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Convict Ends Life Sentence by Fatal Life

Kinston, Sept. 26.—Raffaele Ruffini, Hamilton, serving a life sentence in the provincial penitentiary at Portsmouth, committed suicide about five o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Deceased was thirty-five years of age. He was sentenced at Hamilton for manslaughter, having killed a fellow Italian in a brawl. The dead convict has no relatives in this country so far as is known.

Czech Premier Youthful, But He is a Learned Man And Has Travelled Much

Those revolutionary or evolutionary plots which were discussed before the war in cafes in Soho and elsewhere were not all visionary. Lenin largely plotted the revolution of Russia in Geneva. And Dr. Benes, Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia, who recently visited London, used to tell his friends in Soho all about the new country which would one day arise in Central Europe.



Dr. Benes is largely another name for Bohemia, so it was fitting that its birth should be discussed in cafes. It was born at the Peace Conference, and so is now three years old. Dr. Benes was made Prime Minister last September, and it has proved a great choice for his country.

When Lake appeared at the door of the poolroom in answer to the summons his caller walked away from him, according to the story pieced together by the police. Lake followed. Marks on the ground indicate that the two clashed in the rear of an alley half a block away.

The police found a trail of blood from the entrance of the poolroom, where the body was found. It looked to the detectives as though Lake, stabbed by his assailant, had managed to stagger back to the door of the poolroom before death came.

RECEIVES DEATH SENTENCE COOLLY Maurice Barrie Convicted at Belleville of Murder Belleville, Sept. 25.—Maurice Barrie will be hanged here on December 14 for the murder of George Wesley Mould, his employer, at his farm in Trenchburg on June 29 last.

Justice Latchford, in sentencing the prisoner, said he had been fairly tried and well defended and expressed the view that the jury could not well have reached any other conclusion. Barrie did not change expression at all while being sentenced. He sat in court listening to the evidence in another case while the jury on his case was out and smiled now and then at testimony.

WHAT IS A LETTER

Many Times It's a Guide to Health as is This One

Women—Read It

Marmion, Ontario.—"Before using Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I was a total wreck. I had terrible pains in my sides and was not regular. Finally I got so weak I could not lie up stairs without stopping to rest half-way up. I saw your medicine advertised in the newspapers and gave it a trial. I took four bottles of the Vegetable Compound, and was restored to health. I am married, am the mother of two children and do all my housework, milk eight cows and do a hired man's work and enjoy the best of health."

Soviets Lean Towards Turks but Fear War with Britain Moscow, Sept. 26.—Russia intends to support the Turks morally and perhaps will give them munitions if they should require them, but it is considered in Moscow as extremely unlikely that Russian troops will be sent to assist the Kemalists if they attempt to take Constantinople.

Oddities in the News. Mrs. Marguerite Elair, who is 70 years of age, says there is nothing like standing on the head to keep the waist slender, the flesh firm, and the general health good.

A New York church has a Baby Room, where members may leave children during the services. A cocker belonging to a poultry-keeper living in Wilkesborough, near Ashford, Kent, England, has surprised its owner by laying eggs. Some of the eggs have been placed in an incubator, and should they prove fertile, a record in the poultry world will be established.

A homing pigeon, liberated at Guerssey, has returned to Otley, near Bradford, Eng., after an absence of eight days. A message attached to its leg shows that it fell exhausted into a ship in the Bay of Biscay and was landed on a lighthouse in the bay, where it rested before flying back. It is estimated that the bird is more than a thousand miles from its home.

Matisse on Seville. A story is going the rounds in Paris of how Henri Matisse, most distinguished of the ultra-modern school of painting, hit on Spain in a fool of painting brushwork. Matisse had been touring the peninsula, but in Madrid did not find sufficient to enable him to see clearly the characteristic traits of the people. So he journeyed to Seville, a few days later he returned to Madrid all smiles.

Declining France. Statistics for the last six months of 1921 show that during this period the birthrate was considerably lower in France than for the first six months of the year and for 1920. In Paris 27,489 births were registered during the first six months of 1921 and only 24,522 during the latter half of the year. The number of marriages was also much lower in 1921 than in the two previous years.

Gulls as Weather Prophets. Those who live by the coast do not want a better weather sign than the gulls, which in the various winds that will bring the rain collect in big flocks and gather in the fields or circle high over the land, wheeling and screaming noisily. They were not come in on a false alarm and need not fear they will make a mistake.

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NEW ONTARIO LOANS

How the Farm Loan System Helps the Northland.

Many Settlers Need Financial Encouragement—Land Values Give Good Security—Systematic Inspection is Practiced in Making Loans.

"Money is the greatest need of the whole Northern district at the present time." This is one striking conclusion submitted to the Agricultural Development Board by one of its staff inspectors after a careful and detailed survey of two or three important sections of New Ontario early this summer.

Farm Loans Meet the Need. Already there are many evidences to indicate that the new system of long-term loans will go a considerable distance in meeting that need. In the older settlements the great need is buildings, and large numbers of settlers are able to comply with the terms of the legislation. Having rates as high as in New Ontario, most cases, there is no mortgage against it. Having 40, 50 or 60 acres under cultivation, they now have a substantial equity. If there are seed grain loans or mortgages they are usually small, and come under the 4 per cent. clause for removing encumbrances. Subject to individual inspection, they are, therefore, eligible for loans. There are also a number of cases where money is needed to help buy land to enable a young settler to start for himself. Interest rates are higher in New Ontario. Eight and nine per cent. are quite common, while reports have been heard of 10 to 12 per cent. being charged. In the ordinary course, therefore, money for these essential development purposes is not available, or not available on terms which make its use practicable. Applications have accordingly been received from every district in the north.

Not Assuming Heavy Load. From the Bar River section of the Algoma district came a request for a loan of \$5,000 to build a dairy. This looked like a pretty substantial dairy farm, but it was found the farm included 90 acres of exceptionally rich soil, 20 acres of which two years ago produced over which averaged 100 bushels to the acre and stood vice to six feet over the field. Similar stories came from Sudbury, Timiskaming, Algoma, River, Dryden and Thunder Bay, but many are for small loans of \$1,000 or less, and the average will, therefore, be between \$2,000 and \$3,000. This will mean an annual repayment of about \$200, but it will be seen that settlers are not rushing to assume impossible burdens.

Staff inspectors spent several weeks going over the different districts, and are of opinion that in the old settled sections of New Ontario loans may be made to a great extent on security as in Old Ontario. In fact, in fact, that sections such as Algoma, New Liskeard, Dryden, Rainy River and Thunder Bay, where settlement has been in progress for over 25 years or more, development is taking place very similar to that of Old Ontario. In the Sudbury district good agricultural progress is being made. About 90 per cent. of the population is French-Canadian, the balance being made up of English, Poles, and a few of Scottish and English descent.

Land Values High. Reports from all quarters indicate that land values in the older settled sections already mentioned are high. Prices up to \$100 per acre for land with only moderate buildings, are very common. This is due to several factors. In some sections the land is in pockets between the rocks. Such land is limited in area but very rich in fertility. Then, too, there are growing cities, substantial towns, or lumber or mining camps adjacent to all the agricultural districts, and these offer a ready market for hay, oats and potatoes, which are the three crops most generally grown. Old Ontario prices, plus transportation costs which means an advance of 10 to 15 per cent., are paid. These markets would mean more live stock and live stock products than are produced, and making available money for buildings essential to the waterlogging of stock will help in developing agriculture along stable lines.

Whether present land values will be maintained is problematical, and the inspectors recommend a maximum of \$60 per acre as far as loans by the board are concerned. It is probable the average valuation will not exceed half that figure. Systematic Inspection Necessary. Some requests have been received for loans for clearing land, but these do not come under the act and therefore must be excluded. Most of the applications will be for amounts under \$2,000. Inspection involves considerable expense and it is evident some plan will have to be adopted so that inspection may be made systematically without covering the same ground too often. No inspection can be made when snow is on the ground. Little building is done in the winter, though timber for building purposes is often cut. It is, therefore, probable that plans will be adopted by which two inspections per year will be made for loans for building purposes, one in the spring and one in the fall. Applications will be received up to a certain date and loans passed upon at that date. These dates will be fixed so as to accord with the plans and convenience of the settlers as far as possible.

CURE THE HAY WELL

How to Protect Your Crops From Fire.

The risk of fire from spontaneous combustion in mows and stacks may be done away with almost entirely if hay is put up only when properly cured. To the chemist and bacteriologist there is nothing mysterious about these fires. The heating process begins as a fermentation produced by the growth of bacteria in moist hay. When conditions are right the temperature mounts until the organisms that started the process are killed; from then on the heating is the result of chemical action—a slow oxidation when it is away from contact with the air and rapid oxidation, or fire, when the heating area breaks through to the open air.

When one of these fires breaks out there may be time to save the live stock, unless it occurs without warning, in the night, but there is small chance of saving the structure and the feed stored in it. The danger of spontaneous combustion must be anticipated before the feed is stored. Most farmers know when hay is cured properly, but because of threatening weather for some other reason some men compromise and put in feed that still contains too much moisture, sometimes giving themselves a false sense of security by scattering salt in the mow or stack. Moisture is the controlling factor, whether it is rain that has fallen on the cut hay or water within the stems makes no difference. If the moisture content is low enough the hay will not heat to the danger point.

Alfalfa and clover and other hays made from rather succulent plants cause the most trouble from heating, and they should be given particular care in curing. In some parts of the country where rains are frequent at haying time it is hard to get hay into ideal condition. Some farmers cure it in cocks and use canvas caps, but this is expensive in time and materials. In humid regions the danger from spontaneous combustion in mows and stacks may be lessened by the use of a box-like ventilator, a skeleton tube 12 to 15 inches square and of any length desired, depending upon the size of the mow or stack. The corners are 2 by 4 inches and the crosspieces 1 by 3 inches placed close enough together to keep the hay from falling through and blocking the air passage. Diagonal braces are placed in the box at intervals to keep it from collapsing under the weight of the hay. These ventilators are usually placed across the mow at intervals of 7 or 8 feet.

In some localities curing frames or tripods are used to hasten curing. They keep the hay loose and up of the ground so that the air may circulate freely through it. When a mow or stack has become badly heated there is a strong temptation to go in and stir up the hay, but often this is the worst thing that can be done. Admitting air to the hot center of fermentation may be just the thing needed to start a fire. If air does not get in a part of the hay may be charred without starting a fire; gradually the mow cools and the only loss is the hay that has been carbonized. However, in the early stages when the hay is heating it is sometimes advisable to move hay from one mow to another or to re-stack. But be sure it is not too hot. Slow combustion inside the mow can be detected by a peculiar sooty odor or by smoke that is irritating to the eyes.

Danger of spontaneous combustion is not confined to hay. It may occur in damp fodder and straw, as well as in bins of moist grain and seeds. Milk Delivery at Night. Some milk distributors who would not think of sending out loads of milk during the day without icicles do not see the milk delivered by the wagons to the consumers' doorstep at night, giving as their reason that night delivery is more rapid. The fact is that milk delivered to the consumer's home at night often is in greater need of icing than that which is delivered during the day. The important consideration is the time elapsing between taking the milk from the plant until it is placed in the consumer's refrigerator. The fact that the dealer delivers it quickly does not mean that it will reach the refrigerator quickly. Bottles delivered at the door usually are not taken in until after the sun has been up for some time.

Boosting Better Sheep. In any county of Ontario where twenty or more farmers qualify for the bonus of \$10 given by the Dominion Department of Agriculture as assistance in the purchase of a pure-bred ram, the Ontario Sheepbreeders' Association will donate a pure-bred ewe as a prize for the winner in the sheep section of the county judging competition put on by the agricultural representative.

A Record-breaker. Maud Netherland Wayne DeKol 2nd, 230 907, owned by Dr. Wesley H. Ketchum, of Palo Alto, California, recently completed one of the most remarkable long-time records ever made. Her figures, as announced by Superintendent Gardner, are: 32,631.9 pounds milk and 1,312.10 pounds butter in 365 days. She carried a calf fully six months while making the record and is due to freshen again early in July.

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