

## ALLEGED MIDDLE MEN BOOKS OF WOODMEN OF WORLD DISCREPANCY OF \$19,000

**Auditors in the Office of Mr. W. C. Fitzgerald, the High Secretary—Head Commander at Woodstock, Mr. W. C. Hodgins, Refused to Make a Statement on the Matter.**

Auditors are at work on the books of the Woodmen of the World, preparing a statement for the Grand Encampment, that will meet very shortly, and also for the Dominion Government. The auditors belong to a prominent firm in Toronto, and were called in for a special purpose.

Some time ago the board of management thought the books were not to their liking, and ordered a thorough audit. The auditors of the society went through the books, and discovered, it is claimed, that Mr. W. C. Fitzgerald, high secretary, was about \$19,000 out in his accounts. He was not satisfied with the result, and as a result a firm of independent auditors were called in. They reported a discrepancy of \$23,000. Of this sum \$2,700 was on account of another official of the organization, who on learning the matter immediately sent a check for the amount.

This reduced the total deficiency to something over \$20,000. Mr. Fitzgerald was informed that he would have to make good the amount, and objected to paying back the sum demanded. According to the auditors, he refused to put up \$12,500, this to be supplied by \$3,500 or thereabouts, by the company guaranteeing his bonds. He is insured in the sum of \$7,500, but the company declared they were willing to pay half the amount and have no trouble.

Mr. Fitzgerald in Toronto.

Mr. Fitzgerald has been consulting a

firm of lawyers in Toronto of which Mr. A. E. DuVernet, well known in London, is a partner. Mr. Fitzgerald is still in Toronto.

Some of his friends assert that he will resign or do anything until the meeting of the head encampment, to be held in a few weeks. Mr. E. C. Hodgins, head commander, who has been spoken to by the Advertiser regarding the case, but would not divulge any information of any nature.

"Have you asked Mr. Fitzgerald to resign?" he was asked.

"I have nothing to say for publication," he answered.

**Sensational Rumors.**

"There are many sensational rumors regarding the affair in London," he was informed. "Can you not give us some definite information regarding it?"

"I have nothing to say for publication," he continued.

"Has he resigned yet?" he was asked.

"No resignation has come to my hands," he answered.

Mr. Hodgins was very diffident about answering any further questions, and intimated that he would divulge nothing further about the case.

Correspondence between Mr. Hodgins and a leading trust company is also alleged to have taken place.

**Is Widely Known.**

Mr. Fitzgerald is widely known in the city. He has been a practicing barrister for many years here. A number of years ago he became identified with the W. O. W., and has held the position of high secretary for some time.

He was for years a member of the board of education, and has been chairman.

His friends strongly assert that there is nothing wrong in the transaction whatever; that it is merely a mistake in bookkeeping, and that everything will be straightened out satisfactorily.

In any event the Woodmen of the World will sustain no serious loss. It is a matter of bookkeeping, and in sound financial shape.

## W. H. DANIELS WAS KILLED RIDING IN C. P. R. PULLMAN

**Former Londoner Met Death at Webbwood While on His Way to Northern Ontario to Purchase a Mining Claim—Was a Well-Known Medicine Vendor.**

Mr. W. H. Daniels, who was killed in the wrecked Pullman car, and when found the C. P. R., was for many years a resident of this city, and only left London last March to make his home in Toronto.

For some time he resided at the corner of Grey and Maitland streets, and more recently on Clarence street. In the summer time Mr. Daniels was engaged as a decorator and painter, and in the winter he usually travelled through the country selling patent medicines.

**In New Ontario.**  
At the time of the accident he was on his way to Northern Ontario where he had intended buying a mining claim. He had written to his wife to forward him some money and she had done so. He was riding in the wrecked Pullman car, and when found with his head close to one of the ventilators, and slightly was he frozen that his arms had to be broken before he could be released.

**The Body Recovered.**

It was Sunday afternoon before the body was recovered, and the news of his death was a great shock to his family, who had no idea that he was on the train until they were notified of his death.

Mr. Daniels was 44 years old, and besides his wife, Mrs. Burton, of 183 Grey street, has a sister, Mrs. Brown, of Oxford Park, living in London. Mr. Daniels was buried in the funeral which was held in Toronto.

## GIRL CURED OF CONSUMPTION AT GIFT-OF-TONGUES MEETING

**Sensational Statement Made of a St. Thomas Child Who Was Suddenly Inspired—Prominent Londoners Believe the Mystery—No Physical Explanation of the Phenomena.**

The peculiar manifestations that have marked the Pentecostal meetings being held at the home of Mr. W. H. Wortman, of the Wortman & Ward Manufacturing Company, under the leadership of Mr. Durham, of Chicago, continue to present themselves at every meeting.

Last evening a young girl from St. Thomas was suddenly caught by the enthusiasm and began singing. Then suddenly she began to speak of the need of the world and to pray aloud, and without a moment's warning, it is said, the gift of tongues came upon her, and she spoke and sang, in an unknown tongue.

It is claimed, too, that the girl was miraculously cured of incipient consumption, making this the first miraculous cure that has been noted at the meetings.

**Calls It Miraculous.**  
According to Mr. Edward Town, who has been a regular attendant at the meetings, there has never been anything like it in London, never have people been so swept out of themselves, and become so transformed for the time being. There is nothing in the meeting to account for these strange manifestations, nothing that could give a physical explanation of the phenomena.

## YOUNG MAN CHARGED WITH STEALING RING

**Percy Sullivan Appears in Local Court—Case Was Deferred.**

Percy Sullivan, an 18-year-old youth from West London, was placed under arrest by the local detectives last night on a charge of stealing a gold ring from Mrs. John McLeod, of Detroit, formerly of this city.

Sullivan appeared before Magistrate Love this morning, and was represented by Mr. Meredith, who asked to be allowed to reserve his plea until tomorrow.

The case was adjourned for a week, and it is understood that Sullivan may try to fight extradition proceedings if he should be undertaken by the Detroit police.

## CREW OF TEN PERISH IN STORM

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 1.—The three-masted schooner Frances, bound from New York to Jacksonville, is stranded near Cape Hatteras. The vessel is a total wreck, and her crew of ten men are believed to have perished in the terrific storm.

## AFTER AUTO PLANT

**Windsor To Grant Exemption to Dominion Motor Company.**

Windsor, Ont., Feb. 1.—Aiming to secure for Windsor the Dominion Motor Company's new motor plant, the city council last night passed the first reading of a bylaw to grant the company exemptions. The council has the power to make under special legislation secured three years ago. The factory site includes property the city has acquired for tax arrears.

## THE WEATHER TOMORROW—MILDER.

| Stations.    | 8 a.m. | Min. | Low. | High. |
|--------------|--------|------|------|-------|
| London       | 34     | 28   | 30   | 36    |
| Calgary      | 32     | 26   | 28   | 34    |
| Winnipeg     | 30     | 24   | 26   | 32    |
| Port Arthur  | 28     | 22   | 24   | 30    |
| Perry Sound  | 26     | 20   | 22   | 28    |
| Toronto      | 24     | 18   | 20   | 26    |
| Ottawa       | 22     | 16   | 18   | 24    |
| Montreal     | 20     | 14   | 16   | 22    |
| Quebec       | 18     | 12   | 14   | 20    |
| Father Point | 16     | 10   | 12   | 18    |
| St. John     | 14     | 8    | 10   | 16    |
| Kamloops     | 12     | 6    | 8    | 14    |
| Edmonton     | 10     | 4    | 6    | 12    |
| Battleford   | 8      | 2    | 4    | 10    |
| Moosaw       | 6      | 0    | 2    | 8     |
| Qu'Appelle   | 4      | -2   | 0    | 6     |
| St. John     | 2      | -4   | -2   | 4     |
| Minneapolis  | 0      | -6   | -4   | 2     |
| St. John     | -2     | -8   | -6   | 0     |
| Halifax      | -4     | -10  | -8   | -2    |

Minus (-) means below zero.

## 79 MINERS DIE IN EXPLOSION

**Scores of Men Entombed by the Accident in Colorado Pit.**

## ALL HAVE PERISHED

**Overcome by Gas, Miners Succumb, After Fighting Desperately for Life.**

Primero, Col., Feb. 1.—Fighting madly to escape through the narrow, partly-choked airshaft, tramping over fallen comrades, in their struggle for life, more than half of the 149 miners entombed in the Primero mine of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, wrecked by an explosion yesterday, were overcome by gas, and some of their bodies were found in heaps about the bottom of the air shaft, where they had fallen in the desperate struggle. One hundred and forty-nine men are known to have been in the mine when the explosion occurred. It is said that 79 are dead. One has been rescued alive, but dangerously injured. Their bodies are torn and charred beyond recognition. It has been impossible to identify the dead. Early this morning 24 bodies had been brought to the surface, and rescue parties, equipped with oxygen helmets, are still searching the ruined workings of the mine. The explosion occurred at 4:30 o'clock.

## Main Shaft Crumpled.

With a roar and a belch of flame, the main shaft crumpled, blocking the entrance to the mine. Both fans with which the property is equipped were shattered, and it was not until three hours later that the fans were repaired, and a rescue party, headed by General Superintendent J. F. Thompson, was able to descend the air shaft. They discovered three bodies before they were forced to return to the surface. Five men, one of them a hundred yards away, were killed at the entrance to the main shaft by the concussion.

Rescue parties were hurried to Primero from Trinidad, Segundo, Strickville, Sopris and Cokeville, and worked desperately to open the main shaft. The shaft became evident, however, that the shaft was hopelessly caved in, and another rescue party descended the air shaft. Shortly before 2 o'clock Superintendent Thompson, who was directing the rescue work, was overcome by gas, and taken to the surface. He soon recovered, and again went below.

## One Rescued Alive.

Dio Nardino, the one man rescued alive, was found beneath a mass of earth and timbers. He declared that he crawled over scores of bodies after the explosion, and saved one who was lying on his back.

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## EX-ALD. CHAS. TAYLOR DIED THIS MORNING

**Aged Resident Passed Away After Short Illness From Pneumonia.**

Ex-Ald. Charles Taylor died in Victoria Hospital at noon today after an illness extending over a couple of weeks. Mr. Taylor had been critically ill since Sunday with pneumonia. He was 82 years of age, and had lived in London for more than half a century. For many years he was engaged in the butcher business.

Mr. Taylor took a very prominent part in civic affairs, and besides being on the board of health for many years, was alderman in 1879, 1880, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1890, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1896 and 1897.

His wife died some years ago. Mr. Taylor is survived by five sons: George, of Chatham; Benjamin, of Guelph; William, of Chicago; Thomas, of London; Charles, of Ostrander, and two daughters, Mrs. Calhoun of this city, and Mrs. Warren, of Mount Clemens. The funeral arrangements have not yet been completed.

## CANADIANS ARE HIT BY FRENCH FLOODS

A number of local merchants have been advised by French houses, that owing to the disastrous floods that occurred throughout France, a general increase will follow in the cost of articles, and that in many lines there will be a shortage for some time to come. Druggists, dry-goods men and wine merchants are particularly affected, as the manufacturers who export these things to France are terribly crippled by the floods. Perfumes, fancy soaps, fancy silks, all kinds of French wines and brandies, which are imported in large quantities from France, will be affected. It is expected that gloves can be obtained to a large extent from branch houses in England, which carry heavy stocks, and have enough on hand to meet demands until normal conditions in the trade prevail once more.

## A SERIOUS CHARGE

**Toronto Men Said to Have Attempted to Prevent Justice.**

Toronto, Feb. 1.—The detectives early yesterday afternoon arrested two men who gave their names as Joseph Peters and Hamilton Knox. The men are charged with vagrancy, but they are being held on suspicion of trying to pose as detectives in the case of the Italian Schuett, committed for trial this morning on the charge of stabbing two girls. It is alleged they were posing as detectives with a view to preventing justice and securing the acquittal of Schuett. Posing as detectives is a serious offense, but trying to pervert justice is even more serious.

## RAILWAY COMMITTEE REPORTED THE TRACTION COMPANY BILL

**Clause Added That It Shall Not Interfere With Any Agreement Made With the Municipalities by the Southwestern People—Sub-Committee Will Ascertain Its Affect Upon the Municipalities.**

[Special to The Advertiser.]  
Ottawa, Feb. 1.—The Commons railway committee, this morning spent considerable time over the bill to incorporate the London and Lake Erie Railway and Transportation Company, with power to take over the undertakings of the Southwestern Traction Company, and to construct railway lines connecting Aylmer, London, St. Thomas, Ingersoll, Brantford and other points en route.

Mr. W. J. Code, legal representative of the Ontario Government, read a letter from the attorney-general, stating that there was opposition to the bill from a considerable number of people in the vicinity of London, and asking that consideration of the measure be postponed.

**Went on With the Bill.**  
The committee, however, decided to go on with the bill.

Mr. Elliott, who appeared on behalf of the county of Middlesex, stated that the rights of the municipalities now secured by agreements with a Southwestern Traction Company, be fully protected in the present bill.

This raised a general discussion as to the advisability of parliament overriding special agreements made between municipalities and railway companies and the right to bring all such agreements under the general provisions of the railway act.

The clause empowering the company to carry on an express, warehousing of fish, and commission business was struck out.

On motion of Hon. G. E. Foster, the bill as amended, was referred to a sub-committee to consider the question of municipal rights effected, and to ascertain how a continuation of the agreements already made between the municipalities and the railway company would harmonize with the general provisions of the railway act.

## A MONSTER DEPUTATION WAIT ON GOVERNMENT

**To Ask for Fair Treatment for the Western University.**

Preparations are being made by the governors and senators of the Western University to send a monster deputation from Western Ontario and Western Canada to speak on behalf of a grant for the Western.

A committee of the board of governors, composed of Capt. J. J. Murphy, Mayor Brantford, John D. Wilson, T. H. Smallman, J. H. Chapman, ex-Mayor Stevely and Col. J. W. Little will meet this afternoon to arrange for delegates from Western Ontario and Western Canada to the Western. From present indications there will be a large number attend.

The city council will send Mayor Beatty, Ald. Stevenson, Ald. Eckert and Ald. Jetties.

The board of trade will name President A. T. McMahon, Dr. Harry T. Reason, Arthur W. White and C. A. Buchner.

## CUSTOMS RETURNS SHOW INCREASE

**Over Those of the Same Month of a Year Ago.**

The customs returns for January amounted to \$2,284,011 for January, an increase of \$401,355 over the same month last year, when the figures were \$1,882,656.

"The returns are keeping up splendidly," Collector Elliott told The Advertiser, "and business is in first-class shape."

## UNSEALING CHERRY MINE

**An Effort Will Be Made To Rescue Bodies of Dead Miners.**

Cherry, Ill., Feb. 1.—Early today state mine inspectors, mine managers, and a score of volunteer helpers, prepared for the opening of the St. Paul mine to clear the clogged galleries and recover nearly 200 bodies of miners, who were killed by the disaster of Nov. 13. Many miners who were narrowly saved from a fiery death in the mine last fall stood about the shaft and help clear the mine. Even the 20 men who were entombed for a whole week before they were rescued expressed a desire to aid in the recovery of the bodies.

## INDIAN LISTER IS SLAVE TO DRINK

**Released, He Was Only Out Two Hours When He Was Drunk Again.**

The Indian lister who recently got a local druggist and himself into trouble by writing a fake prescription, was released from custody yesterday at noon, and inside of a couple of hours was again arrested for being drunk. "You're one of the worst cases I have ever had," the court told the young man. You appear to be determined to spend the rest of your life in jail. Where did you get your whiskey?"

"I asked a young fellow who didn't know me or didn't know that I was on the list to get it for me," said the prisoner.

He was remanded for a week while the court considers what to do with him. "I think you you might as well get a long term in the Central as anything else," the magistrate said.

## AVIATOR INJURED.

Cairo, Egypt, Feb. 1.—Mortimer Singer, the American aviator, fell with an aeroplane in which he was practicing here today. Both of his legs and an arm were broken.

## EVADING THE DUTY ON HIS AUTOMOBILE

**Toronto Man Had Machine Bonded Through From Windsor to the Falls.**

Windsor, Ont., Feb. 1.—Several weeks ago a man drove a handsome automobile off the Detroit ferry boat, and told the customs officers he was on the way to Port Huron, Mich., his home, by way of the high road to Niagara Falls and Buffalo. He made the usual affidavit as to his American citizenship and residence, and the auto thereupon was bonded through to Niagara Falls, N. Y. Instead of going to the bonding point, however, the man drove his machine to Toronto, of which city he is a prominent resident. The Toronto officials ascertained how he had evaded paying duty on an American machine, promptly confiscated the car, and the man had to pay \$2,200 cash to settle the matter.

## SEINE FALLS STEADILY OLD PARIS APPEARS

**The Heart of the City Resuming Its Normal Appearance.**

Paris, Feb. 1.—The River Seine fell steadily today at the rate of about three-fourths of an inch an hour. Many streets that had been flooded in the night were reopened, and in the heart of the city things resumed a more normal appearance.

In the outskirts and in the inundated regions above and below the city the greatest distress still prevailed, despite the magnificent efforts towards relief and the prodigious distribution of food supplies. Hundreds of persons are still found on the verge of starvation and thousands who lost everything must be aided for months. It is estimated that more than a million persons have been affected by the floods.

Freezing temperatures adds to the misery of the unfortunate. An attempt to resume the railroad system before the electrical signal system had been restored resulted in a dozen train collisions.

## RECORDS OF CRIME SHOW FALLING OFF

**Provincial Bailiff Ryan Says Number of Prisoners Greatly Reduced.**

Provincial Bailiff Ryan, of the Central Prison, Toronto, was in the city today to remove George Bell, who was found guilty of theft, to that institution, where he will serve a term of 18 months.

He states that throughout the province there is a very marked falling off in the records of crime. On an average of the jails which he visits in the province there is not more than two-thirds the number of prisoners that there have been in other years. For 10 or 15 prisoners to remove to the Central, now he has to visit three or four.

Central, now he has to visit three or four. In the northern parts of the province, too, which has usually been very prolific in criminals, there is a very distinct falling off.

Bailiff Ryan gives it as his opinion that the changed conditions are due to the local option movement, and the more rigid enforcement of the liquor license law.

## MONTREAL POWER COMPANIES.

Montreal, Que., Jan. 31.—No mention was made of the amalgamation with the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company at the annual meeting of the Shawinigan Power Company, today, although it was shown the Shawinigan Company held 5,000 shares of the stock of the Montreal company.

Howard Murray, one of the company's officials, was elected a director, in place of J. N. Greenshields, K. C.

## RESPONDENT RARE ENDED LIFE WITH CARBOLIC ACID DOSE

**Marinus Jensen, 22 Years of Age, Secured the Drug in a Manner as Yet Unknown to Victoria Hospital Authorities—Inquest Will Be Held by Coroner MacLaren—Young Man Was a Baker by Trade.**

Marinus Jensen, a young man, 22 years of age, who came to this city from Denmark about eight years ago, and had made his home with Mr. Neddy Olsen, of Pottersburg, committed suicide in his bed at Victoria Hospital last night by taking carbolic acid.

He was found by the nurse in charge of the ward shortly after 10 o'clock in a dying condition, and a few minutes afterwards passed away despite the efforts of the house surgeons to save him. Dr. MacLaren will hold an inquest. The jury viewed the body at noon.

**Suffered From Melancholia.**  
Jensen had been in Victoria Hospital since October last suffering from melancholia, occasioned it is thought by hard study. Jensen had the greatest ambition to qualify himself for a bookkeeper, and had secured a correspondence school course and worked untiringly at it at nights.

During the day he was employed at Parnell's bakery, and the combined strain of his day's work and study at night caused his mind to become affected. He was placed in the hospital for treatment, but the case seemed almost hopeless from the first, as young Jensen grew worse and worse, and at times became violent.

**Escaped From the Hospital.**  
Only a short time ago he escaped from the hospital and ran along the river bank, but was brought back unharmed. How he obtained the carbolic acid with which he ended his life is unknown at the present time, but it is thought that he probably gained access to some place where it was kept and took it unknown to anyone.

Jensen's parents live in Denmark, and he has some brothers and sisters there also. Those who knew him say that he was a very quiet, gentlemanly young fellow, and a general favorite with all.

**Authorities in the Dark.**  
"We are completely at a loss to know how Jensen got the acid," Superintendent Heard told The Advertiser. "There was no bottle in his bed or about the room. The first thing that drew the nurse's attention to him was his heavy breathing. He may have slipped out of his bed and gone into the room of some of the other patients and secured the acid, but as far as the nurses know he never left his room. We have searched outside in the snow for any bottle that might have been thrown through the window but can find none."

**The Inquest.**  
The inquest into the death of Marinus Jensen commenced this afternoon, when the jury, under Coroner MacLaren, viewed the remains at the undertaking parlors of Smith, Son & Clarke, and adjourned until Friday night. The jury was composed of Messrs. A. Black, John Sonley, Fred Langford, Andrew Callahan, Thomas Bear, L. Carpenter, Robt. Fraser, William Taylor, W. R. Bird, E. Halliday, James Hiscock, W. P. Turner, R. A. Tozer, W. Ellis and Wm. White. The funeral will be held on Thursday afternoon from the rooms of Smith, Son & Clarke to Woodland Cemetery.

## LOCAL OPTION RECOUNT GAVE GAIN TO ANTIS

**Decision as to Illegal Ballots at Strathroy Has Been Reserved.**

The result of the recount of the ballots of the recent local option bylaw in Strathroy was heard before Judge Macbeth at that place yesterday. Mr. John M. Gunn and Mr. Jared Vining appearing for the bylaw, and Messrs. J. C. Judd, H. B. Elliott, and E. W. Scatcherd for the petition. The result of the recount showed a net gain of 2 for anti-local option without affecting the total vote.

It was urged by the petitioner that a number of illegal ballots had been polled. His honor reserved his decision yesterday on this matter, and this morning heard arguments on the question in chambers. No result was arrived at, and the argument will be continued tomorrow morning, when the decision in the case will be given.

## HOCKED \$18 OVERCOAT FOR PALTRY FIFTY CENTS

**Hobo From Toronto Soon Arrested for Stealing an Overcoat From Local Hotel.**

Edward Flanagan, a "hobo" from Toronto, was arrested by the detectives in a pawnshop last night just after he had obtained 50 cents on an \$18 overcoat he had stolen at the Hodgins House.

Investigation showed that a pal of Flanagan's had pawned another coat. The pal got away, and the police are still looking for him.

In court this morning Flanagan pleaded guilty to being implicated in the theft of overcoat from John McPherson and Walter Laing, two men who had left the coats on the hall-rack at the hotel. He was remanded for a week for sentence.

## SEINE STILL DROPPING.

Paris, Feb. 1.—The Seine at noon had dropped a little more than three feet from its crest.