

WM. R. THOMPSON  
TOOK HIS LIFE  
BY SHOOTING

Was Returned Soldier—  
Threat of Arrest the  
Cause — Left Letters  
Denying Accusation  
Against Him.

William R. Thompson, aged forty years, a letter carrier on the staff of the Fredericton Post Office and a returned soldier, took his life Monday night at about nine o'clock by shooting. He performed the act of self-destruction in the garden at the rear of his home, 110 Northumberland street, using a Winchester rifle with a soft nosed bullet. Two cartridges similar to that fired were found in his pocket. Death was instant the top and left side of the unfortunate man's skull being blown away.

Threatened With Arrest.

The cause of the suicide is evidently a quarrel which the deceased had with A. E. Tedford a barber of this city and an acquaintance of the dead man. The quarrel concerned an assault alleged against Thompson and his threatened arrest in that connection. Words passed between Tedford and Thompson not long before the suicide occurred.

Denies the Charges.

Two letters were written by Thompson just before his death. One was to his wife and one was to Tedford. In these letters he denied the truth of the accusation made against him.

Had Long War Service.

Thompson had a long war service. He enlisted here in the first contingent of volunteers from the 71st York Regt. in August 1914. He crossed to England with the 12th Battalion C. E. F. and from it was drafted to the 13th Battalion of Montreal, Royal Highlanders of Canada. With that well known unit he served throughout the war and was discharged here after the armistice. Some years ago he was appointed letter carrier.

Widow and Child.

The deceased is survived by his widow formerly Miss Sears of this city and one little son George Arthur Thompson. He belonged originally in Saint John and relatives reside there now. Mrs. Thompson has been confined to her bed with illness for some time. Last night she was cared for by friends.

Funeral on Wednesday

The funeral will take place Wednesday afternoon from the late home with service at 2.30 o'clock by Rev. A. F. Bate. Interment will be made in the Rural Cemetery Extension. The funeral will be under the auspices of the Canadian Legion.

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CITY AFFAIRS  
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Should Take Notice.

Put Crimp in Church Attendance.  
The heavy rain on Sunday afternoon between five and six o'clock interfered very much with the attendance at the evening service in the churches. In one prominent church the congregation consisted of twelve persons.

Cars in Collision.

Early Monday morning a Ford truck, belonging to one of Fredericton's Jewish residents, collided with a Maine car, at the end of the highway bridge at Oromocto. The Ford was damaged the most and it was late in the afternoon before it could proceed.

On Vagrancy Charge.

Two men were arrested last night on a charge of vagrancy having been found lurking about buildings. This morning Sitting Magistrate MacKay let them go with a warning that they were not to be found again acting as vagrants. One of the two tried to say that he was waiting an Imperial pension. Documents which he claimed supported his claim were not satisfactory to the court.

Bicycle Tourist.

A new kind of a tourist arrived here last evening and could be seen in Queen street and also today. This was a young man who is hiking across country on a bicycle. Signs on the bicycle name nearly all the United States as places visited. He left Vancouver in the year 1922 and intends to continue his journey to England. His only companion is a little dog which travels on the parcel carrier of the bicycle.

EQUALIZING OF ASSESSMENT  
IN WESTERN PROVINCES IS  
CARRIED OUT WITH SUCCESS

Dr. W. C. Kierstead Investigated at Provincial Capitals of West—Did So For His Own Information Not at Instance of Provincial Government—Found Feeling of Irritation Against Ontario and Dissatisfaction with Banks.

Dr. W. C. Kierstead of this city, Professor of Economics at the University of New Brunswick, has returned to Fredericton after a tour of Ontario and the Western Provinces under the auspices of the Canadian Clubs' Association of Canada. He delivered thirty lectures before Canadian Clubs and in some cases other bodies, during his tour, his subjects being "Canadian National Ideals" and "The Values and Dangers of Sectionalism."

Corrects Impression.

Dr. Kierstead wishes to correct an impression prevalent to some extent in this Province that he was instructed to investigate systems of equalization of assessment in effect in the Western Provinces, on behalf of the Government of New Brunswick. Dr. Kierstead says that he had no instructions in the matter but for his own private information visited the provincial departments at Winnipeg, Regina and Edmonton, and secured information concerning the methods of taxation, also concerning the administration of Education and Public Health. He found that excellent and equitable systems of equalizing assessment had been devised and put into effect. If this information is of value in this Province it may be secured.

Prairie Outlook Sectional.

The Prairie Provinces were found by Dr. Kierstead to be extremely sectional in their outlook. They considered the interests of Ontario and Montreal which they termed Eastern Canada as antagonistic to their own. When informed by Dr. Kierstead that their view was very similar to that taken by many people in the Maritime Provinces the Westerners remarked

that probably the reasons were the same. Dr. Kierstead observed a deep-seated dissatisfaction with the banking institutions of Canada. This dissatisfaction was not only with the administration of the banks as conducted at present but also with their constitution. There was an expression of opinion that there was too great Ontario and Montreal influence.

Industrialism of Ontario.

Dr. Kierstead was greatly impressed by the industrialism of Ontario which he ascribes to cheap power, proximity to coal, nearness to centres of consumption and inclusion in the industrial area of the United States. The latter fact provided on Canadian soil subsidiaries to many American industries and the same capital to operate them. At Sudbury he observed the nickel industry which in a few years had been converted from a war industry to a peace industry by the expansion of the motor-car industry. At Port William and Port Arthur the outstanding feature was the grain trade. Elevators which could store seventy-four million bushels for the lake trade existed. So well equipped are they that a vessel carrying half a million bushels of grain can be loaded in five or six hours.

Large Return to Producer.

In connection with the grain trade Dr. Kierstead took occasion to impress upon those who heard his lectures that notwithstanding the enormous distances grain had to be transported the grower of the grain receive sixty or sixty-five cents of each dollar which the grain finally brought in the market. For no other product did the producer receive so great a proportion.

(Continued on page five.)

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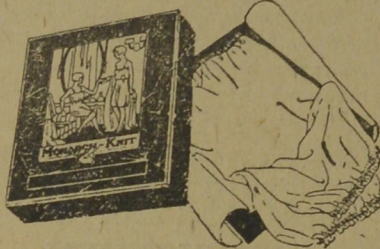
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