OFFICIAL EVIDENCE CHANCE HARBOR AUTO ACCIDENT

The following is the official evidence taken at the inquest on Sun day the 18th on the Auto accident at Chance Harbor on Saturday the 17th.

The Inquest was before Dr. Ken nedy and the following Jury;

S. Gammon (Foreman) Jas. D. McKenzie John Chord A. C. Fraser John Rogers Jas. McGillyray Fred Johnson M. Horton S. Gordon A. Allard L. -McFadgen.

DR. M. R. MCDONALD. Sworn-

Examined by Dr. Knnedy; You practice in New Glasgow?

I do.

Did you know the deceased? No I did not. Q. Tell me what you know about

the case? I was called a little after 4 clock and I got there as soon as I

possibly could What did you find when you got there?

A. I found two ladies. They were dead on the ground one of them was five feet towards the road from the automobile.

Q. Where was the automobile? A On its side below the road. Where was the other lady?

The other one was behind the automobile and she was also dead but to give more I gave more the car skidded and went over the bank. listened to her heart with stethoscope so I could not find her heart and I pronounced her dead very shortly before my arrival. She must have been living for

sometime after the accident.?

A. Yes I think she was living for

sometime. Q. What about the other lady?

A. The other one was perfectly cold as showed there was somerupture of the stomach because what a mile I sounded it at every turn. I she had eaten some time before then sounded it not over two minutes bewas coming out of her mouth. She fore coming to the turn when I got died as the result of internal injur- down on the hill and started up the

What would cause that? A. It might be caused by the auto Q. Did you hear any sound from tumbling over her. Of course it was the other car? caused by coming in contact with A. No Sir. some foreign body and I concluded Q. Was there anything by which more then likely it was the automobile you can tell how fast the car was goon account of being alongside of the dead woman.

Before coming to the conclusion any enquiries of anybody?

all the information I asked they ex plained to me how the thing happen-

A. Yes one was underneath the hind part of the car her head as it were and they pulled her are as it. were and they pulled her out. That was the one that lived for a while. Cross examined by Mr. Doull; We want particularly the case

Mrs. Warren Ogilvie's death.

A. That is the one I concluded got the internal injuries. Mrs. Warren Ogilvie.

Q. Confine your answers to Mrs. Warren Ogilvie. When you examin-ed her body and found no fractures both limbs and arms were apparently

A. There were no cuts that I saw of course I did not take her clothes off and evidently there was nothing only bruises.

What was your conclusion? My conclusion was possibly she died almost instantaneously from the

LOUIS LANCE Sworn;

Examined by Dr. Kennedy

Q. Your name is Louis Lance A. Yes sir. What is your business?

Chauffeur.

Where do you live? Truro N. S.

How long have you been em

ployed as a Chaffeur? A. Employed for period of years previous to the war.

Cross examined by Mr. MacDonald; Have you a license?

Q. Do you consider yourself thoroughly qualified to run a car? Yes sir.

When did you leave Truro? Left Truro Friday afternoon.

Who accompanied you?

Mrs. Warren Ogilvie Mrs. Bor nell Mrs. Sponagle Mrs. Moxon Mrs. Boyd and Mrs. Cameron.

Q. Do you own the car? No sir.

Who owns the car? Q.

Mrs. Warren Ogilvie. What time did you leave Truro? Approximately 2.30 on Friday.

Where did you go to? Pugwash. Q. And where did you go to from

there? A. From there to New Glasgow What time did you get to New

A. Approximately 11.45 on Friday curve did you swing to the right or Q. From New Glasgow where did

you go? We staved in New Glasgow untill the next day.

What time I should judge about 2 o'clock.

Where did you go from there? To Little Harbor.

What road did you go by? went out along the main street I do not know the name of it until we got to Little Harbor road. What part of Little Harbor did

you go to? I cannot say where most of the cottges are there.

Q. Name one cottage?

I cannot do it. From the cottage where did you Q

Truro. Q. What road did you go? We were making for Pictou

A. Came back and started for

Landing. Q. What happened on the way? Nothing happened only some of the ladies wanted to put on their coats and I stopped the car and we just started again and started around the turn

and as soon as I got around the turn saw a car about 10 feet ahead of me Q. Was it standing still? No sir it was moving.

Q.

going at at this tme? Not over 15 miles an hour. A. What happened when you say .Q

What rate of speed were you

the other car ahead of you? I tried to give him half the A. road that was due him he made no move to get out of the road. I had

Examined by Mr. Doull; Q. Was everything in working or-

A. Nothing wrong with any part

of it.

Brakes all right. Q. Yes sir.

What about your horn? Q. My horn was in good order could be heard at least a quarter of hill and started the car again I sound-

ed it.

ing. A. Yes just as soon as I started the car I looked to see how many as to the cause of death did you make miles I had gone and one of the ladies I enquiries of anybody?

I enquired of the parties that standing around they gave me ed at my speedometer then and it registered only 10 miles. asked and wanted to know how far

What gear did you start on? Low changed to intermediate and from that to high.

Q. Going around this turn were you going down grade? A. I should think from the way I look at it now I was on the level go-

ing up hill more on the level I am not positive about it more on the level than it was down hill. Seeing you do not recollect that Q.

positively what would make the car skid?

A. Applying brakes not having-There was sand there would

that have anything to do with it? Not to any degree a car with A. own in sand and running along it

seven grown people in it can hold its line. It is when power is taken from the rear it makes it skid.

Do you recollect there being sand there?

A. Yes sir. What position was the other Q. car in when you saw it first.

On the middle of the road.

10 feet when I first saw it. Do you know if you touched

Q. the other car at all. A. I think I did but not really positive.

Was there room to pass? There would have been if he

had gotten over when he first saw Q. Of course there was not much

A. He had as much as I had. certainly looks as if I gave him all the

Cross examined by Mr. Macdonald; What kind of a car was it? McLaughlin 27 horse power 7 that point.

nassenger. Who did you see in this other Q. Q. I saw two gentlemen in the

front seat I think I saw some children in the back seat but not posi-

tive. You did not know who was driv

ing? No sir. When you came around this Q.

to the left? A. To the left. Were you going up hill or down hill? A. I think I was going up a hill.

says when you came around the curve you were going down a hill you cannot tell?

No sir.
Were you injured by the acciI know what I did.
Q. You were excited naturally A. Q.

Q. I gather from what Mr. Doull

sir it was two min-Yes utes before I came to the turn I sound-

Not over? Q. No sir.

ed my horn.

Q. You were some distance away

A. I was probably 50, 60 or 70 vards. Q. Did you sound the horn?

A. I sounded the horn when I started the car. Q. I am taking your own statement made by yourself that it was about two minutes before you came about two minutes below you were going at and the rate of A. Yes sir.

Yes sir.
You were travelling 15 miles speed the other car was going was there plenty room to pass to safety? A. I do not think I was I could not have been going 15 miles an hour for when I looked at my speedometer last it registered 10 miles an hour.

Q. You said you stopped the car around the turn of the car around the car around the turn of the car around the car around the car around the turn of the car around the turn of the car around the car in hour?

and started the car around the turn of the road, there would have been you saw a car about 10 feet ahead of you saw a car about 10 feet ahead of room enough to pass to safety, you and you also stated you were not Mr. Gammon; going over 15 miles an hour.

A. Yes sir. Q. If you were going 15 miles an hour you were going a mile in 4 minutes.

When did you get your license? Last May. When did you first see the other car were you seated on the right

On the left. Therefore you would not see the other car as soon as if you were seat-

ed on the right? I think I would see it quicker Did you swing from left to

I swung from left to right. A. Q. Did you apply the brakes at Yes sir just as soon as I saw A. the other car I applied the brakes.

Had it been raining yesterday? A little. Did you find it made the road slippery? No sir?

I came up today from Pictou with a good Chauffeur and we had to slow down several times because my Little Harbor, were you not.

car skidded on the road.

A. We hadn't enough rain even to

K. It never sprinkled enough to cover my wind hield. Q. Then you do not think the skidding of the car was due to any rain what about sand? A. I do not think it was due to

that as I did not have speed enough to throw it over the bank. Q. Your car skidded on the rear

wheel when you applied the brake? A. Yes.

Wheich end of your car went over first.? A. I do not know.

Did you hear the other horn

Q. Did the other car stop to let you pass? Q. You cannot judge how fast he

was going? A. No sir. Mr. Gammon; Mr. Lance how many feet

yould you need to stoq still? A. 30 feet. Q. Answer me this if those horns were blowing simultaneously could

you hear it? Q. Do you think 15 miles an hour

Q. How far were you away from is a fair rate of speed to go round a A. As a general rule it is

slow rate of speed for a car. Travelling pretty fast it ought to be going 50 miles an hour.

A car 15 miles an hour and A. through sand pulling up that way is very slow. Mr. Gammon;

Q. If you met a woman with a hors tain and waggon what would you have done?

A. I would have stopped the car. she would not be going near as fast the as I would and I would have lots of time.

Mr. MacDonala Cross-examined; What is the width of the road at Q. The road is 12 feet wide. A.

Dr. Kennedy: Q. Did you measure that road?

No sir it is about 12 feet wide? Did anyone else measure it? Macdonald: Q. Did you speak to the men

A. Yes sir. Q'There was a chauffeur and another gentleman and a little boy.

that were in the car?

A. Yes sir.
Q. Did you tell the other gentle. man whose car it was it wasn't over 20 miles you were going? A. No sir.

Q. What did you tell him? You did not tell him you wer

going at any speed? I am pretty positive I did not.

when this accident occurrd over the ladies that were in the car and the two minutes before you came to the curve that you sounded your horn?

A. Yea giv 't I said nothing about the speed

A. I said nothing about the speed said something about his blowing his That was the conversation we It wasn't Mr. Notebaert that

blowing his horn it was the man Q. Did you say anything to Mr. cNaughton the man who was drivthe car about blowing the horn?

A. No I did not.
Mr. Mcdonld—He is the man who ought to have blowed the horn.) Examined by Dr. Kennedy-Q. Considering the rate of

Not plenty of room there was

Do you think Mr. Lance, that two cars coming 15 miles an hour could pass to safety?

A. I think they could. Mr. Gammon; The road measure 12 feet from bank to bank, a bank on the high side and gulch on the low side, there i

only 12 foot of road. Do you know the width of your car?

Q. That would leave less than feet for the other car. Q. You do not know what the ot-

er car was? McLaughlin. Same size? A. No sir, it was a smaller model Examined by Mr. Doull;

Q. Dou you remember passing chool house? A. No, I do not.

MRS. CAMERON, Sworn, Examined by Mr. MacDonald; You were one of the partie

Your chauffeur was Mr. Loui

You were coming from Harbor going toward Pictou Landing? We the mly was not driving 20 mile an hour. I did not hear him say that Yes sir. What occurred then? MRS. E. J. MOXON Sworn Exam I remember that we had just ed to get some wraps, just as we started I noticed we were

ing the curve and the horn was blowour horn, and someone screamed, Glasgow? there is a car. A. How far would it be from where

stopped that time until the accioccurred.? I am not a judge of distances not tell you.

Have you any idea? I do not know, I am not sure ould be a short distance. Would it be 5 minutes time? I cannot tell you, it was a very

time, we were going at a very te of speed, I am sure of that. low What kind of road did you fin

very good road. Were you going at a good rate ed the car.

No we were not, we were going A No we at a low rate. You were in the car, what hapafter you got around the cor.

Just as we got around, the corheard somebody scream, there ar. I did not hear any sound. I is a ar. I did not hear any sound. I thin our car touched the other one myself being thrown over. All w was being thrown clear of the car. I thought it went down right

I was thrown right out. What seat were you sitting on I was sitting on the right hand the car and the car went over. thrown right out and I susinjury to my arm

Where was the other car? I think just as we came along was standing in the center of ad. I am not sure of it. I someone asked Mrs. Moxon to he car and she got in the car, sister and I were standing had plenty of room and the car to be standing in the centre road, right after the accident tached the ropes to the other

Why did they attach ropes. To try to pull the other car out are you sure the car was stand-

in the centre of the road. That was my incression. Conscientiously I my incression. Conscientiously I did not hear the other car until some seamed there was a car and my incresion was it was on the centre of the oad and our driver seemed to sheer; and we touched his wheel. and I hink the car fell straight down.

A. I have driven a car for two years my own car. I had Mrs. Og-ilvies away last week myself.

Q. When you did go around this turn and meet the other car there was a very short time.

A. There wasn't a minute, there was no time. I knew we were solve. sure.

Examied by Mr. Doull; Q. Do you remember of seeing

the school house? A. I do not remember, but I heard afterwards that they had run back to the school house and it was not very

someone mentioned. I was just wondering how far back it was?

I cannot tell you A. Which seat were you in? Back seat on the right side? What did you say about the

A. Our horn, was blowing. I heard that distinctly. When was it blowing? Q. A. Just when we were nearing the curve, before we came to it. about 2

minutes Q. Two minutes would be a long distance if you think just a minute? Two minutes if any distance A. at all he had blowed and was very careful about his horn and seeme to me he was blowing a great many times, because we had remarked be-

fore that how careful he was. Q. He blew it more than once?
A. Several times from the time we started after we got fixed up that I remember distinctly.

Mr. MacDonald Cross examined.

Q. Do you remember the school house there?
A. No sir only someone mention l it after the accident.
Q. You cannot tell me how fa

away from the curve it was when you stoped to put on your wraps? A. No sir; Mr. Gammon;

Do you remember after you go back on the road after being thrown out on the bank whether you saw any one of the left hand side of the road was room enough for me to get in on between the car and the bank. A. Yes I saw Mrs. Sponagle

as I came up and Mrs. Moxon was on the right side.
Q. What I want to find out is th position of the Stellarton car after

he accident?

She had the centre of the road Q. You do not know whether that car had been on the side of the road and moved to the centre of the road. A. No it did not move. MacDonald-

move? A. I know it did not move. Dr. Kennedy;-How long were you down the

ank before you came up. A. I was thrown out and came right up. Mr. Johnston-

Q. Did you hear your driver say t the other fellow I was just travelling

ined by Dr. Kennedy; Q. You were one of the parties in this car coming from Truro to New

Yes sir. You remember the accident. Very distinctly. You knew the deceased? Q.

Very well.

She was in the car with you was, she? A. Yes. Q. What do you know about the

speed at which the driver was going at that time? A. I know it was very low as drive a McLaughlin myself: I was directly behind the driver in the little seat when we stopped to put on our wraps and Mr. Lance had only start | car.

Was the car in intermediate gear? It was in intermediate gear Did you see this other car? there A. I saw it in a minute it came very suddenly upon us there was no

er or go over the bank. I knew it was coming and held on to the little seat as if I were pulling it.

alterative but to smash into the oth

Q. Were you hurt very much? Just my head. Were you under the car. Q. I was completely under the car nd there was just a hold in the ground that saved my head from being crushed dle of the road? My body was right under and I was

You are of the opinion that our car was going very slowly.? It was going very slow. You came down a hill did you?

I have the impression that the was level. road Q. Did you descend a hill just previous to that?

A. I do not remember.

Examined by Mr. Doull; Q. In relation to the school house The place where you stopped before. was it nearer the seat of the accident or the the school house.

A. Nearer the seat of the accident

ing is he centre of the road?

A. I am sure the car was standing it was only a very shor distance. very much only a little distance away Q. Have you driven a car?

A. I have driven a car for two

A. There wasn't a minute, there was no time. I knew we were going

down the bank right off and I mechanically gripped the thing and pressed my feet to pull the brakes had I seen there was nothing else to do but to crash into the other car and smash

everybody up, or go over the bank, Q. As I figure it two cars of that width cannot possibly pass at that

point? A. I came out with Dr. McKay and we had great difficulty getting passed Mr. Notebaert's car so did all the others. I am sure I could not have gotten by. It is a very bad place.

Q. When you saw the other car was

it in motion? A. It had just stopped I do not like to say it was in the middle of the road it was quite far enough away for me to get it distintly. Someone I think it said you can drive a car. was Mr. Cameron or someone. I got in the car and asked the little boy was it a McLaughlin. I said I cannot drive this car I haven't the nerve I got out. I did not touch the gear the car did not move from where it

stood. Did the horn blow? Q. Did the horn blow?
A. I remember very distinctly that our horn was blowing so much that Mrs. Ogilvie said do not blow the horn so much it makes us deaf. Cross examined by Mr. McDonald-

Do I understand you to say that in your opinion it would not be possible for two cars of that width to pass there except with the greatest diffiulty? A. If the other car had been half

way up the bank we could have got-ten by very nicely. Q. Where was the car? It wasn't in the centre of the I do not think quite as there road.

the bank side.
Q. We also understnad you to say that it was not in the centre of the road? A. I do not think quite in the

enter of the roadr Q. The road is unquestionably ver harrow?

A. I think so.
Q. You say that you drove with Dr. McKay? A. Later on in the evening I experimented on more than one car. Q. How do you know it did not Q. Do you understand that when this experiment was made that one car was put close to the bank as pos-

sible? A. Yes. Q. The question is a simple one as to whether or not it was made clear by actual experiment that by putting a car close up to the bank, as far as you could on one side, and try ass with another car between it and

MRS. J. E. SPONAGLE sworn; Dr. Kennedy: Q. You were one of the parties coming from Truro?

Q. You no doubt saw the accident down on the Little Harbor Rd? A. Yes. Q. Were you injured? A. No, I just got a small scratch

Yes sir.

A.

on the face. Q. Do you remember meeting the other car there? A. Yes. Q. Did you see it?

A. I saw it. How far away from the car ere you when you saw it? I do not know. Q. Were you thrown from the car?

A. I was thrown clear out of the Q. You afterwards came back up Into the road. A. Yes.

Q. Did you notice the other car

Q. Where was it?
A. Mrs. Moxon and I walked up to the school house for aid, and as I was coming back, I have a distinct recollection of noticing the position of the other car and our track that slewed off and I should say that the front of the other car met our track

that slewed off just like that.
Q. How near was that to the mid-A. I did not notice that the other still holding on to the ba when I saw car had gotten off its track any. I a ray of daylight and got myself out think it was on the regular track as car had gotten off its track any. I near as I can remember, but I could distinctly see the position of their car and our car slewing off as I came back

from the school house. Was their car up close to the bank? A. Their car wasn't up close to the bank, I should judge it was in the reg-

ular track. Q. Do you think the car was going a t a rapid rate of speed there? A. I cannot say anything.
Q. Are you accustomed to running

No sir. Examined by Mr. Doull-Were you thrown clear away from the car?

cars?

Yes sir. Q. Were you unconscious at all? A. I came right up. We all came up directly, there was no delay at all, and I never dreamed for an instant that there were any of us that didn't come up, until son were two there yet. until someone said there

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