

The St. John Standard

OUR SECOND FRONT PAGE

THE STANDARD, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1921

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A PAGE OF NEWS ABOUT THE MARITIME

GAY STEEVES TELLS STORY OF THE FIRE

Senator Fowler Puts the Prisoner in Witness Box in His Own Behalf.

CLARA DECLARES HE LOVED FAMILY

Frequent Quarrels Are Recalled But She Maintains He Was Good to All.

(Continued on page 2.)
On cross-examination, he said that his father was good to him and was also kind to the other children. Beatrice was fond of her father and her father was fond of her. When his father was going away early in the morning Beatrice generally got up and got his breakfast. His father was a good provider and he (witness) always had enough to eat and lots of clothes, and as far as he knew the rest of the family were well supplied.

Defence is Begun.
Morrill Crossman, a near resident of the accused, was called as first witness for the defence. He said he saw Steeves the night previous to the fire. He was then going home. His little girl came down to his place that evening and asked for oil. He did not give her any oil because he did not have any. He, Steeves, was a good neighbor, and lived about a quarter of a mile beyond him.

Daughter Called.
Clara Steeves, daughter of the accused, told about working and taking money home and clothing herself. She was to assist her father in restaurant. She was boarding at Mrs. Howard Fullerton's, stopping there at night and working in the restaurant by day. On the morning of the fire her father came to the house of Mrs. Fullerton and told her about the fire. Never had there been improper relations between her father and herself. She had heard statements made about her. On the 4th or 5th day of March last accompanied by her uncle, William Steeves, she visited a doctor's office and there underwent a medical examination. She knew what that examination was for.

Denies Mother's Story.
Continuing she told the court that she had heard her mother had made statements about relations between her father and herself. Personally her mother had never made these statements to her. There was not a word of truth in it. On the morning of the fire her father came to Mrs. Fullerton's residence between 8:30 and 9 o'clock. His boots were unlaced. He asked her to lace his shoes and said "My God, Clara, what am I going to do?"

He told her about the house and the family burning up. She in turn told him she could not believe him. They later left the house, went up to the restaurant, got three loaves of bread and her muff and Harry Horseman came along with the horse and they drove out to the scene of the fire.

Threw Wood at Father.
She had seen her mother throw the dipper and sticks of stove wood at her father. She never saw her father strike her mother, but had heard he had done so. Some little differences had arisen about a girl stopping at her home. Her mother was away at the time. Her mother seemed to be cross about this girl staying there and she ought to leave. She was cross because of Curtis and Orley.

Her father was kind to the children, affectionate and loved them. Beatrice was his favorite. She had seen her father beat Curtis. They had always been dressed decently and respectably, and always had enough to eat. Her father was a provincial constable at one time and her mother generally accompanied her father when he went to collect. Her father always liked to have her mother to accompany him and she always seemed to like to go with her father.

Mother Had a Temper.
She had seen them quarrel. Her mother had her share of temper. They spoke in loud tones when in a quarrel. Sometimes this might be heard outside.

Cross-examined by Mr. Rand, the witness stated that her mother told her she did not consider a hard one, and she had no reason to complain. Her married life was not an unhappy one and she had no grounds for serious complaint. She had never seen her mother throw iron at her father. She saw her mother's eyes black on one occasion, but she would not swear that her father did it. Her mother had said that her father hit her. She never saw a scratch on her mother.

She got along well with her mother. In a family quarrel she (witness) had never taken part. On the day she went to her grandmother's she went with the mail man. This was on a Saturday. She returned a week the following Tuesday. There was no quarrel on the day on which she left.

Brother's Story Challenged
Asked if Curtis had told the truth

The stake holder at last week's game had run away with the money—



about a quarrel on that day when she left, witness stated he had not. Her mother did not seem unwilling that she go and help keep the restaurant. She never raised any objection to her going. She heard her brother Curtis tell about the improper relations between herself and her father. She took no stock in what Curtis had said but believed that her mother when angry would say anything. On one occasion her mother and her were about to quarrel when her father told her not to fight with her mother, but to go away, and if she did not have the money he would provide it. This quarrel arose, she believed, over this girl, who was then at the accused's home. She told court she was married on March 26th. She had heard all sorts of rumors since the fire. She had also heard that her mother had for three years previous to the fire talked about her father and herself.

Prisoner is Called.
Senator Fowler placed on the stand the accused himself. He said: "I am not the cause nor did I cause the death of my wife or children. The night before the fire I went from the restaurant, got some bread at a little French store, took it to P. Roberts, got his horse and went home. Beatrice met me as I got near the house. She took the horse and drove him around the house and stood him near by in front of the house. I put the horse in the barn with the harness on. I told my wife I was going out that night to the restaurant. I went in the house and got a bag containing about seventy pounds of sugar. My wife said she wanted some of it and I left her thirty pounds. My wife wanted me to stay all night. She said she had some cooking done and would go with me to the restaurant. The lamp was burning but only by the oil in the wick. I sent Hazel to Mr. Crossman's for oil and she came back without any. Then she fixed up a light in a deep plate with some grease and a strip of common wick.

Read The Bible.
"As we were sitting in the house Hazel took the Bible and read two chapters; then she bowed her head in her hands and whispered a prayer. She said she had made up her mind while she was living on the Shediac Road to live a better life and my wife came to me and put her arms around my neck and kissed me and she said to me: 'Why can't you and I make a change and live a different life?' I said, 'We could have done that long ago if we had tried.'

Then the prisoner described the interior of the house and added: "I slept downstairs on a bed lounge. I always sleep with my collar and tie on. I cannot tie a four in hand. I was awakened by the alarm clock, which I told Beatrice to set for five thirty.

Made Two Fires.
I made two fires, one in the heater and the other in the cook stove. One window on the south side upstairs was filled with a fly screen, with a blanket over it for protection; the other was boarded up. The upstairs was divided by curtains, making four compartments about nine by ten feet. I knew there was a lot of clothing hanging upstairs. My wife told me to go up and see what a big washing she had done. I went half way up the stairs and saw a lot of clothes were

hung there. There were clothes and papers under the stairs."

Found The Revolver.
When we were away to the cherry berry plains one day my wife found a revolver which was there in the house. There were four cartridges in it when John Steeves or Harold Steeves fired into a tree. Beatrice was lacing her boots as I went out to the barn and when I was in the porch I heard my wife call Beatrice to come back to bed until the house got warm. I went to the barn. Then I heard my wife call out "Gay, the house is on fire." I ran into the porch and through the second door. The smoke was dense. I choked and could not get in the house. On the way from the barn I called for them to get out the back window on the lean-to.

Gone Ten Minutes.
I ran up to Munro's and called out several times. I threw a snowball through the window next to the road. It was about ten minutes from the time I left house till I heard the call of fire. I went from Munro's to Jones. I met the McMillan's driving fast. I called to Mrs. Jones. Then I went back and the McMillan's were there then.

There never were any improper relations between Clara and myself. My wife did say I was too fond of Clara, and when I would tell Clara not to associate with certain persons my wife would say that I was jealous.

Doesn't Recall Blow.
She accused me personally once, I think. I don't know that I struck her and blacked her eye. I was full of booze. Her eyes were black for a week. I certainly thought a lot of my wife but we would sometimes get a little "sniffy." I was never jealous of her. I know she loved me; she said so and that is the reason she was jealous. It is expected that the direct examination and cross-examination of the prisoner will occupy all Friday morning, and the case may not reach the jury before Saturday.

WANTS RAILWAY BOUGHT.
Inverness, N. S., May 12.—At a combined meeting of delegates of the county of Inverness and the towns of Port Hawkesbury, Port Hood and Inverness, held here last night, a resolution was passed the Dominion Government to acquire the Inverness railway, now in the hands of receiver, and make it a part of the Canadian National system. A deputation was appointed to proceed to Ottawa to confer with the Government.

When she was good they poured Crown Brand on her food. But when she was bad—they didn't.

Crown Brand Syrup

The Great Taste

Death Comes After Short Married Life

J. H. Bareham, Who Married Miss Long of St. John Recently, is Dead.

Montreal, May 12.—There was a particular sadness attaching to the death of James Howard Bareham, who passed away, after a brief recurrence of a sickness contracted while in the service of his country overseas, at 919 Tupper street today. It was not only that the deceased was scarcely past the threshold of his manhood, being but 23 years of age, but he had only been married some three weeks ago, his bride being Miss Edith Long, of St. John, N. B., where they both enjoyed a large circle of acquaintances and were well and favorably known. The body is being taken to St. John for burial, his young widow returning there with the remains.

FROM FISHING TRIP
Rev. S. S. Poole, of the German street Baptist church, returned last night from two weeks' fishing trip to Lake Alma, N. S. Some good catches were made, although it was too cold for the best fishing.

Fredericton May Have Summer Time Plebiscite

Halifax Company Disputes Legality of a City By-Law and Will Fight.

Special to The Standard
Fredericton, N. B., May 12.—While there does not appear to be any probability of the City Council now reversing its vote affirming its intention to put the daylight saving time order into effect as originally intended, it was said today it was not unlikely that the upshot of the growing agitation against the change in time would be a final decision to hold a plebiscite. However, those favoring the change in time expressed themselves confidently today that a majority of the voters eligible to vote at civic elections would favor the change in time.

Make Test Case
A test case is being made by a Halifax typewriter agency of the city by-law under which agents doing business in Fredericton and dealing directly with consumers are charged a license fee. He has refused to pay, is fighting the case and his counsel

Col. C. W. McLean To Quit Politics

London, May 12.—Colonel C. W. McLean, M.P. for Trigg, Lincolnshire and parliamentary secretary in the Under Secretary for the Colonies, Col. Anson, will retire at the next general election. He is a son of General H. H. McLean of New Brunswick, and served with distinction during the war in the Royal Horse Artillery.

declares the passage of a law imposing such a tax is ultra vires so far as the city council is concerned. The evidence in the case has been taken, the magistrate has refused to dismiss the information and the council will be heard in argument at a date to be arranged.

PILES

Do not suffer another day with itching, burning, or protruding Piles. No surgical operation required. Dr. Chase's Ointment will relieve you at once and afford lasting benefit. 60c a box; all dealers or Edman, Bates & Co. Limited, Toronto. Sample Box free if you mention this page and enclose 2c. stamp to pay postage.

Honorary Degrees Awarded By U. N. B.

Lord Beaverbrook and Hon. Frank Carvell Are Made Doctors of Laws.

Fredericton, N. B., May 12.—Twenty-five degrees were conferred at the annual convocation of the University of New Brunswick this afternoon. Included in the list were three honorary degrees conferred upon distinguished New Brunswickers, six masters degrees and sixteen bachelors degrees for the members of the graduating class of 1921.

There was a large attendance at the proceedings, many distinguished graduates of the university being there. Much interest was shown in the orations and addresses.

Three Honorary Degrees
Honorary degrees of Doctors of Law were conferred upon Lord Beaverbrook, in absentia, and Hon. F. H. Carvell, chairman of the railway commission, who came here from Ottawa to receive his degree, and an honorary degree of Master of Science was conferred upon William Macintosh, St. John, curator of the Natural History Society's museum at St. John.

It was announced that a honorary degree of Doctor of Laws had been tendered to Hon. W. E. Foster, premier of New Brunswick, but because of his absence from the province the conferring of the degree had been deferred at his request until next year.

New York funds in Montreal are quoted at 12 1/2 per cent premium. Sterling in New York, demand 3.99 cables 3.99 3/4. Sterling in Montreal, demand 4.46 7/8, cables 4.47 5/8.

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