

Two London Firemen Crushed to Death In Wreck on Grand Trunk Near Sarnia

Nathaniel Hughes and Richard Crapp Victims of Collision Between a Freight and Express—Misplaced Switch the Cause—Passengers Unhurt.

In a wreck which occurred on the main line of the Grand Trunk, about two miles east of the Sarnia Tunnel depot, shortly before 3 o'clock this morning, two Londoners were crushed to death. They were Nathaniel Hughes and Richard Crapp, firemen on a doubleheader freight train bound from London to the Tunnel. The trains in collision were the freight, and express No. 4, from Sarnia to Toronto, via Stratford.

The accident occurred on the main line, a short distance east of the switch which marks the junction of the main line and the track leading to Stratford.

Passenger train No. 4, which was in charge of Conductor W. Finlay and Engineer W. Newcombe, left Sarnia Tunnel a few minutes before the accident occurred, while a heavy snow-storm was in progress.

About midnight a heavy through freight in charge of Conductor Durkin, left London, hauled by two locomotives. The first engine was No. 160, with Engineer F. McGladery and Fireman Hughes; the second was No. 142, with Engineer M. Wilson and Fireman Crapp—all of London.

Switch Was Misplaced. It appears that when the passenger train pulled out of the Sarnia yards, the switch at the junction of the main-line and the Stratford line was set for the freight train instead of for the passenger train, the result being that the express, instead of continuing on the track to Stratford, was turned onto the line on which the freight was bowling along at a good rate of speed. Engineer Newcombe, of the passenger train, claims that the storm was so severe that he could not see that the switch was set against him, and did not notice he was on the wrong track until it was too late to avoid the accident.

The heavy freight was not a great distance from the switch when the passenger train struck it, and the result was that the freight and express came together head-on, about two hundred yards from the junction of the two lines. The crash was a terrible one.

Firemen Crushed to Death. Hughes and Crapp were crushed to death before their engineers had an opportunity to warn them that an accident was inevitable. McGladery and Wilson were on their seats, peering out of the windows, when the headlight of the passenger locomotive was seen through the darkness and storm. Neither of the drivers had time to jump before the trains came together, and strange to say, neither was injured.

When the three locomotives struck, Hughes and Crapp happened to be bent forward throwing in coal. The impact drove the cabs of the locomotives backward, and pinned the firemen between the fire sheets and the tenders.

Engineers Escaped. Engineer Newcombe and Fireman Crapp were uninjured. Continued on Page Nine.

80,000 FRENCH MINERS STRIKE; GOVERNMENT FEARS ARMED CLASH

Lens, France, March 22.—The rapid extension of the miners' strike is causing great anxiety to the authorities. It is estimated that nearly 80,000 men have ceased work, and mining operations are at a standstill throughout the departments of Pas De Calais and Nord. The Government, though it has taken the precaution of drafting a large body of troops and gendarmes to the vicinity, is acting with extreme tact and making no display of force during the miners' processions, which are permitted to take

Victims of the Wreck.

Fireman Nathaniel Hughes, one of the victims of the accident, was the oldest son of Mr. John Hughes, high constable for Middlesex, and lived with his parents at the court house. He was born at Appin, and came to this city when his father was several years ago appointed caretaker of the county buildings. Hughes was a well-built, powerful fellow, and although only 20 years of age, would have passed for some years older. He was a most trustworthy employee, and won the respect not only of the officials but his fellow employees. In addition to his parents, he is survived by one brother and one sister.

Richard Crapp, the second victim, who like Hughes, was crushed to death between the boiler and tender of his engine, resided on the east side of Burwell street, between Simcoe and Horton streets. He was 36 years old, and leaves a wife and two children, the elder being about 4 years of age.

Crapp was a native of England, and had been in Canada 18 years. Before coming to London, he spent two years on a farm in Lobo Township, where he has two brothers. Crapp had been employed on the Grand Trunk for the past two years, and was steady and industrious.

USTICA SHAKEN BY EARTHQUAKE

Score of Shocks Forms Great Valley and Demolishes Buildings.

New York, March 22.—A dispatch to the Herald from Palermo, Italy, says that there have been 21 earthquake shocks on the island of Ustica during the last three days. The population lives in constant terror. A great valley has been formed in the center of the island, and all the houses have been demolished.

The last shocks, which occurred on Wednesday afternoon, finished the work of destruction. Panic seized upon the 2,000 inhabitants of the islands, who abandoned their homes after the first shock, and fled to the fields and public squares. Many took refuge in boats in the harbor. The island is used as a penal settlement for hardened criminals, of whom 600 are quartered there.

These were also panic stricken, and attempted to escape, attacking their guards, but were subdued. They began a second disturbance yesterday. One of three mountains on the island is reported by the submarine cable to be in eruption. The Government at the first news, sent the cruiser Varese to subdue the revolt of the prisoners, and aid the sufferers. She was followed by the cruiser Eurydice, with a scientific commission aboard to study the seismic phenomena. Yesterday the steamship Egadia was sent with soldiers, doctors and a detachment of the Red Cross nurses and litter, as great disasters are feared. The prefect has been ordered to send a representative to the scene. Ustica is an island of 2,000 inhabitants in the Province of Palermo, 68 miles northwest of Palermo. Its soil is very fertile.

STILL AT ODDS

Franco and Germany Remain Unyielding as to Morocco.

Berlin, March 22.—Russia's instructions to Count Cassini, chief delegate to the Moroccan conference, have affected the German Government most unfavorably, and came almost as a challenge at the moment that a settlement of the questions in dispute at Algiers seemed certain. Dispatches from Algiers today indicate an unyielding disposition on either side over the question whether the French and Spanish inspectors of police shall co-operate in each harbor or consist of four exclusively French and four exclusively Spanish inspectors.

New Fruit Marking.

Ottawa, March 21.—At the Dominion conference of Fruit Growers this morning it was decided to do away with the system of marking fruit by xx, such as xxx, xx, etc. Four simpler markings were adopted, namely fancy, No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3.

SNAPSHOT NUMBER EIGHTEEN.

The school girl whose picture is published today will receive a prize of a dollar if she calls at the Advertiser office between 5:30 and 6 o'clock tomorrow afternoon and presents a copy of the paper containing the

SNAPSHOT NUMBER EIGHTEEN.

The photo was taken quite recently, after the boys and girls had been dismissed from their studies for the day.

Frank Graham, 7 years old, of 273 William street, is the name of the boy whose picture appeared in The Advertiser on Tuesday. Frank is a pupil in Part I. at St. Mary's school, East London, and is one of the brightest in his class. He received his prize.

WERE KINGSTON BALLOTS SECRET?

Govt. Says Yes, But Mr. Pense Thinks Otherwise.

BILL THAT HITS REGISTRARS

Proposed Amendment to Election Act D-bars Them from Acting as Returning Officers.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Toronto, March 21.—The House put in a businesslike afternoon today on the public bills and orders, a score of bills being given second readings or forwarded to committee. The afternoon was enlivened by a spirited passage regarding the ballot used in the Kingston bye-election, the Opposition claiming that it was not a secret ballot, while the members of the Government contended that it was.

Mr. Pense moved that the clerk of the crown in chancery be directed to lay upon the table of the House facsimiles of the ballot papers furnished to the returning officers and deputy returning officers, and used in the recent bye-elections in the city of Kingston and in the North Riding of the city of Toronto.

Mr. Pense said that the impression prevailed that the numbered ballot had been abolished, but he declared that it had been used in the Kingston election. The members of the Government who took part in the campaign were fair, but they had some wicked partners, and on the Conservative side the election was not as pure as the public imagined. Kingston hotels were wide open on polling day. The Government need not have conducted just before the election, an investigation into the alleged partisanship of an official at the Rockwood Asylum. Since the election, some of the Kingston hotelkeepers to meet his face to face. Pressure had been brought to bear on the hotelkeepers, and some of them had been afraid to vote. The Government had not given the Province a free and untrammelled ballot.

Mr. Foy said that Mr. Pense had given conclusions without stating the facts on which they were based. The same had been said in regard to the North Toronto bye-election, but on investigation, Mr. Foy had been unable to discover any means by which an elector's ballot could be identified.

Hon. Mr. Pense said that when the House at last session discussed the ballot, it was the understanding that it was to be secret. It was plain that if the same number appeared on the ballot and on the stub, it would be possible to tell how any elector voted, as the deputy clerk could compare any desired number. He suggested that the Dominion ballot be adopted.

The North Toronto ballot, said Mr. Foy, was absolutely secret, and he presumed the Kingston ballot was the same.

Mr. Hanna stated that Inspector Rogers, of the asylum branch, had informed him that no investigation had been held at Kingston Asylum around election time. The Provincial Secretary said he had taken pains to notify the asylum employees that they were absolutely free to vote as they desired. A year ago, the Opposition had opposed the abolition of the numbered ballot, now they were criticising the Government for what was evidently the error of a returning officer who had acted under the old Government.

TO LESSON EXPLOSIONS.

The amendment offered by Mr. Carscallan (Hamilton), to the act respecting stationary engineers was referred to special committee. In moving its second reading, Mr. Carscallan explained on Page Two.

THE WEATHER.

Tomorrow—Fine and Cold. Sun rises, 6:18 a.m. Moon rises, 1:23 p.m. Sun sets, 6:31 p.m. Moon sets, 4:18 a.m.

A depression of considerable energy, which was to the north of Manitoba last night, now covers the lower lake region, accompanied by very strong winds and some light snowfalls. The weather has been fine and comparatively mild in the Maritime Provinces, and the cold in Manitoba and throughout the Northwest.

Minimum and Maximum Temperatures: Dawson, 2 below—24; Victoria, 4—9; Vancouver, 35—58; Calgary, 10—32; Qu'Appelle, 6 below—12; Winnipeg, 6 below—4; Port Arthur, 2—20; Parry Sound, 16—28; Toronto, 18—32; Ottawa, 14—30; Montreal, 16—34; Quebec, 16—30; St. John, 22—34; Halifax, 28—38.

FORECASTS.

Today—Fresh northwesterly, March 22—8 a.m. mostly fair and cold; local snow flurries. Friday—Fine and cold. TEMPERATURES. Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Weather. Calgary, 10, 4, Fair. Winnipeg, 12, 14, Clear. Port Arthur, 12, 18, Clear. Parry Sound, 14, 18, Clear. Toronto, 14, 18, Snow. Ottawa, 14, 12, Fair. Montreal, 16, 22, Cloudy. Quebec, 16, 22, Cloudy. Father Point, 24, 22, Cloudy. The sign — indicates below zero.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Wednesday were: Highest, 37°, lowest, 16.2° above.



Photo by Edy Bros. RICHARD CRAPP, Fireman Who Lost His Life in the Collision on G. T. R. Near Sarnia Tunnel.

ALLEGED HORSE STEALING

John Mawby Arrested on Charge Preferred at Blenheim.

Local police authorities were yesterday notified by telegram from Blenheim, to arrest one John Mawby, an alleged horse thief.

Today Detectives Rider and Nickle located Mawby out in the east end of the city and placed him behind the bars, where he awaits the coming of a Blenheim officer.

Mawby strongly asserts that he is innocent of any wrongdoing, and that he obtained the horses by a fair and square deal, having a year in which to pay for them.

Mawby drove to this city from Blenheim with the horses. The detectives know where the horses are and can get them when they are wanted.

DROVE STAGE IN OLD DAYS

Death of Mr. Hugh Sharkey, Sen., at Seventy-Three.

Hugh Sharkey, an old resident of this city, died last night at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Charles Brennan, 27 Pictou street, aged 73 years.

Mr. Sharkey came to this city in 1852 from New York, where he had spent a couple of years after his arrival from Ireland. He was well known in the city. For some time he drove a stage coach between London and Stratford, and also between London and Port Stanley. He is survived by one son and two daughters—Hugh, Hotelkeeper, Petrolia; Mrs. Charles Brennan, this city, and Mrs. Wollon, Toronto. Two sisters and one brother also survive—Mrs. Pleasance, this city; Miss Sara Sharkey, Hamilton, and Bernadette of Michigan.

The funeral will be held from Mr. Brennan's residence, 27 Pictou street, to St. Peter's Cathedral at 8:30 o'clock tomorrow. Requiem high mass will be celebrated at 9 o'clock.

BURGLARS AT WORK

Enter Ridout Street Home and Get Clothing and Cash.

The home of Mr. Charles D. Burdick, of Ridout street, was entered by burglars last night, and two overcoats, an alarm clock, about 45 in change, and other articles were stolen. The burglary was done in a very leisurely manner, the thieves evidently taking their time.

During the night Mr. Burdick was awakened by a noise, as if some one was going through the house, but he paid no attention to it, thinking that it was the maid. The latter also heard the noise, and also came to the conclusion that it was caused by Mr. Burdick.

The burglars went into the pantry and cellar and helped themselves to whatever refreshments they could lay their hands on, and gave every evidence of having their nerve with them.

It is not known how many were in the gang. The police have been notified, and are working on the case.

KNIGHTS' TEMPLAR EVENT

Field Day and Banquet To Be Attended by Supreme Officers.

The Knights Templar preceptory of this city is holding its annual field day and banquet tomorrow night in the Masonic Temple, Supreme Grand Master John B. Tresidder, of Montreal, and Will J. Whyte, grand chancellor, Montreal, are to be present, together with 30 knights from Toronto. They are coming in a special train via C. P. R. A large representation from Western Ontario, especially from the London district, is expected. The delegates will commence at 2 o'clock, followed by the banquet at 8 o'clock.

A Slave of Negroes.

New York, N. Y., March 21.—Hattie Warren, a white woman of Newburg, N. Y., was lured to a resort frequented only by negroes in this city and there held a prisoner for more than five months, during which time she was subjected to the grossest indignities, according to the story told by the woman herself in the court of general sessions today.

The township of London has agreed to pay one-half the cost of an electric light to be placed by the city at the corner of the Hamilton road and Egeron street.

LONDON TO BE THE TERMINAL OF ANOTHER STEAM RAILWAY

Canada Central Company to Build West to This City from Ottawa—English Capital Behind It.

London bids fair to become one of the most important railway centers in Canada in the very near future, a scheme being now on foot to make this city the terminal of another steam line, which will run from Montreal to Ottawa, thence to Midland and Orillia, and then westward to London, and probably to the lake at Port Stanley. Yesterday, Mr. J. J. Bethel, of London, England; Mr. C. N. Armstrong, of Montreal, and Mr. L. B. Howland, of Toronto, waited on Mayor Judd in regard to the new railway. They represented what is known as the Central Railway of Canada, which, it is understood, has millions of English capital behind it.

The route as named above is an ideal one, and the promoters feel that the railway will prove one of the best-paying transportation propositions in Canada. At present in order to reach Orillia from London it is necessary to go by way of Toronto, but the new line would carry its passengers and freight to the north and Ottawa without touching Toronto.

Mayor Judd was not in a position today to give out all the facts, but it is known that he took the visitors

STRONGLY OPPOSES STREET CLOSING

Ex-Alderman Winnett Lodges Protest With His Worship the Mayor.

The first strong objection against the closing of William street was lodged with Mayor Judd today.

The protestant was Ex-Alderman W. H. Winnett, who resides on the corner of King and Burwell streets, but who runs a coal, wood and lumber business on the corner of William and Horton streets.

"I come to you as one who strongly opposes the street being closed," Mr. Winnett told the mayor.

"Why do you object?" "Because it will ruin my business."

"How do you figure that out?" "Simple enough. The farmers will not come to my place of business because they will be unable to get through William street. They will simply go around to another yard."

The mayor couldn't see it this way however.

"Would you rather have an overhead bridge on William street, with the approaches running from King street on the north, to Horton street on the south?"

"Yes, I would. Anything would be preferable to having the street closed."

"Is there a strong feeling against the closing of the street?" "Very strong. The people are getting ready to circulate a petition against it."

"Would the people go so far as to say that the street must be kept open even at the price of throwing over the entire Grand Trunk plans of grade separation in London?"

"I couldn't say as to that."

"Would you go that far yourself?" "I wouldn't like to say that, either."

"Would the citizens who are objecting accept this offer?" asked the mayor. "Would they be willing to secure some engineer in whom they have implicit faith to go into the matter and see if there is any way out of the difficulty save that of closing William street, the city of London to pay the expenses of the engineer to be engaged by the people?"

"I don't see why the people should do this," Mr. Winnett replied. "We have our own city engineer, paid by the people. Why should we hire another engineer?"

"Well, my idea is to give the people a chance to prove to their own satisfaction that they are satisfied."

IT COST HIM \$10

Young Man Who Accosted Girls on the Street Heavily Fined.

One case of drunkenness and one of disorderly conduct took up an hour of the police magistrate's time this morning.

The first prisoner was very meek. "Were you drunk?" asked Magistrate Love.

"I think I was, sir," was the answer of the prisoner.

"Where do you come from?" "Scotland," answered the prisoner.

"You're not a very good representative of Scotland are you?" asked the police magistrate.

"No, sir."

"Well, you may go. Not because of your nationality, however; but because this is your first offense. You must behave better here than you had in Scotland."

The disorderly case was against a young man who accosted several girls on Adelaide street whom he did not know. The girls were frightened and a policeman arrested the man. He was fined \$10 or 21 days in jail.

SEVENTH SOJERS FAVOR MONTREAL

Would Go to the Royal City for Their Dominion Day Outing.

The Seventh Regiment's outing on Dominion Day will in all probability be held at Montreal.

The matter has been referred to the men of the several companies, and they were largely in favor of Montreal, rather than Ottawa.

The captains of the companies have reported to the adjutant, and the latter will report to a general meeting of the staff, to be held shortly. It is understood Montreal is to be recommended.

MADE GOOD PROFITS

Actuary Blackader Testifies to Sue Life Transactions.

Ottawa, March 21.—Dealings of several more insurance companies in a wide variety of securities were laid before the insurance commission today in reports by Mr. Blackader, read by Mr. Shepley. The Sun Life Company, Mr. Blackader stated, had made good profit out of transactions in Illinois Traction and other stocks to which reference had been made yesterday. Mr. Blackader's main examination was concluded, and Mr. Fitzgerald will return tomorrow.

A. O. U. W. RATES

Grand Lodge at Chicago Increases Rates 35 Per Cent.

Chicago, March 22.—The grand lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen decided yesterday at a meeting here to raise the insurance rates of the order for members more than 55 years. The increase will make the rates 35 per cent higher than at present. The cause for the action was the inability to meet death claims that have occurred during the past three months.

GREEKS' SUIT SETTLED

Harakas and Smerlies Reach Agreement in Fraud Case.

The case of fraud preferred against Michael Harakas, a Greek, by Peter Smerlies, another Greek, was amicably settled out of court.

Harakas and Smerlies had a bet of \$500 on the speed with which certain pulleys revolved, and the former won. Agreements were signed and the money put up and handed over. But Smerlies did not like to see his good coin being spent so freely afterwards and he had Harakas up on a charge of fraud.

The settlement was effected, it is said, by Smerlies agreeing to drop the entire case upon \$100 being returned to him. The defendant wished it understood that there was nothing whatever fraudulent about the deal, but to put an end to court proceedings and publicity he would rather have the case dropped, and was willing, it is alleged, to return \$100.

The case was dismissed by Magistrate Love, who stated that he thought it to be one that should be settled out of court.