

COUNSEL THINKS TOPPING VICTIM OF DELUSION

TOPPING BLAMES KILLING ON OLD IMBEDDED BULLET

Tells Lawyer That Ball Buried in Skull Brings On Spells.

RESULT OF SUICIDE

Swanson Thinks Prisoner Is Suffering Under a Strange Delusion.

Clarence Topping, who is now in Middlesex County jail awaiting trial for the murder of his sweetheart, Geraldine Durston, told his attorney, D. A. J. Swanson, K.C., of Ottawa, yesterday afternoon that the bullet with which he tried to end his life some years ago was still imbedded in his skull.

According to Mr. Swanson, Topping stated that he suffered from severe headaches, and he blamed it on his attempt at suicide in Stratford three years ago. He told the lawyer to feel the side of his head, behind the left temple, where a small lump was apparent. This, he stated, was the bullet which had entered when he shot himself. It was this that caused his headaches and fits of depression and passion.

Mr. Swanson stated that he did not think that the bullet was still there, but that Topping was suffering under a delusion.

The lawyer also stated that when he saw Topping at the jail yesterday every courtesy was given him.

DIFFERENCES CAUSE TEACHERS TO RESIGN

Action of Brothers May Result in Hamilton Catholic School Closing.

Canadian Press Despatch. Hamilton, Dec. 14.—Four of the Christian Brothers, teachers in the Roman Catholic High School, have resigned owing to differences with the separate school board, which is made almost entirely of priests. This may result in the withdrawal of the Brothers, and the closing of the school.

Brother Austin, who was in charge of the teachers here, declined to make any statement for fear of spoiling negotiations, but admitted that differences existed between them and the board. These related to the efficiency of the local school. The school board is also mum.

Picks Berries At Owen Sound

Special to The Advertiser. Owen Sound, Dec. 14.—Unique in history of this section of the province is the experience of Sidney Sipes, who resides in Sarnia, just outside the city limits, when he picked a ripe strawberry well matured, and several others quite as fully matured but which were white on account of lack of sunshine.

Mr. Sipes says his strawberry plants have been producing all fall, and that he could have picked a number of ripe berries this morning if they had not been covered by a heavy fall of snow.

BLIZZARD CLAIMS 12 LIVES IN SOUTHWEST

Winter Traces Icy Finger in U. S.—Snow in Alabama.

Associated Press Despatch. Chicago, Dec. 14.—Winter today traced an icy finger through the southwest in the southern tier of states, with snow as far south as Alabama and a cold wave predicted to penetrate even Southern California. In the southwest, where a blizzard has claimed at least twelve lives, in New Mexico and West Texas, rescuers were aided in their work today by rising temperatures. Although more than 24 hours had elapsed since snow stopped falling, New Mexico early today still was trying to dig out. Albuquerque reports said. Railroad and automobile traffic still is blocked in many parts of the state. Telephone reports from Socorro and San Marcial, N. M., last night said that 72 automobiles with more than 300 passengers were snowbound in Nogale Canyon on the highway to Hot Springs, N. M., and that 100 men, members of the party, were trying to dig a passageway. Food and fuel were taken to the Canyon from San Marcial.

SOCIALISTS RESIGN. Associated Press Despatch. Berlin, Dec. 14.—The Socialist government of Saxony has resigned following withdrawal of the support of the Democratic party.

T. S. O'CONNOR IS GRANTED LIBERTY ON \$30,000 BAIL

Home Bank President's Secretary Will Appear At Trial of Directors.

AUTHORIZES PAYMENT ADVANCE UNDER WAY

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Dec. 14.—It was nine o'clock tonight before different phases of the Home Bank case were completed in the court here. Three courts were involved.

Judge Coatsworth held a special court at his home for the purpose of admitting to bail T. S. O'Connor, private secretary to R. J. Daly, president of the Home Bank. O'Connor was arrested this morning and remanded in custody of officers all day. Bail of \$30,000 was accepted for his appearance as a witness at the trial of the Home Bank directors and officers in January. At Osgoode Hall Mr. Justice Middleton reserved judgment on the application of defence for a mandamus compelling Judge Coatsworth to grant a speedy trial of all the defendants. In the bankruptcy court Mr. Justice Fisher approved the proceedings of the Massey Hall meeting of depositors and shareholders, naming G. T. Clarkson and L. E. Weldon as permanent liquidators. Authority was also given for the immediate payment of the first dividend of 25 per cent to depositors. O'Connor is said to be heavily involved financially as a result of the failure of the Home Bank. He is mentioned in the report of the curator as being associated with President Daly in advances made by the bank. In connection with advances of \$535,321 made to the Manufacturers' Holding and Investment Company, H. J. Daly is down for \$84,759 and T. S. O'Connor for \$31,231.

SUICIDE IN TORONTO USES PAPER KNIFE TO END LIFE

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Dec. 14.—With a paper-knife stuck four inches into his heart, Jack Holt, 44, single, of Toronto, was found dead in the basement at 60 King street east by his brother, Fred, who set out to search for him after he had failed to come home for dinner. He took his own life seems certain as he had taken off his coat and vest, hung them on a peg, and bared his chest. Fred Holt told the police that his brother had suffered a financial reverse and was brooding over it.

MEXICAN CHIEF LEADING TROOPS INTO THE FRAY

Oregon Directs Federal Forces Marching On Guadalajara City.

ADVANCE UNDER WAY

Associated Press Despatch. El Paso, Texas, Dec. 14.—President Obregon is on the firing line personally directing the troops who, under Generals Amarillas and Aguero, are marching on Guadalajara, according to a telegram received by the Mexican consul here from Mexico City today.

Aroused by the example of the executive, thousands of laborers have evacuated Vera Cruz for Mexico City to obtain arms with which to assist in the movement. Textile workers, released from Mexico City factories, have meanwhile received arms and equipment and left for the Vera Cruz front to fight the forces under General Sanchez. At Tezuitlan the major in command of the garrison tried to turn his forces over to the Adolistas, but his command refused to obey orders, and the town is still loyal to Obregon.

GENERAL ADVANCE BEGINS.

Associated Press Despatch. Washington, Dec. 14.—A statement issued by the Mexican embassy here tonight said official advices from the Mexican capital reported that the general advance of federal troops against General Estrada's revolutionary forces began yesterday. The advance forces, under command of Generals Amaro and Amarillo, started from Irapuato, the report said, adding that a definite engagement with the rebel forces was expected shortly. Forces led by the rebel generals, Fermin Carpio and Magana, the advices said, had been defeated in Northern Jalisco, and were trying to effect a junction with the Estrada forces. General Carpio, his brother, Marco Carpio, and General Magana being killed in the action.

FEDERALS CONCENTRATING.

Associated Press Despatch. Galveston, Texas, Dec. 14.—A decisive battle in the vicinity of Esperanza, in the state of Pueblo, is expected within a week, according to a telegram received today by the Mexican embassy at Washington, quoting despatches from President Obregon. Federal troops are concentrating at Esperanza for an offensive against De la Huerta, the message said.

ROADS OF ONTARIO LEAD ALL IN COST

Report For Dominion Shows Province Spends Most On Highways.

Canadian Press Despatch. Ottawa, Dec. 14.—Ontario, of all Canadian provinces, has the most costly system of highway construction, according to the annual report of A. W. Campbell, chief commissioner of highways for the Dominion government. The report covers the fiscal year 1922-23, and gives the average cost per mile for highway projects in the various provinces as follows: Ontario—\$24,252.29. British Columbia—\$23,918. Quebec—\$10,840.58. Nova Scotia—\$5,730.15. Manitoba—\$2,896. Prince Edward Island—\$2,719.49. Saskatchewan—\$2,199.16.



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Gustave Dube Is Executed

Canadian Press Despatch. Quebec, Dec. 14.—Gustave Dube was hanged at 8 o'clock this morning at Montigny for the murder of his wife in 1920, whom he was found to have shot, while, he claimed, he was killing hens on his farm in St. Adalbert. Until last night, he had expected that he might obtain a delay or commutation of sentence.

PLAN TO IMPORT CANADIAN HEIFERS

British Officials Think Scheme Would Stay Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

Associated Press Despatch. London, Dec. 14.—Veterinary officials and representatives of public bodies and veterinary societies from all parts of the United Kingdom together with representatives from Canada, Australia and South Africa meeting at the Royal Sanitary Institute today passed a resolution declaring it desirable to allow the introduction of breeding heifers from Canada into Great Britain subject to government certificate that they are free from tuberculosis.

One London cattle inspector referring to the wholesale slaughter of cattle in England in the case of foot and mouth disease outbreak, said he was confident that if Canadian heifers were imported as a temporary measure, importation would become permanent when farmers here realized the quality of the Canadian cattle.

POLICE INVESTIGATING FINDING OF SKELETONS

Bones Discovered On Farm of Robert McLaren Near Villanova.

Special to The Advertiser. Simcoe, Dec. 14.—Provincial Constable T. Morning, Chief of Police Thomas Muir, County Constable L. E. Barber and Coroner Dr. Frank McGilvray left by motor today for Villanova to investigate the reported find of two skeletons on Mr. Robert McLaren's farm. The skeletons, it seems, were found just back of a round on which a chip pile had stood. Mr. McLaren had cleared the ground, and his son John was plowing to prepare it for a farm when he came upon the gruesome find.

Poultry Exhibit.

The Norfolk Poultry Association have decided to hold their thirtieth annual show in the armories, Simcoe, from January 1 to 4, 1924. President George Curtis is of the opinion that it will be the biggest show of its kind yet held in Simcoe. A killing and plucking demonstration will be given during the show and the prize list is very attractive.

MEIGHEN STATES NAUGHTY LIBERALS MISLEADING WEST

Canadian Press Despatch. Edmonton, Dec. 14.—Declaring that an effort was being made by certain Liberal leaders to set the western provinces against Ontario and Quebec, Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, addressing the provincial Conservative convention this afternoon, claimed that revival of Conservative strength toward the west and eastenders will join the west in working for anything they are convinced is for the good of all Canada.

CANADA CAR COMPANY SHOWS HUGE PROFITS

Canadian Press Despatch. Montreal, Dec. 14.—The fourteenth annual report of the Canadian Car and Foundry Company, Limited, and its subsidiaries, covering the combined operations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1923, shows profits for the year as \$1,425,573, as compared with a deficit last year of \$586,632 and a deficit of \$892,396 in the fiscal year ending September 30, 1921.

HEART WAS SO BAD HAD TO SIT UP IN BED

Mrs. O. E. Fitzgerald, 106 Ross street, St. Thomas, Ont., writes: "In the fall of 1921 I was taken ill with my heart, but I did not pay much attention to it. I kept on with my household duties, but seemed to become worse and worse, and finally had to call in a doctor. He said I was all run down, and was a nervous wreck. I had a severe pain in my chest which would move over to my heart, and it became so bad I could not lie down, as when I did I had such a smothering feeling I would have to sit up in bed till it passed away. "I tried several remedies, but with no good results. Finally, I was induced to try Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. I took seven boxes, and I am now as well as I was 30 years ago, and I am now 65 years old."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50c a box, at all druggists or dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price, by The T. Milburn Company Limited, Toronto, Ont.—Advt.

RUGGLES MOTORS MAY BE FORCED INTO LIQUIDATION

Company in Difficulties As Offer of Help Is Withdrawn.

SEEK REORGANIZATION

The Ruggles Motor Truck Company of London have not been successful in carrying out their plan of reorganization, and liquidation is a possible outcome. On September 29 a meeting of the shareholders of the company was held at their plant, about 300 shareholders being present. The report of the directors showed that the company was short of capital, and a committee of local men, headed by Henry Pocock, was appointed to make inquiry into the company's affairs. This committee, at a meeting held October 6, recommended that \$250,000 be raised by the sale of additional preferred stock to present shareholders, which would give sufficient working capital.

It was not intended that this stock would be offered to outsiders, because the plan provided protection to all present shareholders, and they therefore were the only ones who could be expected to buy the stock. The plan of reorganization was unanimously adopted by the shareholders. At the same meeting the following were elected directors of the company: H. Pocock, Arthur Little, John Fringle, George M. Reid, Col. W. G. Coles, S. F. Lawraon. H. Pocock was later elected president of the company.

The directors immediately called the creditors together, and they unanimously approved of the plan of reorganization, having confidence that under the new management it would be successful.

After three weeks' hard work the directors found that the present shareholders would not buy the stock, only one-half the required amount being subscribed. The methods used by salesmen who sold some of the original stock were such as to make it impossible to secure new subscriptions from the same persons, so the plan had to be abandoned.

Second Plan Fails.

About two weeks ago an offer was received from the parent company at Saginaw, Michigan, wherein they were to take over the Canadian plant, paying all liabilities and giving the Canadian company a certain amount of cash. A bylaw authorizing the sale was approved by the shareholders at their meeting on December 1. The offer was voted for the adoption of bylaw, 210 against. The American company had made a cash deposit as a guarantee that the agreement, if signed by both parties, would be carried out.

The American company has not been able to carry out its offer owing to objections from some of the creditors. It has therefore been withdrawn.

The London company now finds itself in the same position as two months ago, with insufficient working capital.

The directors will immediately consider other means for reorganizing the company, but if not successful they will have to make an assignment. One feature of the whole affair is that there has been no attempt by the larger shareholders to force out the smaller ones. The men at the head of the company have done everything within their power to help the company, even to the extent of loaning their credit without taking security, and if the company fails they will not only lose their whole investment like other shareholders, but they will likely be called upon to pay the full amount of the security given.

Future of the Company.

It is not known what the future of the company may be. It is most likely that if the business is sold, the manufacture of trucks will be carried on. The industry is too valuable to lose from London. Mr. Pocock, the president of the company, has demonstrated during his short stay in London that money can be made in the business if provided with sufficient capital. His method of conducting the affairs of the company has retained the confidence of a large number of shareholders and creditors, and if the company is forced into liquidation, the estate will be in a better position on account of his connection with the company.

SONS OF ENGLAND OFFICERS CHOSEN FOR THE NEXT YEAR

Special to The Advertiser. Paris, Dec. 14.—The Sons of England have elected the following officers for 1924: Past President, G. H. Beechy; president, H. Bateman; vice-president, A. E. Thurman; chaplain, P. P. Rowe; secretary, L. Hamer; treasurer, W. Broomfield; first committee, W. Rowe; second committee, F. Wood; third committee, G. H. Tomlin; fourth committee, E. Spencer; inside guard, F. Bragg; physician, Dr. W. J. H. Gould; pianist, Fred Blackhurst; advisory board for juvenile brothers, Rowe, H. Bateman, A. E. Thurman, Guyle, Drake; trustees, Blackhurst, Hales, Drake; auditors, Guyle, Tate, Henstock.

Play Christmas Cheer. The local Children's Aid Society will carry on its usual Christmas activities in sending Christmas cheer to the homes where it is most needed. The G. W. V. A. will hold their Christmas tree in the Community Hall on Dec. 21, and all the Sunday schools of the town will also hold their usual Christmas trees and entertainments, so it is hoped no child in town will be missed at the festive season.

Some twenty members of Gore Lodge, I. O. O. F., Brantford, were the guests of Grand River Lodge last night. A progressive euchre was held and a program rendered.

Enlarge Mission. The addition to the Paris Junction Mission is nearing completion. Much needed additional accommodation for the primary classes of the Sunday School will be provided. The superintendent, Mr. George Sudden, and the Ladies' Society are responsible for the improvement.

ONTARIO POLICE WILL MAKE PROBE IN NORTON ARREST

Attorney-General Directs Indiana Officers To Send Fingerprints, Photographs.

HAD NUMEROUS ALIASES

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Dec. 14.—It was decided by the attorney-general's department this afternoon to act upon information received at London, Ont., that Pat Norton, an alleged accomplice of the Murrell brothers in the Melbourne bank robbery, is under arrest at Aurora, Ind. A message was sent to Aurora by provincial police headquarters, directing that the photographs and fingerprints of the prisoner be taken at once. A London officer who knows Norton will go to Aurora.

The man under arrest at Aurora has been going under a number of aliases, including those of Rennie Farley, Larry D. Smiley, Jack Bailey, and Jack Gleason, but he told the police of Aurora that his real name is Lorenzo D. Farley. According to the message received at London, the man "was following the occupation of auto mechanic, specializing in radiator repairing. When arrested he was working as a lineman." He was arrested on a charge of stealing an auto. The prisoner told the police he had been a run runner around Detroit last summer. It was theft of an auto that landed Sidney Murrell in jail in California. Norton's sister in Detroit admitted that she had been in touch with her brother.

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