RECLAMATION OF ARID LANDS

ONE OF ENGINEERS IS ON A VISIT HERE

The Work Which the United States Government Is Doing in Dry Belt.

One of the engineers connected with the reclamation service of the United States, F. E. Weymouth, is registered at the Driard hotel.

The bureau, under which this great work is being prosecuted, is associated with the department of the interior at Washington. Its organization, as explained by Mr. Weymouth to a reporter, is something after this fashion: All the money derived from the sale of the public lands in the United States, except a small part that is set aside for school and other purposes, are put into a fund, called the "reclamation fund," and this money is used to reclaim the arid lands of the nation.

This service was inaugurated in 1902. Up to the present time works have been begun in all of the sixteen most western states of the union, and vast sums of money have been expended in connection therewith. Last year about twelve million dollars were spent on irrigation works and Mr. Weymouth says that the plans of the department involve an outlay of something like six million dollars a year for an indefinite period.

The particular work in which Mr. Weymouth is engaged is known as the lower Yellowstone project. This is only one of a large number of great irrigation enterprises now in course of development by the United States government. The Yellowstone project proposes ta reclaim about 67,000 acres of land, situate in Montana. The work is now about seventy-five per cent. complete and will be finished during the coming summer.

The reclamation service is organized with a chief engineer at Washington, who subdivides the territory which is subject to irrigation enterprises, and each of these subdivisions is looked after by a supervising engineer. At present there are twenty-four districts in which these irrigation schemes are in progress, and the plan has been so developed that the works will be prosecuted continually out of the moneys from the sales of irrigated lands.

Mr. Weymouth is visiting British Columbia for business and pleasure. Incidentally he has been looking over the country with a view of observing what has been done here in the irrigation line.

SUING THE GLOBE.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 30.—The second suit for libel has been issued against the Toronto Globe by Dr. Beattie Nesbitt, one of the mayoralty candidates for a statement which Dr. Nesbitt claims reflects upon his character. A notice has also been served on the Globe stating that an injunction has been applied for to restrain the paper from publishing any further articles.

OTTAWA'S MAYOR.

Mayor Scott Was Again Elected by Acclamation.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—Mayor Scott was re-elected to-day by acclamation. There are eight in the field for controllors, four being required. The candidates are Aldermen Davidson, Hopewell, Champagne, Hasty and Pepper, and P. M. Draper, secretary of the trades labor congress; D. H. McLean, barrister; and Stroude.

GRAIN RECEIPTS.

Winnipeg, Dec. 30.—Grain receipts at points on the lines of the C. P. R. on Saturday amounted to 86,000 bushels. Of this amount 49,000 bushels was wheat and 37,000 bushels other grains. The total grain receipts to date this year have amounted to 24,074,000 bushels of wheat and 4,737,000 bushels of other grains.

SMALLPOX IN TORONTO SCHOOL

Toronto, Dec. 30. — The medical health officer this morning found six children who had been attending the Lansdowne public school to be affected by smallpox. The patients, who were taken to the Swiss Cottage hospital, were, with one exception, girls under 14 years of age.

LAND FRAUDS.

Denver, Col., Dec. 30.—Judge R. E. Lewis, of the Federal court, to-day quashed all indictments and sustained all the demurrers in coal land frauds cases, thereby releasing about fifty prominent defendants from prosecution.

MORAL REFORM SECRETARY.

Red Deer, Alb., Dec. 30.—Rev. W. G. W. Fortune has been offered the position of field secretary of the Alberta Temperance and Moral Reform league, at a salary of $2,000 and expenses. The offer came unsolicited from the executive of the league.

PETTIBONE DYING.

Boise, Dec. 30.—Pettibone was so ill last night that it was thought he would die. It is freely predicted that the trial will never conclude. His malady is believed to be incurable. The trial has been postponed till to-morrow.

REDUCING TRAIN SERVICE.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 30.—The C. P. R. express train from Winnipeg to Calgary will be taken off on January 5th. All the Soo-Spokane flyers will also come off.

HON. SIR J. BRODERICK IN CANADA.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—Viscount Middleton, better known as Hon. Sir John Broderick, secretary for war in the late Balfour administration, is a guest at Government House. He will address the Canadian Club a week from Saturday.

FAIR SEX EXCLUDED.

Morbid Curiosity Not to Be Qualified in Forthcoming Trial of Harry K. Thaw.

New York, Dec. 31.—All women except members of the Thaw family and the women reporters will be excluded from the room during the second trial of Harry K. Thaw, under orders issued by Justice Dowling yesterday. Harry Thaw's trial will begin next Monday.

The reason given for this order is that the seating capacity of the court room has been reduced greatly since the first trial, and will now accommodate only about 150 spectators. Justice Dowling is said also to be determined to prevent a recurrence of the annoyance caused at the last trial by women moved by morbid curiosity, who made use of every means at their command to secure seats.

CUSTOMS REVENUE OF DOMINION.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—The customs revenue of the Dominion for December totalled $4,093,066. This was a decrease of $91,837 as compared with the same month last year. This is the first decrease shown for some years. The revenue for nine months, however, shows an increase over 1906 of $6,983,802.

LEFT FAREWELL MESSAGE OF PEACE

AMBASSADOR AOKI EN ROUTE FOR JAPAN

Confident of Amicable Settlement of Emigration Problem Which Agitates Two Countries

Washington, Dec. 31.—"We shall take back home with us to Japan only the kindliest feeling for America and for her people, and the highest regard for her institutions," said Viscount Aoki, the Japanese ambassador, yesterday prior to his departure for San Francisco, with Viscountess Aoki, from which place they will sail for home.

The ambassador returns to Japan at the instance of his government, which desires to consult with him regarding conditions affecting Japanese interests in America.

"I am confident that an amicable settlemen will be reached on this great question, the only one of any consequence that is agitating the people of these two countries," said Ambassador Aoki.

"Both governments are striving to reach an honorable solution of the emigration question, and the latest advices that we have received from our government indicate that the way is gradually being paved with that end in view. As I have said, again and again, there is every reason in the world why both countries should have a complete understanding and continue on most amicable relations. It will be my earnest effort to advance and strengthen the existing friendly relations in every way that lies in my power."

DROPPED DEAD IN SENATE.

M. Guyot-Dessaigne, French Minister of Justice, Victim of Apoplexy.

Paris, Dec. 31.—During this morning's session of the senate, Edmond Guyot-Dessaigne, the French minister of justice, dropped dead of apoplexy.

M. Guyot-Dessaigne was born in 1833, he entered the public service in 1863, and in 1885 he was elected to the Chamber of Deputies. He first entered the ministry as minister of justice in 1899 in the Ploquet cabinet. His present tenure of office dates from October 23rd, 1906. He was a member of the Legion of Honor.

MISTREATMENT OF JEWISH RACE

Dr. Emil Hirsch Denounced in Strong Terms Boasted Civilisation of United States.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 31.—Declaring that the persecution of the Jews in the United States made their existence far from comfortable, and often burdensome, Dr. Emil G. Hirsch in the strongest terms at his command last night arraigned the boasted civilization of today for its mistreatment of this race.

It was at the closing session of the convention of the American Ethical Society that Dr. Hirsch surprised his hearers with a number of strong remarks as to the condition of present-day Jews. He was talking upon the general topic of "Ethical Tendencies in the Churches," but he spent much of his time in pointing out the lack of ethical tendencies in present-day civilization.

"In Chicago to-night there are Jews who tremble to go out in the streets because they may be stoned by children, who believe they do not look like a citizen of Chicago should look," said Dr. Hirsch.

"Why, a Jew is barred from college fraternities. For this, however, he should sing a song of thanks. So it is plain to be a Jew in the United States, with all its boasted democracy and civilization, is not such a comfortable thing. In Europe the condition of the Jews is worse, and in Russia it is unbearable.

"Why is this so? Here is an ethical problem for the members of ethical societies to answer."

MAYOR MORLEY'S LATEST PET—"HIS TEDDY BEAR."

SAD SHOOTING FATALITY.

Qu'Appelle, Sask., Dec. 31.—A fatal shooting accident occurred at Edgelry, ten miles from here, this morning. A. Cass and his son were going for wood. The son was driving and holding a cocked rifle which was accidentally discharged, the bullet entering his groin, killing him instantly. The funeral will take place on Wednesday to Edgelry cemetery.

ARRESTED IN CHICAGO.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Omer Roohette and his wife, who were arrested here last week on information furnished by the Canadian secret service, were today returned to Quebec, the scene of the supposed murder of Rochette's former wife.

RINGS FOR CIVIC OFFICIALS.

Brandon, Man., Dec. 31.—As a token of recognition for their services and assistance to him while on the city council, Hon. G. R. Coldwell has presented each of the officials of the city hall with a handsome gold ring set with a magnificent carbuncle.

MAYOR AT FORT WILLIAM.

Fort William, Ont., Dec. 31.—Mayor Murphy was re-elected mayor by acclamation. There are four candidates for the mayoralty in Port Arthur.

HONOR BRITISH AMBASSADOR.

Madison, Wis., Dec. 31.—British Ambassador James Bryce was elected president of the American Political Science Association yesterday.

HAD STRANGLED OTHER WOMEN

Sordid Story Told by Witness in New York Rooming House Tragedy Trial.

New York, Dec. 31.—Eugene Potti swore on the witness stand in the court of general sessions yesterday that Guiseppi Capuzzo, also known as Chas. Davis, confessed to him that he strangled Sophie Kehrer, of Buffalo, and that he had killed other women in the same way.

Mrs. Kehrer was found murdered in a furnished rooming house in West 22nd street last July. Capuzzo was arrested a few days later charged with having caused her death.

When called as a witness yesterday Potti said he had known the prisoner for some time. They had lived together in a house in West 28th street, and while there he said Capuzzo fell violently in love with the landlady, and became jealous of her. A little later, however, he met another woman, and late in July remained away from home several days. When he returned, Potti said, Capuzzo showed him two rings which he said "his girl" had given him. He said the girl had gone to Buffalo.

Potti said later: "I asked him what was the matter, and he told me he had killed the girl and that his head hurt him. When I told him I did not believe him, he swore he was telling the truth. It was easy, he told me. I gripped her throat for a time and then I let go and then I gripped it again, until she was dead. I asked him if he did not fear he would be found out, and he said he would let his moustache grow to prevent recognition. He said he knew how to do it because he had strangled women before, and that he could have strangled the landlady too had he wanted to do so."

The defendant on the stand denied all knowledge of the murder of Sophie Kehrer, although he said he had lived with Mrs. Kehrer three weeks, and was with her the night of her death. On the night they had gone to Coney Island, and had drunk a great deal and had returned home late. He was very tired, and remembered nothing after going to bed.

BUTTE LABOR LEADERS.

Four Will Answer Charge of Interfering With Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Company.

Helena, Mont., Dec. 31.—Charged with defying the United States government by their alleged violating of the injunction issued by Federal Judge Hunt restraining all persons from interfering with the operations of the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Company, in this state, four labor leaders of Butte, Jos. Hannon, Wm. Cutts, Richard Murray and Peter McDonald, will appear in the Federal court to answer the charge of contempt. Nearly fifty witnesses will be brought here to testify.

SIXTEEN YEAR OLD MURDERER

O'BRIEN CONFESSED HE KILLED LECLAIRE

Neche Mystery Cleared Up by Statement Extracted From Youth by Pinkerton Detective

Gretna, Man., Dec. 31.—James O'Brien has made a complete confession of the murder of Arthur Leclaire, the Great Northern fireman. The sixteen-year-old slayer finally gave out the details of his crime to J. C. Crawford, a Pinkerton detective, who has been working on the case. The confession came after he had been confronted with his bloody clothing and the hatchet with which the crime was committed, the bloody scarf and other evidences of his guilt. When the news was brought to the father of O'Brien, for years a resident of Neche and customs officer here, he broke down completely. Fred Leclaire, the father of the murdered boy, called on him in an endeavor to console him.

Detective Crawford, although eighteen years in the business, had quite a time getting the murderer to confess. He worked various schemes and was finally successful, after picturing to the boy the certainty of his conviction and calling his attention to the great expense which his father would be burdened in case he fought the case in the district court.

The following is the complete confession of young O'Brien:

"To J. C. Crawford, Pinkerton detective: On Sunday, December 22nd, Leclaire and I went to Gretna twice and drank each time. Coming back the second time both of us were quarreling about who was the best man, and Leclaire said he could lick three O'Briens, and I got mad. When he left Cook's shop I made an excuse to go outside and I got a hatchet and we started for the rink. When we got down there he made some remark about fighting me, and he put his foot behind me and threw me over. I got up and he hit me and I hit him with a hatchet, and after I seen what I had done I hit him again and took his pocketbook and threw it in the river. After I realized what I had done I threw the money in the river. I got the hatchet from behind the house where the ice is kept. I threw the body over the bank and followed the body down the bank. I think I had hold of him by the collar and dropped him at the head of the dam in the river. (Signed)

"JAMES O'BRIEN."

"I, James O'Brien, do voluntarily make a statement in my own handwriting and of my own free will before witnesses, J. C. Fielding and George Roadhouse that the contents of the foregoing statement tells how I, James O'Brien, killed Arthur Leclaire on Sunday, December 22, 1907. I have written the above statement for the purpose of telling the truth, and have not shielded anyone, as there was nobody implicated but myself."

RETURNED HOME.

Medicine Hat, Dec. 30.—At a Christmas dinner at T. W. Folie's ranch, a mile south of the town, there were present thirty-seven people, one of whom was a Canadian, two were Americans, and thirty-four were re-expatriated Canadians, who had gone from Canada to the United States, lived there for a time, and had returned to Canada to settle in Alberta.

THIEVIG BY AUTO.

Rochester Thieves Decamp Speedily With Loot of $2,839.

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Three men stole a chest containing $2,839 from a street car standing in front of the Main Street East car barns this morning and got safely away with it in an automobile. The police have notified nearby cities to watch for the men, and the vicinity of Rochester is being scoured by detectives and policemen in autos.

PADEREWSKI AS DIRECTOR.

Warsaw, Dec. 31.—A telegram has been received here from Ignace Paderewski in which the well known pianist accepts the directorship of the Warsaw conservatory of music.

SHOT FARM HAND IN BACK.

Drinking Led to Quarrel Between Vancouver Old-Timers—One Seriously Injured.

Vancouver, Dec. 31.—A serious shooting affray occurred here last night. Joseph Ethier, the victim, lies in a critical condition and George McCulla is under arrest for the deed. Both are old timers.

Ethier is a farm hand and McCulla a rancher. They had both been drinking heavily and met in the Victoria hotel bar. Ethier was abusive and insulted McCulla, who pulled his gun and fired one shot into the ceiling. Ethier ran for the door and McCulla shot him in the back. The doctors have not yet located the bullet and fatal results are feared.

MIRACULOUS ESCAPE.

St. Thomas, Ont., Dec. 31.—Otto Wintemute, employed in the M. C. R. boilershop, had a miraculous escape from death. He was knocked down by an engine which passed over him. When the engineer brought it to a standstill Wintemute crawled out between the big driver from under the engine suffering only from several bruises and the shock.

WHEAT TRAFFIC.

Winnipeg, Dec. 31.—The week in wheat has been marked by an active demand in Winnipeg for all grades of wheat offerings, a small but steady export trade, and a heavy accumulation at lake front elevators. Shipments from the ports of lakes has been comparatively small, probably owing to the fact that holders of wheat there are not at present ready to forward.

'QUAKE MAY HAVE SPREAD DAMAGE

Earth Movement Recorded at Many Points, Including Victoria--Of Long Duration

The seismograph at the Victoria meterological office recorded a well-defined earthquake at 10 p.m. on Sunday. The vibration of the pendulum swing was 5 millimetres, about one-quarter of an inch, and the indications were that the earthquake was several thousand miles distant.

Destructive Character.

Ryde, Isle of Wight, Dec. 30. — The seismographical instruments at the Ryde Hill observatory registered an earthquake this morning. Prof. John Milne, the well known authority on seismographical disturbances, believes that the present disturbance, if not of submarine origin, may prove to have been most destructive.

Recorded in Toronto.

Toronto, Dec. 30. — A fairly large earthquake disturbance was recorded at the observatory here this morning. The disturbance was greatest between 11.45 and 12.55 a.m., and the distance was 3,500 miles from Toronto.

Large Proportions.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 30.—Early this morning an earthquake of large proportions was recorded on the seismograph at the state museum station in this city. The vibrations of the needles set upon both machines were severe, those of the northsouth pendulum measuring 2½ inches in maximum amplitude.

The disturbance began at 12.33½ a.m., and it took an hour for it to pass through this region. The preliminary tremors lasted 8½ minutes. The earthquake appears to have occurred at about 3,500 miles from Albany, with the centre of the disturbance in the Cordilleran region of Central or South America, or else out in the Pacific ocean, west of Mexico.

Wasted Four Hours.

Laibach, Austro-Hungary, Dec. 30.—A series of earthquakes of great force were recorded at the observatory this morning, which, according to Professor Bell, must have had their centre in the mainland between Mexico and Colombia, and produced formidable effects. The disturbance, as shown by the recording sheets, lasted four hours.

BOMB FACTORY UNEARTHED.

Discovery of Complete Terrorist Apparatus Made Near Sebastopol.

Sebastopol, Russia, Dec. 31.—One of the most complete bomb factories ever discovered in Russia has been unearthed at a farmhouse twenty miles from here. It consists of a complete apparatus for manufacturing high explosives. Twenty-seven bombs of the most destructive type, and one hundred and twenty such implements in an unfinished condition were seized, ad three men were arrested at the house.

BUILDING IN BRANDON.

Nearly Three-Quarters of a Million Expended on Structures During Past Year.

Brandon, Man., Dec. 31.—The building season which has just closed in Brandon, despite the financial stringency, has been a most successful one, the total expenditure on building having been only slightly under that for last year. The total figures reached $715,290 for 1907, while those of 1906 were $724,905. The total expenditures on public buildings, which includes the new armory, schools, churches, addition to asylum, rifle range and Salvation Army barracks, is $189,000. The winter fair buildings which cost $45,000, railway buildings $96,000, and an addition to the Brandon Electric Light Company's works $35,000, are among the other large expenditures.

BISHOP ANDREWS DEAD.

One of America's Most Widely Known Methodists Is No More.

New York, Dec. 31.—Bishop Edward G. Andrews, of the Methodist Episcopal church, died at his home in Brooklyn at 5 o'clock this morning. Bishop Andrews for nearly half a century was one of the most widely known clergymen in the United States.

COMPARED HARDEN TO ISCARIOT

SAID EDITOR FELL INTO SEA OF LIES

State Attorney Opened Pleadings To-Day in Notorious Moltke Libel Suit.

Berlin, Dec. 31.—The hearing of the Harden-Von Moltke libel suit was resumed here this morning. At the opening of the session the judge questioned Count Kuno Von Moltke as to whether he had resigned from the army as a result of the articles published by Harden in Die Zukunft. The count responded emphatically in the affirmative.

The state attorney, Dr. Isenbiel, then opened the pleadings and demanded the imposition of a sentence of four months' imprisonment against Harden. He declared that Harden had assumed that there existed near the person of the Emperor a group of men whose influence was detrimental to the interests of the Fatherland, and which he felt himself called upon to disperse.

Among the members of the group were Prince Philip Zu Eulenburg and Count Kuno Von Moltke. Harden attacked these two men and, founding his accusation on the mere word of an hysterical woman, Mrs. Von Elbe, and upon statements made by her mother, Mrs. Von Heyden, who was quite untrustworthy, declared them to be possessed of abnormal tendencies.

Continuing, Dr. Isenbiel said: "Count Von Moltke, who has been covered with filth by Harden, leaves this court completely cleared. He is without a stain, a noble man from head to foot. Prince Zu Elenburg is equally vindicated. I do not know what the Emperor said to Count Von Moltke, but he probably told him, 'Go, Von Moltke, and clear yourself; stamp on this poisonous snake.'"

Dr. Isenbiel, referring to Harden's motion, said he believed his articles had been actuated, as always, purely by political purposes, and in this instance he had injured the Fatherland and he therefore merited punishment.

"Like Iscariot, he has burnt himself, made wings, and fallen into a sea of lies."

In conclusion, the state attorney said he had received a letter threatening him with death if the verdict of the court was unfavorable to Harden. He felt obliged to call attention to the letter, but he laughed at the threat.

LIBERAL ELECTED IN NICOLET COUNTY

Dr. Tucotte Returned With Increased Majority Over That Recorded at Last Contest

Montreal, Dec. 31.—The bye-election in Nicolet county to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons caused by the resignation of Charles Devlin, who accepted a portfolio in the Quebec cabinet, was held yesterday and resulted in the election of Dr. Turcotte, the Liberal candidate, who defeated J. C. Hereon, Conservative, by a majority of about 700.

The Liberal majority at the last election was 285.

NO FEVER IN BARBADOES.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 31.—The British embassy has received a cablegram from the governor of the Barbadoes, British West Indies, stating that no fever or infections exist in Barbadoes and that the state of health in the islands is excellent.

SUICIDE IN CHILLIWACK.

Shoe Merchant Blew Top of His Head Off With Revolver.

Vancouver, Dec. 31.—F. T. Empey, a shoe merchant of Chilliwack, aged 32, committed suicide in his store early this morning, shooting the top of his head off with a revolver. He had just returned from a trip to Vancouver.

MONTREAL BANK CLEARINGS.

Montreal, Dec. 31.—Bank clearings of Montreal for the year ending to-day totalled $1,655,590,000 compared with $1,538,557,000 last year. This is an increase of $22,115,000.

TWO PICTURES, LOVE AND DUTY

HOW ERRING PARSON CHOSE THE FORMER

Rev. Knobe Cooke Told Why He Fled With 17 Year Old Floretta Whaley.

San Francisco, Dec. 30.—In a pelting rain and before daylight, the Rev. Jay Knobe Cooke, formerly pastor of the fashionable St. George church, at Hampstead, N. Y., and Floretta Whaley, the 17-year-old heiress with whom he eloped eight months ago, deserting a wife, stole away to-day from the little flat which they had occupied at 1195 Greene street in this city, where they were discovered yesterday living under the name of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Balcom, taking with them their baby boy.

The police declare that no request had been made to them to apprehend the couple and that no effort is being made to locate or detain them.

The discovery of Cook and the girl was made through Capt. Cleary, of the Morse patrol agency, who met them as Mr. and Mrs. Balcom when they came here last June from Los Angeles, and recognized the girl's picture when it was published last week in connection with a dispatch from Louisiana, stating that Cooke had deserted Florette Whaley.

Yesterday eve a representative from a local newspaper called at the home where Cooke and his companion lived. Cooke, a Yale graduate, worked at painting, and decorating, and if that was not abundant he did any manual work that he could get. When the interviewer called yesterday Balcom, or Cooke, admitted his identity, but sent the young mother and baby into another room, asking the reporter to lower his tone, that she might not learn of the discovery of their identity.

"My God what an awakenening from happiness," exclaimed Cooke, "all I want is a chance to get away. I don't mind Sing Sing or hell, but it is she. The child was born two months ago and the discovery and apprehension would kill the mother."

Facing back and forth, Cooke told the reporter the story of his life and of his elopement with Miss Whaley.

"The inexorable law must be maintained," he said. "I have preached it so often I ought to know. There is nothing that will paint a black sheep white, but I have my reasons. For ten years I have kept silent. For the last eight months I have borne without a murmur, all the abuse, the vilest lies that newspaper could concoct."

Cooke's father died when Cooke was five years old. He was adopted by an uncle and learned the trade of paper hanging and decorating. He worked his way through Yale, and finally entered the ministry. Cooke told of his marriage and of his unhappy married life. He declared that his wife admitted to him that she had married him for no other reason than that it would prove a convenient stepping stone for her social ambitions. He added that it would be "caddish to dilate on my marriage troubles."

"Then I woke to love and everything else was worthless. You know the end. On the one hand was a loveless wife with money and position, wealth, and on the other love and poverty. I chose this." He pointed to the scantily furnished room.

"I don't prize myself for the step I took. It was weakness, it was unmanly, but I am only human and as I am to be judged by human beings it is but right that they know that I gave up all I had fought for and would now. All I ask is to be left alone. I am doing a man's work. I have sinned but I have suffered. Now I beg the world to let me alone with my wife and child. I can live the life of a good citizen. They say I am a good decorator. I was kept at work long after the other men were let go during the financial stringency. I ask the world to let me be a painter, nothing more, to do a man's work and enjoy the serenity and happiness of the average man."

The only identification established so far of Gerald Balcom as the Rev. Cooke is his own admission. Cooke said he was afflicted with heart failure, and sometimes he was on the verge of collapsing during the interview. On the promise that Mrs. Balcom would not be apprised of the fact that their identity had been discovered, Cooke accompanied the reporter to a newspaper office to be sketched. On the way down town Cooke fainted in the street car.

Cooke's neighbors spoke of him in the highest terms of the pair. Mrs. S. M. Miles, who lives in a adjoining apartment, said that she saw Cooke and his companion, or Mr. and Mrs. Balcom, as she knew them, leave their flat early this morning [illegible] go out in the storm. The[illegible] few pieces of bagga[illegible] carried the baby close[illegible]

San Fra[illegible]—The Rev. Jay Knobe C[illegible] appeared from his res[illegible] identification beca[illegible]ther with his yo[illegible] Floretta Whaley. [illegible] located here again [illegible] is staying at the home [illegible]here he and his companion [illegible]nfortably situated. In an [illegible] last night, Cooke said he [illegible] east as soon as he can get [illegible]money to travel and as soon as [illegible] can be arranged he will marry [illegible]Whaley. It is expected that the [illegible]mother of the young woman will send her funds to return east.

FIGHT BETWEEN MURDERERS.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 30.—John Troy, who murdered Angus McLeod, of Napanee, ten years ago, and who is in the insane ward of the penitentiary, made a murderous attack upon Valentine Shortis, a Valleyfield murderer, on Saturday afternoon. As a result of the argument between them Shortis was stabbed in the face and shoulder and back, but the wounds are not serious.

UNDERGROUND WIRES FOR C[illegible]

A PROPOSITION BY TELEPHONE COM[illegible]

Business Which Was Transac[illegible] Last Night's Meeting of the Council.

(From Monday's Daily.)

In connection with the paving [illegible] done on Government street, a p[illegible] has been made looking to the r[illegible] of all the telephone poles fro[illegible] thoroughfare. This was explain[illegible] the Mayor to the aldermanic [illegible] last night.

The estimated cost of puttin[illegible] Government street wires underg[illegible] His Worship said, was $750, this [illegible] being necessitated for the consta[illegible] of the necessary conduits. The [illegible]ter had been gone into by the [illegible] committee and representatives [illegible] telephone company, and as a res[illegible] committee decided to recommen[illegible] undertaking.

During the consultation the [illegible] doing away with the overhead [illegible] system of the company all ov[illegible] city, was broached and a seriou[illegible] position was suggested by the co[illegible] towards this end. In a word t[illegible] of the undertaking was estima[illegible] $50,000 and the company agreed [illegible] nine-tenths of the cost of intere[illegible] sinking fund, providing the [illegible]tures were guaranteed by th[illegible] This proposition contemplate[illegible] placing of all the telephone w[illegible] the city under ground.

The report of the streets com[illegible] in which the Government street [illegible]ground wires was submitted, [illegible] follows:

Your streets, bridges and [illegible] committee having considered t[illegible]dermentioned subjects, beg to [illegible] and recommend as follows:

1. Recommend that the engi[illegible] instructed to lay the necessary c[illegible] for underground wires on Gove[illegible] street, before paving is proceede[illegible] the B. C. Telephone Co. fur[illegible] the conduits. The estimated cos[illegible] city is $750.

2. Re communication from [illegible] Lees, asking the city to lay [illegible] pipes across his property from [illegible] street to the city limits.

We recommend that Mr. Lees[illegible] formed that the cost of pipin[illegible] distance would be $600, that i[illegible] natural water course entirely t[illegible] private property, that no sew[illegible] filth enters the course from wit[illegible] city limits on his property, that [illegible] contamination of the water ex[illegible] comes from South Saanich mu[illegible]ity, and that his complaints i[illegible] matter should be sent to the [illegible] of that municipality, and th[illegible] these various reasons this coun[illegible] not see its way clear to compl[illegible] his request at present.

3. Recommend that the pur[illegible] agent be instructed to get quo[illegible] from Great Britain and other [illegible] on creosote of standard quali[illegible] street paving, for delivery not [illegible] than May 1st, in drums or bar[illegible] wharf in city of Victoria, and [illegible] quantity not exceeding 750 drum[illegible] gallons each.

Reports from the city engine[illegible] health officer concerning the dis[illegible] of garbage, alleged by the pr[illegible] health authorities to be a nuisan[illegible] the James Bay flats, were read [illegible] was ordered that copies ther[illegible] sent to the secretary of the pr[illegible] board. In a word the city offic[illegible] agree with Dr. Fagan that [illegible] any menace in the condition [illegible] dump and maintain that all ve[illegible] objection thereto is being rem[illegible] the work which the city is doin[illegible]

The building inspector was [illegible]ized to settle the insurance cl[illegible] the exhibition buildings recen[illegible]stroyed by fire, on the basis [illegible]port made by him, which was [illegible] lows:

"I would respectfully report [illegible] Thursday evening, the 26th ins[illegible] took place at the Agricultura[illegible]ing, which entirely consumed [illegible] building, porches, the poultry [illegible] rear, and also the machine[illegible] These were insured. Likew[illegible] building used for a restaurar[illegible] new grounds was destroyed [illegible] other building on the south si[illegible] main building. The last two [illegible] insured. There was also dest[illegible] feet lineal of box stalls on t[illegible] side of old grounds and eas[illegible] main building, which, in my [illegible] was worth $4.00 per lineal f[illegible] allowing reduction for deterio[illegible] value. The city should rec[illegible] sum of $800 for that destroyed [illegible] 50 feet that is partially des[illegible] per foot—$100. I consider th[illegible] fully entitled to the following [illegible] For the main building, $8,000[illegible] poultry house, $1,000; for the [illegible]ery hall, $500, which is the a[illegible] insurance carried on the abo[illegible] treasurer informs me; also th[illegible] of destruction done to the b[illegible] $900. Total, $10,400.

"In my opinion, the city sho[illegible] demand upon the insurance [illegible] for the amounts mentioned."

A petition from the Victor[illegible]ers Protective Union (city [illegible] for an increase of pay amo[illegible] 25 cents per day to all ea[illegible] than $3 a day was referred [illegible] coming council with a favor[illegible]

A communication was read [illegible]erence to objections to the s[illegible] on the Indian Reserve which [illegible]ferred to the city solicitor.

With respect to the propos[illegible]tion of the street car line at [illegible] of Caledonia avenue and Nor[illegible]am streets the Mayor and [illegible] were authorized to perfect [illegible]ment with the company prov[illegible] the company fill in the road [illegible] last instead of the trestle [illegible] in their proposal.

BANKRUPT ACTRE[illegible]

New York, Dec. 30.—A peti[illegible] voluntary bankruptcy was [illegible]terday by Henrietta Cros[illegible] actress.