

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 1925

## Criminals of East More Adroit Than Occidentals, Says Writer

I wonder whether Scotland Yard, in the intervals of wrestling with problems of the unsolved murder mystery and "cat" burglary kind, ever give a thought to the difficult tasks which occasionally beset their confederates in India? asks H. T. Adams in "The London Daily Mail".

The criminal of the East is far more subtle, cunning, patient, painstaking and adroit than the most "accomplished" crook to be found in the West. Therefore, it naturally follows that the task of catching him must be much more difficult.

As is generally known the head police officials in India are British, although they have the assistance of native experts. There is a native detective in Bombay—a kind of C. I. D. man—who at crime investigation could make our best Sherlock Holmes look pretty silly.

He is a genius at disguise and knows every twist and turn of the Asiatic mind. There is scarcely a crook or crime in India with which he is not familiar. The most exciting crime story to be found in the records of this country is a mere prosaic list of facts compared with many of the astounding exploits of this Bombay sleuth.

Then there is the native "tracker," the like of whom is not to be found in the West. He will track a "wanted" man over hundreds of miles of country, the chase sometimes lasting for weeks, following "spoor" which will be quite invisible to other eyes.

There are many more different kinds of crimes and criminals in the East than are to be found in the West,

although some of them seem to correspond in their characteristics. For instance, in India they have the familiar confidence trick, although it is much more elaborately worked out and is more complete in the ruin it works on its victim or victims.

Sometimes the latter are being "angled" for for weeks before the actual fraud takes place, being eventually deceived of well nigh every rag of their worldly possessions. The tricksters play not only on their victims' cupidity, but also upon their superstitions.

Their methods are far too complicated and comprehensive to be detailed here. A film drama is not more elaborate in preparation. In fact, there is a certain curious resemblance between the two. There are sometimes many in a gang of Indian confidence tricksters, and their "stage management" is always skilful.

Of railway thieves alone there are six or seven distinct classes, who all "work" on different lines. Some haunt railway platforms and "operate" in the following, among other, ways: Say a traveler is standing on the platform of a station waiting for a train, having a small and a large bag at his feet.

One of the gang who have marked him for their attentions will openly snatch up the small bag and make off with it, the owner and others in pursuit. A confederate then picks up the big bag and quietly walks away with it. When the first thief reaches a certain distance he drops the bag and makes good his escape. The owner, giving up the chase, returns to find the bulk of his luggage gone.

## REV. R. M. LEGATE HOME FROM TORONTO

Says Prospects Are Bright For The Continuing Presbyterian Church.

Rev. R. Moorhead Legate returned yesterday from Toronto, where he represented New Brunswick on the Provisional Board of Home Missions of the continuing Presbyterian Church in Canada. Delegates attended from every province in the Dominion.

The board met to traverse the whole situation regarding home missions and the augmentation of stipends in connection with the continuing Presbyterian Church, and to prepare reports and make recommendations to the General Assembly.

Provision was made by the board for financing and caring for the oversight of all home mission and augmented charges which decided to continue Presbyterian, he said.

Says Money Abundant.

For these purposes the sinews of war were abundant, Mr. Legate said. Non-concurring minorities and ministers, who through a unionist vote had been deprived of their properties and pulpits would be adequately looked after, even to the smallest group deciding to remain Presbyterian, he said. "Close on 600 congregations have voted against union, of which less than 100 pay a lower stipend than \$1,200. That means that the strong congregations largely outnumber those requiring assistance," said Mr. Legate, who continued: "A fine spirit of enthusiasm is re-

## D. C. CLINCH AGAIN IS S. P. C. PRESIDENT

Greater Local Interest in Work of Anti-Cruelty Society Desired.

At the adjourned annual meeting of the New Brunswick Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, held at the Board of Trade rooms with D. C. Clinch, president, in the chair, the election of officers took place. Mr. Clinch was re-elected president, and S. M. Wetmore was re-elected secretary, while J. Verrier McEldan was elected treasurer to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of F. A. Dykeman. Additional vice-presidents, L. C. McNutt, of Fredericton, and W. S. Stevens, of St. Stephen, were elected. All of the other members of the executive were re-elected.

It was decided to call an early meeting of the executive to appoint an assistant to Mr. Wetmore during his illness. Several applications for the position have already been received. Miss Lillian Hazen acted as secretary yesterday.

There was some discussion as to ways and means of giving greater publicity to the work of the S. P. C. in Saint John and arousing greater local interest.

## CHINESE AT PEACE

Tongs Sign Treaty to End Warfare in The United States.

NEW YORK, March 26.—A treaty of peace signed today between the On Long and Hip Sing Tongs, officially ending the warfare which has caused the death of numerous Chinese in different parts of the country during the past few months.

Twenty special policemen were in the conference room during the ceremony attending the signing of the treaty by leaders of both tongs. More than one hundred policemen patrolled Mott street and neighboring vicinity during the conference.

## CANADIAN REACHES ROME

MARSEILLES, March 26.—George H. C. Smythe, the Canadian who is on a canoe voyage from London to Rome, arrived here today. He left Paris February 28, and canoed here by way of the Seine, the River Yonne and Burgundy Canal, and the Rivers Saone and Rhone.

## Strongly Supports Zionists' Ideas

JERUSALEM, March 26.—Lord Balfour defied Christian and Moslem residents of Palestine Thursday in a speech reiterating his belief in the policy of Zionization of the Holy Land.

"The Zionist policy is not mine," he said. "Not only Britain, but the whole body of international opinion is committed to it, and cannot be reversed."

## FATALLY INJURED

Sheet Harbor Man Dies as Result of Accident in Mill.

SHEET HARBOR, N. S., March 26.—Walter J. Behle, 66, died at his home here this evening from injuries sustained this afternoon when he was struck on the skull by a flying stick from a bark machine he was operating at the plant of the A. W. P. Company, Ltd. He is survived by his wife and eight children.

## POLICE FIRST AID TEAM WITHDRAWS

Dates Are Arranged For Saint John Ambulance Association Tests For Trophy.

The Saint John police team, which won the provincial championship in the First Aid competitions of the St. John Ambulance Association last year, will not enter in this year's contest, it is announced. Much disappointment is felt by those in charge of the competitions, as the local police team had a very high standing. It is probable also that one of the five C. N. R. First Aid teams of Moncton will withdraw from the provincial competition.

Dates Fixed.

Dr. G. G. Corbet will conduct the examinations for the trophy, and the dates on which he will put the various teams through their paces have been fully arranged. On March 27 and 28 the Moncton C. N. R. teams will be examined in Moncton. On March 30 in the evening the C. N. R. team and the Scoutmasters' team in Saint John will be examined by Dr. Corbet here, and on March 31 he will examine the McAdam team in Saint John also.

The winning team in the provincial competition is eligible to enter in the All-Canada competition for the Montzambert trophy of the St. John Ambulance Association.

## OBJECTS TO TAX

Manitoba Government Protests Against Export Duty on Power Going to United States.

WINNIPEG, March 26.—The Manitoba government may protest the duty

on power exported from Canada, as proposed in the Federal budget, Hon. W. R. Clubb, minister of public works, said today the provincial cabinet had the matter of protest under consideration.

The Manitoba power commission is at present negotiating for an agreement to supply power, for purely domestic purposes, to certain districts in Minnesota and North Dakota.

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