

WILL THERE BE A PROTEST?

The Recent Frauds to be Investigated at Once.

A Toronto despatch says that the commission which Premier Ross promised to investigate the ballot-stuffing in West Elgin will be made public this week.

Donald Macnish, the defeated candidate, was in Toronto on Friday and had an interview with Mr. Ross. Mr. Macnish said there was talk of a protest against Finlay Macdiarmid's return, but so far as he was concerned he would not make any.

A WOMAN EXECUTED.

Hilda Blake, of Brandon, Expiates Her Crime at Brandon.

Brandon, Man., Dec. 27.—Hilda Blake was hanged here in the jail yard this morning for the murder of Mrs. John Lane. She showed the same firmness in stepping on to the platform of the scaffold as she had shown ever since she confessed her crime. When asked if she had any statement to make she said: "Nothing."

Hilda Blake was a domestic servant who shot and killed Mrs. John Lane, of this place, by whom she was employed, early in July last. The servant and her mistress were alone in the house, and the latter was engaged in putting up curtains. On being shot Mrs. Lane rushed screaming to the lawn, where her little children were having a tea party, and fell dead. Hilda Blake, on being questioned, said a tramp had come to the house and asked for food; that Mrs. Lane told him she was too busy to attend to him, and that he then fired at her and ran away. The man the girl said, spoke like a foreigner. The whole town turned out to look for the murderer, and a Galician immigrant was arrested but proved his innocence and was released. On July 10 Hilda Blake was arrested and identified as a girl who on June 20 had purchased a revolver and cartridges while in Winnipeg. After being arrested the girl made a complete confession and begged to be allowed to commit suicide. She said she had purchased the revolver with the intention of killing herself, but that in a fit of insane jealousy she went up to Mrs. Lane, kissed her, and then shot her. First she fired at her head, then as her mistress ran away, she shot her in the back, the second shot having fatal effect. Hilda Blake was 22 years of age, and was sent to this country by an English workhouse along with other children. She was an orphan.

COUNTY NEWS.

The by-law to abolish the ward system in St. Thomas was carried at the municipal elections.

Charles L. Stafford, merchant, Shedden, was united in marriage on Wednesday to Blanche, youngest daughter of S. H. Weldon. Rev. J. R. Phillips, of St. Thomas, performed the ceremony.

Four Rodney boys were charged before Squire Morris on Saturday with having taken waste from boxes on M.C.R. cars the night of the election. The lads were given a lecture and discharged.

W. H. Ingram, postmaster, of St. Thomas, has been relieved of his duties and the office is now in charge of Inspector Bennett, of Ottawa. The inspector refuses to talk regarding the matter.

At Knox church maase, South London, on New Year's day, W. K. Clark, western representative for Heintzman & Co., was married to Miss Mand McCallum, of Rodney. Rev. J. G. Stuart tied the nuptial knot.

Harman Couse and G. A. Barrett, of St. Thomas, have been accepted by the military authorities for service in South Africa. They were given a farewell banquet by the citizens and presented with \$15 each by the mayor on behalf of the city.

At Fingal on Wednesday a pleasant social event occurred, being the marriage of D. McFayden, principal of the Park street school, Windsor, to Maggie Bissell, youngest daughter of John Bissell. The ceremony was performed by Rev. A. McFayden, father of the groom.

About a month ago an agent called on the employees in the M.C.R. shops and told them he had been sent by the president to write up a history of their lives. He requested the men to sign their names in a book so that he would know to whom to send the sketches. It now appears that the men signed an agreement to pay \$15 for a book and they are now being delivered.

According to the report of the inspector of registry offices the total number of instruments registered in Elgin during the year 1899 was 2,855; deeds, 918; mortgages, 741; the fees for deeds being \$1,414, and for mortgages, \$822. The number of discharges registered was 822, the fees for the same being \$420. The number of wills registered was 75, the fees being \$181. Twenty eight leases were registered, with fees of \$47. The gross amount of fees earned during the year was \$4,020, an increase of \$97 over the previous year. The sum of \$545 was paid to the deputy registrar, and \$455 for other charges in connection with the office. The amount paid to the municipality, \$804. The total amount of the mortgages registered was \$929,152.

The People's Popular Trading Place.

T. HOCKIN, Dutton.

Cold Weather Goods.

We are well prepared for the Cold Snap. Anything you may require in the following articles we will sell you at Close Prices.

- Men's Coats \$10.50, 14.00, 18.00, 20.00
- Men's Ulster Coats \$5 to 15.00
- Men's Fine Beaver Overcoats 6.00 to 15.00
- Men's Ali Wool Scotch Underwear, each 50c
- Men's heavy all-wool Socks, 2 pairs for 25c
- Men's all-wool Full Cloth Pants 1.25 and 1.50
- Goat Robes, large size 5.50
- Lined Horse Blankets 1.00 to 2.00
- Men's Fur Gauntlets 1.00 to 3.00
- Men's Fur Caps 1.00 to 6.00
- Men's Grained Felt Boots, the 3.00 kind for 2.50
- Men's Rubbers and Socks, the Granby kind.
- White Wool Blankets, per pair 2.50 to 6.00
- White and Grey Shaker Blankets, per pair 75c
- Grey and White Shaker Flannel for Blankets, 72 inches wide, per yard 75c
- Bed Comforters, each 75c to 4.00
- Ladies' all-wool Hose, black, per pair 15c

- Ladies' Astrachan Gauntlets from 4.00 up.
 - Ladies' Grey Lamb Gauntlets, 5.00 up.
 - Ladies' Astrachan Coats, 22.50 up.
 - Ladies' Fur Capes, 9.50 to 30.00.
 - 20 only Ladies' Jackets, were 5.00 to 10.00, to clear out at \$2.50 each.
 - Ladies' Astrachan Caperines, new goods, each 6.00
- Our Stock is large and well-assorted in all Lines and must be largely reduced before Stock Taking.**

Special Sale of Men's, Boy's and Youths' Clothing.

- Men's All-Wool Tweed Suits, 5.00.
- Boys' 3-piece Suits 3.50 up.
- Boys' 2-piece Suits, 1.00 up.

It will Pay You to Call Here for the Next Two Weeks. Fashion Sheets for January Free.

T. HOCKIN.

SUCCESSFUL TEACHERS.

The following pupils in attendance at the late term of the Elgin Model School have been awarded third class teachers' certificates:

Maud Cameron, Nettie Cathcart, Kitty Evans, Jessie Ferguson, Edna Freek, Hannah Hollingshead, Fanny Hoover, Annie Lyle, Sophia Merry, May Murray, Kathleen McCally, Tena McPhail, Clara Procutner, Alice Ruthven, Bernice Sheldon, Laura Simpson, Annie Weldon, Wm. Backus, Walter Cole, John B. Evans, A. Haviland, Ben Keilor, Wm. King, Colin Lanning, Neil McFayden, Austin McLean. The board decided to grant the following certificates for one year. They are required to take the examination again in 1900: Frazie McDonnell, H. Branton, R. McMillan.

The following teachers have applied for admission to a Normal school and been refused for the next two terms, have had their certificates continued for one year: Alicia Marshall, Jessie Ward, May Dalgliesh, Maud Patterson, Tena Beaumes, May Ferguson, J. Buchanan, M. Sanders, N. McMillan, E. E. Best, A. McIntyre, N. McPhail. The following not having been able to obtain schools and teach for three years, for which their certificates were originally given, have had their certificates continued to enable them to complete their three years: L. Stacey, E. Gunstone, L. Dalton, A. Dodd, A. Walker, M. Kearns, A. Holloway, R. McKenzie, E. Miller, W. Campbell, A. Baldwin, L. L. Harrison, W. Burgar.

Daniel Ostrander, Yarmouth Heights, died Tuesday with pneumonia, aged 74 years. He was born in the township in which he lived all his life. His wife and one son and one daughter survive him.

Renew your subscriptions for all papers at this office and save money.

MORTGAGE SALE.

DEFAULT having been made in the payment of a certain Indenture of Mortgage dated the tenth day of January, 1898 (which said Mortgage will be produced at the time of sale), there will be offered for sale by public auction under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgage, at the Queen's Hotel in the Village of Dutton on

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1900

At the hour of two o'clock p.m. the following valuable village property, namely, village lot "B" in Block Four, north of Shackleton street, in the incorporated Village of Dutton, according to registered plan No. 148 made by Charles E. Fitton, P. L. S. On the said lands there is a first-class brick residence and a good frame stable. This property is one of the most desirable residences in the Village of Dutton, being excellently situated and offers a most excellent opportunity to any person desiring to purchase a good and conveniently located home. The lot is a large one, and being a corner lot possesses great advantages.

TERMS OF SALE—Fifteen per cent. of the purchase money to be paid to the Vendor's Solicitor on the day of sale, and the balance within fifteen days thereafter. The property will be sold subject to a reserved bid. For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to

C. ST. CLAIR LEITCH, Vendor's Solicitor.

Dated at Dutton this 30th day of Dec., 1899.

MATRON AND MAID.

Sarah Cohen, an aged Jewess of New York, makes a comfortable living matching buttons for society women.

The Duchess of Devonshire, the Marchioness of Londonderry and the Countess of Cadogan seldom miss a great race meeting.

The eldest daughter of Charles Kingsley, Miss Rose Kingsley, has been made an officer de l'instruction publique by the French government.

Mrs. Aubrey Richardson has written a book entitled "Famous Ladies of the English Court" that is creating some interest in London society. She does not spare some of the ladies.

Mme. Melba says that the truest compliment she ever received was from a little boy in the west, who blushing remarked, "You can sing nicer than my pop can whistle on his fingers."

Miss Alice Serber has been admitted to the bar of the federal court in New York. She is the first woman granted that privilege and was the first Russian woman to practice law in America.

For the third time Mrs. Sarah Storey has been elected supreme chief of the order of Companions of the Forest at the recent convention at Providence. She was the first woman to be appointed supreme state deputy.

Miss Garrick, superintendent of the English army nursing service, accompanied by seven sisters, who were also trained nurses, were the first regular nurses to arrive at the seat of war in South Africa.

The late Mrs. Mary Brunot of Pittsburgh, widow of Felix Brunot, bequeathed the bulk of her estate, valued at \$110,000, to religious and charitable organizations, the religious beneficiaries being mainly Protestant Episcopal.

Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, the president of the National Federation of Women's clubs, speaks fluently French, Spanish, Italian and German. Of all these tongues she is said to be such a mistress as not to speak them with any trace of foreign accent.

Mme. Algeria de Reyna-Barrios, widow of President Barrios of Guatemala, is about to go on the stage as an actress. She must now earn her own living, as the \$10,000,000 estate left by her husband was seized by creditors when the president was assassinated in a revolutionary riot.

A recent arrival at San Francisco was Miss Pauline Drollet, who is looked upon by the natives in Papeiti, of the south sea islands, as their queen. As a direct descendant of a former king of the islands she would now be queen in fact had it not been for an edict of the French government in her childhood.

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In the Surrogate Court of the County of Elgin.

In the Matter of the Estate of Lucy Ann DeCov, late of the Township of Dunwich, in the County of Elgin, and Province of Ontario, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, PURSUANT to R.S.O., 1897, and amending Acts (if any) that all persons having claims against the estate of the said Lucy Ann DeCov, who died on or about the third day of November, A.D. 1899, are required to send by post, prepaid, or to deliver to W. Harold Barnum, Dutton, Ontario, Solicitor for the Executor, on or before the 30th day of January, 1900, their names, addresses and descriptions, and a full statement of particulars of their claims and the nature of the security (if any) held by them, duly certified, and that after the said day the executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have notice. Dated this 18th day of December, A.D. 1899.

W. HAROLD BARNUM,
Solicitor for Daniel DeCov, the Executor.

LOST.

TWO Notes, one for \$29.37 and the other for \$100, made by Richard Humphries to J. R. Humphries. Parties are warned not to purchase the said notes, as the same have been paid.

Hon. J. R. Stratton has notified license inspectors to see that all hotels are in a good sanitary condition and report any defects. In future the licenses will depend on the manner, sanitary and otherwise, hotels are kept.

John Cavanagh, of London, has been committed for trial on the charge of murdering his mother.

Dunwich and Southwold FARMS FOR SALE.

50 ACRES in the Tenth Concession of Dunwich. Will be sold at a bargain.

50 ACRES in the Fifth Concession South of Con. A. Good house and barn. Farm in first-class shape; well watered and fenced; convenient to church, school and market.

100 ACRES on the Back Street, Southwold. Farm in splendid condition. Good house and barn. Liberal terms to purchaser. Owner wishes to sell on account of his age. Immediate possession given.

100 ACRES north of North Branch of Talbot Road, Southwold. Good farm, slightly broken in front, good house and barn, well watered and drained. Will be sold cheap.

60 ACRES in the Second Concession of Southwold. Splendid farm in a convenient location. Good house and barn; well watered. Immediate possession.

For further particulars apply to Good Store Property in the Village of Dutton for sale cheap.

W. HAROLD BARNUM,
Barrister, Etc., Dutton

NOTICE.

THE Annual Meeting of the West Elgin Agricultural Society will be held in the Town Hall, Wallacestown, on

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1900

At one o'clock p.m., for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, receiving auditors' report and the transaction of other business. Also applications will be received for the office of secretary for the year 1900.

ARCH. MCKILLIP, DAN. MCCALLUM, Sec.

We take orders for all newspapers.