

TRIPLE MURDER AND SUICIDE; TRAGEDY IN GREY COUNTY

FARMER KILLS WIFE, DAUGHTER, SON AND SELF

[Special to The Advertiser] Shelbourne, Ont., Dec. 8. — Word has been received here late last night of a murder and suicide in the northern part of Melancthon Township, about ten miles from this place. It is said that James Coulter, a farmer, killed his wife, daughter and son, and then shot himself.

According to the somewhat meager reports of the tragedy that have come from the spot, the son, a boy, was killed with an axe while in the barn. The other victims were shot.

The spot where the tragedy was enacted is an isolated one, being one of the loneliest in Grey County, and nothing very definite can be learned as yet, but if the first reports are correct, one of the most awful murder tragedies in the history of the Province has taken place.



GRAND DUKE VLADIMIR, UNCLE OF THE CZAR.

Reported To Have Shot His Majesty In Quarters Over Exiling of Cyril.

WM. HAWTHORNE DEAD

Past Grand Chancellor of K. of P. Passes Away in Detroit.

A special dispatch to The Advertiser from Detroit announces the death there last night of Wm. Hawthorne, a former London hotelkeeper.

Mr. Hawthorne was in business here for many years, being proprietor of the European Hotel, but for the past twelve years he had resided in Detroit.

Mr. Hawthorne was prominent in the Knights of Pythias, at one time holding the position of grand chancellor for Canada.

The deceased, who was 68 years of age and a native of Dublin, Ireland, will be buried in this city.

TWO CASES ENTERED

Light Docket Probable for December Sessions of the Peace.

At 2 o'clock today only two civil cases had been entered for the December sessions, which commence on Tuesday next before Judge Macbeth.

The first case is that of Armstrong vs. C. P. R. for \$150 for a cot killed on the defendant's track in March last.

Elliot and McDonald for plaintiff, and Angus McMurtry, Toronto, for defendant.

Cunningham vs. Dawson is a line fence dispute. The plaintiff claims \$200 damages for his property, while the defendant enters a counter claim for \$200, and asks that the fence built by plaintiff be removed, and the dividing line settled. Meredith, Judd & Meredith for plaintiff, and Meredith, Fisher & Taylor for defendant.

AN EXCEPTIONAL CASE

Father and Son Charged With Selling Mining Stock Without License.

Nestor A. Young and his son appeared in the police court this morning to answer a charge of selling stock in Canada without a license.

The proceedings against the Youngs does not mean that the company they represent is an illegal one, or that several Londoners interested will lose their investments. They represent "The Pick and Drill Mining Company," of Prescott, in the State of Arizona, a company with a charter in the States, but which has none in Canada.

The charge against the father and son is that of unlawfully acting for a provincial mining company, said company not being licensed in the Province of Ontario in selling the periodical disposing of stocks and stock certificates.

Several Londoners are interested in the mine, among them being Anthony Keenleyside, Thomas E. Uren, John M. McIntosh, and Thomas Ryan. These latter have been notified to appear before the court.

The case was adjourned till the 14th. "Two drunks were before the magistrate, but their cases differed widely. One was charged with being a first offender. The other will be allowed to go a week from today."

SILVER WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pritchett Celebrated Event.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pritchett, of 75 Maitland street, last evening celebrated the 25th anniversary of their marriage. A large number of relatives and friends gathered at their home, spent a most enjoyable time, and made the bride and groom of a quarter of a century ago the recipients of numerous gifts. Mr. and Mrs. Pritchett were married in London and have lived here continuously since, with the exception of a short period spent in the west.

Their friends last night expressed the hope that Mr. and Mrs. Pritchett would see another quarter of a century of wedded life.

JAP TROOPSHIP ADRIPT

1,000 Mikado's Soldiers Aboard and Some British Officers.

One Poo, Dec. 4-5 p.m.—Two Japanese army officers who have arrived here in a lifeboat report that the transport Jinsen, which left Dalny for Japan two days ago with 1,000 troops and 300 horses aboard, broke her propeller between Shantung Promontory and the Korean coast, and in a lifeboat and came to One Poo to seek assistance. The Japanese consul here has telegraphed for a man of war to rescue the helpless vessel. Some British officers are on board the transport.

THE LONDON LIFE APPEAL

Decision of County Judge Will Not Affect the Future.

Assessment Commissioner Grant says that the decision re the London Life Insurance Company, handed down today by Judge Macbeth, will not have a very great bearing upon the assessment of London this year or any year, as the decision only affects companies whose headquarters are in London. It practically only amounts to the \$2,000 assessment involved in the present appeal.

PLAYER'S ARM BROKEN

Accident at the Armouries During Indoor Baseball Match.

At the indoor baseball match at the armouries on Tuesday evening last, Pte. King, of G Company, had one of the bones in his left arm broken. King was at bat, and knocked a liner down the first base line. He ran to the base and the first baseman, Feldt, held the ball outside of the line, touching King on the back. King fell, and in putting out his arm to save himself, sustained the injury. His arm pained him considerably, but he continued to play. After the game it was discovered on examination that his arm was broken. The small bone of the forearm is broken between the wrist and the elbow.

TINPLATE COMPANY IN COURT

One of Company's Appeals Dismissed—One Allowed.

Decision was given in the high court at Toronto, yesterday, in two appeals brought by the Canadian Tin Plate Company (now called Hamilton Tin Plate Company) against the assessment of London this year. According to the decision, the company's appeal against the assessment of London this year was dismissed, but its appeal against the assessment of London next year was allowed.

The company's appeal against the assessment of London this year was dismissed because the company had not shown that the assessment was unreasonable. The company's appeal against the assessment of London next year was allowed because the company had shown that the assessment was unreasonable.

"COME, SPOON WITH ME"

Sang Night-Gowned Co-Eds Who Paraded Before Men's Quarters.

Selmsgrove, Pa., Dec. 8.—To show their dissatisfaction at the new rules for the government of the girls' dormitory, the students of Susquehanna University held an impromptu parade last night. The alleged cause for the parade was the refusal of the trustees to allow the young ladies to wear nightgowns to the dining hall. The students sang "Come, Spoon with Me" and other songs as they paraded before the men's quarters.

THE WEATHER.

London, Friday, Dec. 8. Sun rises, 7:38 a.m. Moon rises, 3:11 p.m. Sun sets, 4:41 p.m. Moon sets, 4:07 a.m.

The weather today has been fine and very mild in Ontario, and cloudy and comparatively mild in Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, while in Manitoba there has been a change to colder again.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 42-48; Vancouver, 42-47; Kamloops, 34-38; Calgary, 30-36; Edmonton, 16-20; Qu'Appelle, 21-32; Winnipeg, 14-30; Port Arthur, 14-20; Parry Sound, 22-42; Toronto, 30-44; Ottawa, 28-38; Montreal, 30-38; Quebec, 28-34; St. John, 30-36; Halifax, 30-38.

Tomorrow—Fair and Cooler.

FORECASTS.

Friday, Dec. 8-9 a.m. Today—Variable winds; fine and mild. Saturday—Fair and a little cooler.

STATIONS.

Calgary, 30-36; Winnipeg, 14-30; Parry Sound, 22-42; Toronto, 30-44; Ottawa, 28-38; Montreal, 30-38; Quebec, 28-34; St. John, 30-36; Halifax, 30-38.

WEATHER NOTES.

The weather continues fine and mild from Ontario to the Maritime Provinces, but has turned somewhat colder in the North-West Provinces.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Thursday were: Highest, 46°; lowest, 37° above.

WITTE RESIGNS; CZAR SAYS NO

Russian Ministers Ask Permission to Retire.

A FINANCIAL CRASH AT HAND

Depositors Start Run on St. Petersburg Banks—Princesses Act as Strike Breakers.

Berlin, Dec. 8-5:22 p.m.—A dispatch to the Tagerblatt, from St. Petersburg, dated yesterday and received here today by way of Eydtkuhnen, East Prussia, says that Premier Witte has given his resignation to the Emperor, who refused to accept it.

London, Dec. 7.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Mail, in a dispatch sent by way of Eydtkuhnen, East Prussia, says: "Prominent military commanders everywhere are requesting permission to resign. The Minister of War himself (Lieut.-Gen. Rudiger) has asked the Emperor to allow him to retire. The Minister of the Interior (M. Durnov) and others have followed the example of the Minister of War. Count Witte stands alone, but even he is losing heart."

St. Petersburg, via Eydtkuhnen, Dec. 7.—It is said that the strikers are securing information from interior towns. According to dispatches today, mutineers have seized the arsenal at Ekaterinodar, and secured 15,000 rifles, which have been distributed at Ekaterinodar and Novorossiysk. It is also said that a revolt has broken out at Elizabet, and that insurrectionary troops are masters of the situation at Novorossiysk.

The situation at Kiev is described as being an extremely serious one. Some accounts say that a massacre has occurred, in which 1,500 persons were killed.

Royal Strike-Breakers.

The only break in the ranks of the telegraphers is reported from Kazan. There has been a partial resumption of mail delivery here by means of volunteers, but it requires two policemen or two soldiers to escort every carrier.

In the postoffice the officials who can be spared are working in other departments with volunteers, some of whom are of high rank.

Princess Obolenskaya, Princess Kolyubey, Countess Morozova and Countess Ozerova are writing letters in the mail-room.

At Kharkoff it is reported that 5,000 soldiers have agreed not to fire on the people, and at Rostoff the Third Grenadier Artillery, consisting of 400 men, has held a meeting and formulated service demands. Similar action, it is rumored, has been taken by the military engineers at Odessa and by the troops in several places in its Baltic provinces.

Pillage and Torch.

Large bands of peasants are marching and pillaging. It is reported that Dorpat is in flames.

A stringent law to prevent agitation for political strikes, and the spread of propaganda prejudicial to the discipline of the army and navy is about to be issued.

It now appears that the comrades of Sokoloff, the railway engineer of Samara, who was condemned to death, threatened the country with a general railway strike, organized an independent strike on the Trans-Caspian Line from Alexandrovsk to Tashkent.

The governor-general of Kurshka, who exercises primary powers on the Afghan frontier without consulting with the St. Petersburg authorities, convened a court martial and sentenced Sokoloff to death.

The premier, as a result of the action of the executive committee of the Railway Employees' Union, in preparing for a general strike, unless the sentence was reversed before midnight, Dec. 5, was compelled to get M. Nemchaleff, the minister of communications, to employ the railway telegraph to forward a stay of execution, which fortunately arrived in time. Had the man been shot, nothing would have prevented a universal strike.

A Financial Crisis.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 7.—The immediate danger confronting the Government is a concerted attack on the country's credit. The public fear that the Government can be forced to suspend gold payments increases daily. This would be the crowning stroke of the revolutionists, who are satisfied that with the attending crash the whole house would come tumbling down.

The news that French investors, who hold four-fifths of Russia's immense foreign indebtedness, were unloading, was received with jubilation by the revolutionists.

The savings bank was subjected to a run, and at the State Bank a long line of nervous men and women waited for hours to exchange paper money for gold. The bank officials did not attempt to dissuade them, and exchanged rolls of gold for bills as fast as they were presented.

Hotelmen Have Big Fund Fight License Reduction

Vigorous Campaign To Be Put Up Against the Temperance Movement.

The local hotelmen and shop license holders held a meeting yesterday afternoon and discussed the situation in regard to the vote on the license reduction question.

It was pointed out that the reduction will carry by a large majority if the license holders do not fight it, and a letter was read from Toronto advising that a vigorous opposition be instituted at once.

It was deemed advisable to secure a permanent secretary, whose duty it will be to provide campaign literature, and an effort will be made to join hands with the cigarmakers, who oppose the license reduction on the ground that it will throw out of employment a number of hands in London.

A committee was appointed to deal with the campaign. Already a collection has been taken up to fight the reduction movement. The hotelmen, shop license holders, brewers and cigarmakers all contributed to this fund, which, it is said, now totals about \$1,200.

Teams will be engaged for every polling subdivision in the city to carry those who are opposed to the license reduction to the polls. Scrutinizers, inside and outside, will be appointed.

HOME RULE NOW

THE MAIN ISSUE

Leader Redmond Says the Case for Ireland Was Never So Hopeful.

Philadelphia, Dec. 8.—"Since the time of Gladstone, Ireland never occupied a more powerful position than she does today. The home rule question is absolutely the main issue now before the public."

This is the message which John E. Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalists in the British House of Commons and the world over, cabled last night to the North American. Following is Mr. Redmond's dispatch in full:

"The overthrow of the Balfour Government places the Irish case once more in the forefront of British politics. Five years ago Mr. Balfour came into power with an enormous majority pledged against home rule. Today that majority has disappeared, and a Prime Minister, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, is in office who declared the government of Ireland must be placed in the hands of the Irish people."

"This marks the greatest and most encouraging advance which the home rule cause has had in a generation, and makes it absolutely the main issue now before the people of the world."

"The defeat of ex-Premier Balfour's attempt at redistributing the parliamentary seats last year with a view of reducing the number of Irish representatives by a process of flagrant gerrymandering was really the cause of the final overthrow of the Unionist-Tory administration."

"This defeat was brought about of course by the Irish party through its representatives. This is not the first time the party has shown its power. We have shown that in the long run no British Government which tries to ignore the righteous demand for home rule can long escape defeat. The political future is most encouraging."

"The great mass of the Liberals will follow the lead of the new Premier and John Morley on the Irish question. The views of these men, as well as their actions, have been consistent. Lord Rosebery's objections will have little weight."

"But the Irish party is alert as well as united. The reliance of Ireland cannot be upon any British declarations, however plausible or encouraging they may be, but upon her own strength in Parliament and the absolute justice of her demands."

"The Irish question, which has lived for a hundred years, holds the field today. The convention just held here was a great, representative gathering, strong in purpose and eloquent of the vigor of public opinion."

Says Fight Is Crucial.

"United and hopeful, the members of the Irish parliamentary party look with confidence to the Irish race and its sympathizers the world over to sustain them in this crucial fight, and to aid them in making the most for Ireland from the present situation."

"In the time of Gladstone Ireland never occupied a more powerful position than she does today."

Assessing a Bank.

Mr. Ivey, on behalf of the Molsons Bank, appealed against an assessment of \$200 for 3 feet of a lane, the balance of the lane being assessed to one Catherine Clark. Last year the land was assessed to the parties named, but as they cannot agree this year his honor struck off the assessment and the owners of the lane will now be alone assessed.

The appeal of the London Loan Company against the assessment of dividends of certain stock on the ground that the company only held the stock as security for a loan made (Continued on Page Eight.)

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A most important decision to the financial and business public was handed down by His Honor Judge Macbeth in the courthouse this morning, when the appeals against the decisions of the court of revision were heard.

This important decision is that the dividends of stocks held by loan companies are not assessable. It was brought out by an appeal carried to the county judge by the London Life Insurance Company. The company appealed against the assessment of the dividends of the Agricultural Loan and Savings Company and Ontario Loan and Savings Company stock, held by the London Life.

Mr. Jeffery, who appeared for the appellants, claimed that the stocks are a part of the company's business and that in as much as the company is compelled to pay a business tax, it is not liable for an assessment of the dividends. The answer involved was \$2,386. Appeal allowed and assessment struck off.

Dividends Non-Assessable.

Another very important appeal was that of the London Electric Company, but it was dismissed. The appeal was against assessment of dividends paid shareholders. The court claiming exemption on the ground that the London Electric is a manufacturing concern.

Mr. Judd, on behalf of the appellants, claimed that the company is a manufacturing concern after the manner of the Rodgers Company. Also that the company manufactures electricity. He claimed exemption under subsection 7, section 10 of the act. The firm handles electric lamps, fittings for profit.

In deciding against the appellants, Judge Macbeth pointed out that it has recently been decided that electricity cannot be manufactured, and he declared the company was not entitled to exemption under the manufacturers' clause. Amount of assessment \$2,328. The company must pay taxes on this amount, with the exception of the sum of \$210 held in trust for Mr. Judd and \$90 held for Mr. Pringle by Mr. Kent, both of whom have been assessed for income to the individuals.

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POWERS GIVE SOP TO THE SULTAN

Save the Imperial Dignity by Agreeing to Modifications of Reform Scheme.

Constantinople, via Sofia, Bulgaria, Dec. 8.—The ambassadors of the six powers at a conference just held have accepted some of the modifications proposed by the Porte to the original scheme for the financial control of Macedonia, and an amended agreement has been forwarded to their respective governments for ratification.

This is expected promptly, when the incident will be closed. The modifications accepted apparently in no way affect the efficiency of the scheme, but are a sop given to the Sultan's self-esteem and his claims for recognition of the sovereign rights by the inclusion of an Ottoman representative in the financial commission and an agreement that the commission's decisions shall be submitted to the Sultan for formal imperial sanction.

BIG FIRE AT BUFFALO

Freight Sheds Packed With Merchandise Destroyed.

Buffalo, Dec. 8.—The shops of the Union Drydocks Company and the Erie Railroad's transfer and freight house on Ganson street, were destroyed by fire early today, causing a loss estimated at \$200,000. The Erie freight house was an immense building, running parallel with the south side of Buffalo Creek and the north side of Ganson street. It was about 1,500 feet in length and contained an unusually large amount of eastbound merchandise, which has been piling up on account of the car shortage and the resultant blockade of eastbound freight of all kinds. All eastbound and westbound lake and rail freight over the Erie was transferred there.

Several large lake boats anchored along the Erie dock narrowly escaped being caught in the flames. Burning sawbers from the freight house were carried across the river by a high wind. The towers of Niagara elevators A and B caught fire several times, but the flames were put out before serious damage was done.

AMMONIA VS. REVOLVER

Insane Woman Captured After a Siege of 108 Hours.

Cirard, Kan., Dec. 8.—After remaining in the dressing room of a chair car here for 108 hours, Mrs. Berry, the insane "crazy train" passenger, was captured this morning at 1:30. A bottle of spirits of ammonia was poured in upon her from the roof of the car, and she dashed in through an opening made by her for use as a port-hole.

Sheriff Edward Walsh and W. T. Moulton, a Prisco special officer, led a band of seven men, who overcame the woman. Mrs. Berry fired one shot when the first ammonia was thrown, and fought her captors with fury when they broke in on her. It required the combined efforts of all seven of the men in the car to subdue her and wrest from her the revolver, which still had one charge. She was taken to the county jail, where Dr. Adamson administered restoratives. Mrs. Berry was unharmed, except for the burning effect produced on her eyes and throat by the ammonia.

PIRATES KILL 27 BRITISHERS; RUSSIANS MASSACRE CHINESE

The Empress of India Brings Bloody Tidings From Far East.

Victoria, B. C. — Dec. 8.—The steamship Cloverdale (British) has been found stranded on a shoal in the China sea. Laden with coal, she left Hong Kong a year ago last July to run the blockade into Vladivostok. Chinese pirates boarded her and killed her crew of 27 men. It is feared, for nothing has been heard from her since.

The steamship Empress of India brings this news, and also the report from Vladivostok that since the war ended Russian soldiers have killed thousands of Chinese at various remote points in Siberia. Men who left Vladivostok after the troops there mutilated the soldiers killed many persons they met on the streets and in one big hotel two hundred persons were killed.

Viceroy Yuan Shi Kai received a telegram from the Chinese commercial agent at Vladivostok stating that 4,000 Chinese had been driven from the city and were in the open fields. The viceroy ordered the steamer Hsiao to Vladivostok, and the Shanghai Red Cross Society sent clothing and provisions.

RICH GOLD FIND IN ONTARIO WILDS

Wonderful Strike Made in the Laurentian Mountains Near Wabigoon.

Wabigoon, Dec. 8.—Information has arrived from Manitow of the most extraordinary strike of gold that has ever been found in the district. The strike occurred at the Laurentian mine, one mile from Gold Rock, which had just recently been reopened after the close of litigation proceedings. A couple of shots put in by the miners while drifting from the north side of the shaft at an 85-foot level on Tuesday last did the business and exposed gold of untold value.

The precious metal could be twisted off in pencils or gouged out in silver-dollar thicknesses. In fact it was ascertained that the rock was only held together by the gold with which it was permeated. It is just two years ago since one assaying nearly \$30,000 to the ton was struck at a depth of 25 feet in the same shaft. The exposure of Tuesday last would apparently indicate a six-figure assay.

THE MISSIONARY MURDERS

Three of the Ringleaders in Lien-chau Massacre To Be Executed.

Hong Kong, Dec. 8.—Mail advices from London say that the commission appointed to inquire into the massacre of American missionaries early in November, have examined 20 witnesses, and that 20 implicated persons, including a Buddhist monk, have been arrested. It is anticipated that three of the ringleaders will be executed.

The American consul, Julius G. Lay, has thanked the commission for its kindness and hospitality to the members of the commission. He intends to recommend to the Chinese government that a Chinaman who rescued Miss Edith Patterson at the imminent risk of his own life, be executed.

A BUMPER SUPPLUS

Canadian Revenue and Expenditure Both Show Increase.

Ottawa, Dec. 8.—A surplus of nearly \$6,000,000 over all expenditures combined has been the happy result of Canada's financial operations for the five months ending Nov. 30. Taking the ordinary receipts and ordinary expenditures, the surplus amounts to over \$10,000,000. In the five months since July 1 the revenue shows a gain when compared with the same period of last year of \$2,252,869. The increase of expenditure during the five months was \$2,244,225, so that the expenditure has been growing at a greater rate than the revenue. Following are the details of the financial statement for the five months:

Revenue: Customs, \$17,449,547; Excise, \$18,905,055; Postoffice, \$1,340,000; Public works, \$3,455,567; Miscellaneous, \$1,298,116. Total, \$42,398,285.

Expenditure: \$35,393,285. The expenditure on capital account amounted to \$4,171,185, as against \$2,971,711 for the five months ending Nov. 30, 1904.

Mrs. Rodgers Hanged.

Windsor, Vt., Dec. 8. — Mrs. Rodgers has been hanged. The drop fell at 1:13 p.m.

Knows Nothing of Sale.

Ottawa, Dec. 8. — The department of the Interior informed your correspondent today that they had no knowledge of the sale by the Government of any block of land to the Saskatchewan Valley Land Company, of which Col. Davidson is one of the heads. The department does not credit the report of the sale.