandoned motor car and a lone dol-  
lar bill discovered trampled in the soft  
earth about a hundred feet from the  
pool of Stron's life-blood.  
Put Up Fight.  
It is the theory of the police that when  
Stron arrived at Finch's Corner, which  
is situated about a mile west of Yonge  
street at stop thirty-four, and approxi-  
mately three-quarters of a mile west of  
Willowdale, one of the murderers dealt  
the driver a blow from the back of the  
vehicle. Dazed, Stron appears to have  
halted his machine and turned upon his  
attackers, for the left-hand side of the  
windshield, inside the cab and near the  
steering wheel, is bespattered with blood,  
as also is the driving seat and the floor  
of the cab. But apparently he was over-  
powered by force of numbers, and drag-  
ged out of the cab to the front of where  
the vehicle was standing. There is blood  
on the front of the fender.  
Having dragged their victim about ten  
yards from the cab, the murderers evi-  
dently robbed him of all he possessed in  
the way of money, but in their haste  
dropped the one-dollar bill.  
Stupefied by the blows dealt him,  
Stron managed to stagger from the scene  
of the murder to Holmstead, about  
half a mile distant. His guide was a  
light in the home of Thomas H. Watt, a  
carpenter. Stron was unable to tell a  
coherent story, and could only mumble  
unintelligible sounds. Watt conveyed

## Baby's Own Soap



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the injured man to the office of Dr. J.  
D. Berry, stop thirty-four, Yonge street,  
where first aid was given, and from  
which place the police were notified of  
the tragedy. An ambulance was de-  
spatched to the doctor's office, and Stron  
was conveyed to the hospital. He was  
semi-conscious when admitted, but  
lapsed into a coma from which he never  
awoke.

## STEAL 500 LB. SAFE WITH \$10,000 IN IT

Nashua, N. H., Oct. 26.—One of the  
most daring robberies ever entered upon  
the local police records was committed  
by two men who drove a large truck to  
the store of Adam Boktas, of High  
street, jimmied open the front door and  
carried away a 500-pound safe, which  
contained \$10,000 in cash and securities.  
The bold robbery was committed sev-  
eral hours before daylight. Under cover  
of darkness, the thieves carefully  
drove their car up in front of Mr. Bok-  
tas' store. They both got out and he-  
gan to jimmy open the front door. Ac-  
cording to the marks on the wooden par-  
titions near the door and the wooden  
blockade itself, the task of getting in-  
side was not very difficult.  
After gaining entrance, the two thieves  
went to the large safe and rolled it to  
the door. Presumably they rolled it on  
the truck by means of a large wooden  
runway, as it would have been a dif-  
ficult task for the two men to lift the  
safe bodily on to the truck. Then the  
truck sped toward the Massachusetts  
State line.  
Mr. Boktas stated that the safe con-  
tained \$805 in cash, \$700 in war saving  
stamps, two \$50 Liberty Bonds and  
seven bank books, the total value rep-  
resenting about \$10,000.  
Later in the morning the local police  
received word that a resident of Biller-  
ica, Mass., saw the two men drive up  
a wood's road near his home, push off  
the safe, blow it open and then make  
off with the booty. The police, who were  
on the trail, found the safe and the  
worthless contents strewn over the road  
at Billerica. Both New Hampshire and  
Massachusetts police are on a lookout  
for the thieves. An arrest is expected  
shortly the local police declare. They  
believe that at least one of the men was  
well aware of the fact that Mr. Boktas  
kept such a large amount of money and  
securities in the safe.  
See adv. on page seven.

## STRING OF HITS IN OPERA HOUSE SHOW

Colored Dancing Team  
Scores Knockout—Classy  
Sketch—Clever Comics and  
Gymnasts.

It is not stretching the truth a bit to  
say that the new show at the Opera  
House is a succession of vaudeville hits  
—the kind of hits that in baseball would  
be called home runs. It is all so good  
that the audience has hard work to  
properly express appreciation—no rests,  
no waits for something good to happen,  
but just a continuous flow of headline  
stuff.

To Williams and Taylor, a pair of  
amazingly agile young colored men,  
must be given the distinction of being  
by far the best dancing team yet seen  
in Opera House vaudeville. Their work  
is of such sensational quality that the  
audience applauds almost continually  
while the act is on, instead of waiting  
for the close, and this is something al-  
most unheard of in vaudeville.

June Ines, assisted by C. Albertson,  
formerly leading man to several of the  
movie stars, present a pretty comedy  
sketch, with songs entitled "The Tail of  
a Sall."

The Mann Brothers do some tight  
rope work that makes the audience take  
particular notice. They do a lot of nerve  
tingling stunts such as back somersaults  
on the slender rope from different posi-  
tions with never a mis.

Stuart and Harris open the bill with  
a comedy juggling turn that wins easily.  
Lonna Naemoin, Spanish comedienne,  
entertains very nicely with four cheer-  
ful songs, the way they should be sung.  
Altogether the Opera House show is a  
regular fountain of joy.

## OBSERVANT FARMER AVERTS TRAIN WRECK

Noticing Peculiar Sound of Train, Finds  
Broken Rail, Mounts Guards.

London, Ont., Oct. 26.—Grand Trunk  
officials in this city are procuring the  
facts concerning the saving from pos-  
sible wreck of G. T. R. Express No. 88,  
which runs between Toronto and Lon-  
don, via Stratford, on Friday night last.

A farmer between Petersburg and  
Baden thought he heard peculiar sounds  
as the rear of an eastbound train, No.  
39, passed over the rails near his farm.  
Taking a lantern, he patrolled the tracks  
and soon found a broken rail. He main-  
tained his watch until 8:30, a fast express,  
west-bound, in charge of Conductor  
Jack McViliffe and Engineer Alex. Hay  
of London, were in sight. Waving the  
lantern, he stopped the train, and it pro-  
ceeded cautiously over the break, later  
sending section men to the scene to  
mend the rail.

There are steep embankments at both  
sides where the mishap occurred, and  
railway men say the farmer undoubtedly  
was the means of preventing a bad run-  
off. It is understood that the company  
intends to reward him for his commenda-  
ble act.

Sleets almost given away at Lesser's.  
See adv. on page seven.



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MANITOBA'S CROP. In an acre, according to the provincial age planted was 8,800,000 in comparison compared with 80.75 last year. Barley  
Winnipeg, Oct. 26.—Manitoba's wheat department of agriculture. This is an shows an increase with the average  
crop for the last season totalled 48,123, estimated increase of 10,885,000 bushels—acreage also is greater than in 1920, but yield estimated at 21.50 bushels, com-  
500 bushels, or an average of 18.75 bush- per acre 1920 figures. The total acre- the average yield is 27 bushels an acre pared with 21 bushels in 1920.

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