

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1923

IN N.Y. IN 1922 350 HOMICIDES

Arraignment of the Whole System of the Courts—Too Much Unpunished Crime.

(Boston Herald.)
The medical examiner of Greater New York has recently published the results of his investigations during 1922. The record disclosed is a rather startling one to those who have been influenced by recent statistics indicating a gain of forty-three over the preceding year. It is not made clear whether this record will correspond to the forthcoming report of the bureau of vital statistics which arrives at its murder record by somewhat different methods.

It is rather significant that shootings should have numbered 227 while stabbings account for thirty-four, assaults for forty-five and infanticides for thirteen homicides during the year. Police, in the discharge of their duty killed twenty-one persons, and there were fifteen combined homicides and infanticides. The latter type of crimes is apparently on the increase in this country, but trustworthy statistics are not available. The record as it stands, however, sufficiently alarming, falls, however, to reveal the true extent of a deplorable situation. Accepting the figures as they are published, they are clearly suggestive of a further trend in the direction of lawlessness and crime.

It would be interesting and practical of great value to know the number and proportion of those guilty of homicidal crimes brought to justice, convicted and finally subjected to capital punishment. There are reasons for believing that such an inquiry would bring to light an astonishing amount of unpunished capital crimes. For 1921 a statement has been published, according to which, in the county of New York, there were eighty-two indictments for murder, resulting in thirty-four convictions. But an analysis of the convictions reveals that only three were convicted of murder in the first degree, eight of murder in the second degree, while seventeen were convicted of manslaughter in the first degree and six in the second. These figures clearly indicate that a very considerable amount of capital crime goes unpunished in Greater New York.

Since the New York figures are supported by data from other sections of the country, it is not going too far to say that murder in this country is becoming a relatively harmless procedure. There is certainly the unpalatable fact for radical reform which, however, must include a wide range of statistics and conditions. We need more of all accurate and adequate statistics of

CHARLIE CHAPLIN SAYS—CAN YOU SOLVE THE PUZZLE I'VE MADE FROM MY PICTURES?

HERE are scenes from 5 of Charlie Chaplin's famous picture plays. Whether you have seen them or not, are you clever enough to solve the puzzle of the days from which these scenes were taken? To help you, we have listed the names of the plays in which the scenes appear. Can you name the play in which each scene appears? If you can, write them out and mail them at once. Don't miss this opportunity of showing in the distribution of over \$2,000.00 in Cash and Prizes.

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HOW TO SEND YOUR ANSWERS.

Write the names of the five picture plays which these scenes are from, using the side of the paper opposite the scenes. Write the names in the lower right hand corner. Write a separate sheet for each scene. Write your name, as Honorary Judge, and then in dependent names, having no connection with this company, will award the prizes, and the answer

SEA WOLF'S FIST KILLED SAILOR, DOCTOR ASSERTS

Van Buren's Surgeon at the Trial of Ex-Captain for Murder Testifies Pantryman Died After Being Hit.

New York, Feb. 9.—George H. Miles, former commander of the steamship President Van Buren, who is charged with murder on the high seas, was forced to listen in Federal court to further stories of his alleged brutality.

Dr. George W. Farquhar, who as the ship surgeon treated Harry Baxter, a pantryman, alleged victim of the captain, testified that the man had died from the effect of a solar plexus blow.

The physician further declared that the mate of the Van Buren had prevailed upon him to omit any mention of brutal treatment in his report of the death. "The captain, he said, promised to 'look out' for him in case he got into any trouble as a result of his omission."

Pushed Pantryman's Head. Miles sat chatting with Ely Rosenberg, his attorney, while the physician gave his testimony. Previous witnesses have sworn that the captain kicked the pantryman as he lay chained in the hold, that food was placed just out of his reach to torture him and that Miles struck him as he lay in his bunk in the hospital of the ship.

Under direct examination by Carlton Goldthwaite, assistant United States attorney, the ship surgeon unfolded details of his part in the sea tragedy.

"Between 12 and 1 o'clock on the night that Baxter was taken from the hold and put in the hospital the captain woke me and said he wanted a report on his condition," Dr. Farquhar testified.

"He went into the hospital and I told him Baxter was sleeping. The captain reached out and pushed the pantryman's head over with his hand, and turning to me said, 'He's not asleep.'"

"From his appearance and his behavior in waking a sick man that way I concluded that he was under the influence of liquor. This was Saturday night, and on Sunday morning I found Baxter in a dying condition."

The witness then told of making a thorough examination of the man and finding a long red mark on his side and seeing the pressure marks where the manacles had bitten into his wrists. He said he was unable to diagnose the case and concluded that Baxter's condition was due to acute mania brought about because he was a morphia addict.

"Some time after the pantryman's death Chief Officer Miller asked me to sign a paper saying that Baxter had not been brutally treated," he added. "I told him I couldn't, and mentioned the red mark on his side, but at last concluded it would be better to do it."

"Just before we reached New York on our homeward trip from London Captain Miles spoke of the matter to me again. I told him that some of the members of the crew said that he had hit Baxter and they were going to

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make trouble for him when we made port. The captain denied striking him. Blow "in Solar Plexus."

"I said that the thing puzzled me. I told him that when Baxter was brought into the hospital his condition was not serious and a few hours later I found him dying. Then the captain said: 'Well, between you and me and the gutter, I did hit that man.' 'Where?' I asked him. He replied, 'In the solar plexus.'"

Mr. Rosenberg objected to the physician being permitted to give as his opinion that the pantryman died from the effect of a solar plexus blow. Judge Francis E. Winslow overruled the objection.

Under cross-examination Mr. Rosenberg got an admission from Dr. Farquhar that he had never treated a person suffering from such an injury and that he had not noticed any marks on Baxter's stomach.

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NEWEST LIFEBOAT IS ABLE TO SAVE 150 AT A TRIP

Remarkable Development of Craft in England Bared in Royal Report.

London, Jan. 10.—(By Mail)—Some remarkable developments in lifeboat construction are referred to in a report just issued by the Royal Lifeboat Institution, as quoted by "The London Morning Post."

Great progress, states the report, has been made during the year just closed with the construction of what will be, when she is completed, the largest and most powerful motor lifeboat to have been built for the institution's station on the Mersey. She will be sixty feet long, fitted with two new engines of 90-horsepower each, and have a radius of over 100 miles.

Her two cabins will hold fifty people, while a total of 120 persons can be taken on board. This boat marks a very great development in the work of rescue from shipwreck, for she will be the first to rely entirely on motor power.

So satisfied are the institution's advisers with the work accomplished by motor lifeboats that there are now thirty-eight of them in the fleet of 228 lifeboats. Six more motor lifeboats are nearing completion; eight new ones will be laid shortly, and another six are projected.

As previously reported, the last of the eight motor boats sent to the coast last year was fitted with a six-cylinder engine of 90-horsepower, and is so entirely enclosed that it could be completely submerged and still continue to run so long as the air intake was above water.

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Mutual Life of Canada Rolls Up Over Three Million Dollars Surplus Earnings

Company has record-breaking year

POLICYHOLDERS in the Mutual Life Assurance Company of Canada have every reason for congratulation as a result of the remarkable showing in all departments of the Company's business last year.

The fifty-third annual report, presented on February 1st at the Annual Meeting to the policyholders of the Company, who alone constitute the Company, shows that in each of the three financially important divisions of the business, namely, **death claims, expenses incurred and the rate of interest earned on invested funds**, the Company had an unusually favorable experience, the combination resulting in a wonderfully prosperous year, as shown by the

Record Surplus Earnings of \$3,040,273.93

This is equivalent to \$56.72 for every \$1,000 of total assets held at the end of the year, an unparalleled achievement in the history of the Company.

14% Decrease in Operating Expenses

In harmony with the spirit of the times the affairs of the Company were conducted with a due regard for economy. While the business was expanded to the extent of over \$34,000,000 of new assurances written, the ratio of expense to income was reduced from 18.60% to 15.96%.

Increased Interest Rate on Investments

Owing to the favorable opportunities for investment prevailing during the past few years, the average rate of interest earned on the Company's invested funds has been steadily rising. This condition continued during the year 1922, when the average rate of interest earned over the entire investments increased from 6.60% to 6.74%.

Increased Distribution to Policyholders

The steadily increasing factor in the economic life of our country, which the institution is becoming, and the magnitude of the great public service it performs find illustration in the following facts:

1. During the past year the Company distributed in cash among policyholders and their beneficiaries the sum of **\$5,269,441.21**, being an increase over the previous year of \$1,320,164.20.
2. The amount of money invested by the Company in Canadian securities, all working for the general good and up-building of Canada, is over **\$50,000,000.**
3. The Company stands pledged to distribute to citizens of this country and Newfoundland, where it also does business, the large sum of **\$246,486,654**, when existing policy contracts mature.

The Strength of Canada's Only Mutual Life Company

After providing for all liabilities in accordance with Government requirements on a stronger reserve basis than called for by the Statutes, and setting aside a special investment reserve of \$611,776.34, there remains a

General Surplus Fund of \$6,603,718.60

which has been assigned as follows:—

1. Provision for dividends under deferred dividend policies issued prior to 1911 \$3,545,408.89
2. Provision for interim dividends under quinquennial policies \$342,773.33
3. Provision for dividends payable in 1923 \$2,000,000.00
4. Provision for mortality fluctuation and other contingencies \$715,536.38

Total \$6,603,718.60

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