PANTCHENKO GIVEN FIFTEEN YEARS

Mme. Muravieff Acquitted in St. Petersburg Poisoning Case.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 17. — The sensational trial of Count Patrick O'Brien De Lassy, Dr. Pantchenko, and Mme. Muravieff, charged with killing Count Vassilli Bouturlin, came to an end Thursday night, when a verdict of guilty was returned by the jury in the case of De Lassy and Dr. Pantchenko, and not guilty in the case of the woman.

De Lassy was sentenced to penal servitude for life, and Dr. Pantchenko to 15 years' imprisonment. The jury noted extenuating circumstances in Pantchenko's favor, which accounts for the lighter punishment meted out to him.

The trial aroused enormous interest and developed some startling testimony. Prior to the beginning of the proceedings Pantchenko made a confession, in which he accused De Lassy for hiring him to poison Count Vassilli, who was heir to Gen. Bouturlin's millions. De Lassy's wife is the daughter of Gen. Bouturlin and the removal of Vassilli would naturally mean that the general's estate would go to his daughter.

On the witness stand Pantchenko denied the confession and made so many erratic statements that he came to be thought practically insane. Much evidence was adduced, however, to show that he and De Lassy had intimate dealings. At the end of the trial De Lassy was quite overcome. He attempted to make a speech to the jury, but ended abruptly by saying, "I cannot talk. I leave the fate of myself and relatives to your minds and your hearts."

Pantchenko, in an incoherent speech, said he did not repudiate his confession, but wished to specify the degree of his guilt. He said the question now was whether a Russian physician was capable of such a dastardly crime, and to this he proudly answered no.

Petropavlovsky, he declared, wishing fame, was the author of the poisoning story and that a newspaper helped him.

"De Lassy did exhort me to poison Bouturlin," continued Pantchenko, "and thinking that I had accidentally poisoned him, I told the magistrate so. But the confession seemed too little for him. He continually drummed into my ears, 'Confess, confess,' and suggested various poisons. Finally in a weak moment, I told myself that if the truth does not serve, then I will lie. I mentioned toxin. The magistrate then said, 'Now we are going to be friends.'

"Whatever the verdict may be, my conscience is tranquil with reference to Bouturlin, but tortures me because of four families whose peace I have violated out of rank fear."

Mme. Muravieff refused to say anything. The jury retired and remained out for three hours.

CHURCH TAX BILL WAS WITHDRAWN

Concensus of Opinion Was Against, Declares Government.

Toronto, Feb. 16. C. R. McKeown's bill to amend the assessment act by abolishing all exemptions on church and educational properties was killed in the Legislature this afternoon.

Hon. Mr. Hanna said the proposal had been thoroughly discussed in the House and in committee several sessions ago and the consensus of opinion was against it. He suggested that the bill be withdrawn, which was done.

P. H. Bowyer's bill to amend the school act by providing that rural schools reopen about Sept. 1 instead of Aug. 15, thus making their vacation of the same duration as in the city schools, was warmly supported by many members and approved by the Minister of Education, and will be passed in due course.

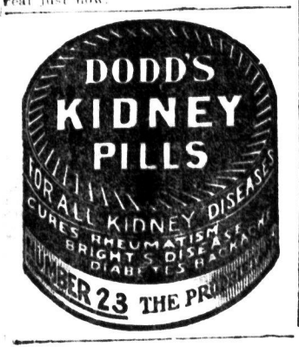
FIRED THE STORE

Department Found Ottawa Shop With Oil-Soaked Floor.

Ottawa, Feb. 17.—When the fire department answered a call to a tailor shop on Dalhousie street last night and extinguished a blaze it was found that the fire had been started in three places, and that the floor was saturated with oil. It was the second time this week that the brigade had been called to the store.

The police were suspicious of the first fire and were on the alert. They arrested the brother-in-law of the proprietor, Adrian Hudon, aged 35, of Botoller street, and he will appear in the police court on a charge of incendiarism.

The owner of the store is in Montreal just now.



ROBT. A LYONS WILL BE CHIEF OPERATOR

Has Decided to Meet the Terms of Water Commissioners, It Is Said.

Mr R. A. Lyons will probably be chief operator at the Horton street power house at a salary of $1,500 per annum.

At the meeting of the water commissioners held yesterday afternoon, Superintendent H. J. Glaubitz recommended his appointment, and asked for a contract for Mr. Lyons from them for the balance of the year.

It will be remembered that some months ago Mr. Lyons was appointed to this position, but he then wanted too much authority it was alleged, and the board decided to dispense with his services. The suggestion of Mr. Glaubitz came as somewhat of a surprise yesterday.

"Mr. Lyons had better be appointed at the pleasure of the board, not for the balance of the year," declared Chairman Pocock, when the recommendation was made.

"But I must give him some assurance that his position is good until the end of the year," insisted Mr. Glaubitz. "I do not think he will come if I do not give him that assurance."

"We can only engage men at the pleasure of the board," Mayor Beatty pointed out. "We have had sufficient experience with year contracts."

Assuming Responsibility.

"I must assume the responsibility, and how can I do so if you do not give me the men I want," Mr. Glaubitz explained. "I want good operators, and I must have them. Give Mr. Lyons some assurance that he will be engaged to the end of the year. It is difficult to get good men. I would take any other man could I get one with sufficient experience. Mr. Lyons will date I matters and take a shift."

"Take him on," declared Commissioner Marr. "He is taking no chance."

"I do not think he will come unless I guarantee him employment until the end of the year," insisted Mr. Glaubitz.

"Don't worry he will come all right," was Commissioner Stevenson's comment.

The board would not give Mr. Glaubitz any assurance that Mr. Lyons would be retained for a year, but he was instructed to engage a chief operator at $125 a month. Mr. Lyons will be the man.

SOME ARE OPPOSED TO WAGE INCREASE

Labor Member Refuses to Accept Addition to Indemnity.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—The increase of the members' sessional indemnity from $1,000 to $1,100 was discussed today when the Ontario Legislature went into committee of supply. Four members declared themselves opposed to the increase, they being Mr. Nickle (Conservative, Kingston), Mr. McEwing (Liberal, West Wellington), Mr. Stock (Liberal, North Perth), and Mr. Studholme (Labor, East Hamilton).

Mr. Studholme took the ground that he was elected on the understanding that his indemnity was to be $1,000, and he did not intend to accept more, unless the men who elected him were allowed to express their views. The extra $400, he said, he would either give to charity or return to the Government.

Mr. Nickle moved that the amount be struck out of the estimates. The motion was seconded by Mr. McEwing, who declared that if there was to be an increase, it should be announced at the session just before an election, so that the voters could discuss it in the election campaign. Mr. Stock suggested that the Prime Minister would withdraw the proposal, and let the people vote upon the question.

These views were not very favorably received by the other members. Sir James Whitney expressed great surprise at Mr. Nickle's motion. The Government had taken the responsibility for the increase, and he did not believe there was a man in the House, nor any of the constituents of the members, who would grudge the members $1,100 as a fair return for their services. Sir James also said that Mr. Stock had made a brave attempt to oppose the increase when he knew it would be granted.

Mr. Stock resented his remark, and said that he would vote against the increase.

Mr. McEwing came in for some pointed criticism from both sides of the House. Hon. Mr. MacKay, the Opposition leader, announced that he was firmly opposed to any submission of the question to the people in an election, because it would lead to the sidetracking of the real important political issues by small, incompetent, obscure politicians, while some candidates would be found offering themselves for election merely because of the salary.

Mr. Clarke (Northumberland) thought the Government should have gone farther and made the increase $500.

The item was passed after other members had spoken in favor of the increase.

STEAMERS ARRIVED.

Auckland, N. Z., Feb. 16.—Arrived Kumara, from St. John, N. B., via Melbourne.

Bristol, Feb. 16.—Arrived Bristol City, from New York.

Sandy Hook, Mass., Feb. 16.—Steamer Mauretania, from Liverpool for New York, was reported by wireless telegraph when 484 miles east of Sandy Hook at 12.40 a.m. Dock late tonight or 9 a.m. Friday.

New York, Feb. 16.—Mauretania, St. Louis.

Boston—Ivernia.

Queenstown—Mesaba.

Havre—Chicago.

Marseilles—Roma.

Naples—Duca degli Genova.

Genoa—Taormina, Oceania.

SMALLMAN & INGRAM, Limited — WEATHER PROBS: MILDER. — SMALLMAN & INGRAM, Limited

What You May Expect Here Tomorrow

GREAT shipments of New Spring Merchandise, *including English, American and French novelties, have been placed in stock ready for tomorrow's selling. It will be worth while to go through this store, as there will be in addition to the above novelties many SPECIALS placed on the counters that space here will not allow enumeration.* **Come Saturday Morning.**

Immense Showing of New Spring Silks on Saturday

New French Foulard Silks and Satins

In the various widths, 21, 23 and 42 inches wide, in neat, small designs in white on the newest color grounds. Prices, per yard, **75c, 85c, $1.25** and **$1.50.** Five styles in stock.

Paillette Salome Silks for 50c Yard

The soft fashionable silk with a rich finish. White, cream, black and the new shades, some 20 in all, which are correct for afternoon, evening and street wear. There are still good quantities left. These will be on display on silk counters tomorrow.

20 shades in 21-inch Messaline Liberty Satins, yard **75c**

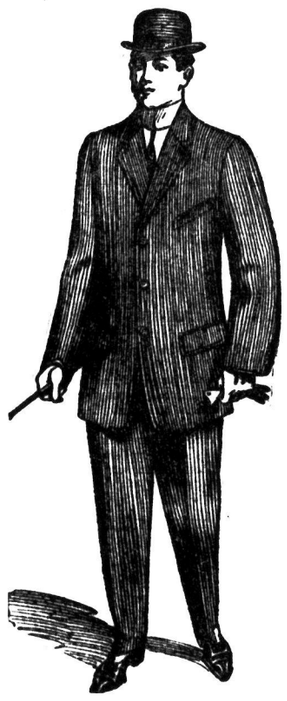
New importations just passed into stock. Rich satin face on a pure silk back. Excellent value and quality.

Extra heavy quality Black Yard-Wide Taffeta Silk **97c**

Black Salome Silk, rich finish, 19-inch. Special, yard **50c**

Black **HONAN SILK SUITING**, 33 to 34 inches wide. Chinese hand loom make; guaranteed French dye; yard **$1.00**

Natural or linen color sale Shantung Silk, 33 to 34 inches wide, good quality; special sale price, yard **39c**



For Men Saturday

Richmond St. Entrance

Special offering in Men's Black and Navy Worsted and Serge Suits just passed into stock for Saturday. Up-to-date weaves, tailored in the latest fashions. Sizes range from 33 to 44.

SPECIAL NO. 1—50 Suits in this lot. Navy and black serge, single-breasted coats; trousers are cut in the very neat peg shapes, sizes 33 to 34. Per Suit **$10.00**

IMPERIAL SERGE SUITS—Black and navy. The cloth in these suits is imported from England (colors guaranteed for 2 years), and are tailored here; sizes 33 to 44; single-breasted styles. Price **$15.00**

30 SUITS—Travellers' models—Just a few left of these grand values for Saturday's selling; sizes 36 to 42. Price, suit **$11.95**

New Spring Suits for the Boys

PLAIN AND BLOOMER KNICKERS, in the new honey brown, mixed greys, fawns and navy blues, for ages 8 to 15 years. Suit ..... **$5.00 and $6.50**

BOYS' ODD BLOOMER KNICKERS—In light, dark and medium colors, all sizes **89c**

Special Saturday Morning Sale. 200 Yards Mercerized Souisene at Half Price, yard - - - 12½c

At the Wash Goods Department. These will be placed on sale at half price. Shades are mauve, wistaria, emerald, light olive, fawn. Adapted for afternoon and house dresses. Regular price 25c. Saturday to clear, yard **12½c**

COME EARLY FOR CHOICE.

Corsets Corsets

Second Floor

How essential to style are Corsets. Unless they are constructed on the fashionable lines they are useless, and besides, ease and comfort to the wearer are one of the first considerations. In **ARTISTS' MODEL CORSETS**, the wearer has all of the above advantages and more, too, viz.: Side sections are composed of double straps of elastic from top to bottom, giving sufficient resistance to do away with all feeling of looseness or bulging, and can be worn as tight as desired without the least discomfort.

MODEL E. (Same as illustration)—A beautifully cut model with long, graceful lines, medium bust, very long hips, and a very comfortable Corset to sit in. Price **$5.00**

MODEL 1910 is designed for figures low across the bust and under arm, seven elastics above waist line, fourteen elastics below waist line, giving a trim, graceful figure. Price **$5.00**

PRINCESS MODEL—Splendid for women who do not wear a long Corset, seven elastics above waist line and ten below, rather high bust and medium hips. Price **$4.75**

Men's Shirts Saturday, $1.00

English and Canadian make. Extra quality material, new and neat styles and patterns. A great shirt for a dollar. Sizes 14 to 17½.

American Flannelette Night Shirts, sizes 14½ to 18, Saturday **89c**

Men's Fancy Half-Hose Sale

Fine cashmere, in fancy tans, blues, greens and greys, regular 50c pair. Saturday, **35c** pair, three pairs for **$1.00**

Splendid Umbrellas Saturday, $1.00

For Men and Women

Silk and wool and union taffeta; coverings roll tight and neat. Handles are polished horn, natural wood crooks, boxwood, Congo crooks, celluloid and white metal. Two kinds, for men and women. Saturday, each **$1.00**

UMBRELLAS FOR 50c—ONLY FIVE DOZEN TO SELL.

Men's in wood rods, 25-inch ribs, and women's in tube rods, 21½-inch ribs, Austria coverings.

CORTESE ORCHESTRA
3:30 TO 5:30
SATURDAY IN THE RESTAURANT.

SMALLMAN & INGRAM LIMITED

DINNER SATURDAY.
RESTAURANT, FOURTH FLOOR.
11:30 TO 2 P.M.—25c 35c AND 50c.

TELEPHONE OPERATOR SAVED MANY LIVES

Warned Guests That Big Cleveland Hotel Was On Fire.

Cleveland, Feb. 17.—Nellie May, the night telephone operator in the big Hotel Euclid, saved the lives of many guests last night, when the whole of the west wing was destroyed by fire. The loss will reach $50,000.

The fire was discovered by Patrolman Fife as he was walking along Euclid avenue, opposite the hotel. He saw flames shooting from windows on the second floor, and turned in an alarm. Then he rushed to the office and notified the telephone operator. She rang the alarm system, which rings a bell in every room. It was this action that aroused the guests in the burning section, and gave them a chance to escape with their lives.

Men and women, scantily clad, rushed from their rooms, and ran screaming through the hallways. Some dashed wildly into the lobby, and stood huddled about in their night clothes. Others tried to remove some of their effects from their rooms before the flames got to them. The flames spread so quickly that few of the guests had a chance to save much. By the time the fire department got to work the fire had eaten its way to the sixth floor, and they confined their efforts to preventing it from spreading to the main building of the hotel. Patrolman Wilhelm climbed the fire escape on the Huron road side of the building, and let down the ladder. He remained there long enough to help five women out.

The cause of the fire is not known. The women who were seriously burned are: Ruth Kent, of Cambridge, Ohio; Miss Gertrude Wright and Miss Francis Fairfield, of Salem, Ohio; Miss Julia Franz, of Toledo, Ohio; Mrs. Margaret Kuhnse.

CARUSO OUT $10,000; BIT OF DUST CAUSE

Tenor Gets Particle of Broadway Real Estate in Pharynx and Can't Sing.

New York, Feb. 16. If you were a grand opera tenor receiving $2,500 a night and stood to lose $10,000 for missing four performances in less than eight days because a tiny particle of Broadway dust had blown into your pharynx and contracted it so that you couldn't utter a note, to say nothing of not being able to eat your spaghetti in any kind of comfort, you would be considerably peeved, wouldn't you?

That is exactly what has happened to Signor Enrico Caruso, and to say that he is out of humor mentally, physically, lyrically and financially is not half-telling the story.

He wanders about the lobby of the Hotel Knickerbocker muffled up to the ears, afraid to venture out, hating to stay in and unable to utter a word.

Dust Plays No Favorites.

For Broadway dust in a gale has no more respect for a golden-throated tenor than it has for a squawking newsboy at the Forty-second street corner, and Caruso now knows it. The average newsboy doesn't know he has a pharynx, but the dust particle found Caruso's all right, and therefore the loss of the $10,000.

The dust speck flew down the singer's throat last Tuesday morning. It nestled in the little muscular sack between the cavity of the tenor's mouth and the narrow aesophagus and in a few hours he was so hoarse and felt such stinging pains in his throat that "My Brudda Carus"—Giovanni, from Milan, who has been acting as his secretary, was sent hustling for a specialist. The specialist advised quiet, a diet, and no singing.

No Wonder He is Sick.

The next night Caruso couldn't appear in "Tosca" at the Metropolitan, Saturday night he had to cancel "Pagliacci," last night he failed to take his part in a repetition of "Tosca," and "The Girl of the Golden West" will not be given Thursday because his doctor won't let him try to sing, and there is no understudy for the part of Johnson. And as he would receive $2,500 for each of these performances it is little wonder that Caruso is a sick man.

"No speak-a," said the singer in a sibilant whisper that suggested the wind in the east when a reporter approached him today. And he wandered away, trailed by the faithful Martino—his valet, Carlo Martino of Napoli.

He was so ill that he couldn't go down to the vessel to bid bon voyage to his brother Gioyanni, who sailed for Italy after spending several months as Enrico's guest.

He isn't sure when he will be able to sing again. He would rather lose a few performances at $2,500 than have a complication set in that would keep him out of the cast for the remainder of the season, therefore his retirement in his hotel.

Workers' Hands in Winter

Outdoor workers have to suffer much pain from sore hands this time of the year. The frost will set up cracks, which bleed, and will cause bad sores! Try Zam-Buk! At night when you get home bathe the hands in hot water, and smear them with Zam-Buk. Repeat the treatment just before going to bed, and by morning the soreness will have gone! Zam-Buk also heals cuts, burns, abrasions, ulcers, and cures eczema, piles, inflammation, scalp sores, blood poisoning, bad leg, varicose sores, and all skin diseases. All druggists.

LEAVING FOR LONDON.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Strathroy, Feb. 17.—Excise Officer Dr. J. P. Whitehead is leaving for London shortly, having received word of his appointment to the staff of the excise department there.

PILES Dr. Chase's Ointment is a certain and guaranteed cure for each and every form of Itching, Bleeding and Protruding piles. See testimonials in the press and ask your neighbors about it. You can use it and get your money back if not satisfied. 60c, at all dealers or EDMANSON, BATES & Co., Toronto.
DR. CHASE'S OINTMENT.

Are You a Dustbane User?

If not, commence this week to use it when sweeping. It does away with dust, can be used with equal success on bare or carpeted floors, and saves half the labor in sweeping.

Household size 35c

Kegs or barrels for office or store use at low prices.

Leave your order with us for American Coaloil. We guarantee it perfectly pure, and will deliver it to any part of the city.

Five Gallons 60c

Westman's Hardware
PHONE 360.

McKinnon Wood, trade commissioner for the foreign office, states that the British ambassador has been instructed to protest against Russia's proposed extension of her sphere limits in Germany, Japan, Denmark, Norway and Sweden have already protested.

In London 800,000,000 eggs are consumed yearly; these weigh 80,000 tons, and cost the eaters $20,000,000.

Women Suffer More than Men

Women have more than their share of the aches and pains that afflict humanity. They must "keep up" in spite of constantly aching backs, or headaches, dizzy spells, etc. Mrs. Edward Calwood, of 123 S. Harold street, Fort William, Ont., says:

"I suffered with dull, miserable pains, soreness across my back and in my sides, for months. They caught me so badly at times that I could scarcely move around. I would have dizzy spells, and altogether felt generally run down. After using a number of remedies without finding relief I learned of Booth's Kidney Pills and found them an excellent remedy. They not only relieved me of the miserable pains and soreness on my back, but cured me of my kidney trouble.

Booth's Kidney Pills Booth's Kidney Pills cure Backache, Dull Aching Pains, Thick and Cloudy Urine, Gravel or Stone, Rheumatism and all diseases of the kidneys and bladder.

All druggists and dealers, 50c box, or postpaid from the R. T. Booth Company, Fort Erie, Ont. If you do not receive benefit your money will be refunded. Could we say more? Sold and guaranteed by Cairncross & Lawrence.