

# CORBYVILLE CROSSING FATALITY ACCIDENTAL

## No Blame Attached to G. T. R. and Its Employees For Death of Clifford Wallace, Says Jury.

"From the evidence produced we find that the accident occurred in a purely accidental way and that there can be no blame attached to the railway or any of its employees." This was the closing paragraph of the verdict returned to Coroner Dr. Boyce on Saturday evening at the close of the inquest into the death of Clifford Wallace at the Belleville General Hospital on Dec. 26th, as a result of injuries sustained when struck by a G.T.R. engine at a crossing north east of Corbyville. Crown Attorney Carney conducted the examination of witnesses and Mr. James Pratt of the G.T.R. legal staff, Montreal, appeared in the railway's interest.

Conductor C. M. Mitchell, who has been in the service of the G.T.R. for over nine years was in charge of the "extra" train from Lindsay to Belleville. Stock was left off at Peterborough and cars of wheat at Hoard's. The train consisted of an engine and caboose from Hoard's to Belleville.

"What was the first you heard of the accident?"

"I felt the brake go on right at the crossing."

The train ran from five to six car lengths after this.

The whistle had been sounded at the crossing and the bell rang from the board until after the accident.

"I saw the horse rolling in the ditch on the right hand side."

There were parts of the harness behind the van and the buggy on the left hand side about a car length further west or north. The conductor notified the men, one lying on his back on the buffalo robe and the other on his side. Witness saw both men were living and thought the best thing to do was to put them in the van. This was done. One walked into the van and the other was carried in. The men were brought in the Belleville station and taken to the hospital.

"Was there not some discussion between you and the women (those on the scene) as to your complying with the whistling regulations?"

"None whatever."

"How fast were you going at the time of the accident?"

"About 15 or 20 miles per hour."

From the west there is a little grade coming to the crossing. There is a clear view for nearly a mile west, said witness, referring to the railway.

"I asked the one gentleman that was able to talk, their names and if they had heard the whistle or bell. He told me they had not heard the whistle, nor the bell, nor had they seen it."

George Hannivan, engineer in charge of the train, testified that the train was in good working order. The accident happened at 11:15 a.m. The train was not intending to stop until it reached Belleville. The maximum speed on this division was 20 miles per hour with the large super-heater engine. Hannivan's fireman was on the left hand side from which the Wallace boys approached. He had been sweeping off the deck and was getting into his seat, when he gave the alarm. The engine was at the cattle guards at the crossing at that time. The train has a good clear view far along this line. There is a dip in the railway line "west" of the crossing. There was a light tethery snow, but not enough to obscure the view. The fireman yelled "whoa." The engineer threw the brake into emergency and stopped the train in six car lengths. From where the engine was, he saw the horse coming on his side. The engine and caboose went about three car lengths past the horse before the train stopped. The engineer had felt a jar just as he put on the brakes.

The whistle was sounded at the board west of the crossing.

The engineer declared no one charged him at the crossing with "not having" blown the whistle.

"I did all that was humanly possible, with the notice I had."

"Do you look at this crossing as a dangerous one?"

"I could not altogether say it is. The crossing is a little angular."

"Your train would not make much noise?"

"No. There was no puffing. The bell was ringing."

Hector Faulkner, fireman, gave evidence showing that he had been "firing" for 12 months on the "square list." He had been on the engine several times with Engineer Hannivan and found him very care-

ful. The fireman remembered the bell was sounding. He had been sweeping up his deck and was just getting into his seat to sit down. "I got out of the front window and saw the horse on the track. I shouted the 'whoa' to my mate. The engine was right at the horse. All I saw was the horse." Witness did not see the buggy as the glass in his side gave a glimpse only of the horse. Faulkner could not tell what the horse was doing.

"You had never taken a look-up the road when coming east?"

"No sir."

"If you had been looking you could have seen the boys coming away up the road?"

"Yes. He had, however, other duties to do."

R. Windsor, brakeman, testified that at the moment of the accident he remembered that all duties had been carried out, including whistling and bell ringing. Windsor was in the cupola of the caboose. He remembered the whistle blowing.

"Did you see this horse and buggy approaching?"

"No sir, the smoke and steam were coming from the engine."

R. Workman, brakeman declared there was no conversation at the crossing about a failure to carry out regulations. The bell was ringing and the whistle had blown. The duties of front brakeman were questioned by a juror. The forward brakeman generally rides in the cab. "Generally as a rule, I ride in the cupola" but on this occasion he had got down to fight a fire.

"Did you see any other duty to look out to see if anyone on the highway is safe?"

"Yes, sir."

Dr. Gibson saw the injured boys at the hospital. Clifford was unconscious, with little pulse. There were four different scalp wounds. The skull was fractured. The cause of death was injury to the brain. Clifford had lost a great deal of blood.

Dr. H. A. Yeomans corroborated the evidence of Dr. Gibson as to the serious injuries and loss of blood which caused the death of Clifford Wallace.

Mrs. Alice Frame, who was visiting at Mrs. Bell's home, about 100 feet from the crossing, testified that "The first I saw of the accident was when I came out of the house and saw the horse, buggy and train going down the track." She had heard the train coming and had seen the horse and buggy coming about 75 feet from the crossing.

"Before the train stopped, I was with the boys."

"Had you heard the train whistle?"

"No sir."

"Had you heard the bell ring?"

"No sir."

She told one of the train men the whistle had not been blown and he did not answer the charge.

Mrs. Frame said she heard the bell and whistle after the accident and not before.

Mrs. Lillian Barry testified that she saw the train carry the horse and buggy down the track. The train ran two telegraph poles past the crossing.

The train, witness thought, was going 40 miles per hour. She did not hear the whistle of the engine. The bell was not ringing nor was the whistle blowing.

John Crump, whose property is about 300 yards from the crossing said: "I heard the train strike something." He went to the scene, crossing the fields. Witness ran down to the track to get a phone message from Corbyville.

"I could not say whether the whistle was sounding or not." Like-wise of the bell.

The highway from the East crosses the track at an angle, which made a driver have his shoulder towards the train. The train seemed to be going along at an ordinary rate. There had been several accidents at the crossing.

Mr. Douglas Brenton, whose home is opposite the crossing thought the crossing somewhat dangerous.

"Is that a crossing trains always whistled at?"

"They don't always whistle, coming south."

To Mr. Pratt—"I know trains have passed that did not whistle."

Arthur Roy Wallace testified that he and Clifford left home for Belleville in a buggy with the top up. Clifford had seen over three years' service overseas and was 21 years of age. In coming to Belleville they

## Ed. C. Armstrong's Goods Recovered at Stratford

Lindsay, Dec. 29.—Mr. Ed. C. Armstrong received information from Chief Short on Wednesday which was in the nature of a surprise package. The Chief received word that day from Stratford that a trunk had been seized by the police in that city addressed to one, Alfred O'Brien, believed to be a fictitious name. When the trunk was opened it was found to contain the goods stolen from Mr. Armstrong's store last September. The Stratford Beacon makes the following reference to the seizure:

"The local police are holding a trunk which came to the city addressed to Alfred O'Brien, one of the boys who is now in Goderich jail serving sentence for theft and who with Ralph McPherson is wanted here on charges of theft and jail breaking. The trunk was seized at the express office where it had been for some time. It contained upwards of \$500 worth of men's wear and jewelry and the police are making enquiries to ascertain if another robbery has taken place. Among the articles in the trunk were two overcoats, two suits of clothes, several shirts, ties and collars, 56 pair cuff links, six safety razors, fountain pens and other articles. The suits bore the trade mark of a firm in Lindsay and Chief Lannin has written that city in an effort to secure information as to the owners of the goods."

## Kindly Taken for Christmas Season

The following letter which explains itself is published by Request—

Belleville, Dec. 22, 1919.

Mrs. Silas Balpit,

Dear Madam—

The employees of the G. T. R. shop ask you to accept this purse of \$104, as a slight token which they are sure you will be pleased to receive at this time. Your late deceased husband is not forgotten by his brother employees of the G. T. R. shops. We wish you and your children a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and may God spare you in health to enjoy many more festive seasons. Presented by A. Harrow, on behalf of the G. T. R. Committee W. Reever, P. Murray, J. Balanger, President.

## Many Floral Tributes at Soldier's Funeral

Numerous floral tributes gave united testimony of the general sorrow felt by the surrounding community because of the sad accident which brought to a premature close the promising career of Clifford Wallace of Gliesd.

It appears that this gallant young man had been the recipient of two medals for his distinguished services at the battlefield in France, the military medal for bravery on the field and the other for devotion to duty.

The general expressions of grief and of sympathy called forth by this deplorable accident were almost beyond precedent in this county. It was as though one of our most prominent public men had been suddenly called away.

There seemed about it all a strange and inexplicable fate that this young man, so loyal to his best convictions, so true to the home and the country he loved so well, should survive the manifold perils of war and then be cut off when in the midst of their career.

Such solemn and mysterious occurrences may well be left to all-wise Providence who knows what is best.

Among others were the following beautiful floral designs—

Broken wheel, father and mother. Spray, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Way. Wreath, Miss Cora Goodfellow; Spray, Bruce and Clarence Martin; Wreath, Mr. and Mrs. W. Simmons; Cross, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wallace. Spray, from the Missionary Society; Spray, Mr. and Mrs. Gardner and family Foxboro; Spray, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sheffield; Wreath, from the Standard Bank staff, Belleville; Spray, from Soldiers of Cecil and Grenville.

## Capt. L. F. Tanner Gives Good Advice

Tells People Who Would Keep Young to Use Dodd's Kidney Pills.

Nova Scotia Man Who Has Used Dodd's Kidney Pills for Pain in the Back Recommends Them to Everyone Who Suffers.

Cole Harbor, Guysboro Co., N.S. Dec. 29.—(Special)—Capt. Leander F. Tanner, a well-known resident here, is shouting the praises of Dodd's Kidney Pills. As a reliever of pain in the back he claims they are without an equal anywhere. He knows because he suffered severely with his back. He tried Dodd's Kidney Pills. He found in them the remedy he required. The Captain's other symptoms showed that his trouble came from bad kidneys. That's why Dodd's Kidney Pills cured him. They are a kidney remedy pure and simple.

"My trouble started from hard work and cold," Capt. Tanner states, "I suffered with pains in the back, and at times from rheumatism. I often had headaches, and sometimes cramps in the muscles. I was often dizzy and had flashes of light before the eyes at times. I perspired quite a lot with the least exertion."

Captain Tanner, who is 61 years of age, is still a young man. He advises those who would keep young to use Dodd's Kidney Pills.

## \$59,000 Paid Out by Condensery in Nov.

The place which the Chesterville branch of the Nestle's Food Company occupies in the organization is shown in the monthly report for November just received by Superintendent Herbert Hooks of the Maple Leaf Condensery. The plant has 426 patrons among the farmers

## Ten Gallons of Whiskey Was Seized

Police Also Found Stolen Automobiles Three in Search.

Kingston, Dec. 19.—What promised to supply Christmas cheer for a small sized army, was captured by the police on Wednesday afternoon, and the proposed Christmas "wet" celebration was nipped in the bud. Incidentally a number of stolen automobiles were found at the time that the police rounded up the wet goods, and are now reposing in the police station.

On Wednesday afternoon P. C. Naylor and Detective Cotter seized a ten gallon barrel of whiskey in a house on upper Pine street. The find was considered a good one but the police surprised even themselves when they accidentally came across ten automobiles tires in the same place, which it was later learned, were stolen from the Ford garage on Princess street. As yet no arrests have been made, but the police are working on the case and expect to round up the culprit or culprits very soon.

## Trainmen "Sick" Train Delayed

Lindsay, Dec. 29.—Simply astounding, according to railwaymen, were the numbers of conductors, brakemen, yardmen and engineers who became suddenly ill Wednesday night. Symptoms of the impending physical breakdown among the men consisted of excessive smiles and suddenly acquired mania for carrying parcels. Vaccination is said to be no cure.

Due to the unexplainable epidemic the C.P.R. "Lindsay" train, due to leave North Toronto at 12:25 Christmas morning, could not turn a wheel until 4:55. The regular engineer had "booked sick" and the C.P.R. call boys called in vain for a substitute. Of the twenty original passengers, fifteen stuck it out from midnight until daylight.

When the "Lindsay" did pull out she went with an engineer and a pilot. The engineer who had pulled in off another run altogether, consented, when called, to take the "Lindsay" to Peterboro if someone would show him the road.

## Wedding Bells

A quiet wedding took place on December 14, 1919, at St. Andrew's Church, Belleville, when A. M. Moroy of Pittsfield, Mass., became the wife of Gertrude Partridge, formerly of the Imperial Army, Rev. A. S. Kerr, M.A., officiated and the couple were unattended. After the ceremony a dainty wedding supper was served at the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs. F. B. Naylor, Victoria Avenue. After a brief honeymoon trip, Mr. and Mrs. Partridge took up their residence on the Front of Sidney.

## Laid to Rest

MARGARET A. S. SMART

The funeral of the late Miss Margaret A. S. Smart took place on Saturday from the undertaking parlors of Churchill and Spear to Christ Church, where service was conducted by Rev. W. G. Swayne. The remains were then taken to the G.T.R. station to be forwarded to Syracuse, N.Y., for interment.

The bearers were friends of the deceased.

Miss Laura P. Smart is the only surviving member of the family and the sincere sympathy of the community is extended to her in the loss of her beloved sister.

## IF ISN'T EASY—

To apologize,  
To begin again,  
To admit error,  
To be unselfish,  
To face a sneer,  
To be considerate,  
To endure success,  
To keep on trying,  
To profit by mistakes,  
To forgive and forget,  
To think and then act,  
To keep out of the rut,  
To make the best of little,  
To shoulder deserved blame,  
To subdue an ugly temper,  
To maintain a high standard,  
To recognize the silver lining,  
But — it always pays!

## WHOLE EARTH IN SIGHT

Canada, The Empire and The World In General Cut Down To A Column.

DOMINION.

Councillor N. L. Brandon, St. Mary's will run for mayor.

Mrs. Jos. McCully St. Thomas will run for Board of Education.

An early settlement of the moulders' strike at Sydney N.S. is looked for.

H. Oliver was elected president of the St. Thomas Musicians' Association.

Community Christmas tree celebrations were held in Kitchener and in Belleville.

Halifax city council raised the salary of E. L. Tracey License Inspector to \$2,500.

Carlisle Hotel Woodstock, N. B., has been purchased by F. Gallagher, Moncton.

Ex-Mayor J. W. Bowley Brantford has been mentioned as a candidate for mayor.

Woodstock, N. B., United Baptist Church burned the \$5,000 mortgage on the church.

All Saints' Church, Edmonton, was destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at \$60,000.

The steamer Plata is still ashore

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## DELANEY The Furrier

If you are looking for fur, distinctive in style and superior in workmanship call and see our stock. We are building up our business on square and honest dealing and you will find every article is just what we represent it to be. Everything is marked in plain figures and we have only one price.

We have a good range of No. 1 quality Hudson Seal Coats, plain and trimmed, Coats, Capes, Stoles, Mitts and Caps, and also a cheaper line in Ladies' and Men's Coats. Before buying, elsewhere come in and see what we have.



## Delaney "The Furrier"

THE ONE-PRICE FUR STORE Phone 787 Opp. Y.M.C.A.

# We Wish All Our Customers And Those Who Are Not Our Customers—

## A Bright Happy and Prosperous New Year

# OAK HALL

at Sable Island the tug Cruiser being unable to float her.

Sarnia police were given as a Christmas present a larger increase in pay.

Henry White K. C., of Port Hope, was elected vice-president of the Oddfellows' Relief Association.

The ice in the St. Lawrence at Montreal is breaking up and jamming down the river, flooding low wharves.

Damage to the extent of \$15,000 was done by fire to the concrete steamer Permatencia at North Sydney.

Alex. Riddell, a "Princess Pats" man was robbed in a hotel at Ingersoll after pepper was thrown into his eyes.

In the course of a funeral eulogy of Senator Landry Mgr. Latulippe at Quebec criticized the Ontario government.

Fire destroyed the warehouse of the Maritime Telephone and Telegraph Co., Halifax, the loss being over \$100,000.

Fredericton provincial civil service employees have received cheques as bonuses and a promise of an equal amount on May 1.

Col. G. O. Fallis, formerly head of the chaplain service in England has accepted a call to Sixth Avenue Baptist church Vancouver.

Capt. Walsh of the schooner Beaver lying in Dartmouth cove has been missing some time and it is believed that he has been drowned.

Rev. R. F. McCormick, Blyth, has been invited to remain for the fifth year by the Methodist church.

There are only ten military deserters from London who will be released by order-in-council.

St. Thomas War Kiddies' Fund is \$600 short and further efforts will be made to reach the \$1,800 objective.

Grant Peck, watchman for the Moncton Tramway, Electric & Gas Co., was fatally injured in a fire

there.

Rev. W. E. Baker pastor of First Congregational Church Ottawa, died after two weeks' illness of pneumonia.

Sam Sheppard's second hand store in St. Thomas was entered by thieves and \$200 worth of goods stolen.

The two-year-old child of J. A. Harding who lives on the Gouin road near Sillery Que., died after eating a large box full of laxative pills.

Sing Sing prison was robbed of \$1,600 in an inside job.

Two cases of sleeping sickness Geo. Welsh a G. T. R., engineer who has been unwell in Sarnia hospital from a gash in his throat self-inflicted by a razor.

Returned soldiers settled on the land during the past season numbered more than 33,000; nearly 20,000 were granted loans, totalling \$53,000,000.

Major A. W. Mercer Galt will be nominated for the Ontario Municipal Electric Association.

More than a thousand free Christmas dinners were provided in Montreal to those out of work and the poor.

Crown Attorney Brennan, St. Catharines, collapsed in the Naturalization court and had to be taken home.

Christmas tree market in New York is overlanded and trees that retailed last year at \$2,000 are selling as low as 50 cents. Some wholesalers are giving away trees to those who will cart them off to save demurrage charges.

Two large grain elevators at Edmonton belonging to the Western Canada Flour Co., were destroyed by fire and the loss is about around \$150,000.

The Knights of Columbus at Stratford provided a Christmas tree heavily provided with good things for the widows and orphans of soldiers.

## W R'S

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329 FRONT ST.

## ing Sermons y Prof. Morrison

was fortunate yesterday  
as a preacher in John St.  
an Church the Rev. J. L.  
professor of history at  
University, Kingston.

sons left their own church  
in order to avail them-  
self of the privilege again of hear-  
ing distinguished visitor. A few  
of Prof. Morrison addressed  
man. Club in the H. S.  
room and showed lantern  
the recent military cam-  
mesopotamia and Palestine.  
yesterday morning was  
illustrated by the story  
and his daughter and in-  
to earth of God's only

ld war has given the  
Church a new mandate.  
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in the case of Livingstone

## DEATH OF CHILD

is Franco, ten months old  
and Mrs. Henry de Frus-  
hart street died on Satur-  
result of bronchio-pneu-

W. Hammond and Mrs.  
of Campbellford, are  
ends in the city.