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Strong winds or moderate gales. Cloudy and colder with local snow flurries. Sunday, fresh west and northwest winds fair and cold.

VOL. XXVIII., NO. 285

FREDERICTON, N. B., SAT., DECEMBER 9, 1922

TWO CENTS PER COPY

OREGON CITY SUFFERS A BIG LOSS FROM FIRE

BUSINESS SECTION LAID IN RUINS

Property to the Value of Fifteen Million Dollars Has Been Destroyed.

Astoria, Ore., Dec. 8.—The business district of Astoria, the oldest city in Oregon is in ruins, two are dead, hundreds of persons are homeless and property loss, estimated at \$15,000,000 was caused by a fire here today. For ten hours the fire held sway, eating an everwidening path through the city until shortly after noon when dynamite stayed the flames.

Banks, newspaper plants, hotels, stores, theatres and numerous other buildings were destroyed. According to Fire Chief E. B. Foster, the fire got out of control because it burned the piling beneath the buildings, upon which the business section of the city was built. He attributed the disaster to failure to fill in the space below the piling.

Norris Staples, President of the Bank of Commerce, dropped dead of heart failure while the fire was at its height.

The body of C. J. Smith, a transient, was found hanging under the sidewalk of the waterfront, but whether he was impelled to end his life because of the fire or other causes the police were unable to determine. He had spent the night in a cheap lodging house on the waterfront.

Thirty blocks were wiped out by the flames.

Many homes in which the oldest residents lived, were destroyed and about fifty families living in apartment houses were made homeless by the destruction. In addition to these many persons occupying rooms in the destroyed area lost everything they owned except the clothing on their backs.

A committee of citizens met at the call of the mayor, James Bremner, and planned immediate relief measures. They were assured of help from Portland and Seaside. Every restaurant and hotel in the city has been destroyed as well as stocks of goods in the stores and their is prospect of immediate want.

A detachment of the Oregon National Guard was due to arrive tonight to aid the local police. Orders were issued to keep every person out of the burned district to night.

WAS REVIVED AFTER HEART HAD STOPPED

New York, Dec. 9.—A woman who tried to end her life with gas and whose heart had stopped beating for one hour and 55 minutes, was restored to consciousness today through the persistent efforts of an ambulance surgeon and employees of a gas company. The case was regarded as one of the most remarkable on record.

Mrs. Helen Elliot, who had been in poor health for a year and a half, was discovered in her home with a gas tube in her mouth and another jet turned on. The ambulance surgeon could not detect the slightest heart beat with his stethoscope, but he put the gas company's men to work with the pulmotor.

After nearly two hours' work the woman's heart stirred faintly, then beat. For a moment she regained consciousness, but soon after lapsed into coma.

She is expected to recover.

The Tiniest Town Rotary Club Gets a Loving Cup

Donna, Tex., Dec. 9.—This community of 1500 odd inhabitants in Hidalgo County, near the mouth of the Rio Grande, is the smallest town in the world having a Rotary Club all its own, according to information from Roger H. Motten, executive service secretary, Rotary International.

John V. Singleton, governor of the 13th district of Rotary clubs, at Waxahatchie, Tex., reports that a loving cup has been presented the Donna Rotary Club by the Houston Rotary Club, because the former club, with its 22 members all present, had the best attendance at an intercity meeting. The cup was given on a mileage basis, showing the Donna Club to have traveled 7876 miles.

FORKE MAY BE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Farmer Leader May Go After Stipend of \$10,000 Which Now Goes to Meighen.

Toronto, Dec. 8.—A Winnipeg despatch to the Toronto Star says that Right Hon. Arthur Meighen is in danger of losing the official leadership of the federal opposition with the annual stipend of \$10,000 attached thereto.

"Robert Forke, M. P.," the despatch continues, "is in a different frame of mind from Hon. T. A. Crerar, whose salary as President of the Grain Growers has more attraction to him than the emolument of the official leadership of His Majesty's opposition. Forke, well aware that he leads the second largest group in the Commons of Canada, will make this fact the basis for his being appointed the official leader of the opposition thereby depriving the former Premier of a notable 'plum'."

"Confirmation of this was given today by one of the Progressive members."

Ottawa, Dec. 8.—Considerable comment was caused here today by the report from Winnipeg that the Progressives might insist upon their new chief, Robert Forke, of Brandon, being made opposition leader even though there is an added emolument of \$10,000 annually.

Numerically, it is pointed out, the Progressives have the undeniable right to be considered the chief party opposite the government, but in their case being opposite does not necessarily mean being opposition.

And this brings up another point which was suggested here today. This is that, politically, the Progressives, when the conservatives are considered, have no right whatever to being called the opposition unless Mr. Meighen's followers are to be called the ultra-opposition.

THE UNUSUAL IN LOCAL EVENTS

Well, Cameras Are Still Frail
Camera friends report there still are plenty of girls who giggle and laugh about breaking the camera when boys want to photograph them.

Chopping For The Shoppers
I understand confides Bill the Barber that the Christmas Tree Farmer is doing his Christmas chopping early.

A Racial Difference
It is much easier to determine whether a white man is telling the truth than a colored man says a well known attorney. The colored man seems to be able to hide his feelings and emotions much better than any body else.

CONDEMNED AT HIS OWN REQUEST

Paris Dec. 8.—Charged with having killed his 18 year old niece Postman Vigneron presented a written statement to the jury at Angoulême appealing to be condemned to death.

"I have killed. I merit death," runs the statement. Don't send me to the guillotine. There is a woman who makes my heart bleed at the thought that she lives.

The allusion is to the man's wife against whom he bore a ferocious hate.

The jury condemned him to death as requested.

More Irish Rebels Executed After Trial By a Court Martial

WERE PUT TO DEATH AS A REPRISAL FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF A MEMBER OF THE DAIL — LABOR MEMBERS BRING THE MATTER UP IN THE DAIL — PRESIDENT COSGRAVE DEFENDS THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION.

Dublin, Dec. 8.—The hands of the Free State government fell heavily today upon four more recalcitrant Republicans.

Roderick (Rory) O'Connor and "General" Liam Mellowes two noted leaders of the irreconcilables, and Joseph McKelvey and Richard Barrett, lesser lights in the fight against the constituted authority, were executed in Mount Joy prison at 9.20 o'clock this morning, under the decree of a court martial hastily summoned to try them Thursday night.

The official report issued after the executions said the men had been put to death as a reprisal for the assassination in Dublin on Thursday morning of Sean Hales, a member of the Dail, and "as a solemn warning to those associated with them in the conspiracy of assassination against representatives of the Irish people."

WERE PROBABLY HANGED

No official account of how they met their doom has been forthcoming, but it is possible they were hanged, as it is reported O'Connor had to be assisted to the scaffold. Three priests were present to give the men religious consolation before they died.

All four men were captured when the Four Courts building, which had been seized by the Republicans, was taken by the government after heavy fighting last June.

Mellowes and O'Connor were two of the prime leaders in the seizure and barricading of the building and holding it for days against the government forces.

The execution of the four men as reprisals for the assassination of Mr. Hales shocked Dublin less by reason of the deaths of men who had helped to carry on the armed revolt than because of the announcement that they had been executed as reprisal. Although many friends of the government express the fear that its new policy of quick action against malefactors will only aggravate the situation, madden the Republicans and bring about a state of absolute anarchy, the Free State Parliament today gave its support to the government after a heated debate which was provoked by protests from the Labor party against the summary executions of the morning. President Cosgrave and several of the ministers during the debate put up an impassioned defense of the government's new procedure.

Some of the important supporters of the government tonight expressed regret over the formal announcement of the executions, but in the debate in the Dail, the protests were confined to the Labor leaders, aided by Gavan O'Duffy.

TOWN MANAGER OF WOODSTOCK HAS RESIGNED

Woodstock, N. B., Dec. 8.—R. Fraser Armstrong, town manager, at a council meeting tonight tendered his resignation to become effective March 1. While it was realized that the manager had been considering several propositions that meant advancement the resignation tonight came as a surprise. Mayor E. W. Mair and all the members of the board expressed their deep regret and said that the strong position of the town today was undoubtedly owing to the efficient work of Mr. Armstrong during the last three years. Perhaps no town in Canada was better governed and in a better financial position today than Woodstock.

Mr. Armstrong has been engaged by The Citizens' Research Institute of Canada, of Toronto, to carry on work along municipal lines. The position is an important one and the clever young engineer is being warmly congratulated by his friends on his attaining a place on a staff of national importance.

It is not known who his successor will be but efforts will be made to obtain a competent man at once.

RESCUED BY DOG TEAM

Curling, Nfld., Dec. 8.—A shipwrecked crew—the captain and thirty-one men of the Norwegian steamer Nordfeldt—arrived here today after a trip by dog team and coastal steamer from Flowers Cove in the straits of Belle Isle. Their steamer was wrecked there two weeks ago while bound from Sunderland, England, for Gaspe P. Q. The captain said his vessel was total wreck high on the rocks. The crew is on the way to Halifax.

HOUSE MAY NOT OPEN IN JANUARY

Ottawa, Dec. 9.—The session of Parliament may be slightly later in opening than has commonly been expected owing to the delay in the return from abroad of Hon. W. S. Fielding. He is expected home about Dec. 20, though possibly he may embark this week-end.

Much legislation at the coming session will relate to Mr. Fielding's department and it can not be taken up without full preliminary consideration. The estimates of expenditures await his sanction and the Bank Act revision will be under his direction. Banking interests would rather welcome a formal extension of their charters leaving the revision over till 1924 but it is officially intimated that the bill will be proceeded with in the coming session.

The Minister of Finance will also have charge of the trade conventions which he has been negotiating and which will call for Parliamentary ratification. Then, as usual, he must prepare his budget.

He is returning much later than he expected and the preparatory work for session which will devolve upon him suggests that either a large volume of it will not be ready for an early opening or else that the meeting may be somewhat delayed. There is every expectation, however, that the session will open before the end of January.

HOCKEY AT BOSTON

Boston, Dec. 8.—Massachusetts Institute of Technology defeated Boston University in the first hockey game of the season here tonight by a score of 7 to 4.

ELOPEMENT OF PHYSICIAN MAKES A STIR

An Everett, Mass., Doctor and a Nurse Take an Abrupt Departure.

Boston, Dec. 9.—Dr. G. A. Haines, prominent Everett physician, has disappeared at the same time that Miss Nathalie Rogan of Burlington, a nurse with whom, according to his wife, the physician was infatuated, has dropped out of sight.

The physician's abrupt departure after he had sold his securities and collected all the cash he could get has caused Mrs. Haines to reveal an amazing bargain with him. In the expectation that he would weary of his infatuation she let him go to the other woman.

The friendship of the physician and nurse has been known to both families for some time. It was only when it became a topic of general conversation in Everett that Mrs. Haines would consent to discuss her husband's absence.

Dr. Haines is the son of the Rev. G. F. Haines of Melrose Highlands and went to Everett from Salem. The reported elopement has created a sensation in Everett.

"I found out about my husband's infatuation for Miss Rogan six months ago," said Mrs. Haines. "He admitted he was fond of her."

"I believed the best way to make him see his folly was to let him see her as often as he wanted to, thinking that he would soon tire of her and come back to me."

"I even urged him to go to her, and only a few months ago I went away to New York on a trip to give him a free rein. He rented a room in Cambridge, where he stayed many days. When I returned from New York I thought my plan had succeeded, for he was glad to have me back and was kind and loving to me."

YOUNG WIFE GETS HEAVY DAMAGES

Burlington Vt. Dec. 8.—The jury here today brought in a verdict of \$465,000 against Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo E. Woodhouse for the alienation of the affections of their son Douglas from his wife Mrs. Dorrit Stevens Woodhouse.

The verdict is the largest ever granted in the history of the state and the whole town is jubilant for popular sympathy was with the young wife who is a local girl throughout the long trial.

Mrs. Woodhouse the younger had brought suit for \$1,000,000. The jury after deliberating for more than 40 hours returned its verdict at 10.30 this morning.

In their verdict the jurors say that \$400,000 is for actual damages and \$65,000 for punitive damages.

BIG MARKET TODAY

Eggs Went Up in Price—Much Pork Offered for Sale—Chickens Not Plentiful.

The recent snow has made the travelling in the country excellent and a large number of people were at the market here today from the rural sections. There was an abundance of pork, while on the other hand eggs were scarce and high in price. Prices were as follows: Eggs, 70 to 80 cents doz; Chickens, 30 to 35 cents lb.; Fowl 20 cents lb.; Potatoes, \$1.50 barrel; Parsnips, \$2.50 barrel; Carrots, \$2.00 barrel; Butter, 35 to 40 cents lb.; Beef 6 to 9 cents lb.; Lamb, 15 to 20 cents lb.; Mutton, 10 to 14 cents lb.

WOMAN AND HER LOVER UP FOR MURDER

LONDON HAS AN IMPORTANT CASE

Crowds Throng Old Bailey to Hear Dramatic Fate of Poison and Knife.

London, Dec. 9.—One of the most sensational and dramatic trials of recent years attracted crowds of Londoners, mostly women, to the Old Bailey as early as 5 o'clock this morning. It was the old story of a married woman who, tired of her husband, found a young lover, appealed to his jealousy and pity, and persuaded him, according to the prosecution to murder the husband.

So keen was the press of would be spectators that many people were unable to find seats in the court room and eventually the doors were locked.

The names of the prisoners were Frederick Bywaters, who is junior officer on a merchant ship, aged 20, and Edith Thompson, 28, whose husband Percy, 40, was killed by several blows from a bowie knife which was subsequently found down a drain by the police. They were tried together.

It was revealed that the wife wrote remarkable letters to Bywaters, saying that she was trying to poison her husband, that she was jeering at the heart attacks which he thought he was suffering from when really his illness was due to the poisons she had administered, that she had at first refused him the rights of a husband and then given herself to him to kill his suspicion and make the lover desperate.

These letters infuriated Bywaters, and after the poison efforts of the wife, which included administering broken glass, had failed, the lover returning from a voyage, went to the house of the Thompsons and waited for their return from the theatre.

After a violent altercation with the man he stabbed him, and the wife gave out that her husband had died from a heart attack. It was quickly revealed that Bywaters had committed the murder, for the letters were found in his cabin showing that the wife had instigated the deed with the idea of living with Bywaters.

The Thompsons lived in a respectable part of Suburbia and the wife was well-known in the clothing business in the city, being employed at one of the ware-houses.

DIED AT THE AGE OF 125

Edmonton, Alta., Dec. 8.—The death of William Kennedy, of Holden, at the ripe old age of 125 years has been reported to Donald Mackie, registrar of vital statistics, as having occurred on November 30. If Kennedy's age at death is correct, not only was he the oldest inhabitant of Canada, but he must have come to Canada when he was more than 100 years old, since it is said that he came here twenty years ago.

TRAIN BLOWN OFF THE TRACK

Perpignan, France, Dec. 8.—A train was blown off the track near the Fitou station yesterday by a mistral of great violence. A sudden gust of wind swept under the last car but one, lifting it clear of the rails. Two other cars toppled into a ravine. No one was hurt.

Miss Kate Miles has been spending a few days here with Mrs. Frank Shute.

A Tramp Cat's Warning of Fire Saves a Baby's Life

Lewiston, Me., Dec. 9.—Meowing and scratching of a tramp cat in a second-story room at the home of R. F. Raymond, 145 Nichols street, gave warning of a fire there in time for occupants on the first floor to rush up stairs and rescue a 4-months-old child whose life was in danger. Several Bates students, attracted by the blaze, rushed to the scene and assisted in saving furniture and fighting the flames. While the damage to the building was heavy, it is covered by insurance.