The Semi-Weekly Telegraph

HON. RAYMOND PREFONTAINE DIED SUDDENLY IN PARIS

Death Took Place ni Paris

Heart Disease the Cause— Solicitor General Lemieux Wires the Sad News to Sii Wilfrid Laurier—Ministei of Marine Fatally Stricken After Taking a Heart Stimulant--His Career.

Paris, Dec. 25 -- Hon. Raymond Prefontaine, the Canadian minister of marine and fisheries, died suddenly tonight.

Heart Trouble Caused Death.

Paris, Dec. 25—Mr. Prefontaine, accompanied by Randolph Lemieux, the Canadian solicitor-general, recently came to France in connection, it is said, with the establishment of a line of steamers between Marseilles and Canadian ports. Soon after his arrival in Paris the minister complained that he was suffering from heart trouble, but he continued to fill his engagements. During the progress of a banquet given in his honor Dec. 21, he was seen to be suffering acutely, but this at the time was attributed to emotion while replying to a toast to his health.
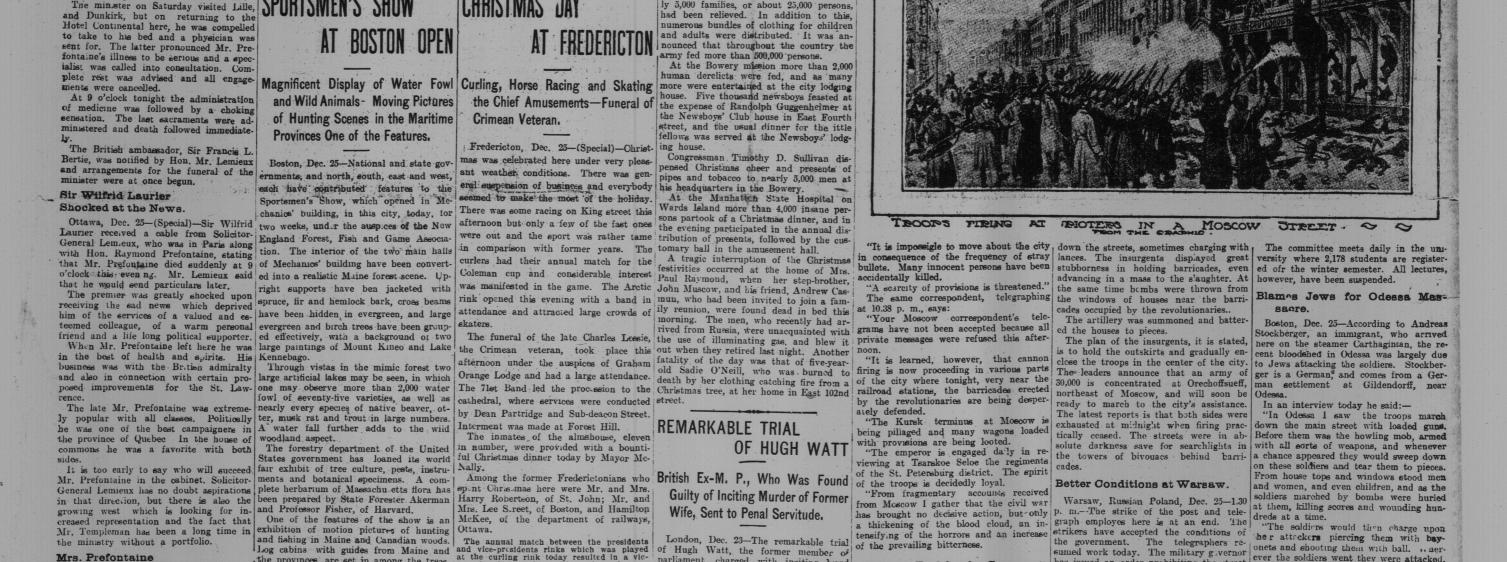
The minister on Saturday visited Lille, and Dunkirk, but on returning to the Hotel Continental here, he was compelled to take to his bed and a physician was sent for. The latter pronounced Mr. Prefontaine's illness to be serious and a specialist was called into consultation. Complete rest was advised and all engagements were cancelled.

At 9 o'clock tonight the administration of medicine was followed by a choking sensation. The last administration was followed by a choking sensation. The last administration and death followed immediately.

The British ambassador, Sir Francis L. Bertie, was notified by Hon. Mr. Lemieux and arrangements for the funeral of the minister were at once begun.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Shocked at the News.

Ottawa, Dec. 25—(Special)—Sir Wilfrid Laurier received a cable from Solicitor-General Lemieux, who was in Paris along with Hon. Raymond Prefontaine, stating that Mr. Prefontaine died suddenly at 9 o'clock this evening. No particulars are given, but that he would send particulars later.

The premier was greatly shocked upon receiving the sad news which deprived him of the services of a valued and esteemed colleague, of a warm personal friend and a life long political supporter. When Mr. Prefontaine left here he was in the best of health and spirits. His business was with the British admiralty and also in connection with certain proposed improvements for the St. Lawrence.

It is too early to say who will succeed Mr. Prefontaine in the cabinet. Solicitor-General Lemieux has no doubt aspirations in that direction, but there is also the growing west which is looking for increased representation and the fact that Mr. Templeman has been a long time in the ministry without a portfolio.

Mrs. Prefontaine Prostrated by News.

Montreal, Dec. 25—(Special)—News of the sudden death of Hon. Raymond Prefontaine in Paris at 9 o'clock Christmas night was received here tonight in a cable from Jules Clement, secretary to the minister.

A later cable from Solicitor-General Lemieux, who accompanied the minister of marine to Paris, says that heart disease was the cause of death. The cable announcing the death came to J. L. Perron, the minister's former law partner here, who conveyed the message to Mrs. Prefontaine, who resides in Montreal. The news of her husband's death prostrated her.

The minister of marine left Montreal four weeks ago for London. His visit abroad was to take up the question of a naval service with the Maine authorities and also to consult with experts regarding improved icebreakers for the St. Lawrence and Straits of Northumberland. Another purpose was to consult financiers concerning the scheme of building a bridge across Montreal harbor. After his London sojourn Hon. Mr. Prefontaine left London for a pleasure jaunt to Paris.

Tributes from His Colleagues.

Ottawa, Dec. 25—(Special)—Hon. W. S. Fielding, when asked what he had to say respecting his colleague's death, replied:—

"The news of Mr. Prefontaine's death was a great shock to us all. He was at all times so well and hearty that he was the last man I would have expected to be called away so suddenly. His death will be felt as a great loss not only to the Liberal party, but to a wide circle of friends in the Province of Quebec, and particularly in the vicinity of Montreal, where he was connected in municipal affairs a long time.

"He was one of the most popular ministers, and one of the best business members of the house of commons, being always courteous, affable and anxious to please. Even when the business of his department was under criticism his agreeable qualities always won sympathy, even from his opponents. He was deeply interested in the varied work of his department. Perhaps the question which most interest-

FATALITIES MAR CHRISTMAS JOYS

Little New York Girl Burned to Death Through Candle On Her Tree

TWO MEN SUFFOCATED

200,000 of Gotham's Hungry Have Bountiful Dinner--Salvation Army Looked After 25,000 and Other Public and Private Charities the Rest.

New York, Dec. 25—Christmas day in New York was marked by the customary universal suspension of business and the usual family reunions and generous outpouring of public and private charity. Fully 200,000 persons partook of the bountiful Christmas fare provided in all the city hospitals and asylums, in missions and other benevolent institutions supported by private charity and at the annual distribution of dinners by the Salvation Army and the Volunteers of America.

At the Grand Central Place the distribution of Christmas dinner baskets by the Salvation Army began early in the morning and continued until the needs of nearly 5,000 families, or about 25,000 persons, had been relieved. In addition to this, numerous bundles of clothing for children and adults were distributed. It was announced that throughout the country the army fed more than 300,000 persons.

At the Bowery mission more than 2,000 human derelicts were fed, and as many more were entertained at the city lodging house. Five thousand newsboys feasted at the expense of Randolph Guggenheimer at the Newsboys' Club house in East Fourth street, and the usual dinner for the little fellows was served at the Newsboys' lodging house.

Congressman Timothy D. Sullivan dispensed Christmas cheer and presents of pipes and tobacco to nearly 5,000 men at his headquarters in the Bowery.

At the Manhattan State Hospital on Wards Island more than 4,000 insane persons partook of a Christmas dinner, and in the evening participated in the annual distribution of presents, followed by the customary ball in the amusement hall.

A tragic interruption of the Christmas festivities occurred at the home of Mrs. Paul Raymond, when her step-brother, John Muscow, and his friend, Andrew Casmun, who had been invited to join a family reunion, were found dead in bed this morning. The men, who recently had arrived from Russia, were unacquainted with the use of illuminating gas, and this is out when they retired last night. Another fatality of the day was that of five-year-old Sadie O'Neill, who was burned to death by her clothing catching fire from a Christmas tree, at her home in East 102nd street.

REMARKABLE TRIAL OF HUGH WATT

British Ex-M. P., Who Was Found Guilty of Inciting Murder of Former Wife, Sent to Penal Servitude.

London, Dec. 23—The remarkable trial of Hugh Watt, the former member of parliament, charged with inciting hired agents to murder his divorced wife, Julia Watt, and Sir Reginald Beauchamp, ended Thursday with a verdict of guilty. Watt was sentenced to five years' penal servitude.

The judge, in summing up, said it was the most extraordinary case of modern times. Improbable as was the whole story, he thought it was equally improbable that any one could concoct and swear to such charges. The question of the sanity of Watt had not been raised, so the jury had nothing to do but find a verdict of guilty or not guilty.

Continuing, the judge pointed out that the death of the former Mrs. Watt would place Watt in exactly the position he desired, as it would enable him to legalize his marriage to Lady Violet Beauchamp, which at present was illegal because Mrs. Watt had declined to have her divorce made absolute. Her death would also annul the deed of settlement between Watt and Mrs. Watt, which Watt desired.

The jury was out nearly two hours.

TWENTY THOUSAND VICTIMS SO FAR IN MOSCOW, AND BATTLE RAGES

Soldiers Mow Down the Frenzied Revolutionists With Grape and Cannister

Barricades Destroyed and Burned, But Others Are Erected in Other Places, and the Conflict Continues---St. Petersburg Surprised at Loyalty of the Troops---Czar Reported to Be Busy Reviewing Regiments---Both Sides Exhausted, But Rebels Are Still Sanguine, and Will Fight to Last Ditch.

London, Dec. 26—The correspondent of the Daily Telegraph at St. Petersburg in a despatch dated at 6.45 p. m., Dec. 25 says:

"At an early hour this morning the casualties at Moscow were estimated at 5,000 killed and 14,000 wounded, with the fighting still proceeding.

"The inhabitants of Moscow have been forbidden to leave their dwellings after 7 in the evening.

"Atrocious tales are told of the Cossacks who plied with vodka until drunk, fired

down the streets, sometimes charging with lances. The insurgents displayed great stubbornness in holding barricades, even advancing in a mass to the slaughter. At the same time bombs were thrown from the windows of houses near the barricades occupied by the revolutionists.

The artillery was summoned and battered the houses to pieces.

The plan of the insurgents, it is stated, is to hold the outskirts and gradually enclose the troops in the center of the city. The leaders announce that an army of 30,000 is concentrated at Orechoffuseff, northeast of Moscow, and will soon be ready to march to the city's assistance. The latest reports is that both sides were exhausted at midnight when firing practically ceased. The streets were in absolute darkness save for searchlights in the towers of bivouacs behind barricades.

Better Conditions at Warsaw.

Warsaw, Russian Poland, Dec. 25—1.30 p. m.—The strike of the post and telegraph employes here is at an end. The strikers have accepted the conditions of the government. The telegraphers resumed work today. The military governor has issued an order prohibiting the street sales of newspapers, the singing of revolutionary songs, the holding of meetings and the organizing of processions. Persons who violate the order are subject to imprisonment for six months and to a fine of $1,500.

The railroad men today resolved to resume work unless their comrades in St. Petersburg should join the strike.

Great Tension at Riga.

Riga, Dec. 25—via Edytkhunen—The railway employes throughout the Baltic provinces went out on strike last night.

The newspapers protest against the false reports printed abroad to the effect that Riga was bombarded and was burning, and that the revolutionists blew up a train carrying 200 Cossacks, and the Associated Press is able to deny the rumors. The town is perfectly quiet, the inhabitants go about unmolested, street traffic is carried on in good order, and there are opera performances daily, though attended by small audiences. Soldiers and police are patrolling the streets day and night. Three cruisers are anchored in the harbor at the disposal of the new governor-general, Lollobub, who has not yet arrived. Foreigners are in perfect safety at present but they are of the opinion that it would be a wise precaution if each of the principal powers had warships cruising the Baltic in readiness in emergencies, as passenger steamers would be unable to embark refugees in case of armed opposition.

The revolutionaries continue a programme of agitation, hold daily meetings and today posted an order to partisans to disarm soldiers.

At Loban the cruiser Ocean and the torpedo boat Protchny have arrived. The town is in full control of the troops and the agitators are quiet and holding few meetings.

Blame Jews for Odessa Massacre.

Boston, Dec. 25—According to Andreas Stockberger, an immigrant, who arrived here on the steamer Carthaginian, the recent bloodshed in Odessa was largely due to Jews attacking the soldiers. Stockberger is a German and comes from a German settlement at Gildendorff, near Odessa.

In an interview today he said:—

"In Odessa I saw the troops march down the main street with loaded guns. Before them was the howling mob, armed with all sorts of weapons, and whenever a chance appeared they would sweep down on these soldiers and tear them to pieces. From house tops and windows stood men and women, and even children, and as the soldiers marched by bombs were hurled at them, killing scores and wounding hundreds at a time.

"The soldiers would then charge upon the attackers piercing them with bayonets and shooting them with ball, whenever the soldiers went they were attacked. The mob, made up entirely of Jews, were almost beside themselves with excitement, and their only purpose was to kill the soldiers. It is not true that the soldiers wantonly killed; they were driven to it to protect themselves, and I never saw any of them pillage homes or outrage women. Whole sections of the city were burned to the ground, and nothing but fire and blood were seen everywhere."

The committee meets daily in the university where 2,178 students are registered ofr the winter semester. All lectures, however, have been suspended.

MITCHELL SERVES DEMANDS OF MINERS ON COAL OPERATORS

Philadelphia, Dec. 25—The Press tomorrow will say:

"President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers Union, has communicated with the presidents of the anthracite coal producing companies in regard to the demand the miners will make for the continuance of work in the hard coal fields.

"It is understood the letter is in regard to holding a conference between the committee representing the United Mine Workers and the operators. As to what the operators will do, it has not developed, been decided upon.

"Besides asking for an eight hour day, there are also to be presented other demands. The most important, and one that, if adopted, will mean the complete recognition of the union, is the request that an entire new conciliation board be formed, one that will consist of a commission, and will go from place to place to settle disputes.

"This request will meet with considerable opposition from the operators.

"The proposed new board is to be composed of three members representing the operators and the same number representing the operators and a seventh member to be chosen by the other six."

SPORTSMEN'S SHOW AT BOSTON OPEN

Magnificent Display of Water Fowl and Wild Animals-- Moving Pictures of Hunting Scenes in the Maritime Provinces One of the Features.

Boston, Dec. 25—National and state governments, and north, south, east and west, each have contributed to the success of the Sportsmen's Show, which opened in Mechanics' building, in this city, today, for two weeks, under the auspices of the New England Forest, Fish and Game association. The interior of the two main halls of Mechanics' building have been converted into a realistic Maine forest scene. Upright supports have been jacketed with spruce, fir and hemlock bark, cross beams have been hidden in evergreen, and large evergreen and birch trees have been grouped effectively, with a background of two large paintings of Mount Kineo and Lake Kennebago.

Through vistas in the mimic forest two large artificial lakes may be seen, in which one may observe more than 2,000 water fowl of seventy-five varieties, as well as nearly every species of native beaver, otter, mink rat and trout in large numbers. A water fall further adds to the wild woodland aspect.

The forestry department of the United States government has loaned the world fair exhibit of tree culture, pests, instruments and botanical specimens. A complete herbarium of Massachusetts flora has been prepared by State Forester Akerman and Professor Fisher, of Harvard.

One of the features of the show is an exhibition of motion pictures of hunting and fishing in Maine and Canadian woods. Log cabins with guides from Maine and the provinces are set in among the trees. There will be a fly-casting tournament in one of the lakes, open to members of the New England Forest, Fish and Game association, which contests every afternoon. Indians from the Maine tribes will show how canoes are made and handled. Liners are band concerts and other popular features in connection with the exhibition.

A large holiday crowd attended the opening.

CHRISTMAS DAY AT FREDERICTON

Curling, Horse Racing and Skating the Chief Amusements—Funeral of Crimean Veteran.

Fredericton, Dec. 25—(Special)—Christmas was celebrated here under very pleasant weather conditions. There was general suspension of business and everybody seemed to make the most of the holiday. There was some racing on King street this afternoon but only a few of the fast ones were out and the sport was rather tame in comparison with former years. The curlers had their annual match for the Coleman cup and considerable interest was manifested in the game. The Arctic rink opened this evening with a band in attendance and attracted large crowds of skaters.

The funeral of the late Charles Lesie, the Crimean veteran, took place this afternoon under the auspices of Graham Orange Lodge and had a large attendance. The 71st Band led the procession to the cathedral, where services were conducted by Dean Partridge and Sub-deacon Street. Interment was made at Forest Hill.

The inmates of the almshouse, eleven in number, were provided with a bountiful Christmas dinner today by Mayor McNally.

Among the former Frederictonians who spent Christmas here were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Robertson, of St. John; Mr. and Mrs. Lee S.reet, of Boston, and Hamilton McKee, of the department of railways, Ottawa.

The annual match between the presidents and vice-presidents rinks which was played at the curling rink today resulted in a victory for the presidents. The rinks and scores were as follows:

Presidents.		Vice-Presidents.	
Bark.e, skip......12		McNutt, skip ...13	
Logie, skip........12		C. H. Allen, skip.19	
Campbell,skip......12		Tibbits, skip 11	
S. D. Simmons,		R. F. Randolph,	
skip 8		skip 13	
Wetmore, skip......14		Wilson, skip. 11	
Hawthorne, skip....9		Rutter, skip 11	
Hatt, skip 14		C. J. Simmons,skip.7	
H. V. Bridges, skip.5		Massie, skip. 12	
Kingbord, skip.....19		H. H. Bridges,skip.8	
Total.............112		Total. 92	

NORTH SHORE TOWNS CHRISTMAS TRADE NEVER SO LARGE

Dalhousie, N. B., Dec. 25—(Special)—Notwithstanding the delay in smelt fishing caused by the running ice and the bad state of the Quebec trade for the want of the ice bridge Christmas trade was up to the average this year. The merchants in the towns of Campbellton and Dalhousie were never so well prepared for the holiday trade and all seemed well pleased.

On Saturday the rush in Dalhousie was unprecedented. In one of the large stores in which holiday trade has been a specialty for more than five years, Saturday's business was a record breaker. Turkeys sold in Dalhousie as high as 23 cents per pound and geese 18 cents.

UNKNOWN THREE-MASTER SUNK NEAR NORFOLK

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 25—With all her headgear torn away and her topsails set, an unknown three-master schooner has sunk in twelve fathoms of water and one-half miles northwest of Winter Quarter lightship, and directly in the path of coastwise navigation. This information is contained in a report made here by Captain Charles James, of the Merchants & Miners' steam h.p Juniata, which passed the wreck yesterday.

According to Captain James, the schooner is evidently the victim of a collision. Only her topmast above the cross trees are out of water, and the appearance of her topsails indicates that the disaster occurred not long before the Juniata passed. No sign of wreckage was seen, however, nor was there anything above water to reveal the identity of the schooner. The fate of her crew is not known.

Boston Woman Suffocated.

Boston, Dec. 25—In her lodgings at 116 West Fourth street, South Boston, the lifeless body of Miss Robinson, 75 years of age, was found lying upon the floor this afternoon and an overturned gas stove that had caused a slight fire in the room, gave evidence that the old lady had probably been suffocated by the smoke. The fire had burned itself out and the flames had not reached the woman's clothing. Miss Robinson is well known relatives and the police were unable to learn her full name.

SUNBURY WOMAN DEAD OF SMALLPOX

Mrs. Fred Goldie of Little Lake Succumbed After a Week's Illness.

Fredericton Junction, Dec. 25—(Special)—Mrs. Fred Goldie, of Little Lake, Sunbury county, died Sunday noon of smallpox, after a week's illness.