

COLLEGE STREET STORE FOR SALE
We are offering this desirable brick
store and dwelling, including business
and stock for the small store. It is
the owner must sell at once. Can give
any possession. Excellent opportunity.
H. E. WILLIAMS & CO.,
25 Victoria Street, Toronto.

PROBS: Moderate to fresh northwest and
wind; fair and cool.

Reading Room—
100-10
House of Commons—

CORONER JOHNSON SURE STRYCHNINE, AND NOT SMOKE, CAUSED DEATH

Expert Medical Testimony
the Climax of Day's Strong
Evidence for Prosecution
Against McLachlan
DEFENCE BEGINS TO-DAY, BUT
PRISONER MAY NOT TESTIFY

WHITBY, May 12.—(Special).—More startling than anybody anticipated was the expert testimony of Chief Coroner Dr. Johnson, who declared today that it was in the McLachlan murder trial tonight.

"He would admit of no qualifying alternatives as to the immediate cause of death, that it could have been smoke due to strychnine poisoning, and nothing else," he said, and when Defence Counsel Henderson confronted him with the affirmations of Doctors Shier and McClintock, who made the post mortem, that it could have been smoke suffocation, he replied stoutly: "They may not know how to distinguish the postmortem effects peculiar to strychnine suffocation from smoke suffocation, but I do."

He further emphasized the crown's suspicions as to the peaceful slumbering appearance of the dead woman when found, by stating positively that this could not be, unless she was placed that way after expiring, or had been held by some one during the paroxysms preceding death.

Miss Nix Not a Witness.

Dr. Johnson's testimony concluded the crown's case. Mr. Henderson declared he was ready to go on with the defence at the resumption of trial at 10 to-morrow. Alma Nix, about whom a great deal of interest centred to-day, will not be called. The crown has passed her up and Mr. Henderson intimated he would do the same.

It is not improbable, either, that McLachlan will not be put into the box. His counsel dropped a hint to this effect after adjournment, intimating that his deposition at the inquest to-day, would be added to. The chief strain of this was that he had no recollection of what happened before, or for some time after the fire, when Dr. McClintock gave him a stimulant.

The earlier witnesses to-day told of finding an odor of strychnine; then the prisoner's relationship with Alma Nix was reviewed, it being shown that they corresponded to the symptoms of strychnine poisoning, and met frequently in different places. Witnesses adduced that she had said she would like to take her to California, and that if he was free, he would like to marry her, and that he had been in the habit of doing so. Dr. Johnson furnished the climax.

A noisy, excited tremor swept the crowded court when Counsel Henderson said "that is all," after which he asked the doctor's conviction as to the cause of death.

Dr. Johnson's Evidence.

Dr. Johnson's replies to Crown Prosecutor Blacketer were to the effect that Mrs. McLachlan died of suffocation from some specific cause. When people are suffocated in burning buildings, they die because they breathe impure, combustible atmosphere. Suffocation by poisoning, strangling, drowning, etc., leave peculiar postmortem effects that will disclose the cause.

"I have made a special study of all forms of suffocation, and am competent to give an expert opinion," he said. "The surface of the skin should not have been pale, as it was in the case of deceased. It should have been pink, had she died from smoke suffocation. The blood, instead of dark red, should have been in this case, a bright cherry color."

"Foam or froth is not found around the mouth. The lungs were found full of soot or carbon. In cases of smoke suffocation soot would be found in the respiratory tract. These conditions were absent."

"This case has all the evidences of death from strychnine, that is, evidences of death from these paroxysms with the effects of smoke suffocation. A person who was all alone would go up and down for a few seconds, cracking the back of the head and head on the bed."

Was Body Held Down?

"Of course, if someone were to hold the bedclothes tight they would settle down again, but they would have to be held," he said.

"Would you expect stumbling persons to be roused if smoke was rushing into a room?" asked Mr. Blacketer.

"Yes, the depression and labored breathing should wake them, and then, too, they would vomit."

To further question, he added: "I have never seen distortions of the face thru poisoning by strychnine. After the convulsions pass off the muscles become perfectly placid. The hands being closed, not clenched, is another rather peculiar indication of strychnine."

Mr. Henderson took the witness.

"How do you account for the appearance of all three persons being the same? There were the same froth lips and bloody foam on the mouths. And yet Prof. Ellis, the analyst, says there was no trace of strychnine in the children's stomachs," he asked.

"I didn't understand that they were," said the witness.

"Oh yes, the doctors say there was bloody froth on all these pairs of lips," said counsel.

"No, I didn't understand it that way. I thought they referred to the scarlet color of the lips."

Analyst's Findings.

Prof. Ellis swore that the stomachs and other organs of the three deceased had been delivered to him from Wyoming, Ont., where internment took place, by Dr. Harrington of Toronto. He found strychnine not only in the stomach of the woman, but in the intestines as well, showing it must

Continued on Page 7, Column 3.

DR. ARTHUR JUKES JOHNSON
Of Toronto, who gave important evidence for the crown at Whitby.

137 MINERS LOSE THEIR LIVES IN AN EXPLOSION

Fire Broke Out in Workings and
Little Hope Remains for
Any Rescues.

MANCHESTER, May 12.—One hundred and thirty-seven miners lost their lives to-day in an explosion in the Wellington Coal Mine at Whitby. Rescue parties succeeded in saving four men, but fire has broken out in the workings, leaving practically no hope for those who are still entombed. To-night rescue work was stopped by the collapse of the roof.

A curious fact is that a colliery where an explosion had been expected by the newspapers in the mining districts of the kingdom yesterday, to the effect that unusually barometric conditions rendered fire-damp explosions extremely probable, and that all underground workers ought, therefore, to be on the alert. The barometer, however, failed to give warning, and the explosion, reading in the Whitehaven district.

Disturbed crowds of relatives surrounded the pithead and the scene was depressing.

The colliery is owned by the Earl of Londonderry, and its workings extended four or five miles out under the sea. The spot where the 137 miners and some 50 odd shiftmen were working at the time of the explosion is about three miles from the shaft exit. The rescue parties directed their efforts to tunneling a road thru the accumulations blocking the passageway. Their progress, however, was slow, as dangerous fumes filled the workings.

Powder Magazine Blew Up.

LOGANSFORD, Ind., May 12.—Three hundred pounds of powder, stored in the magazine of the Canadian Stone Company at Kenneth, Ind., exploded to-night, injuring twenty residents of the town. John E. Roy, in charge of the magazine, is believed to have been blown to atoms. Houses in the town were badly damaged. The explosion was felt for miles in every direction.

Another Explosion.

TACOMA, Wash., May 12.—This city was shaken this afternoon by an explosion at the Dupont Powder Works, 15 miles south of here. It is believed that the damage is heavy.

NEW ALLAN LINERS

Will Be 22 Knot Boats and to Clip 24 Hours From Passage.

MONTREAL, May 12.—(Special).—The Allan line confirms to-day's cable news that two new turbine steamers are to be built for the Canadian route. The vessels have been invited for two tenders, 700 feet long, with a capacity of 1,000 tons, and with a speed of 22 knots. At this speed they will cut off 24 hours between Liverpool and Quebec.

The Allan officials here say that the building of the ships will probably take 18 months, and they will be in commission inside of two years.

CENTENARIAN DIES.

WOODSTOCK, Ont., May 12.—(Special).—Mrs. Mahoney, aged 103 years, died at her home in Tillsonburg to-day. She was born at Long Point, Lake Erie, and on her 100th birthday knitted a pair of socks without the aid of her glasses.

Three hogs on the farm of Wm. Sutherland, 9th line of West corner, which were bitten by a mad dog, developed rabies to-day and were killed before doing much damage.

Small Fire, Lots of Excitement.

There was considerable excitement down town at 11 o'clock last night, when fire was discovered in three sheds in rear of 33, 35 and 37 Trafalgar street, occupied by Italians. The sheds back on a lane beside the big Eaton garage on Albert street behind the city hall. A great crowd followed the firemen, attracted by a big reflection. Loss \$50.

Bandits Hold Up Train.

PHOENIX, Arizona, May 12.—Two bandits, without masks, held up a train on the Arizona Eastern Railroad, a mile from here, to-night, and, after robbing the passengers, escaped to the desert. One of the bandits was almost scalped by a blow from a revolver.

MAGISTRATE WOULD BE READY TO FREE TOM FINTON

If Crown Didn't Press for Commitment, He Would Discharge Prisoner, He Says — But Son Must Stand Trial for Father's Murder.

HAMILTON, May 12.—(Special).—Tom Finton must stand trial at the fall assizes on a charge of having murdered his father, Elijah Finton, on the family farmstead at Stony Creek on April 26. He was to-day committed by Magistrate Jinks to go before a higher court. At the same time his worship made a remark that Crown Attorney Washington objected to rather warmly. After the witnesses were heard, Mr. G. Lynch-Staunton, K.C., argued that there was no evidence to connect the prisoner with the crime.

"If the crown attorney wishes the case sent up it must go up," said the magistrate. "If he did not press it, I would not send it up."

"I think it would have been better if your worship had not said that much," said the attorney.

"I can express an opinion. I could dismiss the case if I wanted to," retorted the magistrate, and Mr. Washington replied: "You can, and you can do it yet. It is an extraordinary thing if you insist that I must call some witnesses who actually saw the crime committed."

"If you want him sent up, all right," said the bench.

"Of course I want him sent up. There can be no argument or question about it. Too many officials are expressing opinions. First, we have the sheriff saying death is accidental, and then your worship expressing an opinion," complained the attorney.

"Don't you say a word," Mr. Staunton advised his client.

Finton pleaded not guilty in a clear voice, indeed he seemed little concerned. He looked around the court and gazed at his uncle and neighborhood friends, the no sign of recognition passed between them.

Doctor Says It Was a Blow.

A brother of the dead man, George Finton, told of Tom's movements on the morning of the fatality, and of seeing him hitch up and drive away. Mr. Staunton elicited the information from him that he was 70 years of age and a cripple, that the morning was foggy and that he could not see what his brother was not alive when Tom left and had not helped him hitch up.

Dr. Edgar described the wounds which had caused death, due to a terrible blow. Death had occurred before he was a fall would not have caused the injuries, which were probably from a round instrument.

"To get those injuries he would have to hang by his feet from the roof of the barn and fall plump on his head," he said.

Overall with about 20 blood-spots were exhibited. Cutting an artery or smashing the brain might have caused them to splash in such a way.

Falls from a shorter distance (15 inches) have broken a man's skull," said defence counsel, but the witness said he had never seen such a case.

Mrs. Flora Merr, housekeeper at the Finton home, said Tom had not been in a pleasant mood the day of the death. He was dissatisfied because of his wife's absence. Father and son left the house about 7 a.m. and Tom returned about 12 a.m. She saw him put up and drove away. She saw him put a coat and something that looked like an implement 3-4 feet long in the wagon. Finton, she had not helped in hitching.

Had Tried to Be Lenient.

To Mr. Staunton's question as to what he had heard of the case, and his father were as friendly as usual, she said she was so shocked she hardly knew what she said, and he had been as lenient as possible.

"And then, after you heard about the blood stains, you did not want to be lenient. Why did you change your mind?" asked the counsel. "I found I would have to speak plainer," she replied.

"Who told you?" "My conscience." "You had the inspiration from on high?" "My conscience." Witness said Tom ran his hand along the object in the wagon and then laid it down.

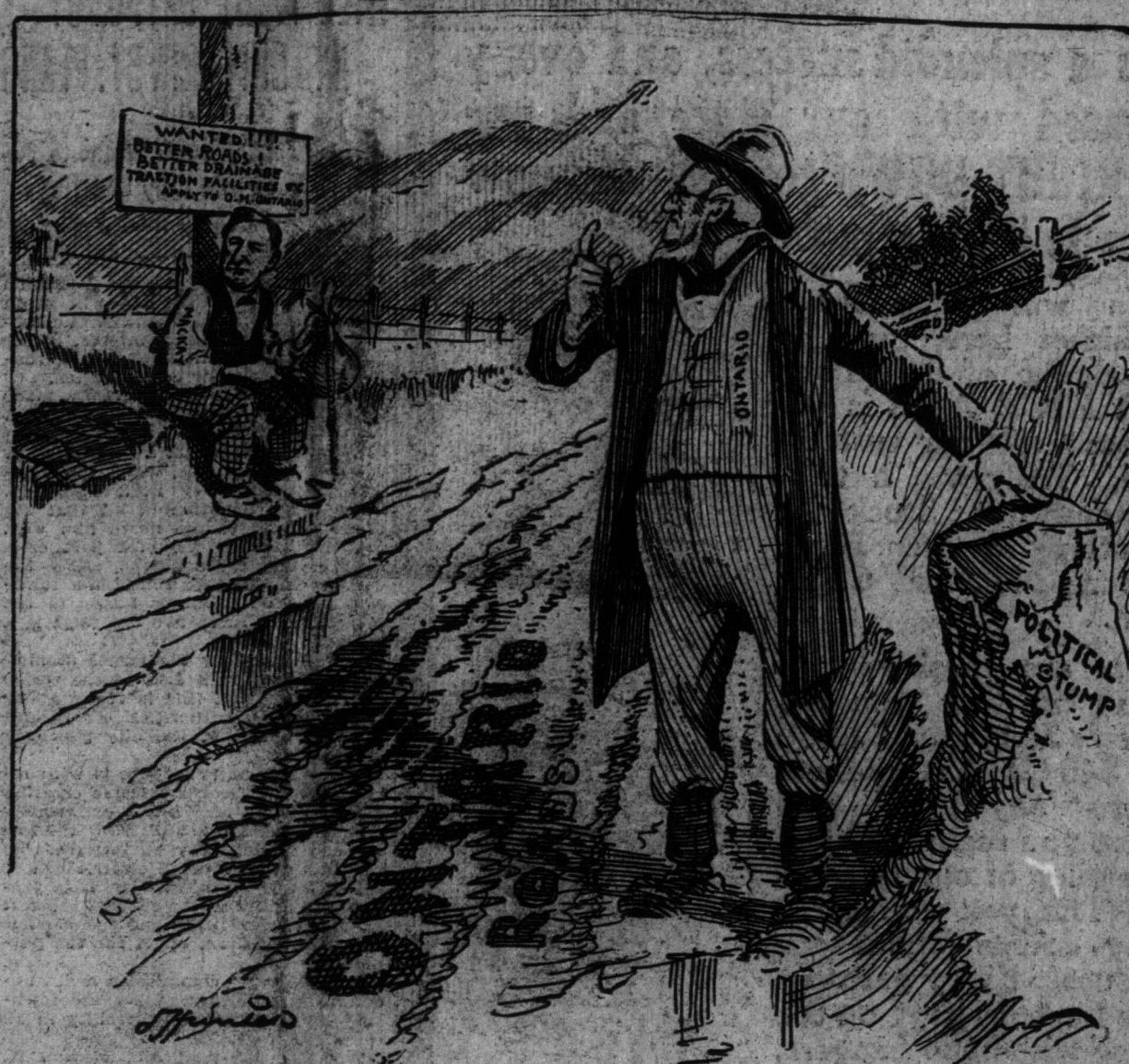
"Have you ever been shown anything like that?"

Continued on Page 7, Column 1.



TOM FINTON
Sent for trial on a charge of having murdered his father.

AN OPINION SOLICITED



OLD MAN ONTARIO: Just get up here, Aleck, and tell us what you think about it.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE LYING-IN-STATE

Procession to Westminster Hall on
Tuesday Will Be a Memorable One.

LONDON, May 12.—From a life of comparative ease and retirement King George suddenly finds himself one of the busiest men in the world. In addition to his royal duties he has to arrange the funeral of his late Majesty, and to arrange the details of the lying-in-state.

The lying-in-state involves a great addition to the work of arranging the funeral, all the details of which will hardly be completed before Sunday. The procession to Westminster Hall on Tuesday for the lying-in-state will be almost on a grand scale as the funeral procession. The cortege will include King George and all the foreign sovereigns, on horseback, and the queen mother and the royal ladies in carriages. The body will be received by the members of the house of lords, and the women of commons, while the choir of Westminster Abbey, and the Chapel Royal and the band of the Coldstream Guards will take part in the musical services.

Cars Will Stop.

When the funeral procession starts on Friday, every train car in London will come to a standstill for a quarter of an hour. The streets will be closed, and public houses in London should be closed while the procession is passing.

Eight Drowned.

Pleasure Party of High School Students Ends in Tragedy.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., May 12.—Eight high school students, six girls and two boys, lost their lives to-day while boating on what is known as the Old Paper Mill Dam at Huntington.

High School secured two boats at the noon hour and started for a row on the dam. The dam is nearly half a mile in width, and when the craft had reached the centre it was noticed that one of them had sprung a leak.

An effort was made to transfer the girls from the leaky boat to the safer craft. The last one of the party had scarcely set foot in the boat when it began to sink, owing to the combined weight of the party.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY UNION

Governing Body for the City Organized Last Night.

The Archdiocesan Union of the Holy Name Society in connection with the R. C. Church was organized last evening at a gathering in St. Vincent's Hall of delegates from the city parishes. The organization is the result of the decision by Archbishop McEwen that in view of the growth in membership and influence of the societies, a governing body in the city was desirable.

Dean Hand has been appointed spiritual adviser. The officers chosen last night are: President, James Delaney, St. Paul's; vice-president, J. J. Murphy, St. Basil's; second vice-president, J. P. Murray, St. Peter's; corresponding secretary, James O'Hagan, St. Mary's; recording secretary, John Costello, St. Patrick's; treasurer, Frank Russell, St. Michael's; marshal, J. Sheridan, St. Joseph's.

These officers compose the executive, and with six delegates from the various branches will make up the union.

FLEEING THE FLAMES.

DULUTH, Minn., May 12.—Bare-headed with clothing scorched and their hair and eyebrows singed, a party of refugees arrived in Grand Marais to-day, after spending the night in the bed of a stream to escape forest fires. At times they were compelled to submerge themselves in the water.

MATTAGAMI RICH IN COAL, IRON AND OIL

Supposed Lignite Finds Merely
a Cover for Rich Deposits of
Cannel Coal — Unlimited
Tonnage of Iron Said to
Have Been Stripped.

NORTH BAY, May 12.—(Special).—Since the opening of navigation the reported coal fields along the Mattagami River, northwest of Cochrane, have been visited by a number of exploring parties and the reports coming out are very encouraging. R. E. G. Burrows, who took a party in for a New Liskeard syndicate, has just returned with excellent samples of cannel coal and staked 10 claims adjoining the T. and N. O. Railway company's claims. The members of this syndicate are highly elated over the success of the expedition and the samples of coal, which indicate that the so-called "lignite" deposits cover the real article, so much sought after. R. Horowitz of Pittsburgh, Pa., has staked four claims for an American syndicate and brought out samples of cannel coal, besides reporting evidence of petroleum. R. J. Flattery is prospecting with a party in Mattagami district for the United States Steel Co., and prospectors who have met Flattery state that he is very much pleased with the showings and claims to have discovered large deposits of coal, iron and oil.

The Mattagami Coal Mining Co., composed of North Bay business men, have eight coal claims and are very optimistic as to the results. Foster Shields of Sudbury, representing a syndicate having coal and iron claims in the new district, left for the north to-day to arrange for active mining operations. This syndicate claim to have stripped iron deposits showing an almost unlimited tonnage of iron. "Oil" prospects are very encouraging, as along the banks of the Mattagami River has been found a greasy substance flowing into the river, which floats on the surface and has every indication of being petroleum.

There is splendid water power on the Mattagami, with falls 100 feet high, while there is an expanse of river just above of 1000 feet.

The samples of coal brought out have caused considerable excitement among mining men, and it is confidently expected that large coal deposits will be uncovered in Mattagami district, of great commercial value besides iron and oil.

MR. CREELMAN NOT RETIRING

Will Continue to Act as C. P. R. General Counsel.

MONTREAL, May 12.—A rumor has been circulated here to the effect that R. L. Borden was to succeed A. R. Creelman as counsel of the C. P. R., as a result of the latter's elevation to the directorate of the company.

Mr. Creelman stated today that no such offer had been made to him, and that he had no steps taken to appoint a successor. He intimated that he would continue to discharge the duties of counsel, as well as occupy a place on the board of directors.

BUYS DOMINION ATLANTIC

C. P. R. Adds 200 Miles to Its System in Nova Scotia.

MONTREAL, May 12.—(Special).—Despite denials from the vice-president, it is authoritatively announced that the C. P. R. has purchased the Dominion Atlantic Railway line from Halifax to Yarmouth, adding over 200 miles to their system, and placing the great corporation into Nova Scotia with both feet.

The railway runs thru a fine fruit producing country and brings to Halifax, during the months of November and December, 750,000 bushels of apples alone.

THE WEATHER AND CROPS.

An early season, but slow growing. Not one really warm day yet—none to make the crops to jump. But still the outlook is good. Gardens are also backward. Farmers are busy at their corn planting. Fall wheat looks good, with winter-killed bare spots here and there. Oats and barley came out of the ground slowly, but ought to move up now. Pasture is getting thick. Clover and timothy full of promise.

A RETROSPECT.

May 13, 1867: First English settlement in North America at Jamestown, Virginia. This was 13 years before the Pilgrim Fathers landed at Plymouth Rock.

May 13, 1870: Hudson Bay Co. formed.

May 13, 1861: Queen Victoria issued a proclamation enjoining all her subjects to maintain a strict neutrality in the United States.

THE NEWS JILTS THE MAID.

Just when The News is putting up a front page that appeals to the away and an editorial page that appeals to the brown-stone front, it must needs jilt Mary Ann, the maid.

FEATHER BOAS.

Feather Boas from Paris—Hackle Feather Boas—soft and fluffy, in all the latest designs and in long and short lengths; trimmed tastefully. All prices from four dollars upwards to twenty. Regular cape effects or boas. The Deline Company have been able enough to secure an overstock from an importer of French millinery, and are offering these goods at really low prices.