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The Toronto World

TWELVE PAGES—TUESDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 24 1907—TWELVE PAGES

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NEW MAN WHO POURED OIL ON TORCH CAN CAUSE "PICTON" FIRE

Unexpected Evidence of Jas. Kane at Inquest Explains Outbreak of Saturday's Fatal Blaze—Officials Secured Admission.

JURY CENSURES COMPANY FOR THE POOR FIRE DRILL

That George Kieskie came to his death by being suffocated on the steamer Picton on Sept. 21 as a result of an outbreak of fire caused by an inexperienced hand accidentally dropping his torch. We find the company negligent in not enforcing discipline in the handling of the fire fighting appliances.

—Coroner Wilson's Jury.

A sensation was sprung last night at Coroner Wilson's inquest into the death of George Kieskie, who died on the burning steamer "Picton" last Saturday, when James Kane, a laborer, residing at 86 Sherbourne-street, who had been hired as a wiper at noon on Saturday by Pettit, the second engineer, told in the box how he accidentally set the boat on fire.

The R. and O. Navigation Co. officials have been in Toronto since Sunday afternoon investigating the cause of the fire, and late yesterday afternoon, after close examination, Kane admitted what he knew.

A man of thirty-six years of age, sharp looking, with pointed features, Kane at first was afraid of the consequences and did not tell all to the officials. Later he made a clean breast of it.

Called to the box after several witnesses had been fruitfully examined, Kane began to answer the crown attorney's questions in his own plain way, how he had been taken on the job as wiper about noon Saturday, telling how the second engineer had instructed and helped him to clean the piston rods of the big engines, of his leaving for his boarding house to change his clothes and his return to the boat. His torch had melted oil and down on the lower deck of the engine he had noticed a large oil tank. Down he went to fill his can, which would be needed later when the boat got out for shore. The coal oil tank was about 4 ft. high and about 4 ft. in length, and had about 4 or 5 ft. from the boiler.

How It Happened.
"I tried to fill my lamp lighted from the oil. Somehow I dropped a half pint of oil, and it caught fire and a sudden blaze went up. I called to the engineer to bring a pail of water. I went there as a green hand and was not employed in this boat before."

"That's how this fire took place," asked Mr. Drayton.

"Yes," said Kane. "The fire burned your fingers and you let the torch drop."

"Yes, I did it accidentally. Coming out of the box somehow the light caught and I got excited and dropped it. The oil went over my hand."

"Where was the torch when it caught?"
"About 8 inches off the wick. I don't know, but somehow it caught."

The fire spread quickly, and the men had no opportunity of putting it out. He had rushed to get a pail of water. He said he had been quite sober.

Crown Attorney Drayton drew from the half-dozen other witnesses the admissions that, although the fire appliances were in good order, as demanded by the Dominion Government, still there was not the discipline nor the ability to cope with the emergency that had arisen.

Appliances on the Picton.
Capt. Redfern, the first witness, said that the fire appliances were inspected by the government last spring. There were forty-five full crews, and the government required twenty men to operate the appliances. The last fire drill was held on Aug. 27. The reason the appliances were not able to cope with the fire was that the pump was in the engine-room, where the fire broke out.

A. Demontigny, the chief engineer for three seasons, said that the fire fighting apparatus on board was first-class. It consisted of five steam and two hand pumps. There was about thirty or forty gallons of oil on hand, kept in separate tanks, removed from the furnace. There was not over a pound of dirty waste in the engine-room.

Joseph Pettit, the second engineer, was on the watch. Kieskie and another man were on deck. They had not been in the fire-hole for 15 minutes. Witness heard Kane call fire. The hose was working inside a minute. He went to the engine-room and stayed there about 8 or 10 minutes. When he first saw the fire there was lots of smoke.

Witness saw Kieskie and told him to go and tell everybody to get out.
"He did," continued the witness, "and came back, and I told him to save himself."

To the coroner witness said that the world of the boat was in the engine-room, conveyed to all parts of the boat by sending a man. There was no special signal.

Capt. Johnston, mechanical superintendent of the R. & O. Line, said torches were much more convenient than electric lights.

REFUSED TO BE TAXED.
At the non-jury session at the city hall yesterday Justice McCabe, the Dominion Express Company was sued by the Town of Niagara for \$40,000 business tax for their office on the Niagara Navigation Company's Wharf. The company refused payment, as they contended the assessment is illegal. His lordship adjourned the case to the next sittings, when he considers the points raised.

FEMALE "FAGIN" ROBBED GIRL THIEVES

Miss Elizabeth Maloney Alleged to Have Profited from Youngsters' Pilferings.

Is Mrs. Elizabeth Maloney, 79 Jarvis-street, a female Fagin? Her 12-year-old niece says so. The woman is charged with receiving stolen property from little Bertha Wilson, her 12-year-old niece, and 10-year-old Irene Drake, who was arrested Saturday afternoon in the Eaton store by Detective Geo. Kennedy, while they were engaged in the exciting operation of purse snatching.

Mrs. Maloney was arrested by Detective Kennedy at her home yesterday, upon information furnished by the chief.

Bertha Wilson told the detectives that her aunt had sent her out to steal and had reaped the fruits of her crimes, which were extensively pilfered. The girl told that she had given the woman over \$100 which she had stolen from purses. Once her aunt bought her a little fur hat out of the proceeds of \$30 which she took from a chateleine. So far from being amateur, the child is an expert pickpocket.

A search of her premises on Jarvis-street unearthed a deal of property for which the detectives want owners.

There is a small diamond ring, upon which are engraved the initials "E. E. R." a buckle ring with two red stones and one missing; a gold ring with two small diamonds with an opal between; an oblong amethyst with a gold flower set in a gold ring; a gold thimble engraved "H. A. K."; a silver thimble marked "G"; a pair of gold earrings in the shape of a knotted cord; a brown alligator purse containing car tickets and Hamilton boat tickets; a read leather purse with one American dollar bill, and numerous coins, among which is a Columbian half dollar.

In addition to this property Detective Kennedy wants an owner for a brown glass purse containing \$13, which was stolen Saturday.

Where is Our Civic Pride?

MONTREAL, Sept. 23.—(Special.)—The Star says editorially to-night:
"In Toronto, where they are lining up for their annual selection of mayor, controllers and aldermen, it is asked why they do not put business men into these positions. The true answer would probably be that the people of Toronto have very little to do with the choice of their rulers."
A business administration at the Montreal City Hall would do wonders for us. It would know that it is bad business to meet every stranger with dirty streets right at the door of the railway station. How are we to get a business administration?
"Business men are as reluctant here as in Toronto to neglect their own affairs for the affairs of the community; and the city council will not go to the trouble of seeking the sacrifice. They must be sought out and labored with."

CANADA THE LAND OF SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY

Bishop of London Looks for Day When Dominion Will Be Backbone of British Empire.

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., Sept. 23.—(Special.)—His Lordship the Bishop of London addressed an audience of some 4000 people to-night in Olympia, Rink, Niagara Falls South. The gathering represented every creed, not of the Niagara district alone, but of the American frontier as well. Baptist, Methodist, Roman Catholic and Presbyterian vied with the Anglicans to make the visit of the great churchman auspicious for the Dominion.

Special trains brought delegations from Hamilton, Welland, St. Catharines and from the villages for miles about.

Bishop DuMoulin of Niagara introduced Bishop Ingram, who was given an ovation. He took for the text of his talk, "The Garden of Canada and the Garden of Souls," contrasting the conditions there and in his diocese as regards the opportunities afforded for spiritual and physical development.

"Never have I seen such glorious children, strong, well fed and happy as here," he said, "and the bishop said, 'As I think of my own poor children of the slums, stunted and ill fed and sad, I feel that I wish they might share the abundance of yours.'"

The bishop also contrasted the observance of the Sabbath here and in London. Canada, he said, he found was a religious country, while in London the very opposite was true. "I confidently look forward to the day when this great land shall be the backbone of the empire, a country of nearly one hundred million people," continued the bishop. "Canada spells opportunity and opportunity which men of all lands will be quick to grasp."

Then his lordship reverted to his work in London, telling of conditions as here in the diocese of the clergy. Much of their ministry, he said, had of necessity to be given over to a defence of Christianity, which was assailed on all sides by the distressed poor.

His lordship left after the meeting for Buffalo with the Right Rev. W. D. Walker, Bishop of Western New York. He will spend to-night with Bishop Walker, and will leave in the morning for New York.

During his stay here he was the guest of Bishop DuMoulin and Rural Dean Bevan.

He met the clergy of the Niagara district and Western New York at luncheon at 2 o'clock at the Clifton Hotel, and later dined with Bishop Walker and Bishop DuMoulin.

SCHOOL OF PEDAGOGY.

Formal Opening Exercises Will Be Held Next Wednesday.
Until the end of last session the Normal College at Hamilton trained first-class public school and all high school teachers of Ontario. With this session, however, the normal school disappears and the place is taken by a public and high schools are to receive professional training in the faculties of education at Queen's and Toronto Universities.

The inaugural exercises next Wednesday will be attended by Premier Whitney and the chiefs of the educational office.

All the collegiate institutes and high schools will be used for practical work and probably the Church-street and Ryerson Public Schools.

MAN SWEEP OVERBOARD.

William Roberts Lost Life in Mid-Ocean.

MONTREAL, Sept. 23.—(Special.)—Struck by a terrific wave, and swept overboard to death, was the fate of William Roberts, a seaman of the S.S. Dominion of the Dominion Line, which arrived in port to-day, after a stormy passage.

T. J. Rowlands, another of the crew, was hurled by the wave against the side of the ship and had two ribs broken.

AMERICANS GET CONTRACT.

Boston Firm to Build Montreal's \$844,000 Conduit.

MONTREAL, Sept. 23.—(Special.)—The city council to-day by a vote of 33 to 7, decided to accept the tender of J. P. McGovern, Boston, for the construction of the new waterworks conduit for the city.

The contract price is \$844,000, and the conduit will be five miles long and 81.2 feet in diameter.

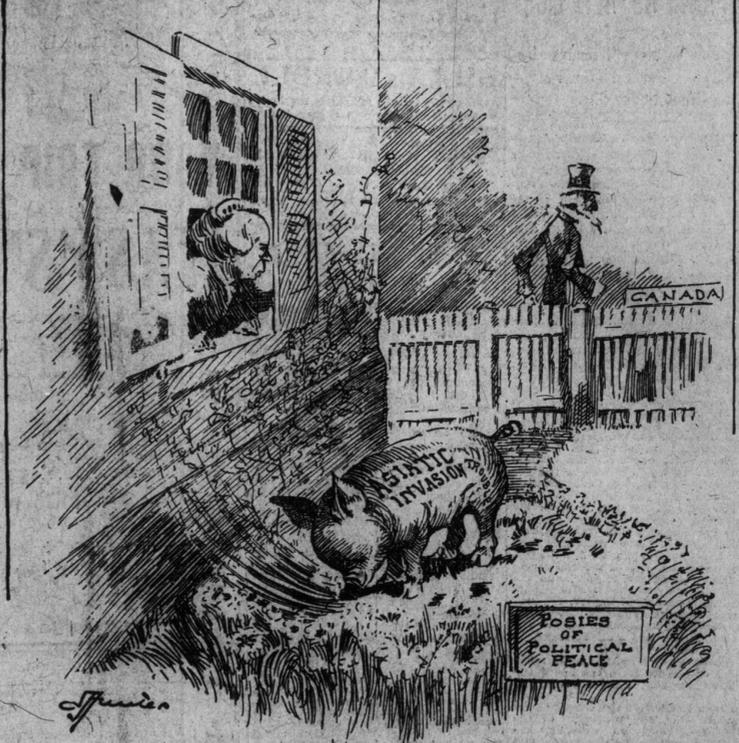
WANT LABOR BUREAU.

A preliminary meeting will be held to-day for the purpose of selecting a delegation of members of the Trades and Labor Council to wait upon Dr. Reaume some time during the present week, with the object of securing the establishment of a branch of the labor bureau in this city. A number of these branches have been organized elsewhere.

NEW BAILIFFS.

H. S. Moore of Burk's Falls has been appointed bailiff of the fourth division court, Parry Sound District, in place of George Goulet, resigned; Joseph Dillon, bailiff of the sixth division court, Kent County, in room of George Moore, resigned.

A Pig in the Garden.



Uncle Sam: Oh! She's got her own troubles.

STEAMER NIMICK WRECKED CAPTAIN AND 5 DROWNED

Canadian Members of the Crew Weir Rescued—The Machinery Broke Down in Heavy Gale and Vessel Was Smashed Into Pieces on Vermilion Point—Some Bodies Recovered.

CAPTAIN RANDALL, Algonac, JOHN JOHNSTON, Glasgow, Mich. LOUIS DUBEY, Detroit. THOMAS PARENT, Port Huron. SAULT STE. MARIE, Sept. 23.—(Special.)—One of the most disastrous wrecks on the lakes this season occurred Saturday night at 11 o'clock, when the steamer Alexandra Nimick went ashore at Vermilion Point and Capt. Randall and five of the crew were drowned.

A heavy northwest gale was blowing at the time and when off the point, 13 miles above White Fish, the Nimick's machinery suddenly broke down. The steamer was driven about helpless in the waves and finally beached on the point, where the heavy pounding of the waves soon broke her to pieces.

Life-Saving Station No. 9 is located on the point and thru the heroic efforts of the life-savers 11 of the crew were saved. They were unable to save Capt. Randall and five of the crew, who were washed ashore by the heavy seas.

Early Sunday morning three bodies were washed ashore by the waves. A searching party, headed by Mate Gordon, is looking for the remaining three.

Bodies at the Soo.
The first news of the wreck was received at Grand Marais by phone from the scene of the wreck, and the tug to the rescue. She arrived at the Soo this morning about 11 o'clock, carrying the three bodies washed ashore and 11 survivors.

The sailors say the steamer grounded about 7.30 o'clock Saturday evening and before being beached waves were continually washing completely over her and the ship began taking water. She was filling so rapidly that the captain deemed it best to run her ashore. This was done, but immediately upon striking the bow went to pieces, casting the men who were lost into the waves. Only those who were in the stern escaped.

A yawl boat was launched and ten men made way in her. The sailors say the chief engineer threw himself into the water and swam ashore. The drowned men were:
Capt. Randall, Algonac, Mich. Louis Rubey, Detroit. Thomas Parent, Port Huron. A fireman and a watchman, from Chicago, unknown.

Of these men Johnston and the unknown fireman were brought to the Soo this morning.

The Canadiana Among Survivors.
The survivors are: Gordon Tobin, mate, Amherstburg; Charles Gray, Buffalo; John Smith, Detroit; Fred Brenner, Detroit; R. B. Ewing, Doylestown, Ohio; Harry Hutton, Detroit; William Kock, Detroit; Austin McDougall, Goderich, Ont.; James Hurley, Buffalo; Frank Shaw, New Orleans; James Warburton, Detroit.

The Nimick, a wooden steamer, built in 1890, was 318 feet long, 40 feet wide, with a gross tonnage of 1965.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE WESTERN TROUBLE

World Commissioner Writes of the Sentiment and the Situation on the Pacific Coast.

(Special Correspondence of The World.)
VANCOUVER, Sept. 17.—The whole trouble with British Columbia and the Japanese immigration rests in the determination of the people of this province to look at the problem as one of Canadian responsibility. It is in no way remarkable that labor organizers from the other side of the line should see the difficulty in this convenient light; but that representatives of the people, and the people themselves, when they express their opinions, should cut the matter short at the point of federal authority, implies if anything their resolve not to have the issue they see confronting them sidetracked on lines of foreign politics and international rights.

The story of the development of the trouble introduced with Asiatic labor is short and simple. The Chinese who were first brought in for railway construction proved to be steady and methodical workers, and settlement along the Fraser River and in the interior country assimilated them as well, perhaps, as it is possible for yellow men to blend into the process of white colonization.

Chinese Good Workers.
It is not gainsaid that the Chinese supplied good railway building labor, that they had a worker's mentality in the canneries, that they have done well as small gardeners and domestic servants, and that, so far as they have taken to commercial work, they have invariably proved themselves honest. What they were needed for in the beginning was to supply coarser labor; and most white people, who have in the past been averse to having them utilized in the wider economy of the country.

For a time this feeling against the Chinese remained passive, but as they increased in numbers the advisability of restriction was practically admitted in the terms of a new law, which after a time was increased to \$500. The Chinese have paid this heavy tribute and have uncomplainingly advanced themselves in spite of it.

I have been talking to a member of a large Toronto house who has been going business for years in British Columbia, and he says that he estimates the Chinese population of the province to-day at 60,000, and he and the business men of his acquaintance cannot attribute the loss of a single dollar to Chinese dishonesty.

So that the character they have borne, together with the constantly increasing need for their labor, has become an antidote to the white man's sentiment towards his yellow hewers of wood and dressers of skins, which after a time was increased to \$500. The Chinese have paid this heavy tribute and have uncomplainingly advanced themselves in spite of it.

When the Hindoos were brought in last year it was with a flavor of Bill Nye's grievance that white labor called for a broad and free trade against all Asiatics. The Chinese were more likely to give a set-back than a fresh impetus to Asiatic immigration. However, Vancouver at that time took the notion that it was ruined by Chinese cheap labor, and according to the Nye precedent, it went for the pious Hindoo.

But the worst was still to come. It came with the advent of the Jap. The "brown man," as he is called by way of distinction in the Mongolian family, was also brought in to supply the labor market. On every hand it is conceded that neither as an economic asset nor as labor supplying material is he in the class of the white man. He will not work in the canneries, but only in the fisheries. He is ambitious and has the aims at the white man's paid lines of work in the woods. Give him trade credit and he will skin his white ally every time. So at least the laborers in British Columbia have soberly declare. And the Jap comes in without the head tax. It is probably because the authorities knew these things concerning his smoothness and ambition that the endeavor was made to restrict Japanese immigration to a specified number every year.

And it is because the Jap has risen superior according to his ethics to the white man's policy of labor and taken, and because he snaps his fingers at the caste of the white race that the Vancouver mob lost its head.

TRADITION.

Said a well-known lawyer: "There may be a local Liberal who has made party sacrifices sufficient to command the office of postmaster Toronto, but if there is, I do not know of him. Why not respect the tradition of the office and give it to an Ontario newspaper man who has done good service to his party? There was a time when Mr. Willison could have commanded it, or better than it, and he advocates promotion of the deputy-postmaster."

BROWN AND THE HAT.

The brown hat is without doubt the popular fall headwear with the dressy man. This was evidenced at the races. The hard felt style seems to be the favorite, and the choice of color is divided between taupe, olive, coffee and Cuba shades. Dineen's have the widest range of styles, smart hats in both hard and soft styles. The prices are \$2.50 and \$3.00. Satisfaction is certain when you deal with Dineen's. Canada's oldest hatters, Yonge and Temperance-streets. All the new fall styles in silk hats are now at Dineen's.

ON VERGE OF MADNESS MEN ATE ROTTEN SQUID

Terrible Experience of Two Nova Scotia Fishermen Adrift Four Days in Dory.

NORTH SYDNEY, Sept. 23.—(Special.)—The schooner Muriel M. Young, arrived this morning from the Banks, having on board Benjamin Gerrier and Patrick Nolan, two of the crew of the schooner Judique, who strayed from their vessel. For four days and nights the men were buffeted by fierce seas. When picked up they were exhausted and on the verge of madness.

The tale of hardship told by Nolan was one of the most trying heard for many days. "From Wednesday until Saturday," says Nolan, "we had no food or water. On the second day, during an awful rain, thunder and lightning storm, Gerrier ate rotten squid which he found in the bottom of the dory. Immediately he took sick and that night became delirious. The sail was carried away. Believing all hope was gone we lay down, not knowing what our end might be."

"This continued until Saturday noon when we were picked up and taken help from the bottom of the dory and put on board the schooner."

Gen. Booth Says Dream is to Be Realized in Canada at Early Date.

ST. JOHN, N.B., Sept. 23.—(Special.)—In an address to-night before the Canadian Club, General Booth, after speaking at length of the work and plans of the Salvation Army, said that he hoped to live until he could see perfected a scheme which he had long had in his head, that is, the establishment of two great Salvation Army Colleges—one in England and the other in Canada.

"I have long dreamed of this thing," said General Booth, "and may now say that that dream is soon to be realized."

General Booth went on to explain that affiliated with these colleges will be smaller institutions all over the world. Their aim will be to educate men and women to the Army's work.

MORMON IMMIGRANTS.

MONTREAL, Sept. 23.—(Special.)—A party of Mormons numbering fifty-two arrived on the Dominion to-day from the British Isles. They are bound for the Western States.

DASH FOR NORTH POLE.

Dr. Cook 190 Miles Away From the Goal.
NORTH SYDNEY, Sept. 23.—(Special.)—The Gloucester yacht, John R. Bradley, which left here in July with Dr. Cook of New York and J. R. Bradley, the famous hunter, on an exploring trip in Greenland, is on the way here, and is expected this week.

The yacht left Dr. Cook and a Norwegian steward at Etah, 190 miles from the north pole, together with provisions. Both will take Esquimaux and dogs and make a dash for the pole.

Dr. Cook accompanied Peary on a previous trip north, and is confident of making good where Peary failed. Mrs. Cook and family are at Margaree, C.B.

The Logs the Illness Brings.
We issue an accident and sickness policy that covers all the probabilities of injury or illness and provides an ample fund during the period of incapacity. The premium is small and protects the insured against loss of income for periods from six months to two years. London Guarantee and Accident Company, Limited, corner Yonge and Richmond-streets, Confederation Life Building. Phone Main 1642.

PEACE CONFAB IS A FAILURE

Has Done Nothing But Provide Gay Season for Delegates at The Hague.

LONDON, Sept. 23.—To call the international peace conference at The Hague a fiasco would be merely to repeat the public opinion of Europe.

Its meetings long since have ceased to command attention, and the newspapers are giving them less and less space. Soberly, the conference had been a great success. It has given The Hague a summer of gaiety unusual in that state of little capital by a constant series of dinners and receptions.

The greatest disappointment to the delegates is the failure of the conference to have established a permanent court of arbitration, which appeared to be the nearest of realization of any of the practical projects put forward. The results attained give little satisfaction in England. Even those persons who, at the commencement of the conference, had the view that a mere discussion of the problems for which it was called to consider would be a step toward the prevention of war, admit their hopes were unjustified, and they now are among the first to condemn the entire proceedings, describing them as a waste of time.

This failure to deal with the great questions included in the program is credited largely to defects in the constitution of the conference by which the delegates were expected to perform in a few months what properly was the work of years.

Even the international prize court, which is one of the results of the conference is likely to accomplish English authorities on international law say, cannot be submitted to British jurisdiction until it has been fully considered and accepted by the government. The question of a reduction in expenditures for armaments, which Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and the peace advocates hoped would be seriously taken up by the conference, long since has been forgotten.

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Picture Framing, Geddes, 431 Spadina.

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