

The Evening Times-Star

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ST. JOHN, N.B., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1923

TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

England Is Alarmed By Threatened Strike of Policemen

WILD ANARCHISM IN STREETS

Murder Case Still Puzzling Police

STRIKE OF POLICE NEAR IN ENGLAND

Mass Meeting of 5,000 is Held in Hall in London.

RESENT WAGE CUT

Huge Demonstration is Planned for the Middle of Next Month.

BY H. N. MOORE. (British United Press.) London, Dec. 29.—The possibility of a general police strike throughout England is alarming the authorities. A mass meeting of 5,000 policemen representing all districts of England, will be held in Albert Hall on January 15 to discuss the proposed reduction of wages.

The dispute reverts to 1919, when Lord Desborough's commission fixed three pounds, ten shillings, as the starting pay for a police recruit. As a result, the cost of police to the country rose immensely and municipal bodies everywhere are now protesting strongly.

The Home Secretary has re-assembled the Desborough Commission, which is considering the problem. Its next meeting will be held late in January.

To Resist Scale. Despite the fact that the committee has not heard all the evidence on either side, the police have arranged this huge demonstration for the middle of the month which is considered as a sinister evidence of their determination to resist any diminution of the present scale.

DRUGGIST CLEARED AFTER 45 YEARS

Convicted of Killing Wife, Shows Now That Scientific Evidence Was Erroneous.

Paris, Dec. 29.—Louis Danval, a 78-year-old druggist, pardoned in 1902 after serving 24 years of a life sentence imprisonment imposed in 1878, after he was found guilty of poisoning his wife, and who was given amnesty in 1919 because his two sons were killed in the war, had his name cleared completely yesterday by action of the court of cassation.

Danval showed through experts that the scientific evidence on which he was convicted was erroneous and that which nothing was known at the time. The court quashed the old conviction, granting him a pension of 12,000 francs and damages amounting to 20,000 francs.

Australian Premier Visits War Zone

Amiens, France, Dec. 29.—(Canadian Press cable)—Premier Bruce, of Australia, and Mrs. Bruce are touring the scenes of battles in the war zone in which the Australians took part and are laying wreaths on Australian, British and French graves. Yesterday they were ceremoniously received at Amiens Cathedral. Reference was made to the personal bravery of Premier Bruce as a captain in the Australian army.

Aged Pair Are Burned to Death

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 29.—Mrs. Dorothy Buchanan, 74, and her brother, Grant Brown, 75, were burned to death last night in their home at Deep Hollow, N. Y., five miles from Susquehanna, Pa.

Sing Sing Prisoners Bank \$800 Daily

New York, Dec. 29.—"As safe as the Bank of England," that time worn expression, which has put a feeling of security into the heart of many an investor has given away in certain quarters to a more advanced phrase, "As safe as the bank of Sing Sing."

CANADA'S IMPORTS OF LIQUOR LOWER

Exports, However, Show Large Increase in This Year Over Previous One.

N. B. CONSERVATIVES HOLD BANQUET

Kept County Victor is Honored at Moncton—St. John Members Are Present.

Moncton, Dec. 29.—At the banquet held in the Brunswick Hotel last night under the auspices of local Conservatives to honor A. J. Doucette and W. A. Black, winners in the Dominion by-elections in Kent and Halifax, respectively, Mr. Doucette was present. Mr. Black sent a letter, expressing his inability to attend, a convention of his party being held last evening in Halifax.

Speeches were given by R. B. Hanson, K. C., M. P.; George B. Jones, M. P.; Dr. Murray MacLaren, M. P.; and Hon. J. B. M. Baxter. The meeting was presided over by E. A. Kelly, K. C., and Ferdinand Robidoux, ex-M. P. for the County of Kent, who presided over the meeting. A message of greeting and loyalty was sent to Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen and a greeting was also sent to W. A. Black, of Halifax.

Wire Briefs

Vienna, Dec. 29.—Severe blizzards continue throughout Austria, hampering communications. Food supplies in Vienna are diminishing and prices are rising rapidly.

Palermo, Dec. 29.—Several persons are reported to have been killed by the explosion of a powder magazine at Mondello, near here. Enormous damage resulted.

Paris, Dec. 29.—M. Venizelos, former Premier of Greece, left Paris for Athens last evening. He had evaded the newspapermen by announcing that his departure had been postponed.

Berne, Dec. 29.—Avalanches are crashing down the passes of the Alps with greater frequency than at any time within the last ten years. Many buildings have been destroyed and in some cases whole families have been buried while asleep. The forests are suffering considerably.

NO CHARGES IN SLAYING OF WOMAN

Detectives Continue Activities But Held Back by Fall of Snow.

INTERVIEW GIRL

Says She Saw Mrs. Whiteside on Thursday, December 20.

No further light was thrown today on the mystery surrounding the murder of Mrs. Clara Whiteside although there was no let up to the activities of the detectives, who are working day and night in an effort to find some tangible clue that will lead to the arrest of the perpetrator of the terrible crime. Every clue is being run down and numerous reports are being investigated, but so far there apparently has not been sufficient evidence secured to lay a charge either against James P. Gorman, the mulatto, or Stewart Godwin, the boy, who are being held at police headquarters for further investigation.

Interviews Girl. Sergeant Detective Power announced this morning that he went to East St. John yesterday afternoon and there interviewed a girl, who was reported to have seen Mrs. Whiteside on Thursday afternoon, December 20. When questioned by Detective Power she said she was quite certain that she had seen her on that afternoon although she was not positive owing to the lapse of time. A number of other people were interviewed, but none were able to throw any new light on the mystery.

Asked if he intended to send Detective Kirkpatrick to Swan Creek today, Sergeant Power said "No," that there were other matters, which had to be investigated here and, were at present taking up attention, but none were, he said, they are thoroughly investigating Gorman's story. The heavy snow storm, he said, was causing them inconvenience.

POSTAL CHANGES TO BE EFFECTIVE JAN. 1

Irish Treaty—Holiday on Rural Routes—Sorting Examination by Local Postmasters

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—The new Canadian postal treaty with the Irish Free States will become effective on January 1, making provision for direct money order exchange between Canada and Ireland.

Rural mail contractors will receive a holiday on New Year's Day, an innovation which will be continued each year by the department unless objection is made by patrons.

The practice of withholding a month's pay as a service guarantee will end with this year.

Beginning with January 31, examinations on sortation affecting employees receiving less than \$1,200 a year in larger post offices, will be carried out by local postmasters. In the past these tests were carried out by departmental officials.

A new form of money order will become effective on July 1, 1924. It is expected to prevent fraudulent practices.

Ryan of U. M. U. Is Arrested in West

Edmonton, Dec. 29.—William Ryan, vice-president of District No. 18, United Mine Workers of America, arrested on a charge of abducting three men who were proceeding to work in the region of Mile 47 and 48, Alberta's coal branch, where a strike is in progress, was released on bail here today for appearance in court here on Monday afternoon.

Mariner Is Ordained at 77

New York, Dec. 29.—Rev. Robert Thorpe of Newark, N. J., now in charge of St. Andrew's Chapel, Lincoln Park, N. Y., was ordained last week in that diocese at the age of 77 years. He is a retired mariner and, following his abandonment of the sea, became active in religious work. He was ordained deacon two years ago and his subsequent ability and enthusiasm in church work brought him to the notice of the standing committee of the diocese, who recommended his ordination.

Makes Murder Threat In Judge's Presence

Boston, Dec. 29.—Ordered to the Psychopathic Hospital for observation when arraigned in Municipal Court charged with wrecking the office of Dr. Isidor Ross, a dentist at 8 Chambers street, West End, Miss Lillian Becker, 18-year-old blonde, of Chelsea, threatened to murder the dentist as she was being taken from the court room.

DEFIES POLICE TO PREVENT WEDDING

British Columbia Girl to Marry Chinese Despite Parents' Objection.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 29.—Irene Blackman, 22, of Nelson, B. C., defied local police to prevent her marrying Charlie Wren, aged 25, a Chinese of Vancouver.

At the request of the girl's parents, who intercepted letters from her Chinese lover and then discovered that she had left town, Vancouver police had to be called in to prevent the wedding.

CHISEL BLADE IS DRIVEN INTO SKULL

Strange Circumstances Attend Death of Winthrop Man Found on Floor in Home.

Winthrop, Mass., Dec. 29.—A strange chain of circumstances surrounding the death of Wm. J. Downes, post office clerk and prominent yachtsman, baffled police investigators and the night before last called in after the discovery of Downes' dead body locked in his home here last night.

The body was found lying face down on the floor of a bedroom with the blade of a common chisel and screw driven its full length into the skull, just back of the right ear. On a bed four feet away, lay a blood-stained hammer. Downes' hands were stained with blood and there were stains on the wall paper of the room.

The discovery was made by Downes' daughter, Dorothy, upon her return from work in Boston. Downes, who was 63 years of age, had not been in good health, the police said. The police inclined to the theory of suicide.

British Radio Gets U. S. Full Program

London, Dec. 29.—Success attended attempts last night to hear throughout Britain a programme broadcast from America. The North Downs Receiving Station in Kent notwithstanding much atmospheric disturbance, received distinctly a programme from East Pittsburg. It came through with remarkable clearness.

Guayaquil, Dec. 29.—Advices from Tulcan say that three new earth shocks have been recorded there.

More Dollars Come in For Quadruplets' Bank Account

The fund which the Times-Star has opened at request of St. John for the use of the four babies who arrived on Christmas Day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Mahaney, 77 St. James street, was swelled by several contributions of \$1 each this morning and much more was expected as the day advanced.

HOLD NEWS OF DEATH FROM WIFE

Father Refuses to Tell Her of Fate of Dixmude Commander.

ALL FRANCE AWAITS

No Further News of Crew of French Dirigible, Missing a Week.

British United Press. Toulon, France, Dec. 29.—A grim old Frenchman, hiding a breaking heart, stood on the stoop of a little house here today and guarded an expectant young mother from a horde of curious who would see the wife of the man who commanded the Dirigible Dixmude on her last fateful voyage into uncharted seas.

As all France waited anxiously for further news of the great airship, missing since a week ago today, the father of its youthful commander, Capt. Du Plessis De Grenada, stood guard at the doorway of the captain's house to see that his wife should not know of her husband's fate until after the expected child is born.

"You cannot pass," he said, shortly to all who came. In the house, the young wife, serenely awaited the birth of another soldier of France, knitted tiny clothes and planned the joy her child would bring her hero husband.

Cannot Be Told. "She cannot be told yet," the old man outside said, refusing to shed a single tear when the news was brought to him that the body of his son had been given up by the sea off the coast of Sicily. The shock would kill her. She must not know.

Last year his wife fell sick. He lived for her and the children and he made a vow that if the good God brought her safe back to health he would go afoot to the infirmary.

The old man looked up at the sky—a great vaulted space of blue that had taken its son from him—and shook his head sadly.

"There must not be another son for France."

Big Immigration Influx Promised

Toronto, Dec. 29.—What promises to be one of the largest movements of immigrants into Canada for some years, will take place during the first two months of 1924, according to C. N. R. officials. Not until the end of March, it was said, will there be an end to the influx.

Six transatlantic lines have completed arrangements with the Canadian Government and with the National Railways for the carrying of the large number of sailings which has been announced by each line, arrangements have been made for the handling of the traffic in Canada.

Further announcement of the dates of arrival will be made by the C. N. R.

BRAINS PLUS—What? BEAUTY



Fellow students judge Miss Amelie Prescott the most beautiful co-ed attending Louisiana State University, where she also holds an enviable record as a brilliant law student. Upon graduation the lady fair announces her intention to hang out a shingle and is equally resolved that she'll not be an old maid.

Spectators Groan As Real Beer Flows In Golden Flood to Sewer

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—While a large crowd looked on from vantage points on Northern Avenue bridge, a force of men from the staff of the Appraisers' Stores emptied the contents of 36 kegs of real Pilsener beer into the waters of Fort Point Channel. Groans from the spectators went up as each keg splashed its contents into the harbor.

The beer is part of a big lot seized by the Customs Special Duty Squad aboard the German steamer Bayern on November 2, just after her arrival from Hamburg. Buried beneath hundreds of pounds of ice, the inspectors found the kegs and also 500 bottles of beer. The ship store list showed no entry of beer, because under the ruling of the Supreme Court some months ago it is not permissible for vessels to bring malt liquors into American waters.

The kegs were smashed and emptied because some of them had begun to leak, wetting down the floors of the seizure room, and the beer had spoiled owing to the heat. The lot in bottles is being pending a court order, but in all probability it will meet a like fate in the near future.

SHED TENDERS UP New Vessel For Halifax Service

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 29.—The Lovat steamship Company, recently organized under the Nova Scotia Companies Act with headquarters at Pictou, will inaugurate this spring a fortnightly sailing, Halifax to Pictou, Souris and the Magdalen Islands. A 170 foot steamer is being built on the Clyde.

Drug Addicts In New Brunswick 250

Montreal, Dec. 29.—Since Quebec has the largest number of drug addicts of any province in the Dominion it would not be surprising that she should take the lead in providing suitable care for such unfortunate, declared Rev. Dr. J. G. Shearer, of Toronto, general secretary for the Social Service Council of Canada, in his report at the annual convention of the latter organization yesterday.

Quebec, he said, was estimated to have 8,800 drug addicts, British Columbia 2,250, and Ontario 1,800. Figures for the other provinces were: Prince Edward Island, none; Nova Scotia, 300; New Brunswick, 250; Manitoba, 500; Saskatchewan, 250, and Alberta, 350.

Changing Names Of Irish Places

Dublin, Dec. 29.—There is a passion in the Irish Free State at present for changing the names of places. Dublin, the suburban watering place Bray has now become Bri Cualainn, and Dundalk for a time became Dun Dealgan, though it was soon changed back again.

MAN AND BOY CLUBBED ON WAY TO WORK

Giant Finlander Strikes Terror in Hearts of Early Morning Workers.

CHASED AND CAUGHT

Mind is Unbalanced Over Loss of Money While in Montreal.

A giant Finlander, more than six feet tall, and weighing about 240 pounds, ran amuck in Charlotte and Princess streets this morning and struck terror into the hearts of people who were on their way to work. Yelling a weird conglomeration of foreign words, he went through the streets wielding a piece of wood and attacking people who came within his reach.

He attacked Allan Cooper, who was waiting for an East St. John car at King and Charlotte streets. He raced down Charlotte street and struck Gordon Groves a savage blow over the head.

Is Knocked Insensible. He struck Allen Cooper on the head knocking him insensible and inflicting a deep laceration on the side of his head. He then struck Gordon Groves, a youth, on the head and, while the lad was knocked unconscious, his heavy cap protected his head and the skull was not broken. He also struck another man, whose name could not be learned, and then proceeded into Princess street where he struck down Sydney. Here he encountered Colin Chisholm, who was shovelling off the sidewalk in front of Frank Donnelly's taxi service station and lively stable. Andrews, however, saw him coming and immediately took up a position to defend himself. The assailant evidently had enough sense to realize that he was attacking a man who was armed and he turned and continued up the street.

Wild Man Chased. By this time a number of men assembled and started out after the wild man. When he saw them coming he started to run up Princess street and then turned to the right and ran into the arms of Colin Chisholm, who was driving one of the city snow plows. He leaped for Chisholm, but by this time his pursuers were close to him and one tall chap, whose name was not given, showed that at some time during his life had learned the art of wrestling for he flying leap bowled the Finlander over and together they landed in a snow bank where the struggle was quickly ended by many willing hands.

Chased and Subdued. Chased and subdued in Sydney street after an exciting time, the Finlander was taken to the police station. He said he had come here from Montreal on the way home to Europe and that he had been robbed in the metropolis and thought the St. John men were the ones who took \$600 from him. He paid a fine, compensation for loss of a day's work by Cooper and also \$5 for a doctor's bill for attending to Cooper's injuries.

It is a mercy that his weapon was not heavier than it was or there might have been more murders to report.

First Attacks Allan Cooper. The story as told to the representative of The Times follows: A little after 7 o'clock the man was seen in Charlotte street. He was yelling and muttering in a foreign tongue. Apparently owing to the early hour and the storm, the few passers-by paid little attention to him, but soon his actions became such as to demand attention.

He was standing near head of King street. He heard someone approaching him, muttering, but paid no attention until he suddenly received a blow on the head, and then for a time came oblivious.

When he revived he saw the man continuing down Charlotte street. He felt weak from the heavy blow, but immediately started after the man, and then hurried to warn a couple of approaching the danger zone. He said they must have thought him crazy, for they were terrified when he rushed up to them with blood streaming from the wound in his head.

Gives Boy Savage Blow. By this time the Finlander had attacked Gordon Groves, who was walking up Charlotte street. When the (Continued on page 2, second column.)

Weather Report

Toronto, Dec. 29.—The disturbance which was over Temiskaming yesterday morning is now centered south of Newfoundland as a severe storm and heavy snowfalls have occurred in Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. The northwestern area of high pressure has increased in intensity and the weather is quite cold in the western provinces.

Forecast: Fair and colder. Maritime—Decreasing north-west winds, mostly fair and calm tonight and Sunday. Gulf and North Shore—North-east gales with local snowfalls or flurries. Sunday northerly winds, fair and colder.

New England—Fair and somewhat colder tonight; Sunday increasing cloudiness, probably followed by snow or rain; diminishing west and northwest winds shifting to easterly Sunday night.

Table with columns: Highest, Lowest, Xester, during, 8 a.m., day, night. Rows: Victoria, Kamloops, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Montreal, St. John, Halifax, New York.