

TAGLERINO AT LIBERTY.

Affecting Scene in Court Room After the Trial.

He Had Been In City Jail For Three Months

And Broke Down When Verdict Was Interpreted.

After being out for two hours and three-quarters the jury which tried John Taglerino on the charge of writing letters of threatening nature in connection with the Black Hand outrage brought in a verdict of not guilty. This was what was expected by most of those interested. Throughout the case the Italian witnesses appeared, by their statements as well as their actions, to be in deadly fear of the dreaded society. The methods of the organization were brought out in an able way. After Taglerino had been led out of the prisoner's pen a pathetic scene was witnessed by a few of the by-standers in the corridor, for the joy not only exhibited by Taglerino, but his wife and family, when they were reunited, was easily understood by their gestulations.

The jurors left the court room at 12-30 and shortly after 1 o'clock His Honor, Judge Snider, who was presiding, adjourned court until 2.30 p. m. When court opened at 2.30 the jury had not expressed readiness to give a verdict, and appeared to have a disagreement between them in regard to some of the particulars. Before leaving the court room they had taken care to take the two threatening letters in order to study the peculiarities a little more closely. Nothing was heard from the jurors until a loud knocking at the door behind which they were locked drew the attention that they were ready.

After the roll had been called, and all the jurors had responded to their names, His Honor asked them for the verdict, and the foreman arose and said it was "Not guilty." "So say you all," asked the Court Clerk and the remainder of the jurors echoed their consent.

His Honor in dismissing the jury said: As there are no further cases to be tried and as you have been some time in hearing the case, and as it is now past dinner time, you will be glad to get away. I am glad you were able to arrive at a verdict, as that concludes your labors. I thank you for the able way in which you have attended to your duties, and wish you one and all a very merry Christmas and happy New Year.

In addressing the prisoner, His Honor said: "The jury have seen fit to bring in a verdict of not guilty against you, and as there is no further charge against you, you may go."

As the words were interpreted to the prisoner, he was visibly affected, and broke down, the tears streaming down his face. However, when he reached the witness room, and recognized that he was a free man, he was affected more than ever.

Taglerino saw freedom for the first time since September 26, when he was arrested on an assault charge, of which he was acquitted. However, he was detained on the charge of writing the letters. Throughout the trial he frequently protested his innocence, but the long trial had him in a very nervous state.

As those caught at the Black Hand business have been severely dealt with it is probable that the game has been stamped out in this city.

WELL BOUGHT.

Dominion Government Secures John S. Gordon's Picture.

Mr. John S. Gordon, the local artist, received word this morning that his picture, "The Old Kirby Mill at Brantford," which was shown at the recent exhibition of the Royal Canadian Academy in this city, had been purchased for the Dominion Government by Mr. Byron E. Walker. The picture attracted much attention at the exhibition, and by competent judges was pronounced a magnificent piece of work.

Mr. Walker also purchased for the Dominion Government the Suzzor Cote picture, which was shown at the R. C. A. exhibition.

The price paid in each case was \$300.

**SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES.**  
To rent at \$2 a year and upwards, for the storing of deeds, bonds, stocks, wills, silver and other valuables.

TRADERS BANK OF CANADA.

CITIZENS FLOCKING AROUND THE MAYOR

Prediction That He Will Have 3,500 Majority—His Organization is Ready.

The manner in which Mayor McLaren's friends of both political stripe are rallying to his support makes a sweeping victory at the polls a week from Monday practically certain. From every quarter of the city letters and promises of support have been pouring into his worship's office since the announcement was made public that he was to be opposed. From Winnipeg came a telegram this morning from a prominent Hamilton man, who when he read the despatch that there was to be a mayoralty contest, wired that he would be home in time to cast his ballot for the Mayor.

Happy Farmers

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 23.—J. C. Coe, a Saskatchewan farmer, dropped into Detroit on Sunday, and by the time he had finished his errand yesterday he had purchased thirty automobiles for his farmer friends of the far Northwest. He was not an agent. He told his neighbors he was going east, and they gave him their orders, accompanied by bank drafts.

Coe paid \$4,500 for his own machine, and the cars were all high grade, and several being the \$4,000 to \$5,000 class.

Bumper wheat crops in the Northwest were the cause of so much prosperity.

WAS HANGED IN TORONTO.

Macedonian Murderer Calmly Went to His Death To-day.

Confessed to Two Murders Before Passing Away.

Shot An Englishman in Montana—Radcliffe Officiated.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 23.—With the confession that he had murdered two men upon his lips, Pavel Steffoff, convicted of the murder of Vani Semoff last April, calmly went to his death in Toronto jail this morning. The drop was made at 8.08 and seven minutes later the doctor in attendance declared that life was extinct.

The body was allowed to hang for five minutes more, when it was cut down and removed to the medical room. Here the Coroner's jury empanelled viewed the remains, which were then placed in a pine box and interred in the jail yard.

Steffoff's confession of the two murders was made to his spiritual advisers about an hour before the doomed man was conducted from his cell to the death chamber. The man protested his innocence almost up to the last, confessing only when he had decided in his own mind that death would be soon upon him.

Besides the murder of Semoff, Steffoff confessed to murdering an Englishman at Terre Haute, Ind. He did not give the Englishman name, nor the time of the affair. All he said was that he shot the Englishman dead in a quarrel, the shooting taking place at 10 o'clock at night. The police, he said, got on his track, but fellow Macedonians in the city hid him and put the police on the wrong scent, and so he escaped.

Steffoff spent a restless night last night, according to the guard. He refused breakfast this morning, satisfying himself with a glass of water. The hanging was performed by executioner Radcliffe, and was witnessed by none but a few medical students outside of the jail officials and guards, about fifteen persons in all.

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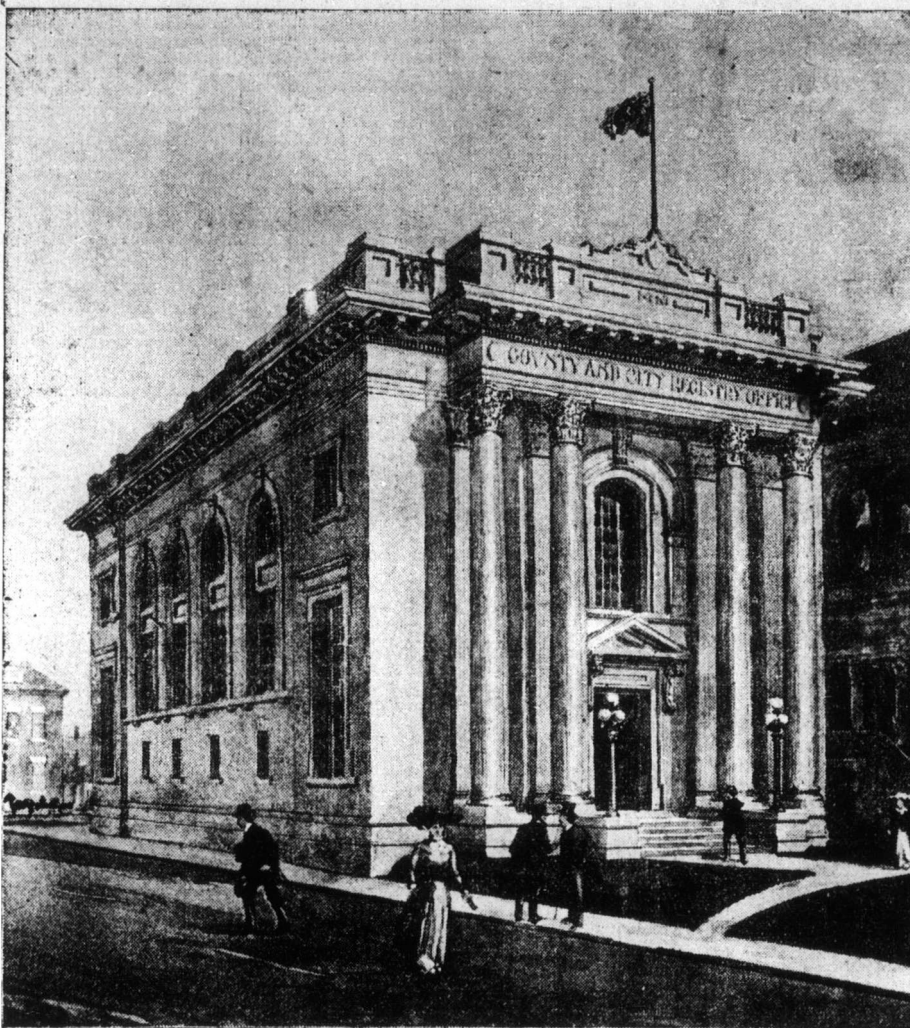
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PROPOSED NEW REGISTRY OFFICE FOR HAMILTON



This is the design of the building which the city will be asked to vote \$25,000 to build, at the January elections. Stewart McPhie is the architect.

ALL ATTACKING HOUSE OF LORDS.

Labor Manifesto Declares Pauperism Must be Abolished and Pension Scheme Extended.

Nonconformists' Manifesto Denounces Lords and Education and Other Acts.

London, Dec. 23.—The Labor party has issued an election manifesto containing the following declarations:

A general election has been forced upon the country by the action of the House of Lords rejecting the Budget. The great question you are to decide is whether the peers or the people are to rule this country.

Each session, since the last general election, important bills upon which the House of Commons had spent much time have been mutilated or destroyed by the House of Lords, an irresponsible body which represents nothing but its own class interests. Not content with this, they now claim the right to decide what taxes shall be paid, upon whom they shall be levied, and for what purpose they shall be spent. They also claim to dictate the date at which Parliament shall be dissolved. The time has come to put an end to their power to override the will of the Commons.

The country has allowed landowners to pocket millions of pounds every year in the shape of unearned increment, and yet they object to pay a small tax, upon what, in justice, should belong to the State. They wish at all costs to preserve their power to plunder the people. The Labor party welcomes this opportunity to prove that the feudal age is past and that the people are no longer willing to live on the sufferance of the Lords.

The issues you have to decide are simple. Our present system of land ownership has devastated our countryside, has imposed heavy burdens upon our industries, has cramped the development of our towns, and has crippled capital and impoverished labor. The Lords must go! The experience of the last four years has demonstrated the value of the Labor party acting on independent lines. There still remain many problems to be solved. The right to work has still to be won, but is not well within the range

TURKEYS ARE DOWN A BIT.

Some Farmers Asked 30 Cents But Price Soon Dropped.

Christmas decorations were much in evidence at Central market this morning. In addition to the holly and bells, without which no Christmas display is complete, some of the dealers had brought out some original and interesting designs. One butcher had decorative designs cut in the carcasses and each one was labeled with the name of the person to whom it was sold. Turkeys were unquestionably the feature of the market this morning, nearly everyone seeming anxious to buy, or at least price them. But the large supply made the prices drag. Early in the morning some of the farmers were asking as high as 30 cents, but no sales at this price resulted in a considerable drop. About 9 o'clock the majority of the farmers were asking 23 and 25 cents, and the dealers 21 and 22 cents per pound. Chickens were much in demand, as a large number of people turned to them on account of turkeys being so dear. In some instances they brought as high as \$1.60 per pair, although the average price was \$1.25. A good demand for geese raised the price to 11 to 14 cents per pound, and a large number of these were sold. One butcher who has been attending the market for fifty years remarked that the offering of Christmas beef this year was the best he had ever seen. Although the price is higher than for some years, there was a good demand. The inside market presented a busy scene this morning. Eggs in the produce market did not show

MANY TRAVEL.

Railroads Look For a Record This Christmas Time.

The railways this year are looking forward to a much larger number of people travelling at Christmas time than for some years past. Already a large number have taken advantage of the cheap rates offered and daily at the depots passengers are lined up waiting for their turn to purchase their tickets. This makes the bystander wonder why people do not purchase their tickets in advance at the up-town offices which facilitates matters both for the passengers and the railway. Although many who are going to spend Christmas out of the city have not yet purchased their tickets the railways are assured that this year's traffic will be a record one.

Tone Up the Stomach For Christmas Time.

This is the time of the year that the stomach will be tested to the utmost. Children as well as the grown-ups, Parkes' Effervescent Lithiated Fruit Granules are made exactly for this purpose; 25c in screw-capped glass bottles. Parke & Parke.

March On Nicaragua

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Dec. 23.—General Estrada, it is said to-day, will immediately assume the offensive against the Government of President Madriz. The insurgent leader holds that the Zelayan element was removed from consideration by the sweeping battle of Rama. Madriz and his associates now represent the enemy. The march on Managua is believed to be imminent. The prisoners captured at Rama have been well fed, and all who now espouse the cause of Estrada will be armed and enrolled in the ranks of the insurgents.

FISHED OUT OF THE BAY.

Joseph Mitchell's Eccentricities Shown By Developments.

Made No Attempt to Benefit By His Stealings.

He Is Better To-day and Will Likely Recover.

Having their suspicions aroused by two bicycle saddles lying on the bay shore, at the foot of Wellington street, yesterday afternoon, two young men, Christopher Bescohy and Frank King, did some little private investigation for themselves. Near the shore the bay is frozen over, and knowing of the startling revelations in the Mitchell affair, they got busy.

There under the ice they saw bicycle frames by the dozen, together with other accessories. They called at the City Hall police office last night with the two saddles they had found and told of what they had seen. This morning Constables Cameron and Berrett went down and did some fishing. Every time they cast in their line they got a heavy bite in the shape of a bicycle frame or some part of a machine. There were also other things fished out and the pile of goods at No. 3 Police Station is growing mountainous in proportion.

By the time all the goods were gathered together that the police assume have been stolen by Mitchell they say they will total in value to a very big figure. In the course of a few days the police hope to have all the goods ready for identification.

They say the case is one of the most sensational in the history of the department outside of a murder. The strange part about the whole affair is that Mitchell was not caught red-handed. That is accounted for by the cunning of the youth, who, it is said, was almost supernaturally artful.

About two years ago he was charged with stealing a bicycle belonging to Mr. Biggar, and was asked to go to the witness room among those who know him. No information can be obtained that Mitchell ever tried to sell any goods or in any way endeavor to convert it to his own financial benefit. Much of the stuff, valuable to the owners, he destroyed, making it of no value to anyone. The desire to possess things he saw seems to have been his mania.

To-day his condition is somewhat improved, and if the improvement continues during the next 24 hours doctors say he will recover.

English Hot House Grapes.

English hot nuts, strawberries, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, cranberries, sweet potatoes, Grimsby tomatoes, cucumbers, green peppers, radishes, Boston head lettuce, new potatoes, Spanish chestnuts, cranberries, tangerine oranges, Florida oranges, naval oranges, spinach, celery, parsley, artichokes, Lons Point ducks, turkeys, geese, chickens, holly, holly wreaths, mince meat, plum puddings, Scotch shortbread, almonds, walnuts, filberts, Brazil nuts, paper shell almonds, Glace fruits, table raisins, cider, wines and liquors—Bain & Adams.

Xmas Gifts.

Ebony goods, perfumes, shaving sets, toilet sets, boxed chocolates, etc., at John A. Barr & Co.'s, next drug store, James street north, next Sun Life Building. Everything new and up-to-date. A call solicited. Calendars free to customers.

MILLER MAY LEAD A HYDRO REVOLT.

Clique Does Not Want Him But He Refuses to be Turned Down by It.

There was a warm time in Kennedy's hall last night when the Hydro Committee met to fix the slate of controllers. An effort was made to freeze Jim Miller out, and as Jim is one of the important people for whom the Hydro Committee was expressly organized, there was naturally great indignation on the part of his friends. They declared that if Jim did not get a place on the slate they would have nothing to do with the campaign. Cooper, Bailey, Quinn and Wright, are the slate that a majority of the committee favor. There will be another meeting to-night to deal with the matter.

STONE PILE TILL SPRING.

Miners From Nevada Goldfields Go Down as Vags.

The Round-Up of Undesirables Being Kept Up.

Joseph Bugness Must Keep Away From John Sander.

Christmas in jail; that is where Donald Turner, and Daniel Merritt, both citizens of the land of the screaming eagle, will spend it. Governor Ogilvie was in court this morning looking over his new guests. They go to his retreat for three months, for vagrancy. They pleaded guilty.

Some time ago they started from Goldfield, Nevada, where they had been engaged in mining pursuits. The ravages of disease and drought played havoc with them; their luck was hard. They mined for gold out in the desert. Getting no compensation for their labors they decided to lie them to Cobalt or Gowganda, and try their luck with silver. Fortwith they gathered together maps and prospectuses of those northern bonanzas. They were literally weighed down with them when they started from Goldfield. At the nearest railroad, they boarded the hard-up man's means of conveyance, namely a freight car. After experience and adventures in the northern zone. Here, it is said, the arrangements of the west got in their nostrils, and they entertained hopes of going there. For some nights they have made Daadast stone quarry their sleeping apartment, where nightly, it is said, they talked of the days when golden fields of grain would be theirs.

But lynx eyed police had spotted them, and they found their Nemesis in Constables Halliar and Elliott, who swooped down on them last night. Silver and gold they will not have, nor even see, for the next three months; nothing but stone and lots of it.

The court desired not to converse with Thomas Kelly this morning, he being in for vagrancy. He was hastily removed; there was a reason. It will take many waters and much soap to make him presentable. He will be asked to appear to-morrow.

Joseph Bugness, John street north, who was charged with threatening John Sander, was discharged, but if he goes near the house of Sander again, he will appear before Magistrate Jells, who will hand Joseph a sentence of twelve months in Central Prison. According to the testimony of complainant, Bugness offered to relieve him of his life. The trouble he said arose over the children in the house, and there are many. They had a regular cauldron of troubles, which, from the scraps of evidence, originated in far away Armenia, their native home.

Charles Young, imbibler of wines and spirits, was stretched at full length on the seat with his head in one corner, and a pair of crutches in the other end of the dock. Last night Charles was celebrating Christmas in grand style. At the precise time that P. C. McLean found him, he was trying to sing carols and curse profusely at the same time.

When his name was called he laid still, but in a loud voice cried, "I wasn't drunk. I got a broken leg; it's in a plaster cast now, and I have just come out of the hospital." But his words had been interviewed frequently by Mr. Young for the past sixteen years. Then one of the crutches fell and there was a regular stampede in the pen, but one prisoner was not quick enough. The limp stick hit one of the wags on the cranium, and he let a yell out of him like a terrified bull. As a result Charles came very near wanting a cast for his head. Five days of it.

GRADUATES' DINNER.

The Wentworth Association of Toronto University Graduates will have a dinner at the Royal Hotel on Tuesday, Feb. 1. The chief guests will be Dr. Falconer, President of the University; Dr. J. Gallbraith, Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science, and Dr. B. E. Fernow, Dean of the Faculty of Forestry.

Christmas Presents For Smokers.

For thirty-two years the headquarters to buy smokers' Christmas presents has been peace's cigar store. He has the largest and most exclusive stock to select from in this city at 107 King street east.

Both the mayoralty candidates will find difficulty in getting rides on election day. The temperance people and hotel men practically have the market cornered.

Licence Commissioner Fanning was hobnobbing with Dr. Hopkins yesterday.

James Crooks may be a candidate for alderman in Ward 1. A deputation from that ward is urging him to run. He has not given his answer yet.

After being pressed by his friends to run as an aldermanic candidate in Ward 1, W. J. Brigger has given his consent. He will run as an independent.