

### REAL HERO OF ROMANCE SLAIN WITH BOOTS ON

#### Mormon Joe, Shepherd, Shot Dead in Gambling House Like Story Told.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Dec. 29.—"Mormon Joe," Wyoming's man of mystery, story book hero, described by Caroline Lockhart in her Western tale of The Fighting Shepherdess, sheep herder and gambler, died in real life last week just about as he died in the story book—died with his boots on and a bullet through his heart. He was killed in a gambling den in Kirby, Wyo., shot through and through because he refused to play a crossed game of dice.

In appearance "Mormon Joe" was a typical trapper and sheep herder, with all that the "appearance" means. His speech was that of thorough refinement. His official name was "James Smith," and somewhere "back east" his people were supposed to be somebody. In Wyoming he was a sheep herder. With his collie dog, "Mormon Joe" followed the sheep into the solitary places on the slopes of the mountains, sometimes not seeing a human face for weeks. Then, with the wages of months in his pocket, he re-entered "civilization" and in a few hours lost all his money at the gambling table. "Mormon Joe" recently entered Kirby from a three months' trip with the herd. During those three months he had scarcely seen a soul. He wanted relaxation and excitement. He went to Henry Bruce's gambling house.

Here is the story of the end of "Mormon Joe," as told in a Wyoming local newspaper:

"After having killed James Smith at Kirby, twenty miles north of Casper, Henry Bruce's conscience evidently bothered him, for he asked a friend to call about Henry's at Casper, and with the countess Smith's body was found dead in Bruce's gambling hall with a \$10 bill clamped in his hand.

Smith started gambling at Bruce's game. Bruce became disinterested with the amount of money being staked in on craps. He offered Smith to change the dice. This Smith refused to do. A quarrel started and ended when Bruce opened fire, scattering Smith's e-gut times in the body. Just before the gun play started Bruce had paid Smith \$10. After the shooting, the gambling house was deserted, Bruce going over to stand by the police. Then he asked the authorities to be notified. When the sheriff came Bruce surrendered. The coroner's verdict was that Smith came to his death of gunshot wounds and recommended that Bruce be held for trial on a charge of first degree murder.

That was all the killing of "Mormon Joe" was worth in his home town. He had been only a sheep herder with a past in the country in which he lived.

The story book "Mormon Joe" had an old violin which he carried with him in the moss wagon. At night, after the sheep had settled down under the shining stars, the sheep herder with a past would bring out the old fiddle, from which he would draw strains from the world's best music which proclaimed the travel stained sheep herder in his faded overalls and limp rimmed, peak crowned hat, another of the incongruities of the Far West—a West that has been a haven for civilization's mistakes, failures and misdeeds.

Here's the way the story book "Mormon Joe" died: "A weaving figure was making its way down the middle of Main street. A thick coated collar followed closely. The swaying figure looked like a drunken gnome in its chimney coat and peak crowned hat. A scream—it must have reached the sky. Piercing, agonized—the agony of a man screaming with his mouth open, screaming without restraint in animal-like unconsciousness of what he was doing.

"So 'Mormon Joe,' screaming in agony, staggered up the alley, leaving a crimson trail behind him, the sheep dog following like a shadow. 'Mormon Joe' had gone over—dying as he had lived, a Man of Mystery."

### Masonry's Gain In Membership Is Called Abnormal

#### Belief in Some Quarters the Factory Is Running Too Much Overtime.

London, Dec. 29.—New Zealand Masons look with anxiety upon the abnormal increase numerically which is being made by Freemasonry in all its branches in that jurisdiction, in common with the world-wide expansion at the present moment. A warning is issued by a well-known brother who says that most lodges are like munition factories during the war, working at high pressure and making Masons at a rate never before experienced. The only lodge that does not share in the excitement in New Zealand is the Lodge of Research, which is not a degree manufactory. He thinks that words of warning are necessary in order that the brake may be applied to the present high rate of speed and greater care be exercised in the loading of the train in the future.

An excess of candidates must, he says, lead to a restricted supervision in admissions. The aim of a lodge should be to excel not in numerical progression, but in its record of good works performed. Lodges must not become lifebound with the forms of ritual ceremonial without giving effort to the lessons therein contained, nor must quality be sacrificed to quantity. Only suitable propositions must be accepted, even if the numerical progress of the lodge during the year be small.

A similar warning has also been

### Main St. Church Christmas Treat

#### Annual Xmas Supper for Intermediates and Seniors - Santa Claus Presented Gifts

The annual Christmas and supper of the Main street Baptist Sunday school was held last night for the intermediates and seniors, and over 300 sat down to a bountiful repast, appreciating a fine style by the lady teachers of the school.

After the establish had been disposed of, Santa Claus, in the person of M. D. Morrell came down the chimney and out the fireplace in the good old-fashioned way and proceeded to strip two large Christmas trees, handing to each person present a bag containing an orange, some nuts and candy and a bookie.

On Saturday afternoon next the members of the primary class will have their innings, when a supper and tree will be provided for them.

### Delightful Fantasy "Santa Claus Land"

#### Pupils of Portland Methodist Church Sunday School Presented Very Pretty Program Last Evening.

"Santa Claus Land" was the name of the delightful fantasy given by the pupils of the Portland Methodist Church Sunday School in their room last evening. The little playlet, which was a very musical and pretty conversation, featured Santa Claus and his good spouse, Mrs. Santa Claus, eight pretty little fairies, and eight cheery young girls, as well as Jack Frost, and a poor little girl named Mary. The concluding of the piece was very effective, and the entire entertainment a complete success. It was given with a good attendance and is to be again repeated this evening.

### Accuse Inspector of Removing \$500

#### Pictou, N. S., Dec. 29.—Having searched the house of Captain W. D. Pearl, here, and found nothing alcoholic, Prohibition Inspector Helebert is now under arrest, charged with removing \$500 from a trunk in Captain Pearl's residence during the liquor search.

### Crerar Silent On King Conference

Winnipeg, Dec. 29.—Hon. T. A. Crerar, leader of the Progressive party, returned from the East this afternoon. He declined to make any statement on the political side of his conference with Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King in regard to cabinet construction.

uttered by the grand secretary of England and other prominent brethren in other jurisdictions. Some years since, an endeavor was made in England to gather in all and sundry, but the absurdity of this policy has now been realized.

The Royal Arch degree continues to make progress in South Australia and, according to a report just issued by the assistant grand scribe, J. R. Robertson, increased interest is being manifested by the members in the work of their respective chapters. During the year ending June 30 last there was a net increase of 120, making the total number of subscribing members 894. Two new chapters were formed during the year and another warrant was issued after the close of the financial year. A. W. Piper, K. C. has again been elected as first grand principal and A. A. L. Rowley and H. K. Woods have been elected as second and third principals.

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### Four Bandits Shot And Killed Clerks of National Bank

#### Made Their Escape Without Securing Booty—One Bandit Believed Seriously Wounded.

Pearl River, N. Y., Dec. 29.—Four bandits shot and killed the assistant cashier and a clerk of the First National Bank here today, and escaped in an automobile after wounding a railroad guard.

The bandits entered the bank during the lunch hour, when the cashier was absent and there were no customers in the building.

Both James B. Moore, assistant cashier and Siegfried Buis, 30 year old clerk, were shot through the head, dying almost immediately. Otto Miller, wounded by the holdup men when he ran toward them from his switchman's shanty thirty yards from the bank, was taken to the hospital in Kirby.

A trail of blood, leading to the rear window of the bank building through which the robbers entered and escaped, indicated that one of them was wounded.

Attracted to the bank by the prospect of obtaining a \$7,000 payroll of the Dexter Police Company plant, across the street, the robbers, without any preliminaries, began shooting. Investigation showed the robbers had obtained nothing. The payroll had been taken to the factory before their arrival and the inner doors to the vaults were locked.

### N. B. Telephone Co. Xmas Entertainment

#### Officials and Employees Had Large Tree Laden With Gifts for Destitute City Families.

The truth of the text, "It is more blessed to give than to receive," was strikingly demonstrated at the annual Christmas entertainment of the officials and employees of the N. B. Telephone Company, Ltd., which was held last evening in the company's building on Prince William street.

Instead of the usual Christmas tree with gifts for the employees, the relieving of some destitute families in the city was considered. Each employee was invited to bring, thirty cents or some article of food in the hope that the contributions received would be sufficient to make up boxes for twenty families. The different departments were notified what articles they would be expected to bring. These included flour, tea, sugar, onions, codfish, butter, oatmeal, soap, condensed milk, canned goods, doughnuts, cookies, bread and several kinds of vegetables.

So generous was the response that the energetic committee will be able to furnish boxes for twenty-four families each box containing in addition, one bushel of flour, thirty cents worth of potatoes and five pounds of beef. These boxes will be delivered on Saturday to families recommended by the Associated Charities.

In addition to the large collection of groceries that were received and appropriately grouped around a large Christmas tree, the tree itself was garlanded with strings of dollar bills.

In addition to dancing, an attractive literary and musical programme was carried out.

The committee in charge of the affair were: Miss P. Cameron, Miss P. Vincent, Miss R. Bushby, Miss B. Dunlop, Miss K. Murphy, Miss G. Holmes, Miss A. Nixon, Miss M. Morrison, L. Mersereau, D. B. McAllister, O. J. Fraser, chairman.

### Hughes and Balfour May Settle The Shantung Dispute

#### Their Mediation Regarded as Only Feasible Way of Dealing With Question.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Mediation by United States Secretary of State Hughes and Arthur J. Balfour, head of the British delegation at the arms conference, was suggested today as the only feasible way of settling the Shantung question, which has reached the stage of deadlock through the intimation of Japanese representatives that Japan has gone as far as she can in the way of concessions.

The direct conversations between the Chinese and Japanese delegates were broken off because all efforts to agree on the major point—the manner of restoration of the Shantung Railway—had proved futile. Apparently neither party sees its way clear to ask for a resumption of the suspended conversations, while both are putting forward the strength of public opinion in their homelands as legitimate justification for the impossibility of further compromise.

### Rosary Hall Sewing Class Entertained

#### Girls' Work Committee of Catholic Women's League Were Hostesses at Enjoyable Christmas Treat.

The Girls' Work Committee of the Catholic Women's League were the hostesses at a most enjoyable Christmas entertainment and treat given to the members of the Rosary Hall Sewing Class, at Rosary Hall last evening.

At the beginning of the evening a large Christmas tree in the reception hall, beautifully decorated and ablaze with myriad lights, was found to be laden down with presents and pretty gifts were presented to each girl guest by the president of the Catholic Women's League, Mrs. D. P. Chisholm, and by the convener of the evening, Mrs. M. J. McGrath, accompanied by the good wishes of Following the presentation of gifts,

games music and songs were enjoyed, and then the merry company adjourned to the refractory, where at a handsomely appointed table delicious sandwiches, coffee and cakes were partaken of.

Following the refreshments songs and music were again enjoyed, and the meeting broke up with the singing of the National Anthem.

The girl guests entered wholeheartedly into the spirit of the evening, and merriment and Christmas jollity were much in evidence. Much credit is due Mrs. McGrath and her committee of energetic workers to whose efforts the success of the entertainment was largely due.

### PLEASING PRESENTATION.

A number of the friends of Mr. and Mrs. J. Stekolny, No. 88 Rockland road, visited their home last evening and tendered them an enjoyable surprise party. Songs, games and music were indulged in and refreshments served, and the hosts were presented with a beautiful electric reading lamp, accompanied by the good wishes of the company.

### North End Fire Late Last Night

#### Damages amounting to upwards of a couple of hundred dollars were sustained by a fire which was discovered at about ten to one this morning, between the second and third floors of a three storied wooden dwelling at No. 437 Main street, owned by Robert Carson.

The fire was believed to be due to a defective flue and was discovered by the tenant of the upper flat, a man named McInnis who had moved in the previous day. It was found necessary to cut through a section of the flooring and tear down a mantle to get control of the flames.

John Wilkins was the tenant on the second floor.

Only a quick response to the call from box 143 and the clever work of the firemen prevented what would have been a serious fire in view of the fact that the house was a wooden one, and a high wind prevailed.

### Married

#### WATERS-HOLMES—At Gagetown on December 28, Helen Holmes, Gagetown, to Geo. R. Waters, Fredericton Junction.

### Died

#### MOULTON—Suddenly on December 27, Hazel Moulton, age 11, son of Mrs. Elizabeth and the late George Moulton, of North Sydney, leaving his wife, one daughter and an infant son, mother, seven sisters and three brothers.

Funeral from his late residence, 115 St. James street, Friday, at 3 p.m.

KELNAN — At Winthrop, Mass., Tuesday, Dec. 27, Miss Clara Keenan, youngest daughter of the late Patrick Keenan, formerly of St. John, North End.

Funeral from the residence of her sister, Mrs. E. McCarron, 430 Douglas avenue, at 8 o'clock Saturday morning. Requiem mass at Holy Trinity at 8:30 o'clock.

### AMALGAMATION GOVERNMENT PROPOSED

#### In the Formation of His Own Has Had National Unity in Mind—Admits Having His Cabinet.

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—(Canadian Press)—That Hon. Hewitt Bostock, Minister of Public Works, would appointed Speaker of the Senate, soon as Parliament meets, and that Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux would be appointed Speaker of the House of Commons was contained in a statement issued by Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King immediately following the "swearing in" of his cabinet this morning. The statement also added: "Senator Bostock, it is expected will be succeeded in the leadership of the Senate by Hon. Raoul Dandurand."

After announcing a reduction in the number of portfolios, the statement added: "The Departments of Military Service, Air Force and Mounted Police are to be combined in one Department of National Defence. This new administration will also give consideration to the advisability of appointing younger members of the House of Commons as parliamentary under-secretaries to the ministers, in order that they may qualify for promotion. Hon. Charles Stewart is to be acting Minister of Immigration and Colonization."

Premier's Statement

The statement follows:

In the formation of the Government, I have aimed, above all else, at national unity. This end I have felt would be served and the federal spirit of our constitution most acceptably recognized by according representation in the cabinet, so far as might be possible, to all the provinces, Canada, and that with regard to the number of constituencies in each province and to groups of associated provinces. In those parts of Canada where Liberal thought and opinion is divided, though equally opposed to the reactionary character and policies of the late administration, I felt that national unity would be further promoted and confidence and good will between all parties and classes augmented were opportunity of representation in the new Liberal administration afforded individuals enjoying the confidence of a considerable portion of the Canadian electorate who, for such representation, might, as the years pass, be led to experience a feeling of isolation as respects the formation and administration of our national policies. Accordingly, I made known that, regardless of existing differences, I was prepared to consider representation in the cabinet of all who were prepared to advocate and support Liberal principles and policies, such representation to be on a basis identical with that expected of every member of the new administration. Whilst it was felt by those with whom I conferred that existing

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