

WILSON GIRL'S DEATH ACCIDENT

An inquest on the death of Marion Wilson, nine-years-old daughter of Robert Wilson of 6 Sydney street, who was struck by a motor truck on Wednesday and died on Thursday, was held last night and this morning. A. E. Corbett, the driver, who had been in custody, was released last night. Eleven witnesses were heard by Coroner Horace A. Porter.

The jury returned at 8:05 o'clock with a verdict of accidental death, completely exonerating the driver of the truck. They recommended that the chief of police should instruct his force to keep children off the roadways and that traffic policemen should be stationed at all busy corners.

The first witness was Dr. A. Sporan, who told of the child being taken to the hospital Wednesday afternoon. He described her condition and attributed her death to shock caused by the injuries and to cerebral hemorrhages. Her right thigh was fractured and she had a cut over the left eye.

Albert E. Corbett, the owner and driver of the truck was next sworn. He described his movements until coming down Sydney street about 1:30. The car had just been overhauled and he was testing the brakes. That morning he had them lightened up. When coming down Sydney street he first saw the little girl as she ran from behind a sloven that was coming up the street. He applied the brakes but the bumper hit her and he felt the truck vibrate. He thought that the wheels passed over her body. The truck did not go more than twenty feet after hitting her and the body was close to the rear of the truck when picked up. He had double brake pedals and he jumped on them with both feet and pulled the emergency lever. He did all within his power to save the girl and described taking her into the drug store and later to the hospital. He could not blow his horn as he had one hand on the steering wheel and the other on the emergency lever. The gasoline was shut off and he was coasting down the hill. He said he was not going faster than ten or eleven miles an hour. He was about opposite the shoulders of the horse when he first saw the girl. He was closely questioned by Coroner H. A. Porter and several of the jurymen but his story was unchanged.

Harry Eard, driver of the ambulance, saw the car going past the ambulance station between fifteen and twenty miles per hour. The car was going fast enough to attract notice. It might have slowed down after passing the rise of the hill.

The next witness was Robert J. Logan, who was in Smith's Fish Market at the time of the accident. Fred Monohan, who worked there, called his attention to the accident and he came out of the store. The witness had accused Corbett of going too fast and he said the child was twenty or thirty feet from the truck when picked up. He thought the truck was going at break-neck speed. When questioned by Mr. Tait he said he had not seen the truck until after the child was hit.

Saw Car Coming.

Fred Monohan who was in Smith's store said he saw the car coming down Sydney street about fifteen miles an hour and saw the hind wheels go over the child. He called Mr. Logan's attention to the accident after it had happened. He said the girl was five or ten feet back of the truck when picked up.

Robert Wilson, father of the girl, was standing in Sydney street when the accident occurred. He saw her start to cross the street and later saw her come from behind the sloven just as the truck hit her. He said everything possible was done for her. He thought the truck was going very fast, from twenty to twenty-five miles an hour.

Joseph B. Arthurs testified to seeing the little girl knocked down. He picked her up and carried her into the drug store. He did not see the truck before the accident and said it went eight or ten feet past the girl after hitting her. The truck was stopped very quickly.

Willard G. Hammond saw the truck coming down the street and hit the girl. He did not see any sloven there. He placed the speed of the truck at from fifteen to twenty miles an hour.

Joseph Moth, who was in a room

above the drug store heard a yell and close behind the truck when picked up. He testified to youngsters frequently standing up on the brakes and the girl running back and forth across that street just behind it. The car was coming to a stop when he saw it. The child was Thomas Horne gave expert testimony as to the distance traveled by the truck after the brakes were applied. By the skid-marks in the road he figured the car could not have been going faster than twelve miles an hour to have come to so quick a stop and based his judgment on experiences he had himself when applying brakes. The car would have swung diagonally across the street if it had been going at fifteen or eighteen miles an hour. He tested the brakes and they were in good working order. Detective P. Biddiscombe testified that according to measurements he had made of tracks in the dust the car had gone about thirty-five feet after the child was hit.

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LIGHT SEAL CATCH

St. John, Nfld., April 15—All but three of the nine steamers that engaged in the seal hunt this spring have returned to port. The Terra Nova and the Ranger are still trying to pick up scattered seals off the east coast, while the Viking is yet in the gulf. The high liners of the fleet and their catches are the Thetis, nineteen thousand, the Viking, seventeen thousand, and the Seal, fourteen thousand. In no case has any of the ships out this spring secured a full load. The total catch now in sight is slightly less than one hundred thousand seals.

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Lady Free Masons.

Yarmouth Herald: The Free Masons of Annapolis Royal are the first in Maritime provinces to institute Lady Free Masons, a lodge having been organized last week. It is known as the Fox Royal Chapter of the Eastern Star Lodge and consists of affiliated Master Masons, their wives, daughters, legal adopted daughters, mothers, widows, sisters and half-sisters.

Minard's Liniment For Burns, Etc. SUSSEX PERSONALS.

(Sussex Record.)

Miss Edith M. Givan has resigned her position with Fred & Teed, St. John, and has accepted a position with J. H. McFadden.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Everett Keith spent the week-end at Parrishore, N. S., guests of Mayor Huntley and Mrs. Huntley. Mrs. B. J. Sharpe and Miss Frances Sharpe are visiting in New York.

Harry Warren, who has been a member of the Bank of Nova Scotia staff at Jamaica, for the past year, came home last week, and is the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Warren. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sprague and family are leaving town to take up farming at Collins.

Miss Isabel Northrup, accompanied by her brother Murray, left for Hamilton, Ontario, on Thursday, to visit friends and relatives there.

Miss Bessie Parker of Millerton, assistant superintendent of the hospital in Bridgeport, Conn., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. Everett Keith. Miss Parker was at one time a member of the Sussex schools staff.

Mrs. H. A. White returned on Saturday from a pleasant trip to New York, where she was visiting her sister, Miss Edna White.

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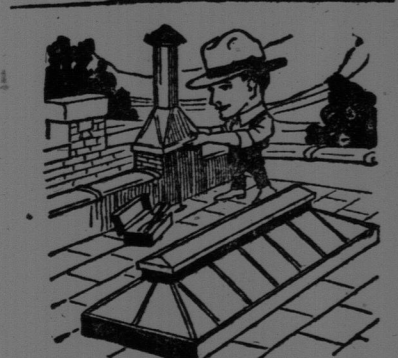
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