

Patient Suicided at London Asylum Kippen Man Had Been Inmate a Year

Soe Away From Work Gang And Put His Head Under Ice.

John Strong, of Kippen, an inmate of the London Insane Asylum, committed suicide yesterday, just before noon.

Coroner Maclean was notified, but decided that an inquest was not necessary, as no blame could be attached to any person.

Strong, with seven other men, was working with Foreman Robertson in laying an intake pipe connecting one of the springs with the reservoir. They were putting a pipe into the ditch. Strong was at one end, and had finished his work. While Mr. Robertson's attention was taken up with the laying of the pipe, Strong slipped over the excavation, and, jumping over the fence, made for the reservoir. When the pipe was laid, Robertson looked about for Strong, but he could not be found. He sent his men to another gang

in the neighborhood doing the same work, but he was not there.

A search was immediately instituted, and Strong was found under the ice at the reservoir. His boots were sticking out, and it was only the matter of a minute to remove him. Efforts were made to resuscitate him, but to no avail. He was probably gone fifteen minutes before he was discovered.

The unfortunate man had evidently gone direct to the reservoir. At the opening of the intake pipe there was no ice. He walked into the water, and deliberately thrust his head under the ice, leaving his feet sticking out.

Dr. Maclean declared that it was one of those unfortunate cases which it was impossible to watch all the time. There was no neglect on the part of anyone. He decided that there was no need of an inquest.

Strong had been an inmate of the asylum for about a year, coming from Kippen, near which place he was a farmer. He had a suicidal mania. Last summer he threw himself under a wagon in an attempt to commit suicide, and in the fall he tried to hang himself, but was frustrated.

Forty Employees Coming To London

The Greene-Swift Wholesale Clothing Company, of this city, have decided to do away with their St. Thomas branch.

About forty people are employed

there, and the pay roll runs close to \$1600 a month.

Nearly all of the St. Thomas employees will move to this city and take up work in the headquarters here.

The local plant will be enlarged by taking up another section of the building now occupied.

A Lively Time at Convention Faction Fight in Election of Officers

Mr. Gray Defeated for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of Conservative Ass'n.

Mr. William Gray was not present at the meeting of the London Conservative Association in the Auditorium last night, but his name figured largely in the proceedings.

From all accounts the Auditorium was no devotee last night. It took the delegates, about 200 in number, from 8 o'clock until 11, to elect four officers.

Mr. McMahon, who was president last year, and re-elected last night, occupied the chair, and called for nominations for the different offices.

"Billy" Nominated.

Someone at once nominated "Billy" Gray for the presidency.

And then somebody seconded it.

Mr. McMahon offered what was termed by The Advertiser's informant a severe criticism of Mr. Gray, whom he called the arch enemy of Hon. Adam Beck, and a man who

should not be encouraged by the party at this time.

Mr. McMahon declared that he would not run against anybody but Mr. Gray, but he deemed it his duty to oppose him under present circumstances.

Then someone put Mr. McMahon in nomination. The factions would not wait to an ordinary show of hands, and demanded a ballot vote.

When the ballots were counted it was found that Gray was beaten.

Downed Again.

But his friends were not to be thus downed. He was nominated for vice-president, with Mr. Percy Moore as his opponent.

Mr. McMahon and others saw in this a move to seize control of the party, and they were not slow to move for the presidency, and again the fight was on.

Again "Billy" was beaten, the vote being by ballot as in the case for the presidency.

It is said that the factions were so busy last night they had no time to touch municipal matters.

Another meeting is to be held tonight in the Conservative Club when the situation will be discussed.

Elevator Man Will Sue for Damages

A writ, calling for unstated damages has been issued by Meredith, Fisher & McDonald, against Greene, Swift & Co., wholesale clothiers, on behalf of C. R. Martin, who was badly injured in the falling of an elevator some time in September.

Martin, who was an employee of the firm, took the elevator, which was a new one, up two flights when something gave way, it is alleged, and the cage fell to the cellar.

Mr. Martin sustained numerous injuries, and has not as yet fully recovered from them.

Christmas Freight Business Large Wholesale Houses Have Been Busy

Agent Gordon of the Grand Trunk Railway Is Much Pleased With Traffic.

"The freight business during the Christmas season this year has been heavier than it ever was before," said Freight Agent Gordon, of the G. T. R.

this morning. "Our rush is pretty well over just now and things will be quieter for a few days."

"London wholesale men have done an enormous business and are sending goods all over the country."

"Large quantities of goods have been received also, and as far as I have heard the merchants are all prosperous. Certainly none of the wholesalers are complaining."

No British Pacific Fleet

London, Dec. 21.—The Associated Press is in a position to state on the authority of the British admiralty, that there is no truth in the assertion published in the Standard today, that the admiralty has decided to establish next May a Pacific and North American squadron, the base of which probably will be at Esquimaux.

"There is no shadow of foundation for this story; it is the veriest buncombe; it must be obvious to anyone who gives the subject a moment's

thought that such a move would be the last thing we would think of at the present moment," was the statement made by one of the highest officials of admiralty.

The emphasis of this denial indicates that the admiralty was anxious that the report should be promptly put at rest with the view of allaying any suspicion that might be aroused in America connecting the alleged formation of a British fleet with the sailing of the American battleship fleet.

CALDWELL ARRESTED

American Witness in Druce Case Arrested Upon Arrival at New York. Up on the Atlantic.

New York, Dec. 21.—Robert Caldwell, the American witness in the famous Druce case in London, was arrested at Hoboken, N. J., today after the arrival of the steamer Kaiserin Augusta Victoria here.

Mayor Cameron, of Stratroy, addressed the members of St. Andrew's Young Men's Club last evening on education.

BIG DETROIT FIRE

FIREMAN BADLY HURT

Detroit, Dec. 21.—Fire early today damaged the six-story brick building at the corner of Jefferson and Woodward avenues, occupied by Edwin S. George, fur dealer, and D. E. Kellogg, wholesale milliner. The total loss is estimated at about \$140,000. Two firemen were severely injured by the escaping horses. Fireman Robert Hummel's skull was fractured and he may die.



THE CHRISTMAS HOLD-UP MAN

Runaway Victim in Serious Condition Life of Mrs. Avey Is in Danger

Was Hurt By a Horse Which Became Frightened at an Automobile.

Mrs. Avey, of 768 Maitland street, who was hurt in a runaway accident on the market five weeks ago today, is in a very serious condition, and her life is in imminent danger. A nurse is in constant attendance, and Dr. Kingsmill admits that it is a very serious case.

It will be remembered that a horse belonging to Mr. Blasdel, a machine

agent, was standing at the corner of King street, and becoming frightened at an automobile, it dashed madly into the crowd on the market.

Mrs. Avey was doing some purchasing, and was struck down by the infuriated animal.

Mrs. Moyer, of 486 Oxford street, and her son Cecil, were also injured, and Mr. Charles Hyde, who attempted to stop the horse, was also badly hurt.

Mrs. Avey was taken to her home, and has been confined to bed ever since. Her injuries at first were not considered dangerous, but she was hurt internally, and her serious condition is due to these injuries.

FUNERAL OF LATE MR. J. I. TARTE

Montreal, Dec. 21.—The funeral of the Hon. J. Israel Tarte took place this morning, and was one of the largest seen in this city for a long time. The remains were taken to the Church of St. Louis de France, where the service took place. Mr. Tarte's three sons were the chief mourners, and among those who paid their last respects were a large number of political friends and admirers, journalists and businessmen. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and a number of ministers were present, and the cortege included many members of parliament, as well as of the Provincial Legislature, Premier Gouin and several of his cabinet being present. There were delegations from all the principal commercial and professional bodies. After the service the remains were interred in Cote Des Neiges Cemetery.

Saved Child From Terrible Death Thrilling Rescue at G. T. R. Station

Boy Fell Out of Mother's Arms and Was Rolling Under the Wheels.

A thrilling rescue, which made those who witnessed it shudder for a moment, took place at the Grand Trunk station this morning, when the first section of express No. 6 was pulling out.

Cornelius Papst, his wife and little son Thomas, Indians, living near Ingersoll, were intending to take the train.

Mr. Papst went into the waiting-

room for a moment, and the train started.

Mrs. Papst became greatly excited, and, picking the little boy up, attempted to shove him on the platform of the third car from the end.

In the excitement the little fellow lost his balance and fell on the platform and rolled toward the wheels.

Fortunately, Mr. Papst had seen the train start, and was following close behind.

In an instant he reached down and pulled his son from what looked like certain death.

After it was all over Mr. Papst was warmly congratulated by those who witnessed the affair.

The three Indians missed their train, but were very thankful that nothing worse had happened.

Judgment in Local High Court Cases

The following cases were heard before Mr. Justice Magee this morning at the weekly sitting of the high court for London: Re estate of James Moffat. Preliminary motion to parties to be served, with the chief mourners, and motion granted. Meredith, Fisher & McDonald, for motion.

In the matter of the winding up act, and in the matter of the Wagoner Wagon Company, Limited, motion to declare company a corporation to which the provisions of the winding-up act and amending acts are applicable.

Also the appointment of a permanent liquidator. Motion granted.

The Wagoner Ladder Company was formed for manufacturing extension ladders, and was organized in 1899.

On the 15th of this month the shareholders met and appointed the Canada Trust Company provincial liquidator of the company. Blackburn & Weeks, for motion.

Re Yesbee estate—motion for order of maintenance of children of Peter Yesbee, peddler, of Huron County, deceased. Motion granted. Cronyn, Betts and Coleridge, for motion.

Court of Appeal Had Very Busy Year Resume of the Work Performed

Cost of Sidewalks, Etc., To the City Also To the Rate-payers.

The court of revision held its final meeting for the year 1907 yesterday afternoon. The court has had a busy year, and it is a decided advantage to the city to have the permanent services of such capable gentlemen.

During the year the court received and considered petitions for 231 local improvements, 145 of which are now completed—108 sidewalks, 7 curbs and gutters, 23 sewers and 2 pavements. Total cost of sidewalks.....\$43,412 91
Curbs and gutters.....6,127 79
Sewers.....31,821 62
Pavements.....13,793 57
Grand total.....\$95,155 90

The cost to ratepayers is as follows:

6 walks laid, 4 feet wide, average 2.79
33 walks laid, 4 1/2 feet wide, average 3.18
57 walks laid, 5 feet wide, average 3.56
9 walks laid, 6 feet wide, average 4.21
1 walk laid, 8 feet wide, average 5.61
1 walk laid, 8 1/2 feet wide, average 5.82
1 walk laid, 9 1/2 feet wide, with retaining wall, average 27.37
Twenty-eight sewers, average cost, 12.38 cents; lowest 7.4, highest 20.68.
Pavements.
Richmond street, Bathurst to Horton.....61.17
Clarence street, Dundas to York, curb and gutter both sides included.....74.48
The Total Assessment.
The total assessment for the year in the northwestern portion of the continent, and it is now also low in the southwestern States. The weather remains fair in Canada, with the temperature generally somewhat above the normal.

Read the Story

On page 13 of this issue will be found a liberal installment of The Advertiser's new serial story, entitled, "Paying the Price."

It is by the well-known and favorite author, Agnes C. Mitchell, and is a romance of absorbing interest. The opening chapters should be read by every reader of The Advertiser.

Don't miss today's installment. The story is guaranteed to be one of the best serials that has as yet been published in The Advertiser.

THE MUNICIPAL MILL

The two candidates for the mayoralty, Ald. Stevely and Ald. Matthews, are working industriously, and conducting a strong personal canvass. There have been no meetings arranged so far except the meeting on Monday night, when the power bylaw will be discussed by Hon. Adam Beck, and other speakers.

The meeting tonight will settle the question of Ald. Matthews' candidature so far as the Conservative Club is concerned. Two meetings have been held of late to settle this matter, but have been unsuccessful.

It is said to be practically certain that the Conservative Club will refuse to endorse him, but will merely allow him to run his own little show.

Ald. Cooper has had aspirations for the mayoralty of late, but will gracefully accept a nomination for the council. A seat in the council is worth two on a snowbank, and Ald. Cooper is not slow to see the drift of things.

John L. Flanagan, the east end butcher, is out, and is conducting a vigorous canvass.

So far there are no candidates appearing for the water commission. The present commissioner, Mr. W. E. Saunders, and Mr. R. A. Carrothers are mentioned, but so far Mr. Carrothers has not made an announcement.

Ald. Booth is still undecided. It is thought that he will face the barrier at the call of time, but he would not commit himself on the question.

Ald. Stevenson is in the running, and should come quite close to heading the poll.

Ald. Gerry is again in the field, and should about lead at the finish. He has increased his popularity during the past year.

Mr. Charles G. Moorehead, a candidate for alderman, is meeting with great success in his canvass, especially in the east end.

Ald. Saunders is practically certain of re-election. He has had a successful year.

Mr. James Donnelly, the nominee of the Trades and Labor Council, is likely to stand, although he has not made a definite statement on the subject. Ald. Rose, the other nominee, has accepted.

BANKER OLIPHANT DEAD

Succumbs to Wounds Inflicted by Ruined Speculator Yesterday.

New York, Dec. 21.—James H. Oliphant, senior member of the stock exchange firm of James H. Oliphant & Co., who was shot in his office at 20 Broad street, yesterday afternoon by Dr. Charles A. Geiger, of Beaufort, S. C., a ruined speculator, died in Hudson Street Hospital early this morning.

DEAD IN FAIRMONT MINE

Three Hundred and Forty Bodies Have Been Recovered Up to Date.

Fairmont, W. Va., Dec. 21.—Bodies are gradually being recovered from the mines of the Fairmont Coal Company at Monongah, the scene of the great disaster, Dec. 6, and today the total number recovered had reached 340.

It is the general opinion here that 400 men, if not more, met death in the mines.

TOMORROW—FAIR.

FORECASTS.

Toronto, Dec. 21—8 a.m.

Fair today and on Sunday; no decided change in temperature.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations. Fair. Min. Weather.

Calgary.....30.....18.....Fair

Winnipeg.....18.....14.....Fair

Port Arthur.....14.....8.....Fair

Perry Sound.....18.....18.....Clear

Toronto.....30.....30.....Cloudy

Ottawa.....22.....22.....Fair

Montreal.....20.....20.....Fair

Quebec.....20.....20.....Fair

Father Point.....18.....18.....Clear

The first column in the above table records the temperature at 8 o'clock this morning, and the second column records the minimum temperatures during the 24 hours previous.

WEATHER NOTES.

The pressure continues unusually low in the northwestern portion of the continent, and it is now also low in the southwestern States. The weather remains fair in Canada, with the temperature generally somewhat above the normal.

Two Years in Central for Blakely Penalty for Stealing Team of Horses

Pathetic Letter Re Wife Was Found To Be an Ordinary Fake.

William Blakely, the young man who was found guilty of stealing a team of horses and a robe from Byron Dawson, of Crumlin, was sentenced to two years in the Central Prison by Magistrate Love this morning.

An investigation was made by the police, as a result of the letter which Blakely wrote the magistrate, stating

that he had a wife and children in the city, and it was found that Mrs. Blakely has practically been maintaining herself and five little children for some time, with very little assistance from Blakely.

In sentencing Blakely his worship referred to his past, and to the sentence which he served in 1906 for the same offense, and stated that horse-stealing was a crime which must be wiped out.

He hoped Blakely would live better after his term was completed. Henry Ellwood was fined \$5 for being disorderly on the Hamilton road last night.

Wild Ride Behind Runaway Horses London Lady Was Severely Injured

Team Collided With a Street Car on Richmond Street North.

Mrs. Sterling, of 414 Dufferin avenue, wife of Mr. Samuel Sterling, of the wholesale and manufacturing shoe firm of Sterling Bros., was painfully injured in a runaway accident on Richmond street last night at 11:30.

Mr. and Mrs. Sterling had been spending the evening at the residence of Col. Peters, on Albert street, and left for home in a carriage.

As the turn was made onto Richmond street, the horses became frightened, and despite the best efforts of

the driver, they dashed madly northward.

They ran for several blocks, when they collided with an Oxford car at Oxford street.

The cab was overturned, and Mr. and Mrs. Sterling were thrown with great force onto the roadway.

Mr. Sterling escaped practically unhurt, but Mrs. Sterling was severely injured.

The door of the vehicle was open when the crash came, and Mrs. Sterling was caught between it and the frame of the door, and as the hack was dragged along her shoulders suffered badly.

Dr. John D. Wilson, who was summoned, says Mrs. Sterling's injuries are quite severe, but no evil after-effects are looked for.

Real Estaters Favor Popular Loan Also Discuss Hours of City Officials

Air a Grievance Regarding the Payment of Water Rates.

At a well-attended meeting of the Real Estate Owners' Association held last night the question of the popular loan for the city was discussed, and the attitude of Ald. Stevely strongly endorsed.

It was the unanimous opinion that Ald. Stevely is right in making the debentures as low as \$100.

One of the members stated that yesterday when he went to the city hall intending to take \$500 in debentures he was refused and told that nothing less than \$1,000 would be considered.

This, he contended, was directly contrary to the intentions of Ald. Stevely and to the terms as set forth in the advertisements in the daily papers.

Ald. Stevely, when spoken to regarding the matter, said he could not understand it, as it was his intention to

make the loan a popular one in the broadest sense.

He would put up a strong fight, he said, to see that his idea was carried out.

A Resolution.

The following resolution was also passed:

"Resolved: That whereas the citizens who, in a measure, stand in a similar position to the shareholders in a joint stock company, are about to hold another annual meeting for the purpose of electing the directors (mayor and council); That now is the proper time to air any grievances that may exist, and to see to it that men shall be elected that will introduce needed reforms. For instance, there are many valid reasons why citizens desirous of paying their water rates should be compelled to wait until 10 o'clock in the morning for the convenience of the waterworks officials. Further, that we believe the old hours, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., should exist in all our municipal offices, especially when the salaries of our civil employees are taken into consideration."

100-YEAR-OLD COLORED MAN BURIES FOURTEENTH WHITE WIFE

New York, Dec. 1.—Martha Maria Vann, the fourth wife of James Nicholas Vann, of Mount Hope, Orange County, is dead, and will be laid beside the thirteen other wives in the Vann family burial ground at Mount Hope today, according to the Sun.

James Nicholas Vann is one of the most remarkable characters in Orange County. He was born in Mount Hope Township on

April 2, 1807, and is, therefore, over 100 years old.

Although he is colored, Vann's fourteen wives have all been white, and he expressed a distaste for women of his own race. He has been body servant to some of the most prominent men in Orange County. He has preached, doctored and studied law, but is now getting so feeble as to be hardly able to get around. Many years ago his biography was published, and had a large sale.

93 DEAD IN PALERMO DISASTER

Palermo, Dec. 20.—It is known that up to the present time 93 persons met their death, and no less than 100 were injured, by the terrific explosion last night in the military powder magazine of Palermo. The work of rescuing the wounded was continued until daylight.

under conditions of the greatest difficulty. After the fire had been extinguished the troops used an electric searchlight. The lodging house for emigrants was destroyed by the flames, has given the largest contingent of victims. There were many heroic rescues.

BUMPER CHRISTMAS MARKET BRISK SALES IN ALL LINES—PRICES

Despite the fact that the market was packed and jammed with hosts of people today, the market dealers declare that it was not up to expectations, nor yet up to the standard of other years.

This is partly accounted for by the fact that the Christmas market was somewhat broken up this year because of markets on Tuesday and Thursday of this week.

The chief object of sale today was poultry, almost every farm wagon contained a number of choice turkeys or some dressed hens. No live poultry was noted.

The price of turkeys was 11 to 13 cents wholesale, and 13 to 14 retail. Chickens were somewhat lower, ranging in price from 10 to 11 cents retail.

There were very many of Christmas trees for sale and the price of these ranged from 10 cents for the tiny ones, such as used by young couples with but one hopeful baby, to \$2 for the large-sized trees used in churches and Sunday schools.

Fresh eggs were few, as they have been for some time. But few dealers will guarantee their eggs, and it is

said that the bulk of them are of the storage variety. Fresh-laid eggs sold for 30 to 32 cents and upward.

Sales were reported brisk in all lines, especially poultry.

Butter was very plentiful, at prices ranging from 25 and 26 cents wholesale to 27 and 28 cents a pound retail.

It was almost impossible to make way through the jam of people at 11 o'clock, and in the early hours of the morning the condition was said to be worse.

Most of the farmers drove in by wagon, the roads scarcely warranting sleighing after yesterday's thaw.

FOR CLOSER UNION

Bridgetown, Barbadoes, B. W. I., Dec. 21.—The delegates from all the British West Indian Islands will meet here on Jan. 14 to hold an agricultural conference. Canada will send representatives to the conference to arrange for reciprocal trade with the islands. This step is preliminary to a closer union between Canada and the West Indies.