

FIRE INQUIRY HAS BEEN CONCLUDED

Johnson Brothers Gave Testimony at Resumption of Inquest.

The inquiry into the fire which destroyed the Johnson Bros' livery on the night of August 14 was concluded yesterday afternoon when all the available evidence was put in.

Mayor H. F. Ketcheson testified that he was an insurance agent. In the burned building and contents three companies were interested.

The policy on the contents was for \$2,500. Percy Johnson wanted more insurance but the request was not granted as the insurance was thought sufficient.

"How long after you saw Percy go down the street, was it before you noticed the fire?"

"I don't think it was over three minutes."

To Mr. Mikel, he said after he saw Percy Johnson drive away, he heard Mr. LaFerty speak of the noise as of horses tramping.

Sergeant F. J. Naphin told of a talk a month before the fire with Mayor Ketcheson who told of a report that Percy Johnson had made as to attempted firing of the building.

The sergeant interviewed Percy who pointed out a stall where three separate fires he said had been started. Percy did not point to anything that would lead to a clue.

Percy thought there were about eleven horses burned. On August 16 he said the destroyed contents included six horses, one outside horse, eleven buggies, one surrey, one hack, fifteen cutters, three hack slighs, two express wagons, two baggage sleighs, one racing sulky, one jaggig cart, 22 sets of harness, fifteen strings of bells, twenty robes, two dozen whips, twenty or twenty-five rubber robes, \$50 worth of paints, oils and varnish and other articles.

Joseph Losee, employed by the C.N.O.R. was called but could give little testimony as he was out of town on the night of the fire.

Mr. A. S. Large, market lessee, said that for three months prior to August 14th, five loads of hay for Johnson Bros. passed over the market scales, none of it in August.

The last load in July might have been new cut hay.

Frank Johnson, one of the partners of Johnson Bros, testified that he returned to the premises at 9.30 and went away to Deseronto with his auto. He was not near the barn that evening. Witness knew nothing of the small fires nor of the application for an increase in insurance, until told later.

Witness knew of no one making any threats, or having designs on the building.

On the 14th of August, he owed between \$800 and \$850. Of this they owed the Standard bank \$700 and the others about \$100 or \$150. About one hundred dollars of rent was also owed.

The barn contained ten or fifteen loads of hay and one hundred and fifty bushels of oats. Some of the hay was green.

He could give no reason for the fire.

Edward Bolyea, who acts as city scavenger, testified that on August 15th he found six carcasses of animals in the burned buildings and removed them to the city scavenging lot.

Percy Johnson swore that before the fire he had driven back from Foxboro, arriving at the barn at twenty-five to ten in the evening.

George Taylor was in the barn when Percy went in. He fixed up the horse and then all went out. Percy stood at the front and the grey horse drove in at about 9.45. Between that time and 9.50 he drove out with the grey mare on private matters up to Ann street. The trip round by Dundas, Ann, Victoria and Front took about fifteen minutes.

He was not smoking in the barn that evening.

He had previously stopped two fires himself in the hay stall. One was at 3 a.m. and the other at 2.30 and they were within a week or two of one another. No one was supposed to be there. Both occurrences were reported to the police and the insurance agent.

He had applied for \$2,500 extra insurance as he valued the contents at between six and seven thousand dollars. No policy was issued for the extra \$2,500. He thought he was insured for \$5000. To his surprise he was not insured for over \$2500. The loss was adjusted at \$2,250 and the money paid.

Questioned as to the varied statements of the fire how many horses were burned.

His engagement on Ann street was for eight o'clock. So he was good and late.

He was not back in the barn after George Taylor went out, witness testified when asked why it was that he did not find some signs of fire. There was nothing to make him aware of the blaze.

The only idea he could give of the cause, was spontaneous combustion of the hay or defective electric wires.

He had never been in the hay-mow since Taylor came to work at the barn.

BILLIARD ROOM CASE IN COURT

Magistrate Masson Warns City Young Men Against Gambling.

An interesting pool room case came before Magistrate Masson's police court this morning which will be a lesson to the youth of Belleville who frequent these places of entertainment.

Peter Freeman who operates a billiard and pool parlor on Front Street was today charged with permitting playing for money on his premises.

Crown Attorney Carnew explained that Freeman knew absolutely nothing of the alleged gambling by the young men who were there at the time.

Magistrate Masson told the three youths that they had no right to gamble, for under the bylaw and the criminal code they would be liable. Anyone in future convicted of gambling may not expect any leniency. The bylaw provides for a maximum fine of \$50 for gambling or six months in jail and the criminal code is severe.

The proprietor, Peter Freeman, must know what is going on in his parlors. The law presumes that he does. However, the court took the view that there was in this case a lack of knowledge.

That plea however would not likely go another time. Accordingly the charge was dismissed.

THREE BATTALIONS WARNED FOR OVERSEAS

The three battalions now in Barriefield camp have been warned to be ready for overseas, and there is delight among officers and men at the prospects of an early move.

The battalions ordered are the 154th, of Cornwall, commanded by Lieut-Col. Macdonald; the 155th battalion, of Belleville, commanded by Lieut-Col. Adams and the 156th battalion of Brockville, commanded by Lieut-Col. Bedell.

This will mean over three thousand men taken out of the camp which is all of the overseas forces now in training at this camp.

MILITARY NOTES

Capt. Kenny, chaplain 139th Battalion, has arrived back from Valcartier to go on the recruiting staff at Kingston. He was unable to accompany his three-company battalion overseas because it was not up to strength. Rev. Mr. Sillery, formerly of Queen Street church in Kingston, is in charge at Cobourg, vacated by Capt. Kenny.

Because he is an American citizen and under the age limit, Pte. Harold Joseph Doney has been struck off the strength of the 156th and because he is a reservist of the Italian army, Pte. Frank Pulitano has also been granted his discharge. He will return to Italy and join the Italian army.

Captain Cameron, A.M.C., a cousin of Lt.-Col. and Major J. M. Wilson, was in camp yesterday. He recently returned from France, and after a brief stay in Canada will go back overseas. Captain Cameron spoke highly of the work being done by Canadian doctors in the various hospitals in France and England, and everywhere he found a warm spot in French and English hearts for Canadians.

CHINA'S FUNERAL

The obsequies of the late Florence Rose Cummins, six year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Cummins, were held yesterday afternoon. Interment was in St. James' cemetery. Rev. Father Hyland, officiating. The pall bearers were Masters P. J. Wims, H. Ryan, P. Hart and R. Mahan.

MEMORABLE MEETING HELD

At Massey Hall, Toronto—Mr. Rowell's Stirring Message From the Battle-Front.

(Special to The Ontario)

TORONTO, Sept. 27th — How hungry the relative of men at the front are for a message from the trenches has been illustrated in a remarkable way in Toronto this week by the meetings at which Mr. Rowell, just back from Europe, has told of his visit to the front. At the Massey Hall meeting, which was arranged by the Women's Emergency Corps especially for the relatives of Canadian soldiers, the audience was most inspiring, made up very largely of women, many of whom had brought their children with them.

At six o'clock in the evening, two hours before the meeting began, there was a long line of women on the street in front of the hall and a group of mothers with their babies sitting on the steps and on the curb of the roadside. And during the meeting, which crowded the huge Massey Hall beyond its capacity, the sound of babies' voices was continuous; but no one minded it the least bit for these babies were most welcome guests,—children as they were of Canadian fathers at the front. The way that huge crowd of soldiers' relatives eagerly drank in every word of Mr. Rowell's speech and the messages of cheer brought to them from their men was a memorable sight.

At the other meeting under the auspices of the Canadian Club, the leading business men of the city showed that they too wanted to hear every word Mr. Rowell had to tell them about the trenches in Flanders and in France.

Mr. Rowell has brought back a number of messages but the one that the public seems to have laid hold on most is this—that more and still more men are urgently needed to support the Canadians now in the trenches and to carry on the work of the noble Canadian dead who have fallen in the fight.

GREAT FOREST FIRES OF HISTORY

The Northern Ontario forest fire of July 29th last takes rank as the third most serious fire catastrophe in the history of this continent. The Hinckley fire in Minnesota, 1894, was responsible for 418 lives and the burning over of 160,000 acres. The famous Peshtigo fire in Wisconsin, 1871, killed 1500 and devastated 1,200,000 acres of timber. In 1825 occurred the Miramichi fire of New Brunswick and Maine, with a loss of 160 lives, six towns, 1000 head of cattle, and damage of 2,000,000 acres of forest. The Clay Belt fire in Ontario, with 262 lives lost and 800,000 acres of fire-swept takes its place with the great disasters of history. The Porcupine fire in 1911 killed 84 persons.

It is noteworthy that Wisconsin, Minnesota, Maine and New Brunswick have taken comprehensive measures to prevent further disasters by organizing their forest patrol systems on modern lines, building trails, lookout towers, telephones, etc., as well as carefully supervising settlers' clearing fires, one of the worst sources of danger. Ontario, which has given the continent its two most recent fire catastrophes, has made no such move to modernize her forest guarding system.

JOINT AND MUSCLE PAINS BANISHED BY NERVILINE.

IT CURES RHEUMATISM. Thousands of people, chuck full of the joy of living—happy, glad, bright people, that Nerviline has cured of their pains, all tell the same wonderful story of its power to drive out the aches and tortures of rheumatism and kindred ills.

"My goodness, but Nerviline is a miracle-worker," writes Mrs. Charlotte Chipman, mother of a well-known family residing at Mount Pleasant. "Last month I was so crippled up with sciatica and muscular rheumatism as to be almost unable to do a bit of housework. My joints were so stiff and the muscles so frightfully sore that I even cried at times with the pain. For years we have used Nerviline in our family and I just got busy with this wonderful, good old liniment. Lots of rubbing with Nerviline soon relieved my misery and I was in a real short time about my work as usual."

No matter where the ache is, no matter how distressing the pain you can rub it away with Nerviline. For forty years it has been curing lumber, bago, solatica, backache, colds, chest trouble and all sorts of winter ills. Keep a large 50c. family size bottle handy and you'll be saved lots of trouble and have smaller doctor bills. Small trial size 25c. at dealers everywhere.

ONLY A BOY

Dedicated to Mr. and Mrs. T. Eggleton.

Only a boy,— but he's my boy—

Goes forth to school so neat, His playmates close beside him, As they prattle down the street; My heart is sad, while he is glad, For his steps all day I greet.

Still he marches forth my little mas— With slate and book in hand.

Only a boy,— but he's my boy—

With his curly head and glee, Comes in with his bat and ball, To tell of his victory; How his side won in the ball-game, You can bet, we made them run; Oh say! it was jolly fun.

Only a boy,— but he's my boy—

Goes forth in the world one day, As the years go swiftly— We miss him sadly—but, The world needs brave ones, To shape out its destiny, He stoops to conquer all hardships As the bravest of Canada's Sons.

Only a boy,— but he's my boy—

Goes forth at his country's call, As others who leave their stronghold, When the summons comes to all; He is not one whit behind, With his strength and manhood bold, He marches off and leaves behind, The world of Auld Lang Syne.

Only a boy,— but he's my boy—

Who crosses the ocean wide, He scorns to think of his own safety But, the loved ones he leaves behind;

As he braces his back to the Union Jack, He whistles a tune sublime— He sits on the beam of the tossing ship, And laughs in the teeth of the brine.

Only a boy,— but he's my boy—

In Flanders takes his place, In the rank and file at Ypres, When his country is at stake; With his comrades close beside him, Mid shot and shell and glare, And the ramparts bursting in thunder,

With a hell that the Huns must share.

Only a boy,— but he's my boy—

As he stands at "call to arms," With scarcely a hope for a living soul, Who will rescue the wing to the right?

"Here is one; I'll go!" is his answer, As a hero, he meets his fate, He fell, with the boys of the Salient, But victory crowned their wake.

Only a boy,— but he's my boy—

Borne on the morning breeze, By the escort of an Angel, Adown the river of death; And up to the throne of glory, Because he did his best.

Think not that he has lost all—

Ah, no; but has gained much more, A noble place in the Honor Roll, By God and the Angels born— A place in the alcove of Glory—for All the ages to come, When Justice shall reign supreme.

And when the boys come marching home, Think you their comrades remain? Bethink you of the Angels of Mons, And remember they march before; And think you where is Kitchener's place, And as of yore his spirit lead, E'en now he leads much more.

A Friend.

FOURTEEN CENT BREAD TODAY

Local Bakers Advanced This Morning From Twelve Cents.

Bread was advanced by the Belleville bakers this morning to fourteen cents for a three pound loaf. The change has been expected in some quarters for some time, but about a week ago it was not considered likely. The latest rise in flour is accountable for the increase.

TRENCH LIFE IS NOT SO BAD

Jack Phelan Writes That He Finds Life in the Trenches Better Than He Expected.

Lieut. J. M. Phelan, of the 80th Batt., and formerly the office staff of the Grand Trunk railway in this city sent the following very interesting letter to his friend Mr. Arthur Jones manager of the local branch of the Molson's bank.

47th Bln., -Canadians B.E.F., France 10.9.16.

Dear Mr. Jones,

Just a line to say I'm alive and kicking and still in the game and hope to stay right with it. Had a couple of sharp strafing encounters with Huns and we came off lucky. So far we have been fortunate enough not to lose a man in my company and I do hope the same good luck will continue, as they are such a fine bunch of fellows, I would hate to see any of them bowled over. Am in France now nearly five weeks and should have written you before this, but time and opportunity is the main thing, particularly for a new guy at the game. I have not found trench life as bad as it is painted by the outside world, but one has to become accustomed to the surroundings. I am doing things now that if anyone suggested to me before I came over I'd lick 'em. Can now sleep comfortably well on a mud floor or hardwood plank under the canopy of heaven, but of course it is not near so nice as rolling around on a sofa. Hope you are well. Regards to Leonard and Johnson.

Jack Phelan.

A BIG CORN ROAST FOR THE 155th BATTALION

Lt.-Col. Adams is always wondering how he can make things brighter, better, and in every way more pleasant for the boys of his battalion. His latest thought has been to provide a big corn roast for the 155th battalion. It will take a lot of corn to supply the thousand men in this unit, but the commanding officer rarely ever turns aside for little things, and will certainly secure the corn for the roast. This will have to be done at an early date now, and the boys are all delighted with the prospects of the promised roast.

SERGEANT BUSH WOUNDED

Sergt. H. J. Bush, of Havelock, was officially reported wounded yesterday. Previous to enlisting in the 39th battalion, of Belleville, he was employed as railway conductor on the G.T.R., C.P.R. and C.N.R. He was a crack rifle shot, winning many prizes in Canada and England, and was well known as a hunter and trapper. While in England he was transferred to the 13th battalion, 2nd division, on special service work. He has been at the front for about seventeen months. His wife and two children reside in Havelock.

ANGLO SALE SUCCESSFUL

Good Prices Realized by Mr. John L. Palmer at Hotel Auction

The auction sale of the Anglo-American Hotel furnishings which began on Tuesday and closed yesterday, proved to be very successful, everything was disposed of, some of the furniture being bought by out of town dealers. The prices realized are considered very satisfactory. Mr. John L. Palmer wielded the hammer at the sale.

The exit of the Anglo from business removes the last hotel below Victoria Avenue on Front street. This famous hostelry will be missed by the rural public particularly for on Saturdays it was the center of large crowds.

NOT ONE DRUNK YET.

Twelve days have elapsed since prohibition was put into force and yet not one drunk has been arrested in that time. It is said one fellow went up street at seven o'clock yesterday morning, but he did not come under the gaze of the authorities.

Children Cry for Fletcher's

CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcher and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

What is CASTORIA

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. For more than thirty years it has been in constant use for the relief of Constipation, Flatulency, Wind Colic, all Teething Troubles and Diarrhoea. It regulates the Stomach and Bowels, assimilates the Food, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Fletcher

In Use For Over 30 Years The Kind You Have Always Bought

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

\$5.00

Flour is now in sight so do not delay putting in your Winter's supply.

BUY ROBIN HOOD and you will have the best you can buy at any price.

W. D. Hanley & Co. Phone 812 329 Front St. Belleville.

GREAT SEPTEMBER SALE

Phaetons Auto Seat Top Buggies Platform Spring Democrat Wagons Canopy Top Democrat Wagons Steel Tubular axle Lumber Wagons Cheese Factory Wagons Royal Mail Wagons Grocer Wagons Coal Wagons Bolster Springs

Painting Repahing Upholstering all kinds of Automobiles Repaired Painted, and Upholstering, commercial Bodies for Ford Cars

The Finnegan Carriage & Wagon Co. Belleville Ont.



Homeseekers Excursions

Every Tuesday, March to October "All Rail" Every Wednesday During Season Navigation "Great Lakes Route"

Reservé out on the prairie where last year's Canada's Greatest Wheat Crop was produced there is a home waiting for you. The CANADIAN PACIFIC

will take you there, give you all the information about the best places, and help you to succeed.

Particulars from any Canadian Pacific Ticket Agent, or write W. R. Howard, District Passenger Agent, Toronto.

S. Burrows, General Agent, Belleville

BOY WAS IN BELLEVILLE adopted child. He stated to the police that he did not want to return to the adjacent town. He had been working for a few days at a local plant but when Mr. Toppings came to the police after learning of his presence the lad escaped. Since age and claims that his name is then he had been hanging around the same premises.