ELEVATOR DOOR OPEN WHEN BERNARD CRIBBS FELL TO HIS DEATH

After Cribbs' Body Struck the Bottom of the Shaft John Wilson Examined Shaft with Light and Saw Doors on Opera House Flat Open--Evidence at Last Night's Inquest.

The inquiry into the death of Bernard Cribbs who died as the result of injuries received by falling into the elevator well in the Opera House block on the early morning of Nov. 3rd was resumed in the court house last evening by Coroner Berryman. In all five witnesses were examined and the most important testimony was given by John Wilson, a young man who found the body at the bottom of the elevator well and who swore that at the time he examined the shaft and found the elevator doors on the Opera House floor open and there was nothing to prevent any person from falling into the well.

The first witness was Dr. Harry B. Warriner, senior resident physician in the hospital. He testified that on November 2nd between twelve and one o'clock in the morning Bernard Cribbs was admitted to the hospital. Witness smelled the patient's breath and there was a slight odor of alcohol. It was so slight that he had to have three nurses and night orderly Gunn smell the breath to prove to his own mind that it was alcohol that he smelt. Witness said he examined the pupils of the eyes. One was dilated and the other contracted. The witness would not say the condition of the eyes was due to the patient having partaken of alcohol.

An Opera House Employe.

Joseph W. Stackhouse, stage carpenter in the Opera House, was the next witness. He gave evidence that he had been in that position about six years and was well posted in the building. Witness remembered the time Dr. Hetherington was killed by falling down the elevator shaft. Shortly after that accident witness made three gates for the elevator shafts on order of Mr. Anderson who was then manager of the house.

On the Opera House floor witness built two doors at the entrance to the shaft. One door was bolted at the top and the other bolted in the centre. These doors have been left open and persons could have jumped down in the well. On this floor witness said he also built a gate to slide up and down in grooves. The gates were counter balanced with weights. The gate or fence so-called was four feet high. After these precautions had been taken witness considered it safe.

On the second floor he built a similar gate. On the third floor a gate on hinges was built. The Opera House employes don't use the elevator. Messrs. Webber, Goldman, Jackson and DeMille, use the elevator.

Witness did not know that the gate on the ground floor was broken and he did not know that the gate on the top floor was left open most of the time.

He examined the wicket door in front of the elevator on the ground floor on the Monday morning following the accident to Cribbs, and he found the gate up, it having been kept up by a nail so it could not come down. There was nothing there to prevent a person falling down the elevator well. This state of affairs was brought to witness' attention by Mr. Anderson. Witness lowered the gate and did not notice that rope on the gate was broken. Witness had, on previous occasions, examined the gate because some of the tenants claiming it was not working properly.

Since the last accident witness had not examined the gates particularly, and had not been requested to make any repairs.

When he made the repairs after Dr. Hetherington died witness considered the elevator perfectly safe.

Witness could not have made such a statement before the repairs were made.

Witness never tried to form an opinion how Cribbs was killed, and he did not know.

The Question of Lights.

During a performance in the Opera House there is a light burning in the lower hall until after the performance is over. There is also a light from the Typographical Union which is sometimes not lighted. Witness did not know who was supposed to keep the halls lighted. There is a double door leading into Union Alley and any person mistaking the elevator doors for the alley doors would walk into the elevator shaft.

If a man in the dark had no idea where he was going he might possibly walk through the elevator doors. The alley doors are about four feet from the elevator doors.

To Mr. Teed—The equipment in the building is safe providing the gates are closed. If Cribbs fell into the shaft it was because some person had left the gates open.

A man named Jackson, who does the transferring for the theatrical companies, uses the elevator for handling the trunks. There are four rooms on the second floor of the building used by the Opera House.

Witness has seen a Mr. Ring using the elevator on the lower floor who was careless, he having left the gate up.

Found Doors Closed.

On the night of the Cribbs accident witness put the lights out about eleven o'clock and at that time the elevator doors were closed and bolted. On Sunday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock, when he visited the place, that was about fourteen hours after the accident to Cribbs had occurred, witness at that time did not know of the accident.

Saw the Door Open.

John Wilson, who was with H. M. DeMille in the latter's store on the night of the accident testified to hearing the body falling down the shaft. With Mr. DeMille he found the body lying on the bottom of the shaft. DeMille left witness with the body of Cribbs while he went to telephone for the doctor and the ambulance. Witness took a light and examined the elevator shaft and saw that the doors on the first floor leading to the elevator shaft were wide open. There was no fence there and nothing to prevent any person from falling into the well. Witness identified the injured man as Bernard Cribbs.

To Mr. Teed—Witness said he was present when Dr. Hetherington's body was found, and at that time he did not hold a light to examine the shaft, but on this last case he did hold a light and saw the door open.

Result of Post Mortem.

Dr. Frederick T. Dunlop gave evidence that he made a post mortem examination on the body of Bernard Cribbs on Monday morning, 4th inst., and found a wound on the left side of head, another at the back of the left ear, also a bruise on the left shoulder. There was no visible fracture. On further examination he found a fracture at the base of the skull and close to the injury on the back of the left ear. The fracture at the base of the skull and the hemorrhage, and concussion of the brain was, in his opinion, the cause of the man's death.

Tells of Elevator Doors.

Herbert J. Anderson was the next witness. He testified that he was in the employ of the Opera House Company at the time of the accident to Dr. Hetherington. Witness was of the opinion that Dr. Hetherington had been visiting a pipe band on the second floor, that he came down stairs and absent-mindedly had opened the door opposite the foot of the stairs and walked into the elevator shaft.

The elevator doors and the doors leading into the alley are on the same flat and no matter if a man was, or was not familiar with the floor he might absent-mindedly walk from the foot of the stairs into the elevator well instead of walking into the alley.

Took Precautions.

When witness was there in the building he kept the doors of the first flat to the elevator locked. He carried a key to the alleyway door, so employes wishing to use the elevator would have to come to him to get the key. After the Hetherington accident witness had alterations made to prevent further accidents.

The lavatory, smoking room, manager's office and elevator well on that flat go with the Opera House. He has known of intoxicated sailors trying to get into that elevator shaft on the lower flat.

Witness was six years manager of the Opera House and two years treasurer.

Doors Often Open.

The elevator doors had often been left open and he has had to follow teamsters to the street and make them come back and close the doors. Since he left the Opera House employ the light in front of the elevator door has been changed and placed nearer the manager's office door. Witness had a lock placed on the alley doors and they have been broken off.

The tenants on these floors used to rent the premises from Mr. Skinner. Witness thought it would be the duty of the proprietor of the building to light the halls and have a janitor, providing it would pay him to do so.

For those who are familiar with the building it would not be very difficult to make their way about. Witness had seen lights both on the first and second floor.

Found Door Open and Gate Up.

On Monday morning, 4th inst., witness visited the place where the accident to Cribbs took place. The door leading to the elevator shaft on the first floor was ajar and the wicket gate was suspended leaving the elevator well unprotected. The gate on the second floor was down in position. One of the cords on the balance weights of the lower gate was broken.

To Mr. Teed—If the gate was left down it would prevent persons falling into the well. On the first floor of the Dockrill building there are the property room, ladies' dressing room, ladies' waiting room, lavatory, smoking room, business office and elevator. On the second floor the gentlemen's dressing room, bill room, and stage carpenters' room. These are all rented by the Opera House Company.

The Opera House Company used the elevator about four times more than any other tenants. The elevator was used for transferring trunks in and out of the gents' dressing room. The theatrical companies use the elevator after a show has closed at night and when other tenants are not there. The elevator is used by the Opera House transfer man. This afternoon the elevator was being used by the Opera House transfer man and this same man was transfer man when witness was manager of the house. The man, Ring, who works for Webber, continually left the elevator doors open and one time took a hand saw and attempted to cut the gate clear.

The ground floor is looked after by the Opera House people and while witness was manager he had to look after the elevator, it being under his care.

The inquiry was adjourned until 7.30 this evening.

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DIED.

ROURKE—At St. Martins, N. B., on the 10th inst., Rachael Vaughan, beloved wife of W. H. Rourke, aged 75 years.
Funeral will take place from her late home, Tuesday, Nov. 12th.

WEBB—On the 10th inst., Sarah, widow of Thomas Webb.
Funeral from the residence of her brother-in-law, James Whelley, Silver Falls, on Tuesday morning at 9.45. Requiem high mass at St. Joachim's church, at 10 o'clock. Carriages leave Haymarket Square at 9 o'clock.

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This wash is composed of mild and soothing oil of wintergreen mixed with thymol and glycerine, etc., and known as D. D. D. Prescription. We do not know how long the D. D. D. Laboratories will continue the 25c. offer, as the remedy is regularly sold in $1.00 bottles and has never before been put on the market in Canada on any special offers.

If you want relief tonight try a bottle at 25c. on our personal recommendation.

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"BLIND LOVE"

Vitagraph's Novelty Comedy
"TOO MUCH WOOING OF HANDSOME DAN"

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"Empress of Britain" sinks Str. "Helvetia" in mid-ocean.
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TUESDAY GREAT COMEDY DRAMA "The Spendthrift"
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HARKINS HERE WITH EXCELLENT COMPANY

Miss Sue Van Duzer, Harry Stubbs and others, Warmly Welcomed in the Opera House, Last Evening.

It was an appreciative audience that gathered in the Opera House last evening, to welcome W. S. Harkins and his company, in a distinctly high class production of the Grace George comedy, A Woman's Way. Written as it was for the talented wife of W. A. Brady, and well calculated to display her charm of manner and winsome stage presence, it was also particularly well fitted for Miss Sue Van Duzer, already a prime favorite here, but who has done nothing better than her portrayal of the clever Mrs. Howard Stanton, in A Woman's Way.

Mrs. Stanton has found that her very ordinary husband is slipping away from her, and about to enthrone in his heart of hearts, a Mrs. Blackmore, a widow, a blonde, not too pronouncedly per-oxide, but nevertheless with a host of friends of the foolish sex. Most women of Mrs. Stanton's pulchritude and brains would probably have permitted their leige lord to go his way and take his blonde with him, but Mrs. Stanton loved her husband, and did not propose to give him up without a struggle. Consequently she invites the aforesaid per-oxide widow to her home and then proceeds to make it nice and pleasant for her, after the same style and manner in which a cat amuses a mouse before dissecting it in total.

As Mrs. Stanton, Miss Van Duzer was easily equal to every demand upon her, and they were many; the scenes with her husband were well done and in the delightful sessions with Mrs. Blackmore she was especially good. The playwright has done his work well in the lines between the two women, and almost every speech bristles with biting satirical humor, clear as ice and twice as chilling in its effect upon the recipient thereof.

Miss Van Duzer has improved since she was last seen here. Her work is more finished, and in portrayal of young and beautiful women, schooled in the artifices of the society of the stage, she is particularly at home. She scored a triumph last evening and was most effective in all her scenes.

Miss Mona Ryan as the fascinating per-oxide widow was equally at home. She played the role of the coquettish heart breaker to the life, and her work in other roles during the company's engagement here will be watched with pleasure.

Mr. Harkins presents a new leading man in John Rigney. He had little to do last night, as the part of Howard Stanton is not a particularly congenial one, but what came his way was well handled. Harry O. Stubbs is always a favorite with a St. John audience, and the warmth of his reception on his first appearance was conclusive evidence that his friends remember him favorably. Mr. Stubbs was seen in a wholesome sort of character, as Oliver Whitney and his conception and presentation of the part was up to the standard of the other characters.

Mr. Swem as Edwards Morrig, Mr. Price as General Livingstone, Mr. Holland as Robert Livingstone, Miss La Mar as Mrs. Livingstone, Miss Adele Vaughan as Sallie Livingstone, Mr. Waller as Mr. Lynch and Mr. Lewis as Wilson, were all adequate to the demands upon them. The play required no elaborate scenic effects, but gave the ladies of the company opportunity to display some handsome gowns.

Judged from last evening's performance, the company is up to the best traditions of W. S. Harkins, and he has furnished St. John with some of its very best amusement at popular prices. The engagement should be a successful one for the company is well worthy of patronage. The Spendthrift, a strong play, will be the attraction tonight. Wednesday matinee's bill will be Mrs. Temple's Telegram, while last evening's success will be repeated on Wednesday evening. The company will hold the boards until Saturday.

Moose Will Herd Tonight.

Upwards of 350 candidates are expected to enter the local branch of the Loyal Order of Moose at the initiation and organization ceremonies to be held at Keith's Assembly rooms tonight. The men will go in as charter members and will be initiated, it is expected by an American degree team.

Sore Chest Cured In One Night

Broke Up a Heavy Cold, Relieved Pain in the Side, Stopped an Irritating Cough.

"Anyone that goes through all that I suffered last winter will appreciate the value of a remedy that cures like Nerviline cured me." These are the opening words of the solemn declaration of E. P. Von Hayden, the well-known violinist. "My work kept me out late at night, and playing in cold, drafty places brought on a severe cold that settled on my chest. I had a harsh, racking cough and severe pains darted through my sides and settled in my shoulders. I used different liniments, but none broke up my cold till I used Nerviline. I rubbed it on my back, chest, and shoulders, morning and night, and all the pain disappeared. Realizing that such a heavy cold had run down my system, I took Ferrozone at meals, and was completely built up and strengthened. Since using Nerviline I have no more colds or pleurisy, and enjoy perfect health."

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OLIVER TWIST DRAWS CROWDS TO NICKEL

Greatest Picture Bill in Years Seen at Big Picture House—Fine Programme for Today.

Owing to the large crowds having been unable to obtain admission to the Nickel last week to witness the great five reel picture of Oliver Twist with Nat Goodwin as Fagin, it was found necessary to present the same performance yesterday afternoon and evening.

Large audiences were in attendance yesterday, many of those attending having previously seen the pictures. The Oliver Twist production is indeed one of the finest picture plays ever put on in this city and made a decided impression with all who were fortunate enough to have seen it.

Today the Nickel management will present a strong programme. A feature picture in Pathe's Weekly will be a scene of the steamer Empress of Britain colliding and sinking the steamer Helvetia in mid-ocean.

A Vitagraph picture entitled "Too Much Loving of Handsome Dan," and a Biograph picture "Blind Love," are also pictures well worth seeing. In addition to the picture programme there will be new songs and new music by the orchestra.

THE LIGHT-HOUSE KEEPER'S STORY.

FROM the lighthouse at Lobstes Cove Head, Bonne Bay, Newfoundland, Mrs. W. Young sends her experience of Zam-Buk.

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"Seven years is a long time to suffer, and I had got used to the thought that I never would be cured, when I saw a report in the *Family Herald*, telling how beneficial Zam-Buk was in cases of skin disease.

"I bought some Zam-Buk, and from the use of the very first box I saw it was going to do me good. I persevered with it, and the improvement it worked in my condition was really wonderful.

"It eased the irritation, stopped the pain, and the sores began to dry up and disappear. In short, I found Zam-Buk all that was claimed for it and within a very short time it worked a complete cure in my case.

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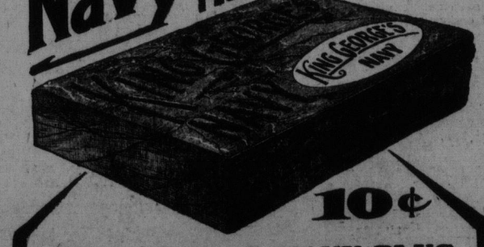

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