

# POOR DOCUMENT M C 2 0 3 5

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1922

## THE BEST LAID PLAN OF JOHN JONES, RETIRED

(Llewellyn Powys in New York Evening Post.)

What queer tricks life plays upon us sometimes! The most sagacious of us has no idea from day to day what is going to happen next. This was certainly the case with John Jones.

He had been a clerk in the Indian civil service for thirty years. On his retirement he came over to East Africa for a short visit to see a cousin of his whose name was Penton. At the most he only intended to stay for a month in the country. I met him on Penton's farm the day after his arrival.

He was a typical middle-class Anglo-Indian dressed in white duck and with a snow-white helmet on the top of his small gray head. He was a quiet, unassuming fellow, and I rather liked him. He told me how delighted he was at being free at last, and he described with charming naïveté the delight he felt at the prospect of returning to his home, to the little house that he had bought somewhere in the suburbs of London.

I could see it all so clearly, the small jerrybuilt erection which he and his wife and only daughter were to inhabit for the rest of their lives—a snug ready-made kind of house at the end of a discreet and commonplace avenue which was disturbed only occasionally by the wheels of a tradesman's conveyance or the quiet murmur of a well-appointed motor car. I could see the vulgar iron railings which surrounded each plot, the insignificant shrubs that differentiated each villa, and indeed was able to envisage with extraordinary clearness the humdrum obscure existence which was to be his, an existence in which he was to appear in the light of a travelled adventurer whose present interests were card parties and golf.

After lunch Penton proposed that we should go shooting in the forest. It was one of those hot afternoons in Africa when the sun seems to prick down upon your skull and spine with an almost vindictive insistence. It was obvious that Jones felt the heat, as we advanced through the dazzling and withered scrub he kept mopping at his brow with a colored handkerchief. I expect he had spent the noonday hidden in some cavernous office with pen and ink and papers.

Presently a native came up to say that he had seen the fresh spoor of a rhinoceros. We tracked the animal for over a mile. It was evident that we were close up to him, for the sap of the green stalks of the herbage broken by his monstrous tread was still moist.

Presently Jones, who had been lagging behind, declared he did not wish to go any further. We therefore left him under the shade of a cedar tree with two natives.

Again we pushed forward. Then suddenly out of a clump of bushes rushed the pachyderm. His snorting charge came so unexpectedly that I had only time to skip out of his way and let fly at his receding hind-quarters with my rifle.

I heard my bullet strike and saw his heavy shanks jerk up as he felt its sting. This action of the huge animal apparently seemed to Penton irresistibly comic, for I turned to discover him doubling up in laughter.

As there was little chance of our coming up with the animal again, we turned our backs on the direction where we had left Jones. We ran to the place only to find the insignificant clerk stretched out on the ground. He was disfigured with blood. The wounded rhinoceros had made a circle and coming suddenly upon the unsuspecting group had impaled Jones where he stood. The beast's horn had hit him in the chest, torn open his ribs and broken his jaw-bone. He was unconscious. We carried him back to Penton's strange three storied house, and while I bathed his wounds, Penton went galloping off for a doctor.

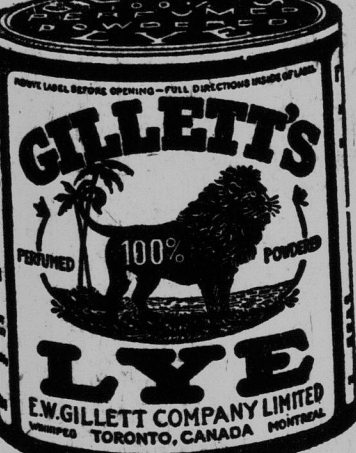
The unfortunate fellow died soon after the sun went down. For hours it seemed to me, I sat by that bedside, listening to the hideous cries of the hyenas, who, with that uncanny prescience that belongs to these animals, seemed to gather about the house from all quarters of the forest. I had plenty of opportunity for contemplation during that time, and as I looked upon the harmless, middle-aged face, I could not help marveling at the punctilious adjustments of chance that had so delicately led the sober feet of this unassuming man to so violent an end.

His death at any rate was the death of an adventure. No long line of mourning carriages for him, no cheap black tasselled hearse waiting before an open villa door, no dead men playing exorcism by an inferior musician with black gloves on the organ loft chair, slinking troop of hungry foul-faced curriers, the distant bark of a leopard, and the murmur of that dark and inexplicable continent that John Jones, retired clerk, had come to visit for a week, but where, by the hand of God, it was his destiny to lay his industrious bones till the crack of doom.

## PRINCESS YOLANDA



Oldest daughter of the King and Queen of Italy, who will be one of Princess Mary's bridesmaids at her wedding.



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## MAJOR TAYLOR HEADS VETERANS

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Winnipeg, Feb. 9.—Major F. G. Taylor, K. C. D. S. O., M. P. P., of Portage La Prairie, was chosen chairman of the first dominion council of the Dominion National Alliance, at a special session of the council, following the close of the amalgamation conference late this afternoon. Other officers elected: Vice-chairman, W. L. Bayfield, V. C. Toronto; secretary, C. Grant MacNeill, Ottawa; treasurer, H. H. A. Jones, Winnipeg; assistant secretary, James C. Berg, Winnipeg.

The advisory board is composed of: Army and Navy Veterans, Major M. J. Crehan, Vancouver; Grand Army of United Veterans, Gordon McNichol, Hamilton; Tuberculosis Veterans' Association, W. H. Hamilton, Winnipeg; Canadian Legion, Major J. H. Craig, Toronto; Imperial Veterans in Canada, Capt. W. Vaughan, Winnipeg; Great War Veterans' Association, H. B. Macwell, Ottawa.

The council also appointed C. G. MacNeill, secretary-treasurer of the G. W. V. A., convener of a parliamentary committee, whose duties it will be to present all legislative matters to the House of Commons.

A further resolution urged each organization to take immediately the question of having provincial councils formed under the plan proposed, to further amalgamation aims.

At the close of the session, Major Taylor, in a speech, declared that the purpose of the organization was to bring about a union of all veterans and to secure for them the best possible treatment.

He said that the organization was not a political party, but a body of men who had served their country and who were entitled to the best possible treatment.

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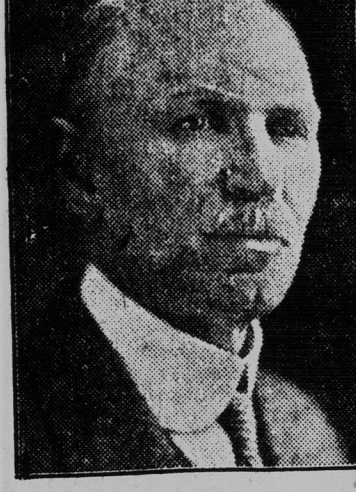
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## FOLLOWING FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS



Major Richard Lloyd George, son of Britain's premier, who has been nominated as Liberal candidate in the Pen-brookshire, England, by-election.

## CONFERENCE ON DELOME CASE

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Quebec, Feb. 10.—Coroner McMahon, Chief Detective Lepage and Chief Lorrain of the Provincial Detective Department were in conference yesterday with Premier Taschereau, in connection with the investigation of the murder of Raul Delorme, in Montreal, a month ago. Interviewed by the Canadian Press, all the conferees agreed that there was nothing new in the case.

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ON TRIAL FOR MURDER. Feustin Station on December 7 last, opened at the King's Bench sessions here yesterday.

Dr. W. Le Rome, analyst, gave evidence as to blood stains on the cap of the victim, and Dr. A. Le Cavalier of St.

Feustin Station, who attended the deceased, testified that the victim had lost at least four-fifths of his blood.

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## She could eat anything—

without indigestion or sleeplessness

FOR a long time she had been troubled with gas after her evening meal. The distress was most painful after eating potatoes or other starchy foods, of which she was very fond.

Then she started taking two cakes of Fleischmann's Yeast every night between her evening meal and bedtime. She poured about a half cup of boiling hot water over the yeast cakes, stirred them thoroughly, added a little cold water and drank.

She found she could eat anything and sleep splendidly afterward.

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