

OFFERS MADE, SAYS GRAHAM

Discusses I. C. R. Rumors

NOTHING DEFINITE Road Now Well Managed and Minister Awaits Something Better

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—With reference to a published report that the government was now considering a proposal to lease the Intercolonial either to a private syndicate for a term of years or else to one of the railway companies now operating in the Maritime Provinces, Hon. Geo. F. Graham, Minister of Railways, said to your newspaper today that while he had been considering for the past year various suggestions looking to the betterment in the management of the road and the overcoming of the present annual deficits, no definite scheme had yet been evolved for the consideration of the government.

"The road is now being well managed," said Mr. Graham, "by our present staff of officials. Various proposals have been made in many quarters from time to time involving either the leasing of the Intercolonial to a private company or turning it over to a commission to operate. I am open to conviction as to any improvement that might be suggested, but as yet I am not prepared to recommend to the government the adoption of any definite new line of policy. I have, of course, noted the various suggestions now being made in the press, but so far the solution of the whole question is confined to newspaper headlines than to any governmental action."

POISON IN AN EGG.

Amazing Defence Succeeds in Irish Murder Trial.

(Lloyd's News.)

One of the most extraordinary defences ever raised in a murder trial was successfully urged at Ulster Assizes on Wednesday, when Elizabeth Kirkwood Docherty was acquitted on a charge of poisoning her husband near Ennismey, County Antrim, last June.

The Solicitor-General, prosecuting, said deceased, who was a farmer, died of strychnine poison, administered to him at his supper, which was prepared by prisoner. His husband died, but the jury that no human hand was laid upon an egg which contained the poison from the moment it was broken in the pan until it reached deceased, but that of the accused. Death occurred the following morning.

A week later one of prisoner's daughters, aged three years, also died from strychnine poison, which had been taken in milk. The husband's remains were exhumed after this second death, and an analyst would give evidence that the stomachs of both deceased contained from half to a grain of strychnine. Accused had been in an asylum, but it was not contended she was insane at the time of the death.

In concluding his statement the Solicitor-General intimated that the defence would be that some strychnine placed on the floor of the kitchen immediately above the kitchen for the purpose of destroying rats had fallen through the rafters on to the egg as it was being removed from the fire to the table. The Crown contended that this accident could not have occurred, but that prisoner's hand had placed the poison in the egg.

Counsel for prisoner said the defence was that the Solicitor-General had stated. The husband, before he died, had expressed this view, and as he had acquitted her he (counsel) was sure the jury would do likewise. As stated above, they did.

TWO DEAD AND THREE HURT IN MINE EXPLOSION

COBALT, Ont., Dec. 1.—Two men were killed today in Temagami Golf Reef mine at Cobalt and three others injured by the explosion of a quantity of dynamite that stuck in the drill.

The dead are: Michael Doherty, single, North Bay; Alfred Rioux, single, Sudbury.

Injured: William Brennan, married, aged about 45 years, may die; Eli Lalande, badly cut and bruised; La Vallee, slightly hurt.

Mrs. Krieger—Where do you keep your auto?
Mrs. Norwich—In a mirage, of course.

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THE RELIABLE PREMIUM CO. WATERLOO, ONT.

WIDOW GIVES HER EVIDENCE

Mrs. Annis Recites Story of Killing of Her Husband

DARRIN CENSURED

FLUSHING, N. Y., Dec. 21.—The trial of Thornton Jenkins Hains reached a state of dramatic intensity today, when Mrs. Helene E. Annis, widow of William E. Annis, in a fervent and emotional testimony lasting nearly three hours, described the killing of her husband, as he sat at the tiller of his boat, by Captain Peter C. Hains, Jr. Mrs. Annis nearly fainted a few minutes before her examination was concluded. She swayed in her chair, but quickly recovered after drinking a glass of water and smelling some salts.

An Impressive Figure

Garbed in a black cloth suit and wearing a big hat that cast a shadow over the upper part of her face, Mrs. Annis made an impressive figure on the witness-stand as she told in quiet tones her story of August 15 at the Bayview Yacht Club. Several new points of evidence brought out today, the lawyers for the state declared to-night, make certain the conviction of the defendant.

When Annis' boat came alongside the float, his widow testified, Thornton Hains beckoned to his brother and let the way down the runway. The shooting followed within a few minutes. Mr. McIntyre sought to discredit the "backing episode," which the state asserts proves that the author induced the captain to do the shooting, and kept Mrs. Annis under cross-examination on this point for nearly half an hour. Hains' counsel developed that Mrs. Annis did not tell District Attorney Darrin that the defendant beckoned to his brother until last week.

"I ran down the runway and Thornton Hains pointed his revolver at me. I turned to go back and he pressed the weapon against my back, saying 'You get out of here or you will get the same.' I ran up the runway and looking back saw my husband fall into the water," so said Mrs. Annis in relating her story, and this testimony the lawyers for Hains struggled vainly to nullify.

BRITISH HOUSE IS PROROGUED

King Refers to Prince's Visit to Canada in His Speech

OTHER MATTERS

LONDON, Dec. 21.—King Edward put an end to the present session of the British parliament today. Only a small number of members were present to attend the brief prorogation ceremonies.

The King's speech made especial reference to the recent visit of the American battleships in Australian waters, which His Majesty said "evoked warm feelings of cordiality in my dominions in that quarter of the globe and was a source of gratification to myself and my government."

Referring to the conclusion of "special important agreements which by eliminating causes of contention must tend to the consolidation of peace," the King says: "Among these may be mentioned the treaties with the United States for general arbitration and for regulating certain questions between the United States and Canada, and an agreement for the maintenance of the existing territorial status of the regions bordering on the North Sea."

Continuing, His Majesty expresses gratification at the visits to England of President Poincaré and the King and Queen of Sweden.

Referring to the events in the Balkans, "calculated to disturb the provisions of the treaty of Berlin," the speech says: "There is reason to hope that wise and conciliatory counsel will prevail and an amicable settlement will be reached with the consent of the powers who are parties to the treaty."

In a paragraph on India, deep regret is expressed at "a conspiracy of evil-disposed persons against the lives of my officers and the continuance of British rule," and the earnest wish is set forth that the measures to enlarge the share of Indians in the administration of the country, "will be received in the shape of mutual trust and goodwill in which they are proposed."

"The affectionate reception given the Prince of Wales by all classes" during his presence in Canada on the occasion of the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the foundation of Quebec receives especially cordial mention.

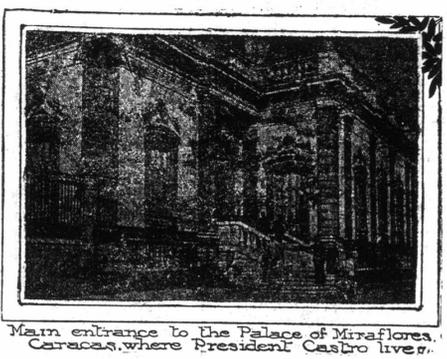
The remainder of the King's speech is devoted to domestic matters.

HE GUESSED IT.

Howell—What became of Rowell who was here when I lived here?
Powell—He died of throat trouble, Howell—Yes, that's what he died.
New York Free Press.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., Dec. 21.

E. A. Perry, picture dealer, was arrested today charged with assault on his wife and child. The latter, who had been where the head came in contact with the oven into which the father had thrust it and bruised as a result of being flung against a wall, will recover if the injuries are not so serious as at first thought. Perry will be tried tomorrow.



NIGHT RIDERS DARING DEEDS

Woman Describes Outrages Committed By the Band RANKIN MURDER CASE

UNION CITY, Tenn., Dec. 21.—The state practically completed its case today against the eight alleged night riders on trial for the murder of Capt. Rankin, when it drew from Frank Fairinger, member of the band, a detailed account of the Rankin affair and a score or more of other outrages. It also called to the stand Mrs. Emma Therman Johnson, one of the two women said to have been whipped by the band and had her tell her story.

The startling testimony of Fairinger, who confessed, accusing the men on trial of being actual participants in the murder of Captain Rankin, given with an exactness of detail, amazed the people who thronged the court room. Then, a murmur of satisfaction arose. She walked rapidly to the stand and removed her veil reluctantly on the judge's instructions that she might be heard by the jury.

THIRTY YEARS OLDER Mrs. Johnson had married Joe Johnson, a man thirty years older than she and lived with him four years when a child was born. Last August she sued him for divorce charging cruelty and asking maintenance. Early in September the "riders" visited her father's home and left word that she must withdraw the suit. She failed to do so, and on a second visit her father was whipped.

On both occasions she was at her sister's home. The "riders" seem to have realized this for on September 29, about 11 o'clock at night, they went to the sister's house. Mrs. Johnson awoke, beside her child, to find her bedroom filled with masked and armed men. A man whom she said she recognized as Fred Pinion, one of the defendants, was standing so close that she could touch his forehead.

"We have come to tell you for the last time that you must dismiss that divorce," Pinion is charged with saying.

"I will not withdraw it," she replied. "You will before we get through with you," was the reply. "If you dismiss it now we will see that he supports the child, but you must not touch his property."

Mrs. Johnson insisted that she would press the case. Then the men withdrew into the yard to consult. In a few minutes they returned. Pinion stepped over to the young woman's bed and said: "Come with us."

DRAGGED HER FROM BED

Two others of the band seized her and dragged her from the bed in her night clothes. They hurried her about 250 yards away and one of them beat her across the shoulders with a strap. After the first beating they asked her if she would dismiss the suit. She said no. Then she was again whipped.

This time her fighting spirit was broken and she sobbing said she would give into their demands.

"Let's give her another," said one of the band.

"No," she said Pinion replied, "she has had enough."

Mrs. Johnson told her story under objections from the defense. Judge Jones sent out the jury before court adjourned and said: "There are eight defendants here charged with a capital offense. They are not handcuffed and are under guard of only two deputies. I do not think this is safe. Therefore, I order the sheriff to handcuff these men and ask the military to detail ten armed men to serve as guards."

The defense strongly objected, but the court refused to withdraw the order.

Later, Attorney General Caldwell said: "The order was made advisedly upon the information which reached the officers of the court, which information was serious enough to justify us in taking every possible and legal precaution."

SPEND TWENTY DAYS ON DESERT ISLAND

Eighteen Fishermen Live on Wild Fowl With Blubber for Fuel.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A party of 18 Lewis fishermen who went on a sealing expedition to North Rona, in the Outer Hebrides, have had a trying experience, having been stormstruck for 20 days without adequate shelter or provisions.

The party left Ness in two open boats for Rona, which is a small rocky island forty-five miles northeast of the Butt of Lewis, expecting to return in the course of a few days after securing over 200 seals. The men endeavored to launch their boats to return, but found it impossible owing to the heavy sea which had risen.

No shelter was to be found on the island and they had to build rough huts and provide themselves with beds of grass. They made themselves fairly comfortable for the first few days, but as the storm continued unabated, they found it advisable to cut down their allowance of rations and fuel. Fortunately they had been able to discover a well but the carrying of the water from the opposite side of the island was attended by considerable danger owing to the high sea.

When their small stock of fuel gave out, the blubber of seals was successfully used as a substitute. A sheep of which they are a few on the island, was killed for food. Sleeping sea birds were also captured under cover of darkness, but in a few nights the birds became so wary that this source of supply gave out.

For twenty days the men remained prisoners on the rock, when the weather moderated sufficiently to permit of their setting sail for home. The fishery boat, the Minna, attempted their rescue, but was unable to reach the island owing to the rough weather, a landing not being effected until the fishermen had left.

THE STRONG PART Percy—I hear you are to—aw—have a strong part in the—aw—new burlesque, Miss Dimpleton—Your hearing is good, Percy. I'm to pose as a feminine Samson.—Chicago News.

WOMAN DRINKS CARBOLIC ACID

Mrs. John Doyle the Victim

FOUND DYING Believed Woman Drank Acid With Suicidal Intent

From the effects of drinking a large quantity of carbolic acid Mrs. John Doyle of this city lies in the General Public Hospital. Whether the woman drank the acid with suicidal intent or whether she took it in mistake is not definitely known.

Mrs. Doyle, who resides at 111 Thorne avenue, formerly the Westmoreland road, is about 25 years of age. About 1:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon she was discovered by other inmates of the house in a precarious condition. It was supposed that she had drunk the contents of a bottle of carbolic acid, which was lying nearby. Neighbors assisted in doing what they could to restore the woman to her senses, but without success. Dr. J. M. Barry was hastily summoned, and arriving at the house about 2 o'clock found the woman unconscious and in a very serious condition. Closer examination, however, failed to reveal any signs that the woman had taken the poison, although it is possible that she may have put the bottle far into her mouth in the hope of leaving no symptoms of the acid. No doubt exists that the woman really took the acid.

Dr. Geo. O. Baxter, who happened to pass the Doyle house about 5:30 last evening, was called in to see the woman. He found her to be sinking fast and gave her restoratives and ordered whiskey. Dr. Baxter stated last evening that the woman was so far gone that she could do but little, and felt that she had no chance for recovery. About 10 o'clock she was removed to the hospital in the ambulance.

So far as can be learned there was no cause why Mrs. Doyle should endeavor to commit suicide. Some are inclined to feel that the woman was not in her right senses and that she had been drinking quite heavily up to yesterday.

The acid was bought at a nearby drug store by the sister of Mrs. Doyle. At the time of the purchase, the former was unaware of her sister's intentions, so readily gave her the acid. It was only shortly afterwards that the discovery was made, the woman then being in a serious condition.

Mrs. Doyle, who is the wife of John Doyle, a laborer, is quite well known in the vicinity of Westmoreland road. A mother and sister also live at the same house.

CASTORIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of
Dr. J. C. Watson

WOMAN'S LONG VIGIL AT CALIFORNIA LIGHT

Miss Hecox Has Tended a Pacific Coast Beacon for Twenty-Seven Years.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21.—Miss Laura A. Hecox, who for twenty-seven years has tended the light of the Santa Cruz lighthouse, has just recently returned to her post from the last of six vacations she has taken during that period. Since 1881 this woman has had absolute charge of the light, and in all that time it has never gone out during the night.

Miss Hecox followed her father in charge of the light. He was a retired carpenter who took the work of caring for the light when his health broke down under the stress of his pastoral duties. With him went his wife and girl, who cared for him as well as the light.

During the thirteen years her father was in charge Miss Hecox was practically the real mistress of the lighthouse. When his death came she applied for and obtained the work. Since that time she has been steadily at it, cleaning, tending and watching the light that it may never be dimmed.

Then her mother died in the old light house and the woman was left alone with her work. She loves it and is never satisfied if she is away from it for long. Her only recreation is an occasional visit to her brother, who lives at Oceanide, and gathering in his specimens, a collection of which she recently gave to the Santa Cruz library.

Fortiately for Miss Hecox the Santa Cruz lighthouse is not built on a backwash coast but is covered among trees. The light is modern of type, candle power multiplied by reflectors to something like 665-candle power. During the twenty-seven years it has been tended by Miss Hecox no ship has been wrecked on the Santa Cruz coast.

ALLAN LINE HAS NOT YIELDED TO HALIFAX

HALIFAX, Dec. 21.—No reply has been received by the board of trade from the Allan line in response to its remonstrance against the discrimination of 2s. 6d. per ton in local freight rates to Halifax as compared with St. John rate. The higher rates applies only to Halifax. Freight intended for any point in the province pays the regular minimum rate, the same as is charged to St. John, which is understood that the Allan Line claims that the different rate is not a violation of the contract under which they receive a subsidy as the circumstances and conditions between Halifax and St. John are not similar. St. John, they urge, is a terminus and short the breakwater at Cleveland, and was but temporarily repaired.

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Good results—prompt returns.
THE BRITISH CANADIAN FUR CO.
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Write for price list. We pay express. Shipments held separate until remittance is approved.

Satisfaction follows the surprise of every housewife who uses
Surprise Soap
You wonder how it can make the clothes so white and clean, with so little rubbing?
It is just SOAP—perfectly pure with peculiar qualities for washing clothes. Try it the next wash.
Read the directions on the wrapper.
Surprise is a pure, hard Soap.

ENGLAND'S RICHEST DUKE.

Westminster's Ground Rents—Bedford's Aversion to Society.

(From Tit-Bits.)
Speculation was rife a few days ago concerning the identity of the two millionaires who are credited in the Statistical Abstract of the United Kingdom with possessing between them the enormous sum of £8,619,000. These two fortunate persons are probably the Duke of Westminster and Bedford.

The Duke of Bedford, who is known among his intimates by the nickname of Hatband, owns the greater portion of Bloomsbury and the whole of Covent Garden, including the market, which is reputed to bring him £50,000 a year. The Duke and Duchess of Bedford own a little for society and the Earl of Devon owns the greater portion of the Grosvenor family residence, there are private zoological gardens. The Duchess of Bedford is a fellow of the Zoological Society. The Duke is greatly taken up with all the varied interests of his property and is the author of a book on "The Management of a Great Estate."

It is doubtful whether the Duke of Westminster realizes exactly what he is worth. He is probably the most wealthy territorial magnate in the kingdom, counting among his properties the valuable Grosvenor estate, which is situated in the heart of the West End.

The Grosvenor family represents one of the few remaining seats in London that may be described as strictly exclusive. They live in a world of their own. Outsiders for whom do not exist nor will they willingly tolerate the presence of any one who by birth and breeding does not belong to the privileged class. This exclusiveness is probably the result of the successful marriages made by the Grosvenor girls into exalted families.

An idea of the Duke's colossal wealth can be gained by an inspection of his splendid town mansion, which is a treasure house filled with objects of priceless value. Many people are content with a clock that costs a sovereign or two, but that which tells his Grace of Westminster the hour possesses a pendulum which in itself is worth £25,000 for it is set with forty-eight flawless diamonds, each valued at £1,000. The Duke of Westminster is a popular sportsman and is known among his sporting friends as Bend Cr., a nickname conferred on him to commemorate the famous racehorse of that name owned by his grandfather, the late Duke. Socialists and others may forgive him his great wealth when it is stated that fancy foods have no favor in the Westminster household. Simple dishes are always provided, such as trout cutlets, milk puddings, fruit tarts and so on. Much of his vast wealth is derived from ground rents. He grows rich because he can't help it.

HEART STITCHED UP.

Wonderful Operation Saves the Life of a Leeds Butcher.

The surgeons at Leeds Infirmary carried out a remarkable operation on a Leeds butcher, who was accidentally stabbed in the course of his business. The man was removed to the infirmary in a collapsed state. The wound seems to have been a severe one, the wall of the heart being punctured. An operation was instantly performed and the lesion of the heart successfully stitched up. For the moment all events, as the result of this prompt surgical treatment, the man's life is saved.

The carrying out of such remarkable operations as that of stitching up the heart is of comparatively recent practice, and has only been rendered possible by the high state of efficiency in modern surgical work.

During the past two or three years cases similar to the one mentioned above have been dealt with successfully. In one extraordinary instance, where a man's life was absolutely despaired of some time ago, as the result of a serious stab puncturing the heart, the operation was performed as a forlorn hope, and the man eventually recovered. The operation was performed some considerable time afterwards he was walking about and performing his duties, apparently as well as ever.—Leeds News.

BONES OF MANY SHIPS AT WHITEFISH POINT

DETROIT, Dec. 21.—The part of Lake Superior where the steamer Clemons was lost two weeks ago has been scoured by sailors from the graveyard of the lakes, and the term seems to be rightly applied, for many bodies and ships are at the bottom of Whitefish Point. About this time last year the steamer Clemons left the Soo, bound for Duluth. In an attempt to save time she took the southern course across the lake, but after leaving Whitefish Point she was caught in a gale and a blinding snowstorm. The theory is that she shipped water through her hatchways and foundered. Not a man of her crew of 22 escaped.

The Clemons and the Cyprus, with their total number of 46 men are by no means the only boats which have gone down with their entire crews at this point, for the wreckage of a north make the lake dangerous for navigation. Questions have arisen as to why steamers do not take the northern route after November 1. The only plausible answer that mariners give is that the companies insist on saving time.

Boats taking the southern course, which is by far the shortest, round Whitefish point, keeping near the south shore, and pass through Portage Lake. The theory is what is termed the "straight course," which winds around Keweenaw Point and Manitowish Island. The northern course leads from Whitefish Point to the north of Michipicoten Island, around Isle Royale by the north shore and hence to Duluth.

When the Clemons and Cyprus were first reported overdue it was thought that the boats had taken the northern course, but the finding of floating wreckage soon put to rest such theories. The Clemons was a new boat, built by her maiden trip. When she was launched marine men pronounced it a staunch craft, but she could not stand the rough weather. The Clemons it was different. But she struck the breakwater at Cleveland, and was but temporarily repaired.

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