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### SASK. BOYS COLLEGE

Presbyterians of Saskatchewan  
Get Under Way for Boys  
College—Directors Appointed—To Raise \$100,000.

Saskatoon, Nov. 3.—The second day of the provincial synod of Presbyterians was taken up by three successful meetings held in Knox church. Several new faces were added to the attendance of yesterday. In the morning Mr. Keenleyside addressed the divines on moral and social reform, and reviewed the subject thoroughly, emphasizing the importance of co-operation in arriving at the end aimed at by the organization. The speaker stated that it was the intention of the Saskatchewan council to carry local options in every town and city in the province next year, and also to organize branches of the organization in all parts. The evangelization report was then submitted and the progress in work showed a great increase during the year.

In the afternoon the meeting opened with a report on the residential college for boys in Saskatchewan. The Rev. McKeech presented an outline of the developments towards the erection of the same. The report read as follows: The provincial board of directors of the proposed residential college for boys, begs to present the following regarding the college: A meeting of the full board was held in Regina, on May 25, 1909, and it was decided to make an immediate canvas of the province to raise \$100,000 for the building and endowment, and other incidental expenses. It was decided that the college should be located at Moose Jaw and the executive committee with

Judge A. G. Farrel as chairman, was appointed to act in the interval between the meetings of the full board. The committee met again on Nov. 16, at Moose Jaw for a deed of land for a site to be agreed to. The name of the college is to be "The Saskatchewan College."

At a meeting of the board of directors held at Saskatoon on Nov. 2, it was decided to make the following recommendations, which were finally passed by a full synod. That the board of directors consist of 24 members, who shall hold office for a period of three years. That one-third of the board shall retire each year. The eight members to be elected for three years were composed of: Jas. Simington, Moose Jaw; Dr. R. M. Mitchell, M.L.A., Weyburn; John R. Green, of Moose Jaw; E. M. Saunders, Moose Jaw; James Balfour, Regina; W. B. Willoughby, Moose Jaw; and J. A. Gregory, North Battleford.

The eight members chosen for two years were F. C. Tate, M.L.A., Wascana; Judge A. G. Farrel, Moosemin; Hon. W. R. Motherwell, Abernethy; Rev. E. A. Henry, Regina; A. H. Smith, B.A., Moosemin; Rev. J. G. McKeech, Swift Current; Hon. W. C. Sutherland, and Walter Goyan, Indian Head.

The eight members chosen for a period of one year were: Rev. S. McLean, Moose Jaw; William Cowan, Prince Albert; Rev. Dr. Carmichael, Winnipeg; Geo. McCraney, M.P., Rosetown; Rev. J. A. C. Strachen, Aroli; Geo. J. Campbell, Elstow; Thomas Garry, M.L.A., Yorkton.

It was decided that the principal of the college should be an ex-officio member of the board. That the executive committee consist of the following, six members to constitute a quorum: James Simington, E. M. Saunders, John R. Green, W. D. Willoughby, Thos. Miller, Rev. S. McLean, Jas. Balfour, F. C. Tate, Rev. E. A. Henry, Dr. Mitchell, Alex. McGregor, J. G. McKeech.

The convenor committee to appoint a principal was elected, and it was decided that it should raise \$50,000 was raised by April 1st, 1910, they would proceed with the erection of the buildings. \$3,000 and a residence was decided to be the sum for the principal's salary.

Collingwood, Nov. 1.—Thomas, the 14-year old son of Reeve Clark, was accidentally shot tonight by James Viner, an elderly neighbor, as a result of a Halloween celebration. The boy, with some chums, incurred his displeasure. He let fly with a shot gun loaded with small shot. He says he fired at random, and in the dark to scare away the youngsters, but young Clark fell screaming, with his back literally spotted with shot wounds. His chums carried him home and he is now resting easily. Viner is a gunsmith by trade.

London, Oct. 28.—In the House of Commons this afternoon, Navy Minister McKenna admitted, when under fire of the opposition, that drawings for a British Dreadnought were missing. The report of the disappearance of the documents was made public on Tuesday and created great excitement. The result will be, it is feared, a revival of the German war scare with renewed vigor. Minister McKenna declared when interpellated, that the drawings were those of H.M.S. Indomitable, which has been in commission some time, and which are of little importance. The opponents of the ministry tries to establish the point that if the drawings of the Indomitable could be stolen, others of greater value were in jeopardy. The investigation into the affair will probably be started immediately. It is declared that the loss of the papers is a severe blow to the present government.

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## DREADFUL MURDER AT QUILL LAKE

Hungarian Kills His Employer, Wife and Mother-in-Law—Tells of Quarrels—Statement of Accused at the Coroner's Inquest—Victims Are of Highly Esteemed Family.

Quill Lake, Sask., Nov. 3.—Details of the shocking tragedy on the Thoburn homestead near here, indicates that George Thoburn, aged 41, was shot to death by his hired man, a Hungarian, named John Mesi, who is also supposed to have killed his wife, aged 38, and her mother, Mrs. McNiven, aged 60, thrusting the two women down into the well, according to the two year old girl, who was found in the oven unharmed. The four year old boy was found in the cellar, where the dead body of his father lay, and where he had lain unconscious after being hit by the murderer. The boy says that Mesi shot his father, but is still half dazed.

The tragedy was discovered yesterday afternoon by a homesteader named Dixon, who was passing, and whose attention was aroused by the cries of the united stock. Thoburn was shot through the back. The family had the highest character in the neighborhood, and the village was practically deserted last night after Thoburn's body was brought in, the people turning out en masse to search the prairie for the missing woman.

Mesi had been employed by Thoburn about six months. He was 22 years of age, strongly built, and of bad temper. Only a week ago he chased Thoburn with a pitchfork. Mrs. Thoburn is a sister to Mrs. Alex. Thom, wife of the proprietor of the Wadena Herald.

The body of Mrs. McNiven, mother of Mrs. Thoburn, and the third victim was found fully dressed, with a cut in her head and throat. Her body was covered with hay, in a bluff near the house. Constable Barber, of the R.N.W.M.P., arrived on Nov. 2 from Vonda, to assist Corporal Abich.

A view of the bodies was a ghastly sight, and one that will long be remembered. The mother and daughter with their throats cut, about three inches in length. The mother-in-law Mrs. McNiven, had been hit on the head with a heavy stick, apparently, and both of them had their hair dotted with blood. Their features were quite natural, both of the women were dressed well when murdered. Mrs. McNiven in particular, who was fully dressed when found. Mrs. Thoburn was pregnant at the time of the murder, and would have been confined in a very short time, so it was practically a murder of four beings.

The search party and the officers of the R.N.W.M.P. deserve the greatest praise for their endeavor in prosecuting a search, as some of them traced the shoe prints on the ground for half a mile on the lands and knuses where Mrs. Thoburn's body was found. Everything that could be done in the finding of the bodies, caring for the children, and the hunt for the brute murderer, was handled in a business like western style.

The feeling of the settlers in the district is of a high temperature, and the murderer would receive quick punishment if he were to be brought to town not properly guarded, as the victims were all highly esteemed in the settlement.

Dr. McCutcheon, the coroner, says the inquest will be held tomorrow morning, when it is expected that the murderer will be brought from Wynyard. Mr. Raamussen and E. F. Gardner, who started on the trail of the murderer yesterday afternoon, arrived home this evening after a 140 mile drive on the trail of the murderer since they left the village, and their description is an exciting one. They found Mesi watering his horses about 40 miles south of here. When they closed upon him with their rifles, and demanded his hands up, he assented, and allowed the handcuffs to be put on him without a struggle. Mesi is a fine built man, physically.

He gave a statement to his captors somewhat as follows: "He wished to go to town on Monday morning to enter for a homestead. Thoburn objected, he went and got a gun and shot Thoburn twice; then he ran inside, and the women came out and he shot them in. I took a shot gun that he gave me, that I had fixed up in a disconnected manner. It was gathered, however, that he left the homestead, but returned the night of Nov. 1, and he continues:

"I left the children the way they are now. I left Thoburn in the cellar. I dropped him in. I took a shot gun that he gave me, that I had fixed up in a disconnected manner. It was gathered, however, that he left the homestead, but returned the night of Nov. 1, and he continues:

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so will retard the lynching of the murderer as was threatened by a number of the more excited ones. Extra police have been sworn in and the murderer will be well looked after until such times as he is taken to Prince Albert.

### THE STATEMENT

The coroner's inquest was held at Quill Lake and at this Mesi made the following statement:

"I came to work for the Thoburn family on February 15, 1909, and was there for three weeks and everything was right. Some time in March, Mrs. McNiven came from Wadena. She asked me about the country which I had left when I first arrived. She was good to me for a short time, but after a few days, said I ate too much and repeated that many times. I asked her what she meant by that, and she did not answer me. About the third Sunday in April, while George Thoburn was talking to me, she asked him what he was saying to me and he told her not to mind; 'I need a man and must keep him.' She replied: 'I only pay \$15, why do you pay more? Get a man who will do more work and not eat so much. If you will pay more I won't let you have my money.' I was outside at the time and came in and joined in the conversation. Mrs. Thoburn was sitting in a chair and she got up quickly and grabbed a chair and told her mother to go into the next room quick. I went in and sat on my own bed in the kitchen. Mr. Thoburn came in and told me to all the wood box. He then told me it must be filled every night.

"The next morning we got up and did the chores. While I was in the stables, George came in and I asked him to let me go from the place as I was never with such a rough family before. He said no, and ordered me to take the horses and go and seed. As I went out I told George that I would not have his women talk to me like that, he said he would stop it. I was called down every few days. About the last of June we went out breaking. On Monday I went down to see George and told him to give me more food, and for a while it was all right again. Then Mrs. McNiven came back from Wadena, about the second week in July, and started the same old story about me eating too much and not doing enough work, and the food was stopped again.

Then follows a long rambling statement about Thoburn working him and calling him down for letting his oxen get away from him, and his quarrels with the boys regarding the potato food he was getting. He went on to say that Thoburn called him names when he expostulated about the food not being fit to eat and he himself indulged in some bad language, that Thoburn ordered the women folks to feed him on beans and potatoes which the status was done. At one time one of the women said he ought to be kicked out of the house if he board did not suit and he thereupon quit work. He had written a letter to the immigration agent who told him he could not be kept working eighteen hours a day. He says that he showed this letter to Thoburn who told him he would keep him working 18 hours a day if he wanted to. He told him he was willing to do chores and work with the team from 7 a.m. till 12 and from 1 p.m. till 7 p.m. but that did not suit Thoburn, so he was told to clear out of that part of the country and he asked the way, saying he would let the people know the sort of a man Thoburn was. More trouble seems to have arisen during the time, when he was ordered to cut some wood and was going to use an axe instead of a saw. Thoburn he claims, took the axe from him after a row. On October 31st, he told Mrs. Thoburn he wanted to go to Quill Lake to arrange about a homestead and at this point he lapsed off at a tangent and commenced to tell about the murder in a disconnected manner. It was gathered, however, that he left the homestead, but returned the night of Nov. 1, and he continues:

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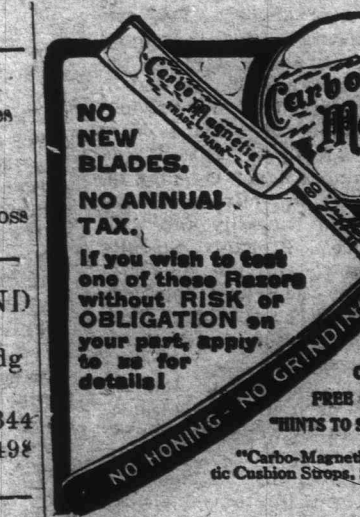
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