POOR DOCUMENT

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The Evening Times ★ Star

VOL. XVI., No. 74. PAGES ONE TO EIGHT ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1919 SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT.

DEATHS EXCEED HUNDRED IN DRINKING OF WHISKEY MADE FROM WOOD ALCOHOL

Forty-One in Massachusetts, Twenty-seven in New York, Thirty-five in Chicago

Fake Liquor Believed to Have Been Sent Out From New York—Fearful Agonies Attend Last Hours of Victims—Some Found Dead in Bed, Some Die in Streets—Four Arrests on Charge of Murder—Many Victims blinded.

(Special to Times.)

Boston, Dec. 27—More than 100 deaths, including forty-one in Massachusetts, twenty-seven in New York and thirty-five in Chicago, have resulted in an orgie of drinking whiskey made from wood alcohol. There have been four arrests on charge of murder, and three others are under suspicion. The deaths may go far beyond the hundred and hospitals in the cities where the poison was sold are crowded.

The victims have died the most horrible deaths. The awful toll has extended to Chicago and Pittsburg. Some persons in the streets, others in their beds, blinded and in many cases in violent convulsions.

Chicopee is the hardest hit, the fatalities there numbering twenty-five. The authorities closed the American House yesterday. Hartford loses ten, Holyoke six, Chicago four, New York one and Pittsburg two. The police and federal authorities of Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York city are making an effort to trace down every drop of the liquid sold.

Investigation made thus far indicates strongly that it was one lot of alleged whiskey that caused the heavy toll of death and untold suffering throughout the Connecticut Valley, and that the stuff was manufactured in New York city and shipped to Hartford in a big motor truck. The shipment, it appears, consisted of twelve barrels, which was bought for $12,000.

MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE

Examiner Fletcher of Chicopee announced today after several autopsies had been performed, that all the Chicopee victims died as a result of drinking wood alcohol. Charles Perry, brother of the owner of the American House in that city, and William Baker, a bar tender there, were then charged with manslaughter.

That the poison was of very violent nature is shown by the fact that at least three of the victims were found dead in bed, having been plunged into agony and the end brought on so quickly that they could not even summon aid.

The authorities were fearful early this morning that the poison was sold in other places than Hartford, Holyoke and Chicopee, and they are making every effort to locate every case of illness that may have been caused by the concoction. It is probable that deaths will be reported in other places, possibly in New Britain, Conn., and Danbury, Conn., where some of the New York shipment is said to have been taken after being purchased in Hartford.

First Death in Hartford.

The first death occurred in Hartford Christmas morning. Another came in the afternoon and the third in the evening. The police began an investigation which resulted in confession of a Hartford man that the stuff came from New York. Two Hartford detectives worked all of Thursday night to get definite information as to where it came from.

When the death list grew yesterday and invaded Holyoke and Chicopee, the authorities lost no time in warning every saloon man in that section not to sell a drop of the stuff. Every precaution possible was taken to prevent further suffering.

Police Captain Quilty of Springfield, where some of the Chicopee victims were rushed in ambulances, went to Hartford yesterday afternoon to ascertain from the police there as to whether any of the liquor had been sent to Springfield. Up to late last night no cases of poisoning had been reported in that city.

Nearly all the victims of the whiskey are of foreign nationality, mostly Poles. Five married men died in one locality. Only one had a wife in this country.

(Canadian Press.)

OUR ARRESTS ARE MADE IN HARTFORD.

Chicopee, Mass., Dec. 27—The deaths of at least forty-one persons in three Connecticut Valley cities since Christmas as a result of drinking poisonous liquor, believed to contain a wood alcohol base, caused federal, state and local authorities from three states to make a determined effort today to locate the source of the intoxicant. Twenty-four men and one woman died here, ten in Hartford, Conn., and six in Holyoke. A score of others were in hospitals today, blinded or seriously ill. The wholesale distribution of the liquor has been traced to Hartford, where four men have been arrested charged with murder. Charles Perry, brother of Alex. Perry, proprietor of the American House of this city, who has disappeared, and William Banter are under arrest here charged with manslaughter. The hotel was closed yesterday. The police believe the liquor was manufactured in New York, and have asked for assistance there in the investigation.

WAVE OF DEATH AND BLINDNESS.

New York, Dec. 27—Federal agents, health authorities and police in many cities in the east were stirred into action today against traffic in "whiskey" made from wood alcohol, following the wave of death and blindness from this cause in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Officials declared it probable that unreported cases by the score exist from coast to coast. A general warning has been issued here by agencies co-operating in the fight, telling the public of the danger lurking in anything that passes for whiskey in saloons.

Arrests were expected in New York today in connection with the deaths in Chicopee Falls and Holyoke, Mass., and Hartford, Conn., the three towns hardest hit by the poison drunk as liquor. The police allege that twelve barrels of the fluid were bought in the Bronx for $12,000 and taken to Hartford by motor truck. There water was added. Then it was sold, according to the police, in other cities. Department of justice agents announce that they have traced the "whiskey" to New York, where they say it was made.

HAD ILLICIT STILL IN SECRET CELLAR

Plant Was Discovered When Fire Broke Out in House—Had Baffled the Police.

Collingwood, Ont., Dec. 27—Called to a fire on Oak street, the members of the town fire department found the residence of Alex. Cooper ablaze from a fire that had apparently started in the basement. The flames were soon under control, but the chief of the brigade noticed that great heat was coming up from beneath the floor under the kitchen where no cellar was supposed to be. The chief of police was called in, and on breaking in the floor discovered a new cellar entirely bricked in, where an illicit still was in full operation. Two eighteen gallon barrels of mash was secured, besides the worm and some of the finished product. As a result of the find, Robert Thompson, colored, appeared before Police Magistrate Hogg this morning, charged with operating an illicit still, and was fined $500 or in default six months' imprisonment. A bench warrant has been issued for Alex. Cooper.

The still was very cleverly arranged, the only access to it being through an underground passage commencing in the woodshed attached to the house, and proceeding for thirty feet to the new cellar. The premises have been twice searched by the police in the past six weeks without locating the still, which was believed to be somewhere about.

GREAT TIDE OF EMIGRATION TO PALESTINE

Belief That Britain Soon Will Accept a Mandate for the Holy Land.

New York, Dec. 27—A great tide of emigration is sweeping into Palestine, influenced by the conviction that Great Britain will soon accept a mandate for the Holy Land and that the dream of a national home for the Jews is about to be realized, according to cable advices received by the Zionist organization of America. The cable messages state that the world conference of Zionists, scheduled to be held at Basle on Jan. 18, has been postponed in view of "the assured possibility of immediate negotiations for the mandate over Palestine."

At the same time a London cable message received by the Jewish Morning Journal of this city stated that peace negotiations with Turkey would open soon after the New Year and that the British delegates would be Premier Lloyd George, Lord Curzon and Arthur J. Balfour. The greater actions committee of the Zionist organization has been summoned to meet as soon as possible in London to cope with what is termed the acute problem of restraining wholesale emigration to Palestine.

NEWS OF FREDERICTON.

(Special to Times.)

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 27—Relatives here have received word that the late Major James Douglas Rivet, American Expeditionary Force, who was killed in an attack on the St. Mihiel Salient, on October 15, 1918, has been mentioned in orders for distinguished conduct in action. He was a son of the late Prof. F. P. Rivet who occupied the chair of modern languages at the U. N. B. from 1872 to 1885. His mother was Miss Dora Howie of this city. His parents removed to Lowell, Mass., some years ago.

Earle McNeil of Salmon Creek and Miss Janie Betts of Hardwood Ridge were married on Christmas Eve by Rev. Z. L. Mash of the George street Baptist church. They will reside at Salmon Creek.

On Christmas Eve Rev. Z. L. Fash and Mrs. Fash received an oak china cabinet from the congregation in honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage. The condition of Mrs. Fash, who has been ill for some time, is reported today to be improved.

The Commercial Club has taken the name York Commercial Club, and has secured seventy new members in Fredericton alone.

A local taxi driver, John Sinnott, appeared in the police court this morning on a second offense charge under the prohibition act. He is defending the case. Five hundred dollars bail was allowed.

W. J. Glen, manager for Fraser Companies, Limited, at the Victoria Mill here, met with a serious accident on Friday afternoon. He was superintending the loading of railway cars and a steel line caught and dragged him some distance. The flesh of one leg was severely lacerated and an arm and hand injured.

MRS. JOHN BLIZZARD

Friends of Mrs. John Blizzard will be sorry to learn of her death, which occurred this morning at her home in Spar Cove road at the age of eighty-seven years. She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Patrick Kiervin of Spar Cove road, and a son, Noble, and two sisters, Mrs. Mary Cameron and Mrs. Sarah Coves, of St. John. The funeral will be from Mrs. Kiervin's home.

NEED ENGINEERS WHO DID DAMAGE

French Cannot Rescue Lens Coal Mines Without Aid of Germans — Shaft Linings Punctured.

Lens, Dec. 27—Solution of the difficulties in opening up the big coal mines of Northeastern France must await the coming of German military engineers who wrought the destruction. This was pointed out to the correspondent of the Associated Press here today in the course of a visit to the Lens region, made as part of a trip under government auspices to permit observation of reconstruction accomplishments.

In Lens, where 17 main shafts and 18 air shafts are flooded, the task of reclaiming the mines is said to be much more difficult than in other districts.

Under ordinary circumstances the work of pumping out the water would be simple. In this case, however, corrective operations must be deferred until the arrival of the German engineers who superintended the blowing of holes in the cement shaft linings of the mine. These holes, the mining engineers say, will have to be discovered and plugged before pumping begins, because the ground in this section is extremely moist and no pump could make headway against the seepage. Even under normal conditions, they explain, when shafts are being sunk here, it is necessary to use refrigerating machinery to freeze the water which makes its appearance while the cement lining is being put in.

Actual damage to mine properties, the officials declare, cannot be determined until the water is removed, but they agree that normal production cannot be attained for years. The government, which has agreed to reimburse owners for losses, has described the mines as "literally annihilated." The extent of the damage is generally placed at 80 per cent.

REAL ESTATE NEWS

The following real estate transfers have been recorded:

G. E. Black to Kenneth Black, property in Fairview.

A. M. Boullon to A. V. Boullon, property on St. John River.

J. L. Howe to J. M. McM. Trueman, property in Simonds.

Kings County.

W. D. Bailey to E. C. McInnis, property in Hampton.

I. H. Killam et al to Soldiers Settlement Board, property in Studholm.

Lavina Keirstead to Cyrus Keirstead, property in Havelock.

Georgiana Lordly et vir to E. A. Lordley, property in Simonds and Rothesay.

E. A. Lordley et vir to E. A. Hoyt, property in Simonds and Rothesay.

John Mahoney to Hugh Payne, property in Upham.

J. L. Toole, to I. H. Spragg, property in Kars.

RECORD CRUISE OF FISHERMAN

Trawler Pelican Gets Two Million Pounds in Eight Weeks.

New York, Dec. 27—Two million pounds of fish in eight weeks of cruising between New York and the Grand Banks was the record yesterday of the East Coast Fishing Company's steam trawler Pelican, which was launched at Rockland, Me., nine weeks ago. The eight weeks' catch is reported to be a world's record for a single vessel. It is the equivalent of the entire catch of twelve sailing vessels for six months in good weather, and the steam trawler is busy, rain or shine, storm or calm.

The Pelican's captain is Dennis Hayes. He said that halibut predominated in the catch, with cod and haddock next in quantity.

GET TIRED OF D'ANNUNZIO

Italian Newspapers Say Poet Has Had the Centre of Stage Long Enough.

Fiume, Dec. 27—Fiume continues to monopolize most of the Italian newspapers, which are rather imperfectly informed concerning the developments there, but which declare that the residents of the Adriatic town have become tired of Gabriele D'Annunzio and want its future definitely decided.

D'Annunzio today issued a proclamation referring to the suspension of the plebiscite held on Friday. It contends that the Italian government was unwilling to give a definite guarantee as to the retention of Italian troops on the armistice lines but gives no further explanation on the suspension of the plebiscite and no information as to what course is to be pursued.

LOOKING FOR RELATIVES

Mayor Hayes has received a letter from G. G. Lester, 517 South 7th street, Tacoma, Washington, asking for information about relatives in this city. He says that his grandfather lived here some years ago and was named George Gilbert Lester. His son, who was the writer's father, was George P. Lester. He asks that relatives communicate with him.

TYPHUS EPIDEMIC.

Madird, Dec. 27—Madrid is experiencing an epidemic of typhus fever. The civil hospital is full of cases and camp has been established on the grounds of the San Juan Hospital.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service

Synopsis—The depression mentioned yesterday now covers the St. Lawrence Valley, while a moderate cold wave is situated over eastern Manitoba. Light snowfalls are reported from Manitoba to the maritime provinces. The weather in Saskatchewan and Alberta continues very mild.

Colder; Snow.

Maritime—South to southwest winds, a few light local falls of sleet but partly fair. Sunday strong west to north winds, colder by night with some light snow.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Cloudy with light snowfalls, becoming cold on Sunday.

New England—Cloudy with probably local snows tonight and Sunday; not much change in temperature; fresh southwest to west winds.

Toronto, Dec. 27—Temperatures:

Stations.	8 a.m	Highest Yesterday.	Lowest During Night.
Prince Rupert	42	48	42
Victoria	44	46	34
Kamloops	36	46	30
Calgary	32	52	28
Edmonton	38	40	32
Prince Albert	38	22	26
Winnipeg	*2	26	*4
White River	2	28	20
Soo	20	32	20
Toronto	34	37	34
Kingston	34	34	34
Ottawa	22	22	22
Montreal	28	22	22
Quebec	24	16	14
St. John	30	16	14
Halifax	34	26	18
Detroit	32	36	32
New York	32	34	30

Below zero.

As Hiram Sees It

Mr. Hiram Hornbeam caressed his jaw so many times during a brief conversation with the Times' reporter that the curiosity of the latter was aroused.

"What is the idea," he asked. "Jaw action bad this morning?"

"I aint quite sure," said Hiram, "that I got a jaw. I was in a dentist's chair four times yisterday. I had no idea ones small tooth could make a man want to kill his neighbors an' then himself. The dentist couldn't find no flaw in that tooth, so he took one of them X-ray pictures. He jist put a piece o' paper inside o' the jaw an' turned on the light an' in about five minutes he showed me a fillum—an' we knowed what was wrong. It was a congested nerve. Then he started to treat it. I guess he used his hull knit o' tools, an' I used as much o' the English language as I happened to recall. He used a hull electric battery an' kep' up a most interestin' conversation on crops an' live stock, that was wasted on me—for I expected every minit he'd take my head off an' wrap it up for me to carry home. Mister—I been talkin' an' readin' an' hearin' about nerves all my life, but I never knowed till yisterday what a nerve was. That little streak o' nothin' at the root o' that old tooth kep' me awake all one night an' made me holler all next day. But that feller fixed it up—an' he saved the tooth, too. I aint hed time yit to git over puttin' my hand up to see if my face is still there, but I feel better. I cal'late I'll be able to eat somethin' a little more satisfyin' than pap about week after next—yes, sir.

BUSY MORNING IN POLICE COURT

Various charges against twelve prisoners, and several postponed cases occupied the attention of the police court this morning.

A case against Steven Brothers, charged with selling adulterated cattle food, was resumed. C. C. Farward, in charge of the department of health laboratories at Halifax, said he received on December 5, 1918, from John C. Ferguson, food inspector at St. John, a sample of chop feed, corn and oats secured from Steven Brothers on November 28, 1918. He told of making an analysis and gave the result. He certified that the food was adulterated and his certificate was put in evidence, on cross examination by J. D. P. Lewin, counsel for the defendants, the witness said, weed seeds had the effect of poisoning cattle, but he could not say which of the seeds mentioned were poisonous. But he continued by saying that seeds mentioned in his certificate were not injurious to the health of cattle. John C. Ferguson, food inspector, said he had sent the sample to Halifax for analysis.

Vida Steen wife of Alexander Steen, and secretary of Steen Brothers, Limited, said that in November, 1918, the inspector obtained a sample of chop feed from the store.

Alexander Steen, president of the firm said, he prepared the sample and the oats were taken from a car containing oats passed by government inspection. The case was postponed until Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. W. R. Scott appeared for the complainants and J. D. P. Lewin for the defence.

A case against Samuel Sedausky, charged with assaulting Wasil Kruski, was resumed. The plaintiff was recalled as W. M. Ryan, who is non-acting for the department, wished to ask some questions. Peter Dimito, Alexander Hartt, a shoemaker, Mrs. Lena Kruski and Miss Alice Sedonsky gave evidence.

The case was postponed until Monday afternoon. J. A. Barry appeared for the complainants and W. M. Ryan for the defence.

William Perry and John Feeney, were charged with wandering about at 3.35 this morning in Sydney street and not being able to give a satisfactory account of themselves. Lawrence Penherton and George Feeney, were also charged with wandering about in King Square, at 4.35 this morning. They were sent below.

Albert Ritchie, was charged with stealing butter from N. C. Scott, Main street. This arrest was made as a result of a further investigation by the police. Two other defendants, Arthur A. Harrise and Walter Hazen are now being tried by parliamentary examination on this charge.

Joseph Percival, Lewis, Martin and Thomas Rollickson three dusky lads from Demarara were charged with being stowaways on the S. S. Canadian Signaller. The magistrate sent them to jail to await the sailing of the ship when they will be taken back to their native land.

Four men charged with drunkenness, pleaded guilty and were remanded for the week end.

CROWN PRINCE IS ONE TO BE TRIED

London, Dec. 27—Frederick William, former German crown prince, will be included in the list of persons whose surrender for trial is demanded by the French, according to an unofficial report of a recent meeting between British law officials and Edouard Ignace, French under-secretary for military justice.

The ex-crown prince, it is said, will be charged with criminal offenses, including looting and robbery with violence, committed in France. There appears to have been no further decision with regard to the case of former Emperor William. The steps to be taken to insure surrender of those wanted have been decided upon.

FIVE HOURS LATE.

The C. N. R. train from the north was five hours late this morning. The Maritime from Moncton was unable to connect so that passengers from northern points will come in on the 5.30 this evening.

Murder Near Sydney; Three Arrests Made

Italian Farmer is Slain With Sleigh Shaft

Body Found in Road—Police Say There Was Heavy Drinking in His House Last Night.

Sydney, N. S., Dec. 27—Three foreign residents of Whitney Pier, Mike Kovel, Stepluk, and Drumbel were arrested this morning on suspicion of having murdered James Marnello, an Italian farmer, whose dead body was found on the Lingan Road outside the city limits about one o'clock this morning. What are believed to be blood stains were found on the clothing of Kovel and Stepluk. All the suspects deny any knowledge of the crime.

The police say they have knowledge that the three were at Marnello's house near Whitney Pier late last night drinking heavily.

Marnello was killed by blows from a broken piece of sleigh shaft and this morning a second piece of the shaft was found by the police on Marnello's property. Some time ago Marnello obtained a permit to carry a revolver, swearing that he had been attacked a short time previously and feared for his life. It is reported that attempted attentions by Kovel to Marnello's wife had made some trouble between the two men.

TAKE TWO IN WOODSTOCK CASE

Arrest of Suspects in Connection with Burglary at B. B. Dykeman's Store.

(Special to Times.)

Woodstock, N. B., Dec. 27—Two men giving the names of Jack McDonald and Jack Norris were arrested yesterday in Houlton charged with burglarizing B. B. Dykeman's store here on Christmas night. It is said they were arrayed in some of the stolen clothes and carried early in the day and recognized them by the lameness of one who had frozen his feet and limped badly.

Among the many articles found on them were three medals and a cup inscribed with the name of Miller, presented to Currie for swimming contests in Detroit and Chicago articles that are probably prized by the owners. They had several silk dresses and what appeared to be table covers a lot of napkin rings and cheap jewelry. They are now in jail awaiting examination.

Boys' Meet at Y. M. C. A.

A meet for the school boy classes of the Y. M. C. A. was held this morning and was a decided success. The events were all keenly contested and the showing of the boys was considered good. This morning's activities were confined to acquatic sports and the boys were divided into two groups, one for those under 100 pounds and another for those over that weight. The events and the winners follow:

Boys Under 100 Pounds.

25 yard speed race:—1st. D. Stratton; 2nd. W. Stewart; 3rd. R. Sproul. Time 21 4-5 seconds.

One length breast stroke:—1st. Don Stratton; 2nd. R. Hatfield; 3rd. R. Cummings. Time 10 1-5 seconds.

Diving for object:—1st. A. Noble; 2nd. Don Stratton; 3rd. R. Cummings.

Neat dive:—1st. W. Stewart, 36½ points; 2nd. Don Stratton, 36 points; 3rd. L. Stratton, 35½ points.

Boys Over 100 Pounds.

One length speed:—1st. Frank Kee; 2nd. I. Ryder; 3rd. E. Stephenson. Time 7 seconds. In this event William Curren tied with Frank Kee for first place and later in the swim off was defeated by inches. It was one of the best events on the programme.

One length back stroke:—1st. Frank Kee; 2nd. I. Ryder; 3rd. D. McLaughlin. Time 10 2-5 seconds.

Long Plunge:—1st. Frank Kee, length of tank 38 feet; 2nd. William Curren, 35 feet 11 inches; 3rd. D. McLaughlin 35 feet.

50 yard speed, four lengths:—1st. Frank Kee, 37 3-4 seconds; 2nd. William Curren, 38 seconds; 3rd. I. Ryder, 41 seconds. This also was keenly contested.

Neat Dive:—1st. William Curren, 38½ points; 2nd. I. Ryder, 36 points; 3rd. E. Stephenson 33 points.

MARRIAGES AND BIRTHS.

Ten marriages were reported to the registrar of vital statistics during the week. Five births—four boys and one girl—were also reported. W. H. Keltie, who is now registrar of vital statistics, with his office in the government rooms, Prince William street, will likely transfer next week to the Board of Health rooms to be assistant to T. M. Burns, who will be registrar of vital statistics when the department of health takes over the gathering of the statistics January 1.

MANITOBA LOOKS FOR BIG SHARE OF ROCKEFELLER MONEY

Winnipeg, Dec. 27—The medical faculty of the University of Manitoba is likely to get $1,000,000 or more as its share of the $100,000,000 Christmas gift made by John D. Rockefeller to the medical institutions of North America. The dean of the faculty thinks this is a moderate estimate as the Manitoba institution is the third largest in the dominion and has not lately received any large donations, but the conditions of the gift are that the colleges must raise additional funds from other sources.

CANADA'S PAGANS IN THE FAR NORTH

Gripping Story Told by Rev. H. Girling, Anglican Missionary

PRIMITIVE ESKIMO

G. Eldon Merritt a Hero—Strange Tales of Denizens Far Within the Arctic Circle—A Great Improvement Noted.

A thrilling and gripping message from the far-flung north of Canada, the uttermost point of the barren Arctic coast, is contained in an interview today with Rev. H. Girling, Anglican missionary, by the Times-Star. He landed at St. John yesterday after a visit to his old home in England and will remain in this country for the next three months speaking in the interests of the Forward Missionary Movement. He will then return to England for a while before going back to his dreary post in Bernard Harbor, Coronation Gulf, N. W. T., where he ministers to a "parish" twice the size of Great Britain.

Rev. Mr. Girling's visit is of special interest to St. John people in that one of his assistants, G. Eldon Merritt, is a local man. He is at present on duty alone in the Arctic mission. The visitor today spoke in highest terms concerning his work, his courage and zeal in the interests of the mission, and instanced as an example of Mr. Merritt's bravery an adventure through which he passed when their ship caught fire.

"I had left my Eskimo dictionary aboard of it, my grammar, Ross sporting rifle and glasses. It would have meant a great loss to us," said Mr. Girling, "but I would not allow any one to go back to the ship for them because there were huge stores of gasolene aboard and the craft might have blown up at any moment. I turned my back for a moment to attend to something and the next I knew Merritt had gone from shore and clambered aboard the boat, well knowing that any moment might mean death. He returned, scorched and besmirched with soot, bringing me back the articles which were so important to our work."

Mr. Girling preferred to talk more of the work of the mission than of the experiences of his party in reaching the scene, saying that the story of the Stefansson expedition had been often repeated, and must be familiar to most people. Suffice to say, he said, that there had been a remarkable battle against the Arctic elements and that Stefansson had returned to civilization, bringing the news that his party had discovered numerous tribes of Eskimos who were absolutely primitive, were dressed in the skins of animals and used implements of bone and stone. The Church of England sent off an expedition under Rev. W. H. Fry which failed because of a bad season of ice, and then a second expedition under himself, with Mr. Merritt of this city, Mr. Hoare of Ottawa and a Christian Eskimo. They reached the natives spoken of on Sunday, Oct. 11, 1915. Just prior to their arrival two Roman Catholic priests had been murdered by the people, their bodies mutilated and their levers eaten. Two explorers entered a little later via Hudson Bay and were also murdered after committing an indiscretion.

The people practiced infanticide, murder was not uncommon, their moral plane was very low, and lying and stealing were the order of the day. Strictly speaking, the natives were monogamous but a free exchange of wives could take place and there were some cases of plurality. The people subsisted on caribou, deer, seals, fish of different kinds—fresh fruit and vegetables were unknown. At times they will cut out the stomach of a freshly killed deer and consume the half digested moss inside as a form of vegetable. Much of the meat and fish is eaten raw, and it was not a strange sight to see a small fish six inches long disappear down a child's throat with the tail still wriggling.

The missionaries have progressed greatly in reducing the language to writing and in translating religious and other literature for the people. A school is now under consideration and the lives of the people are vastly changed, with an improvement in all directions. While in England Mr. Girling had seen to the printing of a dictionary of the Eskimo language, the first in existence, consisting of more than 15,000 words, and he had also had a translation of the Gospel of St. Mark made in that tongue. Was it all worth while, it might be asked. The people seemed eager to learn, their morals had improved, they had been given new ideas, and many remarkable stories could be given of lives completely changed by the power of God.

In reaching England Rev. Mr. Girling was just five months from the time he left Bernard Harbor. He had travelled much of the far north country by dog sled—they kept thirty dogs at the post—and had also worked his way down the MacKenzie River as a pilot on a boat, finally reaching Edmonton, where he took the train. Mail reaches the post once from twelve to seventeen months. Supplies are a difficult problem, but the best way for them to come had been found to be from Vancouver through the Behring Sea around the coast rather than overland.

While in the city Mr. Girling is the guest of D. M. Manks, 10 Spruce street. He will preach in some of the churches tomorrow.