

KING STREET RESIDENT DROWNED IN BATHTUB

FOUND DEAD IN BATHTUB FILLED WITH HOT WATER

Philip Ferney Discovered in Bathing With Water Running From Heater.

BODY BADLY SCALDED

Seemed in Good Health Saturday Night—May Have Fainted.

Philip Ferney, aged 30, was found dead in a bathtub of scalding water, which was still running from a heater at 6 o'clock Sunday morning, by Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Bond, 254 King street, with whom the man lived.

Arising, Mrs. Bond noticed water flowing from underneath the door, and which had found its way along the hallway. Calling Mr. Bond they tried the door, but were unable to gain entrance, and immediately called other members of the family, who smashed in the door.

Entering the room, Mr. Bond was shocked to find the body of Mr. Ferney sitting in the tub in a natural position, with the instantaneous heater still burning and the tub nearly filled with scalding water. The cold water tap was turned off.

Was Already Dead.

Dr. Mel Platt was hurriedly summoned, but he found that death had occurred, a considerable time previously. Dr. Cameron Wilson, coroner, was called and had the body removed to the funeral home of A. L. Oatman.

Saturday evening Mr. Ferney seemed to be in his usual health, and at 9 o'clock invited Mr. Bond to go for a walk, saying that he felt fine. He was glad to think that next week his work in the stores department of the military branch of Victoria Hospital would be lighter.

He left the house alone and returned at 12:15 and after talking to some length with Clifford Bond, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bond, and bidding goodnight left for his room.

Evidently he went straight to the bathroom, as his bed was not slept in and his clothes were carefully laid away. His room bearing a neat appearance called at the house last night.

Hear No Noise.

Occupants of the house, who were asleep at the time, heard no noise throughout the night.

Mr. Ferney was a veteran of the world war, and had served for four years going over with the 15th Battalion, and distinguished himself by winning two medals. He was a native of England and has one brother residing there. No relatives live in Canada.

Mr. Bond said that he had come to regard Ferney as one of the family, owing to his pleasant manner, and jovial nature. Other boarders at the house also spoke highly of Mr. Ferney. Jack Hill, another returned man, was confined to his bed by illness as the result of the sad occurrence, which has cast a gloom over what was to have been one of the happiest Christmas seasons for the entire household.

Body Scalded.

When found Mr. Ferney was sitting with his legs cramped against one end of the tub, his left hand across his body, while his right hung at his side. Whether the unfortunate man met his death by heart failure immediately after entering the tub or fainted and was scalded to death is not known. His body was badly burned.

The funeral will be held on Monday afternoon from the funeral home of A. L. Oatman.

C. N. R. WILL BUY HOTEL FOR OFFICE

Company Denies Hitch Occurred in Negotiation For Paris Building.

REFUSED TO LEASE

Associated Press Despatch. Paris, Dec. 23.—Regarding assertions made recently in Canada that a hitch had occurred in the negotiations for the acquisition by the Canadian National Railways of the Hotel Scribe here for office accommodation, the Associated Press learns that there is no dissatisfaction whatever on the part of the railway officials in Paris.

The situation resolved itself into a question of leasing accommodation for twenty years or buying. The railway company was unable to rent space at the time under acceptable conditions, and, consequently, decided to buy.

For the convenience of the management, the building is being incorporated under French company laws.

Obituary

FREDERICK F. PEPPER.

The funeral of Frederick F. Pepper was held Friday afternoon to Mount Pleasant Cemetery, and the large number of floral wreaths bore out the esteem in which Mr. Pepper was held by his many friends.

Rev. Mr. Chapman of Empress Avenue Methodist Church, assisted by Mr. Dewey, conducted the services.

The pallbearers were George Finnegan, Frank Dunn and Messrs. Hawken, Belton, Hunt and McPherson.

MRS. M. E. BRYAN.

Elizabeth Bryan died yesterday afternoon at her residence, 44 Mayfield Place. She was the only daughter of Elizabeth Bryan and the late Thomas Bryan.

She is survived by her mother and one brother, T. A. Bryan of 414 Grosvenor street.

Services will be held at the house at 4 o'clock by the Rev. Dr. Beatty, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. Interment will be made Monday afternoon in Woodland Cemetery.

Reports Cure For Plague

Associated Press Despatch. London, Dec. 23.—Hopes that a cure for the foot and mouth diseases which is now ravishing cattle herds in Great Britain at last is at hand, is held out by the Daily Express' Utrecht correspondent who reports that important experiments are being made there by Professor Pfeiler, a German, and a Dutch veterinarian.

The two are now working out their theories in the neighborhood of a public slaughter house in Utrecht. The correspondent says the method employed is a subcutaneous injection of a specially prepared serum. Dr. Pfeiler believes it will eventually save Europe the tremendous wastage she now suffers, because of the plague of the disease.

In the meantime the disease continues to spread.

YOUNG GIRL DIES AS CAR CRASHES INTO MOTOR BUS

Viola Hamilton of Port Elgin Struck by Wagon Tongue.

BROTHER BADLY HURT

Special To The Advertiser.

Port Elgin, Dec. 23.—One girl is dead and her 16-year-old brother lies in a critical condition at his home as the result of an auto accident Saturday at midnight.

The girl, Viola Hamilton, aged 14, her father, Lambert Hamilton, who escaped injury, and her brother Harold, 16, were returning to their home, about two and a half miles southeast of the village, and were turning a corner near the cricket grounds when the car, which was driven by the father, crashed into a bus driven by William Bell of this village.

The tongue of the bus crashed through the windshield of the car, striking the girl, who was sitting on the boy's lap, a blow on her side and pierced the chest of the boy. The car came to a stop after one of the horses had completely straddled the radiator of the car, and this no doubt saved the boy from death.

The father hurriedly removed the girl to the office of Dr. Wells, but, despite all that was done to save her, she passed away at 6:30 Sunday morning in the office of Dr. Phillips, where she had been removed during the night. Death resulted from a ruptured liver.

The boy is suffering from severe internal injuries, which may prove fatal, as complications are feared. He is reported as having a fighting chance.

Only last week Miss Hamilton had taken part in a number of Christmas concerts throughout this district, and was a remarkable elocutionist for her age.

Mrs. Hamilton, who was staying at the home of her sister, Mrs. William Atkinson, was not notified of the accident until it was too late, and arrived a few minutes after her daughter passed away.

FIRM HEAD WOUNDED AS HE FOILS BANDITS

New Yorker In Dangerous Condition—\$1,600 Payroll Is Saved.

Associated Press Despatch. New York, Dec. 23.—John Lackner, president of the Lackner Paper Company, in Florida, was shot in the right shoulder today by one of two armed bandits who failed in an attempt to snatch a \$1,600 payroll from him in front of the factory. The bandits escaped in an automobile in which a third man was waiting at the wheel.

Lackner had just stepped from his automobile when the robbers ordered him to throw up his hands. Instead, Lackner kicked the nearest bandit whereupon the other shot Lackner. Both highwaymen fled. Lackner followed, despite his wound until he collapsed. He was taken to St. John's Hospital where it was found a blood vessel had been severed and his condition was serious. Lackner had the money in his hip pocket and was unarmed.

SUSPECT INCENDIARISM IN ESSEX STORE FIRE

Special To The Advertiser. Essex, Dec. 23.—A fire in the meat market of William Lee, which caused damage of about \$1,500, is suspected to be of an incendiary nature. The fire was discovered by Truman Dalton, who saw the smoke pouring out of a window. The fire was located in the back of the store, where a fireman discovered a basket of waste paper, partially burned, and on top of this a packing box. According to Mr. Lee the basket of waste paper had been thrown out the previous day, and the packing box was used as a step to the back of the store. The fire was extinguished with chemicals. Mr. Lee states that the insurance will not cover the loss of his large Christmas stock.

ERRING STREET CAR DESERTS STRAIGHT AND NARROW WAY

Smashes Standard On Richmond Street When Rear Truck Tries Secession.

TRAFFIC SUSPENDED

When the rear trucks of Oxford car No. 201, one of the latest additions to London's transportation system, refused to function as they should at the corner of Richmond and York streets last night shortly before ten, it started something it couldn't finish.

As the front trucks of the south-bound car in charge of Motorman Nethercott and Conductor Leonard passed the intersection safely, the rear ones politely took to the Normal line, with the result that the rear end of the car swung around, striking a light standard, knocking it against the adjacent building and only a few inches away from a huge plate glass window, endangering the lives of pedestrians.

Service on lines using Richmond street were completely tied up for more than an hour, causing much inconvenience to many who were forced to wend their way through the first snow of the year.

On an average of once a week street cars of the new heavy type have trouble in passing this intersection, and on one or two occasions passersby have narrowly escaped being struck as trolleys have swung toward the sidewalk.

Firemen were called to remove the post from its position, as it was feared that it might fall during the night, injuring pedestrians. George Hume, station superintendent, arrived on the scene shortly after and had his wrecking crew working swiftly to replace the car on its proper course.

CHARGES LAWYER BENEFITS BY WILL

Seek To Commit Toronto Solicitor Who Was Left Annuity.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, Dec. 23.—Shirley Denison, K.C., who at Osgoode Hall on Saturday moved an order to commit J. W. McCullough, a solicitor, for refusal to produce his docket entries between the time the late Mrs. J. L. Robertson made her will in 1915, and her death in 1923, said: "When a solicitor who draws the will gets substantial bequests from his client, the court should scrutinize it closely to see that there has been no undue influence."

Mr. McCullough was represented by J. C. Thompson, who pointed out that in an estate totalling some \$80,000, McCullough had only been left an annual annuity of \$500, and this on condition that he does not marry. As the solicitor so benefitting by the will was 60 years of age, the annuity was not to be considered as likely to be a great drain on the estate, the greater part of which was bequeathed to the Oddfellows' Home and \$10,000 to the Hospital for Sick Children.

The late Mrs. Robertson, together with her sister, Mrs. L. Duncan, was found asphyxiated in their home on March 23 last.

Judgment was reserved.

DISMISS OFFICERS WHO VISIT HOUSE

Two Windsor Police Confess Drinking in Place of Ill-Fame.

Special To The Advertiser.

Windsor, Dec. 23.—Four guilty of drinking in a house of ill fame, Police Constables John Feeley and Sidney Armstrong were dismissed Saturday afternoon from the police department by the police commission in special session.

The officers were accused by Margaret Robinson of Detroit with having handcuffed her and compelled her to commit an offence while she was visiting the disorderly house on East Wyandotte street.

The commission had no evidence to corroborate the woman's evidence, but the constables admitted having paid several visits to the place.

Armed Robbers Loot Distillery

Associated Press Despatch. Baltimore, Md., Dec. 23.—A score of armed men and a fleet of trucks last night swooped down on the Gwynbrook distillery warehouse at Gwynbrook, near Owings Mills, shattering the three guards and broke into two of the three whiskey-stocked buildings and stole 40 barrels of whiskey, valued at \$60,000.

Four of the men were captured in a motor truck. Half a dozen others escaped amid a fusillade of shots, abandoning two trucks, believed to have been stolen.



SANTA AND THE LOVELY CHILDREN.

Santa Claus had the time of his life at the Children's Party in the Winter Gardens. There were 3,000 eager children there to greet him, and he said he wanted to stay in London all year round. Here he is with three of the Loveliest Children. In Santa's arms, on the left, is Ella Mae Sooyne, and on the right, Clara McCandless, who came from Stratford to be at the party. Standing beside Santa Claus is little Tennyson Brill, second of the Loveliest Children, who was ill at home, but Santa paid her a little visit just before the party and left a wonderful big doll to keep her from being lonely.

Arthur Brown, Dead Bandit Once Operated In London

Claim Pal of "Red" Ryan Stole Auto in Boyhood Days.

QUESTIONED BY OFFICER

Brother States He Was Youth Stopped by Local Policeman.

Examination of London police records has brought to light the fact that Arthur Brown, alias Sullivan, the escaped Kingston convict and gunman who was shot to death by the police of Minneapolis in the round-up that followed the capture of his pal, "Red" Ryan, operated in this city in his earlier days of criminal apprenticeship.

A couple of years ago Policeman A. Frayne, no longer a member of the local force, found that an oil station at the corner of Dundas and Waterloo streets had been broken into, and said his younger brother had been standing near an auto with a Toronto license. The youth told a plausible story of being on his way home, and so he was let go.

Police headquarters. A few days later a man named Sullivan came to London, and said his younger brother had stolen the car, and that he was the man to whom Frayne had spoken.

GERMANY SENDS REPLY TO FRANCE

Will Be Answer To Poincare's Acceptance of Proposal For Discussion.

GET VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

Associated Press Despatch. Paris, Dec. 23.—Premier Poincare will receive the German charge d'affaires, Herr Von Hoesch, tomorrow. The charge is expected to present the answer of the German government to M. Poincare's acceptance, with limitations, of a discussion of the various questions relating to the Ruhr and the Rhineland. This answer is probably a written memorandum.

Premier Poincare's speech today on the occasion of his decorating with the war cross the manufacturing suburb of Le Courvaux, consisted largely of a defence of his Ruhr policy and a declaration that events were justifying it. He repeated France's determination not to leave the Ruhr until she had received payment.

"But," he added, "we are ready to examine all means of settlement which can possibly render payment more rapid and sure."

M. Poincare described the Franco-Belgian occupation of the Ruhr as an "elementary precaution," such as is taken by any creditor when a debtor year after year refuses to make an effort to pay, and he depicted France's hopeless situation if guarantees in the Ruhr had not been seized. France had shown "moderation, wisdom and conciliation in the application of the treaty of peace," which, said the premier, it was found impossible to carry further without compromising interests.

The Chamber of Deputies gave a vote of confidence to Premier Poincare early this morning. The vote was 336 to 192.

THREE ENTERED IN MAYORALTY RACE

Field Is Reduced by Two in Honors For Mayor At Queen City.

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Dec. 23.—Toronto's list of mayoralty candidates has been reduced to three, Controller Singer and C. H. Hookin, M.P., having withdrawn, leaving the field to Controller W. W. Hiltz, T. L. Church, M.P., and John A. Currie, M.L.A.

For the four positions on the board of control the following candidates have qualified: Joseph Gibbons, Thomas Foster, John R. Beamish, W. D. Robbins, Donald C. MacGregor, Albert E. Hagler, R. H. Cameron and F. M. Johnston.

Fifty-three candidates are in the running for the 24 aldermanic positions in the light wards. Of these, 10 are members of this year's council, 12 more have been members of previous councils and all the others are inexperienced in municipal affairs.

CITIZENS OFFER REWARD TO BETCH DOG POISONER

Canadian Press Despatch. Milton, Dec. 23.—Over a dozen dogs in Brite have been poisoned within the last two weeks, and a number of citizens of that village have subscribed one hundred dollars to be offered as a reward for information leading to the conviction of the perpetrator.

RUMOR THAT EX-DOWAGER INSANE DECLARED FALSE

Associated Press Despatch. Copenhagen, Dec. 23.—Rumors of the alleged insanity of ex-dowager empress, Marie Feodorovna of Russia, who is in Copenhagen, are declared false by the Danish press agencies. An intimate friend of Marie who spent an hour with her yesterday found her in perfect health, bodily and mentally.

CHRISTMAS CARDS POPULAR GIFTS FOR THIS SEASON

Local Firm States Popularity Is Due To Tightness of Money.

SALES TOTAL \$20,000

Twenty thousand dollars worth of Christmas cards have been sold in London this Christmas season dealers estimate. The demand this year has eclipsed that of any other Yuletide period, and merchants are now trying to figure the whys and wherefores for the increase.

Members of the Hay Stationery Company declare the extraordinary popularity of the Christmas card is due more or less to the tightness of money. Friends, who formerly were accustomed to getting small gifts with this year's cards. No present, costing 25 to 50 cents would be considered worth while, but a Christmas greeting at that price is appreciated sometimes as much as an expensive gift.

"In the United States the Christmas card output amounts to \$50,000,000. In London we estimate it at about \$20,000," they said.

TWO LONDON MEN FACE CHARGE OF STEALING

R. C. Angus and G. T. Harding Apprehended by C. N. R. Constables.

Roy C. Angus and George Turner Harding, of 261 Wellington street and 25 Front street respectively, employed as switchmen on the C.N.R., were arrested Saturday night and charged with theft from cars on that railway.

The men were apprehended by C. N. R. Constables Hughes, Gow and Scott, and were taken to police headquarters to await action of the railway. They will appear before the magistrate in the morning.

ARREST TORONTO MAN CHARGED WITH THEFT

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Dec. 31.—Sydney E. Reynolds of Toronto, a collector employed by the London and Lancashire Guarantee and Accident Company, was taken into custody on Saturday on a charge of stealing \$3,800 belonging to the company. Bail has been set at \$5,000.

The alleged theft occurred at some time since last June.

TENNYSON BRILL LAID TO REST IN MT. PLEASANT

The funeral of Tennyson Brill, who died in Ingersoll a few days ago, was held Saturday from the residence of his mother 737 Princess avenue, at 3 o'clock. The funeral was conducted by the Rev. J. H. Bradley, pastor of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and the Oddfellows. Interment was made at Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Lindsay Mayor Kills Postman

Canadian Press Despatch. Lindsay, Dec. 23.—William Kent, letter-carrier, aged 28, was fatally injured last night when a mail delivery wagon, in which he was riding with a companion, was struck by Mayor F. J. Carew's motor car. Kent died this morning, leaving a wife and two children. Eye-witnesses agree with the mayor that he was not negligent.

An inquest has been opened and adjourned until Thursday next.

FIND LIQUOR SHIPMENT IN CAR AT PETERBORO

Canadian Press Despatch. Peterboro, Dec. 23.—Inspector Joseph Stewart this morning raided a freight car at the Canadian National shed and seized a consignment of 500 bottles of liquor. The bottles were packed in two large double-sheeted boxes marked and shipped as "cassings" and consigned to "J. H. Bradley, Peterboro."

Some of the labels bore the inscription "Quebec liquor commission."

W. M. S. MEETS. Special To The Advertiser.

The December meeting of the Women's Institute was held on Wednesday, 19th, at the home of the president, Mrs. Harry. A pleasing part of the meeting was the presentation of a pot of ferns and blossoms to the oldest member, who is 77 years of age. The younger members are giving the program for the December social evening, which will be held Dec. 28.

ESTABLISH NEW WORLD RECORD FOR HYDROPLANES

Paris, Dec. 23.—A new world record for hydroplanes was made today over a measured distance in the River Seine. The boat, piloted by J. M. Canivet, averaged 121 kilometres, 669 metres (about 86 miles per hour) in three trials, with and against the wind. The former record was 93 kilometres (about 56 miles per hour).

BURNED TO DEATH.

Badder, aged 5, attempted to light a fire in her home, where she was alone at the time and set fire to her clothing, suffering such burns that she died last night.

Canadian Press Despatch. Montreal, Dec. 23.—The North Canadian W. M. S. held their annual meeting on Friday. During the year contributions received amounted to \$180. The officers for 1924 are: President, Mrs. Danceline Timms; secretary, Mrs. D. M. McNeil; treasurer, Mrs. Hugh Turner; messenger, Mrs. A. N. McNeil.

A pleasing feature of the meeting was the presentation of a life membership to Mrs. Robert Thompson on her 84th birthday. Following a social hour was enjoyed.

FATHER WINTER FOOLS GREEN YULETIDE SEERS



SHE CALLS HER "HELEN."

Here is four-year-old Isabel Evans of 118 Marmelon street, with her new doll Helen, from the Doll Lady. Isabel is the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Evans. Mrs. Evans was formerly Miss Gladys Wilson of 34 Forest avenue. St. Thomas.

FIFTY IN DANGER AS BIG AIRSHIP DRIFTS IN GALE

Fears Entertained For Safety Of Crew of French Dirigible.

CRUISERS TO RESCUE

Associated Press Despatch. Paris, Dec. 23.—The great dirigible airship Dixmude, with 50 officers and men on board, was drifting helplessly today in a violent gale over the Gulf of Gabes on the north coast of Africa.

French warships are reported to be proceeding at full speed toward the gulf to render aid, if this should be possible.

The last direct news received from the airship was that it was headed over the Gulf of Gabes and requested aid. The ministry of marine later received confirmation of the distress of the airship from a land station, over which the dirigible had been seen drifting steadily eastward. Some of the stations reported that the Dixmude apparently was badly damaged.

Previous reports received from the airship said that a number of the members of her crew were ill.

The Dixmude left Cuers Pierrefeu, near Toulon, at 6 o'clock last Tuesday morning for a three-day flight to Tunis, and was reported to have been successfully accomplished. The six motors of the airship were used until Friday afternoon fighting its way eastward. Tunis is a stormy head wind that spread southward from the French coast. The gasoline supply of the airship became diminished, and it was impossible to keep it aloft. Then the craft began to drift with one motor running.

The French cruiser Mulhouse and all the torpedo boat destroyers in the region were hurriedly sent towards the Gulf of Gabes, and the garrisons in the Tunis district and southward made ready to help the Dixmude, and to send aid if the airship was wrecked.

The Dixmude reached Insalet after 35 hours starting in distress. The aircraft then started to return, but at Biskara, French headquarters wireless her to remain in the south as there was a violent storm along the French coast which would make her re-crossing of the Mediterranean dangerous.

TEMPERATURE DROPS.

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Dec. 23.—Commencing early this morning snow fell throughout the southern counties of Ontario, and by 6 o'clock in the evening, when the weather cleared, the ground was covered with a mantle of white. The temperature dropped below the freezing point, water in the ditches and lovers of the old-fashioned Christmas took heart despite the fact that the Dominion meteorological office reports indicated little change in temperature.

A shallow disturbance which passed eastward just south of the Great Lakes was responsible for the rain. Light rain or snow was experienced in the Maritime Provinces, while elsewhere fair weather prevailed.

Mild temperatures were again reported in many parts of Canada and in very few places did the mercury fail to get above the freezing point during the day. White River maintained its reputation as the coldest place in the Dominion, registering a low mark of four below zero during the night.

SARNIA HAS BLIZZARD.

Special To The Advertiser. Sarnia, Dec. 23.—Heavy snow blizzard, which commenced early this morning and continued to mid-afternoon, brought an appropriate, but generally unwelcome touch to the Christmas season. Approximately three inches of snow fell, and made streets particularly slippery. Freezing temperatures were again reported here Saturday, but on the whole city merchants report that Christmas trade was quieter than last year.

SIX INCHES IN STRATFORD.

Stratford, Dec. 23.—Some six inches of snow fell in Stratford today, changing the appearance of the city considerably.

GALT WHITE, TOO.

Galt, Dec. 23.—Snow fell steadily here all day, and tonight is reported as six inches deep.

MOTOR CAR IS DAMAGED IN INTERSECTION CRASH

Motor car No. 70-645, driven by J. M. Totten, 14 Brighton street, collided with street car No. 118 at the corner of Dundas and Wellington last night at 7:25. Mr. Totten was driving north on Wellington. The car was somewhat the worse for its encounter. C. Tooke was in charge of the street car.

NEW ZEALAND PREMIER WILL SPEAK AT TORONTO

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Dec. 23.—Premier Massey of New Zealand, who is passing through Canada on his return from the imperial conference in London, will be the guest of the Toronto Canadian Club for luncheon on Thursday, December 27.