

WAS IT A FOUL MURDER OR JUST A GIGANTIC HOAX?

The Police Now Believe That Rev. Carmichael Is
Alive and in Canada.

THE BODY FOUND MAY BE A CADAVER

St. Clair Ferryman Says He Took Minister Across River Early
Wednesday Morning—Examination of Clothing Found in
Church Suggests Browning Was Victim.

Detroit, Jan. 8.—The murder mystery of Battle Run Church, near Columbus, in St. Clair County, seemed no nearer solution when the county officials resumed their investigation today than it was when they entered the blood-spattered church Wednesday noon, and dragged from the stove the lumps of flesh and bone that appeared to be the remains of a human victim.

Rev. J. H. Carmichael, pastor of the church, and Gideon Browning, the Adair carpenter, who was the minister's neighbor, have not been seen since Tuesday. Various theories are advanced to show that the bones found in the church stove belonged to one or the other of the missing men, but none of the offered explanations seem to accumulate any degree of positiveness or certainty. It was even suggested today that the red stains all over the church might

not be human blood, and the growing pieces found in the church stove might have been taken from a cadaver stolen from some accessible place. In support of the theory that the murder indications are all part of a gigantic hoax, the assertion was advanced that the missing preacher was known to be carrying \$5,000 of insurance.

Port Huron, Mich., Jan. 8.—The local authorities last evening held an examination of the bones and remains of the man found murdered and supposed to be Rev. Mr. Carmichael. But two teeth were found which could be identified as false. Nothing was found that would solve the mystery as to the identification of the slain man. Another examination will be held today.

St. Clair, Mich., Jan. 8.—Rev. J. H. Carmichael, the Methodist minister of Adair, Mich., whose dismembered and burned body, it was believed last night, had been found in the stove of his church near Columbus, Mich., tonight thought to be alive. The authorities thought to be alive. The authorities thought to be alive.

Shot at Rabbit and Hit Brother Tragical Accident Near Chatham

Mr. James Bullock Bleeds to
Death While Hunting.

Oil Springs, Jan. 8.—James Bullock was accidentally shot by his brother, Bert, while out shooting rabbits, and received injuries from which he died shortly afterwards.

The accident happened about three miles from this village on the farm of Mr. John Doyle, one of the best-

known farmers of the district. The brothers had been training around for some time when Bert spied a rabbit running across the field about 20 yards distant. Turning suddenly he fired, and the charged, lodged in the right leg of the brother, who was standing between Bert and the running animal. A great wound was opened from which the blood came in large quantities and the young man died before the flow could be stopped. He leaves a father, mother, two brothers and three sisters.

Hickson Boy Takes His Own Life

(Special to The Advertiser.)

Woodstock, Jan. 8.—After attending a prayer meeting at the Methodist Church at Hickson last evening, George Hickson, the 19-year-old son of the railway section boss at that place, swallowed a big dose of strychnine from a bottle that he had in his pocket, and died several hours later.

The young man had been suffering from despondency for some time, and recently underwent an operation for the abscess on the brain. At the prayer meeting last night he appeared to be greatly interested, and asked a number of questions. On his way home he took the poison. Then he went to his home and told what he had done.

Committees Finally Decided Upon

The formation of the council committees has been practically settled upon, although it has occasioned not a little difficulty.

The finance committee will be the same as outlined in yesterday's Advertiser with Ald. Ferguson as chairman.

The board of works will be composed of Ald. Gerry, chairman; Ald. Saunders, Ald. Rose and Ald. Cooper. Ald. Garratt will be given the chairmanship of No. 3 committee, and will

have as his colleagues Ald. Fitzgerald, Ald. Moorhead and Ald. Stewart. Ald. Stewart will have the chairmanship of the special power committee and Ald. Stevenson has the chairmanship of the reception committee.

There is some doubt as to the composition of the London and Port Stanley Board, but the members will likely be Ald. Ferguson, Ald. Beattie, Ald. Parsons, Ald. Stevenson, Ald. Saunders, Ald. Stewart and Ald. Rose.

There are other committees, but they will not be selected for some time yet, at least.

Police Watching for Rev. Carmichael

Chief of Police Williams last night received a wire from the Detroit police, stating that it was believed that Rev. John Carmichael, who, it is alleged is responsible for the murder of an unknown man in Adair, Mich., had crossed the river, and was in Canada, and to be on the lookout for him.

Early this morning, William Walker,

a special detective from Michigan, arrived in the city, but the police here are most reticent regarding his movements.

It is not known whether he has left the city or not, but he is known to be working in the search for Carmichael. The local detectives are keeping a close watch on all through trains.

An Alleged Local Flim-Flammer

The local detectives last night were notified to be on the watch for a man who went around South London yesterday afternoon representing himself to be a coal merchant, and who collected a considerable amount of money.

At one place on Front street, it is said, the man secured \$6 by telling the lady of the house that he had sold her husband some coal from a carload that had got broken. He ex-

plained that in order to get rid of the coal quickly he was offering it at a reduced price, and her husband had decided to take some, and had sent him to get part of the money. The coal, he said, would be sent along shortly.

At other places the man also secured money. He is described as being a fairly stout man, about five feet seven or eight inches tall. So far no further trace of the alleged swindler has been found.

South London Liberals.

Next Friday night there will be an important meeting in the South London Liberal Club. Officers, chairmen of divisions and all others interested in the work, are requested to be present. The meeting will take place from 8 to 9, after which the weekly whist match will be held.

American Club.

The regular weekly social meeting of the American Club was held in the room on Carling Street last evening and was well attended. A most enjoyable time was spent by all. At the next regular meeting next week the members have arranged to have an American baked bean supper.

THURSDAY NIGHT NOT SO VERY COLD

Eight and One-half Degrees
Above Registered.

Many persons who were under the impression that last night was colder than the preceding one will be surprised to learn that it was not, as the temperature of the local observatory was 7° above on Wednesday night, and 8½° above last night.

At 8 o'clock this morning the thermometer showed 12½° above.

Londoners, however, after luxuriating in the springlike weather of the early part of the week, feel the cold exceedingly.

EPIDEMIC OF COLDS FOLLOWS CHANGE

Druggists Report a Big Demand
for Cures of Coughs, Etc.

Local physicians state that an epidemic of colds and sore throats has followed the sudden change in the weather. Numerous heavy colds have developed, and a number of individuals are sitting at home by the fire nursing them.

Druggists report a big demand for those concoctions which are guaranteed to alleviate a cold and cure it in a few hours.

HARDING RETURNED THE LIVERY OUTFIT

But Was Immediately Placed
Under Arrest Last Night.

Philip Harding, the man charged by D. C. Carmichael with stealing a horse and buggy, was arrested last night at Carmichael's livery barn by Detective Nickle.

Harding was to have returned the horse on Tuesday night, but did not do so. On Wednesday Mr. Carmichael laid an information charging him with theft.

Last evening Harding drove into the livery barn with the horse and buggy, and was immediately placed under arrest. Harding appeared before Magistrate Love this morning, and the charge against him was changed to fraud. He stated that he had money coming to him from friends in Central and Lucan. Harding, it is alleged, sold a horse and rig belonging to W. C. Maker, last week.

"I think this man has a craze for taking horses and buggies," said the court.

Harding elected trial before Magistrate Love and was remanded for a week.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS HAD PLEASANT TIME

Presentation Made to Their Teacher,
Mr. Charles H. Joyce.

The Kensington Adult Bible Class spent a social evening together last night. About 50 members of the class and their friends were present, and the following programme was rendered: Song, Mr. Fred Barr; song, Miss N. Dore; dialogue, by four young ladies; speech, by Mr. R. H. Wade, superintendent of Sunday school; song, Miss M. Underwood; song, by Mr. J. Thompson; speech, by Rev. S. Anderson, pastor; trio, by Messrs. Stewart, Talbot and J. Breene.

The teacher, Mr. C. H. Joyce, was then called to the front and was presented with an address, accompanied by a handsome china tea service and water set.

A flash-light photo was taken of the company, after refreshments had been served, and a most enjoyable evening brought to a close.

Kemp gave the wrong name when arrested, and for so doing was fined \$1 and \$2 60 costs. The other young men were fined only \$1 each.

Ferry Sullivan, another of the party, did not appear, and if he did not go to the court today, an order for his arrest will be issued.

Kemp was also accused of swinging on awning bars, and as many merchants have complained to the police of their awnings being destroyed in this way, Magistrate Love gave Kemp a severe lecture.

Took the Month.

Harry Whiting, a porter at a local hotel, appeared in court with a big black eye and a cut on his head. He charged James MacDougall with inflicting the injury by striking him. MacDougall admitted the offence, but said Whiting had called him names.

The court told MacDougall he should be ashamed of hitting a man so much smaller than himself, and imposed a fine of \$5, or one month in jail. MacDougall took the month.

Nelson Dawson, a drunk, who has been coming up too frequently, was fined \$3 or seven days.

—Mr. Wm. H. Ingram, of Paris, France, European correspondent for the Brooklyn Eagle, was in the city yesterday, the guest of Mr. U. A. Buchner. Mr. Ingram, who is a son of the postmaster of St. Thomas, went into journalism immediately after graduating from Toronto University, five years ago. He was on the Paris staff of the London Times before taking his present position, in which he has made a name for himself.

LIBERAL CLUB ELECTIONS

A great deal of interest is being taken in the Liberal Club elections, which will be held this evening and tomorrow night at Hyman Hall.

The polling will take place from 7 to 10 o'clock each evening. Mr. Angus Elliott will act as returning officer.

Every member is requested to bring his card of membership.

The contest will be keen for all the positions. Considerable rivalry exists among the candidates, and a very large vote should result.

Every member of the club is requested to vote as early as possible. Tickets may be secured from the secretary, Dr. Claude Brown, or from the candidates.

THE CANDIDATES.

For President—J. Harry Fowler, E. A., and George S. Gibbons. Executive Committee—Ward 2.—R. Cooper, Andrew Robson, Thos. Ranahan.

Ward 3.—Arch. Black, jun., Charles Clarke, W. R. McKay, James Murray, Alex. Purdum, jun.

Ward 4.—Geo. Bayley, Chester Butler, Sam Delaney, Bert Hoaman, Ed. Nelles, Gordon Ingram, L. Leonard, Percy Fitzgerald.

Ward 5.—Wm. Allister, G. Arthurs, W. Gray, L. H. Martyn, Fred Pace, Lui Paladino, Art Sippi, Jas. Young.

Ward 6.—Chas. Ferguson, R. J. Southcott, Earl Insley.

The executive for Ward 1 was elected by acclamation.

ESCAPES FROM THE HOSPITAL MARY CUTHBERTSON'S TRIALS

Left this Institution in Her Night Clothes—Spent the Night in the
Home of Mrs. Baker, on Elias Street—Left That Place
Before the Authorities Could Overtake Her.

Miss Mary Cuthbertson, the woman who was taken to Victoria Hospital on Tuesday from the county jail to be treated for nervous prostration, made her escape from the hospital last night shortly after 9 o'clock, and no trace of her was found until this morning, when about 8 o'clock Dr. MacArthur received word that Miss Cuthbertson had spent the night at the home of Mrs. Baker, on Elias street.

On the Road Again.

Before anybody could get to the place, however, Miss Cuthbertson had again made her escape.

When she left the hospital she was wrapped in a pair of stockings. It is feared that wandering about with such scanty clothing on a night as cold as it was last night is a serious matter for her. Miss Cuthbertson for some time has been under the influence of a mad desire to wander about. She was first arrested in Toronto while wandering about there. A few days ago she was again arrested at Woodstock, and from there sent to this city.

Was Sent to the Hospital.

Magistrate Love, after hearing the opinion of Dr. MacArthur, decided to send her to Victoria Hospital for treatment. Since being at Victoria, Miss Cuthbertson has been somewhat quiet, although one day she broke away and ran out on the lawn. Before she could get away, however, she was captured and taken in again. Last night she was apparently as quiet as usual, and the nurse, after giving her a drink of milk, left her for a moment.

Made Her Escape.

Miss Cuthbertson was formerly employed at Victoria Hospital, and had a thorough knowledge of the building. When the nurse returned it was found she had made her escape through one of the rear doors. For some time the river bank was watched, as it was feared that she might have tried to suicide.

A MORAL IN THIS GIVE RIGHT NAME

That Is if Police at Any Time
Should Ask for It.

In the police court this morning, George Kemp, William Andrew, Robert Bear and B. Sullivan were found guilty of acting in a disorderly manner on Dundas street.

Kemp gave the wrong name when arrested, and for so doing was fined \$1 and \$2 60 costs. The other young men were fined only \$1 each.

Ferry Sullivan, another of the party, did not appear, and if he did not go to the court today, an order for his arrest will be issued.

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TRACK ELEVATION AT STANDSTILL

No Word Has Been Heard From
Engineer Kelly as Yet

There is nothing new regarding track elevation.

A week or so ago Mr. Kelly, the G. T. R. engineer, visited the city, with a couple of assistants, and looked over the ground, obtaining all the information possible on the subject.

Since his return to Montreal not a word has been received from him, and it is more than likely that he is busy on the report to be made to the Grand Trunk officials shortly.

"I have heard nothing from him since his visit," said Mayor Stevely to The Advertiser. "I know that he is making out his report to Mr. Fitzhugh, which will be presented to him as soon as possible. This may take a few more days, perhaps thirty days, but as soon as that is done I am confident the matter will be taken up by the Grand Trunk authorities."

CIGAR LIGHTS FILMS DAMAGE \$200,000

Boy Carrying Moving Picture Material
Collides With Smoker.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 8.—A messenger boy with three moving picture films in his hand yesterday collided with a man smoking a cigar.

The films became ignited and resulted in a \$200,000 fire in the Karbach block.

The man with the cigar was within the door of the office of the Samsen Film Company, when the boy bolted into the room with the films in his hands. One of these came in contact with the cigar the man was smoking and in a flash the films were burning. This ignited other films, and in a moment the entire room, where \$150,000 worth of films were stored was in a blaze. Within 10 minutes every film was completely destroyed, \$50,000 damage done to the structure and other tenants.

POWER MEETING HERE WEDNESDAY

Large Number of Delegates Are
Expected Next Week.

A meeting of the Western Ontario Municipalities Power Union will be held in the board of trade rooms on Wednesday next, when representatives from all the municipalities interested in the Niagara power movement will be present.

"I do not know anything further than I was informed that the meeting would be held here next Wednesday," said Mayor Stevely. "Secretary Lyon has said nothing to me further than that, and I am waiting for information. I would gather that there would be quite a number of delegates here on that occasion."

HIGH PRESSURE MAINS SUCCESS

New York Firemen Try Them
Out, Saving Much Property.

New York, Jan. 8.—The new high pressure system recently adopted by this city was up against a staggering test last evening with three big fires to tackle at once, and in one of them in which Sir Thomas Lytton's town and E. C. Hazard & Co.'s groceries, were burned up and their abode utterly demolished, it could not prevent a loss estimated at \$1,000,000. It did, however, confine the damage to the buildings originally involved, and thus saved millions of dollars' worth of property.

For this fire four alarms were rung for the first time in the high pressure district, and they brought so much apparatus that three and five alarms were necessary at the two other fires, where the damage done is roughly put at \$75,000 and \$250,000 respectively. The mayor watched the working of the high pressure at one of these fires. Six hundred firemen were called out by the three fires.

NEGRO SLUGS CHATHAMITE

Aged Harry Church Is Brutally
Assaulted and His Pockets
Rifled.

Chatham, Jan. 7.—Probably a belief existing among certain folks that Harry Church, an aged blacksmith, did not believe in banks and hoarded up his money in "safer" places, inspired a murderous attack that was made upon him just as he was a few feet from his shop on Fifth street last night. The old man is very deaf, so that he heard no one approaching him, as he was suddenly hit on the head with a nat instrument. Then he was kicked in the back, and his pockets rifled, but as he did not have the habit of carrying coin around with him, the robber did not get anything. If an attempt was made to enter his place it was not successful.

He tottered to the office of Dr. Silverlight, where his head was sewed up. Luckily, the scalp was not fractured. The hour when he reached the doctor's office was two hours after he was attacked, where he spent the intervening time he does not know, probably most of the night on the sidewalk. The only description of his assailant he can give is that he was a negro, and wore a black coat. The police have no clue.

NEW KEY RATE FOR LONDON

Local Insurance Man Says It
Will Be Published Shortly.

There will be a readjustment of the key rate for London shortly.

At present the underwriters are at work on a new schedule.

The key rate, or the basis rate of insurance for London, is at present 40 cents.

Some time ago, just after the conflagration in Toronto, a surcharge of 50 cents was made, and then last fall another 50 cents was added on account of the scarcity of water in the city.

On the key rate is based all insurance, and the rate is determined by state of building, occupancy, cleanliness, construction, etc.

The New Rate.

"We will know before long what the new key rate is," said Mr. J. A. Nelles to The Advertiser. "The idea is to get rid of the surcharges and put the insurance on a different basis. An inspector was in the city last fall looking over the city, and he gave his report as conditions."

"Outside of the congested district in Toronto, our insurance is cheaper. The rate was lowered there some days ago owing to the installation of a high pressure system. When the new key rate is announced we will be in a position to compare our rates with Toronto."

It is anticipated that the new key rate will be \$1 instead of 40 cents as at present.

ASSIZE COURT IS A BIG ONE

Many More Cases Have
Been Entered for
Trial.

BIG DAMAGES FROM RAILWAYS

Are Sought by a Number of
Claimants—Interesting
Suits.

The general impression that the January assizes would be of short duration is being rapidly dispelled by the number of cases being entered at the last moment. There are now 21 jury and 12 non-jury cases on the list.

A Damage Suit.

A damage suit for \$5,000 is entered against the London Street Railway Company for damages, brought by Margaret Ann and John William Feeney, for injuries received on Aug. 8, 1898, by a collision of two of the company's cars at the corner of Richmond and Albert streets. Mr. E. T. Essery acts for the plaintiff, and Messrs. Ivey & Dromgole for the defendants.

A Traction Case.

The Southwestern Traction Company and their late secretary-treasurer, A. B. Welch, are being sued for \$400. Mr. Welch, it is affirmed, sold the plaintiff, J. McConnell, three shares of the company's stock on the understanding that the London-Melbourne line should be shortly in operation.

The plaintiff is suing for the \$300, paid for the three shares, and other amounts, which bring the demand up to \$400, because the company, he claims, failed to carry out their agreement.

Messrs. Meredith, Judd & Meredith act for the plaintiff, and Mr. T. H. Luscombe for the company.

Suing the Contractors.

Wm. Rider, who was injured on Dec. 10, 1907, while working on the Smallman & Ingram building, is taking action against George A. Just & Co., his employers, for \$2,000. Mr. E. T. Essery acts for the plaintiff, and Messrs. Gibbons, Harper & Gibbons for defence.

John Henry Jones is also suing George A. Just & Co. for injuries which will permanently disable his hand. He claims \$2,500 damages.

Against Railways.

Two actions are also slated against the railway companies. Bennett vs. the G. T. R., for injuries received in a collision near Clarkson. The plaintiff being a fireman on one of the company's engines. The claim is for \$4,500.

Messrs. Gibbons, Harper & Gibbons for plaintiff, and W. H. Biggar for defence.

Mary O'Leary is suing the C. P. R., on behalf of herself and children for the death of her husband, Patrick O'Leary, who was run over and killed by one of the company's engines. They claim criminal neglect, and ask for \$10,000 damages.

Messrs. Gibbons, Harper & Gibbons for plaintiff, and Mr. A. M. McMurchy for the C. P. R.

More Crystal Ball Cases.

Two more cases have been entered against W. J. Reid, Peter Shirlies, R. G. Wilson, and Geo. N. Kernohan. Both actions are for \$10,000, the plaintiff in the first action being A. McCallum and F. G. Westlake, and in the second, John Loney.

Messrs. Meredith, Judd & Meredith act for the plaintiff in both cases, and Messrs. Gibbons, Harper & Gibbons for Mr. Reid, and John McEvoy for Kernohan and Wilson also in both actions.

A Note Case.

The Dominion Bank brings action to recover \$2,001.29, the amount of a promissory note and notary's fees connected therewith, from a J. Kernohan.

Messrs. Blackburn & Weekes act for the plaintiffs, and Meredith, Fisher & McDonald for the defense.

Continued on Page Eight.

HAIR-FARE RATE MAY BE ABOLISHED

Railways May Cut Off Special
Privileges to Clergymen.

At present the railroads have under consideration the withdrawal of the special rate extended to clergymen going to western fields.

Up to the end of the year clergymen working in the west had a half-fare rate on a special permit, but so far these permits have not been renewed, and it is unlikely that they will be. Last year 600 permits were issued to pastors and missionaries. The idea of the railway had in view in granting the special rate was to aid struggling missionaries and in developing the country to a certain extent.

The courtesy of a half-fare rate for clergymen used to be extended in Ontario, but twenty years ago it was cut off and has never been renewed.