

The Daily Mail

NEW BRUNSWICK'S ONLY HOME COMMUNITY PAPER

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FREDERICTON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1936

Good Police Work

Congratulations are coming to Inspector Bird and the men of the Mounted Police who did such prompt work yesterday in running down what is alleged to be the clue in the Phillip Lake murder case near Moncton. While of course nothing has been proved against Bannister, the clues unearthed by the R.C.M.P. are considered sufficiently strong to place him under arrest on the charge of murder. The prisoner was arraigned at Moncton this morning charged with murder. The police story is that the murder followed a drinking bout at the Lake house, during which a lamp was upset. It is believed that the woman was killed as she fled from the burning house and that the others were burned up in the house. The arrest of Bannister was as dramatic as it was sudden, and caused a sensation all over New Brunswick.

Uncertain France

Andre Tardieu has resigned from the Center Republicans in the French Chamber of Deputies because he didn't like the speech of Paul Reynaud, president of the group, criticizing Premier Pierre Laval. Paul Reynaud has resigned as president of the Center Republicans because many of them voted to support the Premier. M. Tardieu can't put up with M. Reynaud because, he says, Great Britain would not consent to sanctions when M. Reynaud was begging for them, and now M. Reynaud doesn't see that the only reason Great Britain is for sanctions is that they are being used against France's friend, Italy. M. Reynaud can't stand M. Tardieu because Tardieu clamored for years for a united League front, and now that it has been achieved, he doesn't like it. France has promised to stand by Great Britain in case the latter is attacked by Italy, but when she was asked whether her navy was in readiness, is said to have replied that it is not, and can't be made ready, because that would look like a threat to Italy, with whom she means to continue on good terms. If Italy should get sore at England, it would mean no more than the loss of a few British battleships, cruisers and destroyers; but if Italy became angry with France, it might involve the loss of Toulon, and an attack on the defenseless areas of the Riviera. With a government kept in office by a wobbling score of votes, France is necessarily pursuing a yes-and-no policy. Yes, she favors sanctions, but no, not effective against Italy. Yes, she will support Great Britain in case of trouble, but no, not by getting ready for possible action. Yes, she will do anything the League wants her to do, but no, nothing that would make Mussolini angry. Yes, she wants peace with everybody, but let Germany start something—then Great Britain, Italy, Russia, League of Nations, what are you waiting for? Help, World!

Unfriendly Churches

The following interview regarding unfriendly churches appears in an exchange and it is worthy of consideration:— We have probably all heard the story of the two families who moved into a town. The first met an old man and asked him what sort of people there were in town. He, in reply, asked what sort of people there were in the town he left. On hearing that the people were unsociable, he said that they would find the people of his town just the same. The next family had found their former neighbors all that could be desired, and he assured them that the new neighbors would be just as agreeable. A great deal of our happiness lies within us. Many of us have had experiences where we went into strange gatherings, not knowing anybody. Sometimes it does seem hard to "break in." But if we don't have the centre of the stage, we can at least learn a great deal by watching the others. To me, people are intensely interesting—more interesting than anything else in the world. When I travel, I find myself studying people—wondering what their occupation is, what their home life and social life is like. I can sit and watch them and, before I know it, somehow I am speaking to someone. We stand too much on ceremony. When I was a girl in my teens, I visited in a home where there were four women. A brother of the hostess was a guest in the house at one time. It seemed strange that I met him for the first time by coming into the living room when he was there alone. I almost backed out, but he said to me: "You are Miss B—" I replied: "You are Mr. C," and we shook hands. He was twice my age and had travelled extensively, and was always at his ease and knew how to handle an emergency. When his sister, later, went to introduce us, he said: "Miss Ethel and I are quite well acquainted."

If I went into a strange church alone (and I have), I feel sure that I would speak to someone before I came out. It seems to me that some woman would drop her glove and I would pick it up, or I would remark to someone that it was a beautiful church or a fine sermon. If I only spoke to one person or smiled at someone I wouldn't feel lonesome.

The first day I ever went to school was one I will never forget. I didn't even know one girl. All the children ran out to play but myself and one girl that the others cold shouldered. She stood alone and kept an eye on me. I took my choicest piece of lunch and offered it to her. She took it. I don't know how I got acquainted with like rest, but the lonesomeness was short-lived. Perhaps the trouble is that we try to get right in at once with the leaders, with those who are happy and self-centred. Perhaps we are jealous of their popularity and think them selfish because they do not notice us. If we enjoy the speaker or the services, or if we like the edifice, we need not worry, we can bide our time.

I have in mind a farmer who moved his family into a city. He had been superintendent of a Sunday school in a school house back home, and a class leader and Sunday school teacher. The nearest church to his city home was the most fashionable one in the city. To him it was God's house. His family grew up in that church and he never felt it cold nor icy. Though he never held office, he always made it his business to shake hands with any strangers who sat near him as long as he lived; perhaps it was because he had felt lonesome himself when he joined. His family held office and when he was buried two of the wealthiest members of the church attended the funeral, though it was supposed to be private.

I nearly always find that the better I know people, the better I like them. The gayest have their sad days and the haughtiest feel embarrassed sometimes and show it. If we have a purpose in life let us press on, but let us be kind to all whom we meet. If we don't like people we don't need to have very much to do with them, but we can always be courteous. But somehow or other, when we need help or friendship, it is usually forthcoming, and even the people we thought we didn't like turn out to be better than we expected.

SNAPSHOTS

Congratulations to Warden A. Howard Cameron on his election as head of the York County Council. He should make a good warden and a worthy successor to many fine men who have occupied the chair.

The York County Council carded out The Daily Mail for suggesting changes in the disgraceful jail menu and then proceeded to make some of the changes which we suggested.

Councillor Doherty says that "The County Jail is filthy and lousy and that the jailer admits that it is lousy."

According to Councillor Saunders there is no record of what is allowed for the prisoners' board at the jail. The Secretary-Treasurer says that he does not know what is allowed. There is a screw loose somewhere. Nobody in authority seems to know what is going on.

What was the total amount spent for the prisoners' board last year. Where did it go?

Where did the forty-five cents per day per man allowed by the Liquor Control Board for violations of the liquor act go? How much went to the jailor? The Councillors would do well to occupy their time in clearing up these things to the public satisfaction. We do not say that anything is wrong but turn on the light instead of criticising The Daily Mail for discussing conditions which the council should be ashamed of.

Money Lending to Allies in World War is Discussed

(Continued from Page One)

"I beg to communicate to you an important matter which has come before the department," Bryan wrote. "Morgan Company of New York have asked whether there would be any objection to their making a loan to the French government and also the Rothschilds—I suppose that is intended for the French government. "I have conferred with Mr. Lansing and he knows of no legal objection to financing this loan, but I have suggested to him the advisability of presenting to you an aspect of the case which is not legal but I believe to be consistent with our attitude in international matters. It is whether it would be advisable for his government to take the position that it will not approve of any loan to a belligerent nation. The reason that I would give in support of this proposition are:—

"Worst of All Contrabands"

"First, Money is the worst of all contrabands because it commands everything else....I know of nothing that would do more to prevent war than an international agreement that neutral nations would not loan to belligerents. While such an agreement would be of great advantage, could we not by our example hasten the reaching of such an agreement? We are the one great nation which is not involved and our refusal to loan to any belligerent would naturally tend to hasten a conclusion of the war.

"Second: There is a special and local reason, it seems to me, why this course would be advisable. If we approved of a loan to France we could not, of course, object to a loan to Great Britain, Germany, Russia, Austria or to any other country, and if loans were made to these countries our citizens would be divided into groups, each group loaning money to the country which it favors and this money could not be furnished without expressions of sympathy.

"Third: The powerful financial interests which would be connected with these loans would be tempted to use their influence through the newspapers to support the interests of the government to which they had loaned because the value of the security would be directly affected by the result of the war. All of this influence would make it all the more difficult for us to maintain neutrality, as our action on various questions, that would arise would affect one side or the other and powerful financial interests would be thrown into the balance."

NEWS VENDOR NOBLE MAN

EDMONTON, Jan. 8—A 60-year-old nobleman, poverty-stricken but cheerful, sold his newspapers on Edmonton streets yesterday, hoping shortly he would inherit sufficient income to leave the news vending to some one else.

He is the Vicomte Du Valient, better-known to his safety customers as Stanley Vaile. That is the name he assumed when he left the family estate in England to test his fortune in Canada nearly thirty years ago.

At that time he did not possess the family title—one of French origin, but in the law office here of Alexander Morris there is proof of the newspaper salesman's identity.

A. W. Bannister Arrested Charged With Murder

(Continued from page One)

then out to the Canadian National Railways track, where the trial disappeared.

Bannister had been met on the railway track, walking toward Pacific Junction Sunday night at six o'clock by Leonard Carroll and David Barron, they told police.

When the police arrived at the Bannister home on Berry's Mills Road, Arthur and his brother, Daniel, also single, were taken into custody for questioning. The officers stated last night that Arthur admitted he had lost a mitten Sunday night. He had borrowed a pair Sunday from Daniel, they claimed, and told Daniel he was "striking out" for Pacific Junction. Only one mitten was returned by Arthur to Daniel Monday, police said, and Daniel yesterday identified as his the one which police had found in the woods at Pacific Junction, they claimed.

Brother Released

Arthur returned home Monday, but at what hour it was not known, according to police. While Arthur was held at Moncton police headquarters last night, pending arraignment this morning Daniel was released from custody. Police also announced they were satisfied that Earl O'Brien, Moncton, who they said had visited the Lake home frequently, had no connection with the tragedy.

Sergeant Peters and Constable Fenwick returned to Moncton from Pacific Junction last night, but Constable Kent remained at the scene, together with Constable Ewing, also of the Moncton detachment, for further investigation. It could not be learned officially whether police expected to make another arrest.

It was regarded as probable that after arraignment this morning, Bannister will be given a remand, to allow the Crown to prepare its case. This afternoon, also at Moncton, the inquest into the deaths will begin at 2.15 o'clock, before Dr. R. J. Caldwell, Moncton, coroner, when the report of Dr. H. Paul Melanson, who made a post-mortem examination at Moncton yesterday, will be submitted. Several witnesses, including Daniel Bannister, are expected to be heard at the inquest, although Arthur Bannister will, in all likelihood, not be present at the inquiry.

Two Saint John residents, Mrs. Harold Pitt, 176½ Duke street, and Mrs. Kenneth McBeath, 141 Guilford street, West, daughters of Mrs. Addie Davis, 139 Guilford street, will leave for Moncton this morning to view the body of Mrs. Phillip (Bertha) Lake, who was 28 years of age. Interviewed last night, none had any statement to make. It was regarded as probable that Mrs. Lake was a sister of Mrs. Pitt and Mrs. McBeath. They will be taken to the morgue at Moncton immediately after arrival of the train from Saint John to view the body and attempt to establish identification, it was stated. Their sister formerly resided in Saint John.

Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lake since their arrival at Pacific Junction, about three years ago. The son, John, was found dead, near the body of the mother. No traces of the baby girl, six months old, have been discovered. Police are now of the opinion that the baby was cremated when the house burned. The skeleton of the family cat was found in the ruins, but it was pointed out that its bones would be "mature," whereas the child's bones would be so soft as to burn without leaving any traces. The body of the father, badly charred, was found in the ruins, and identification was made by means of two gold teeth. He was 30 years old.

The PostMortem

The post-mortem examination of the bodies of the couple and their son was to have been begun at Moncton yesterday morning but those of the woman and boy were so badly frozen that examination was delayed until the afternoon.

Dr. Melanson, who made the examination, and Dr. Caldwell, disclosed last night that Mrs. Lake had died of a fractured skull. The child had died of exposure, and the father in the fire. Judging by the nature of the woman's skull injury, both doctors were of the opinion that she could not have walked or run more than a few yards, although police cited a case in which a man shot through the heart had managed to go more than 100 yards before falling dead.

It was said by police that the woman probably had first been struck while in the house and yet the spot where her body was found was more than 800 yards from the shack. There were spots of blood at intervals along the road, or path, and at the spot where the body was discovered there were indications of a scuffle. She was only about 50 yards from the home of Omar Lutes, C.N.R. operator at Pacific Junction, when found. Her son's body was lying a few yards behind her. An opinion that she had been struck, on the same part of the head, after she had left the house, was expressed.

The doctors reported that the skull was fractured on the right side, where the blow (or blows) had been struck. There has been hemorrhages, and destruction of the brain tissue on the opposite side, a good deal of the bleeding being under the covering of the brain. They were confident that there were no indications of burns. On Monday night it had been reported that there were what were thought to be slight burns on the woman's legs.

The blow (or blows) caused her death, and the doctors believed she was killed at the spot where the body was found. The child died of exposure, there being no indications of any violence. The man's body was so badly charred that nothing could be determined from the examinations, they stated.

There were no indications of blood or burns on the clothing of the woman or the boy, they reported. The woman was nearly naked when found but the boy was more fully clothed. Buttons found near the man's body indicated that he had been fully clothed at the time the fire broke out, it was stated.

Arthur Bannister was believed by police to have been a frequent visitor at Lake's home. He and Earl O'Brien were there last Thursday night, it was said, returning home the following day. Bannister lives with his mother, two sisters and two brothers in a humble dwelling on Berry's Mills Road.

The coroner's jury empanelled for the inquest this afternoon is composed of W. H. Hutchinson, Gerald Gillespie and Vaughan McLellan, Moncton; Carl T. Horsman, Fredericton; Elton Lewis, Catamount, and Stanley and Harold Lewis, Sagawaw.

Witnesses expected to be called include Daniel Bannister, Omar Lutes, C.N.R. operator; Otis L. Klakney, who discovered the fire ruins and the bodies; Earl O'Brien and Joseph Colbourne, who lives on what is known as 'Gravel Pit Road,' Pacific Junction, his home being some distance from the Lake home. Pacific Junction itself is a sparsely settled community, with only the C.N.R. operator's house and a few homesteaders' camps.

The two-room Lake home was on this Gravel Pit Road, about half a mile from the track. It was a one-story structure, of logs, and built in a small clearing along the heavily-wooded road. From the Lutes house, which is at the entrance to the Gravel Pit Road, there is a clear vision in for about a quarter of a mile. At that point the road turns and the Lake home could not be seen from the Lutes house, even though the latter is on higher ground.

Found Ruins First

Otto L. Blakney, who lives some distance from the Lake cabin, left his home Monday morning for the Lake home to get some provisions which he said Lake had bought for him at Berry's Mills Saturday. He first came on the ruins of the shack and then he hurried along the road toward the operator's house. He suddenly noticed the body of the boy and then, a few feet farther on, that of the mother.

Arriving at Lutes' home, Blakney is quoted as having asked "Is Phil Lake here?" only to be answered in the negative. He then told Mr. and Mrs. Lutes of his gruesome discovery and remarked, it was stated, that he thought the man's body he had seen in the fire debris was that of Earle O'Brien, Moncton.

Lutes got in touch immediately with the R.C.M.P. at Moncton and was instructed to allow nobody to pass in along the road. He had Carl T. Horsman, Fredericton, who was a guest at his house, and Blakney go along the road as far as the spot where the body of Mrs. Lake was lying. They said later that the snow about Mrs. Lake's body was stained with blood but that the stains were not found beyond a few feet, indicating, in the opinion of some of the investigating authorities, that she had been killed at the spot where the body was found.

Removes Body

On the arrival of Sergeant Peters, Constables Kent and Fenwick, and C. N.R. Constable Frederick Randall, Lutes, Horsman and Blakney proceeded with them to the Lake home, removing the charred remains of Lake from the debris and establishing identification by means of the teeth.

The footprints of what were believed to have been two men were followed from the spot near where the woman's body was discovered, through the woods. Apparently the supposed two parties separated in the woods but after a short distance the footprints came closer together and they were continued on to the railway track, where they were lost.

Mr. and Mrs. Lutes told of hearing their dog barking between midnight Sunday and 1 o'clock Monday morning. Mrs. Lutes got out of bed and went to an upstairs window, thinking that the dog had heard someone prowling about the fox ranch. Several fox thefts have been committed within recent weeks in Westmorland areas.

Mrs. Lutes said she saw the dog run up the Gravel Pit Road and come back, and repeat this performance several times barking all the while. She then went downstairs and called to the dog to come back, which she did. She saw no reflection of flames and did not see anybody on the road, she said. It had snowed quite heavily Sunday night, but she could not recall whether or not it was snowing at that hour. Neither she nor her husband heard any more noise that night and knew nothing of the tragedy until about noon Monday, when Blakney arrived at their home, they said.

Mr. and Mrs. Lutes have lived at Pacific Junction for several years, it was stated. The Lake family had lived in a small shack owned by Lutes in the summer and winter of 1934, moving in the summer of 1935, into the log cabin which was destroyed Sunday. The Lake couple did not seem dissatisfied with their lot, Mr. and Mrs. Lutes said, and never appeared to be in actual want for the necessities of life. Lake had kept two dogs which he kept in the barn near the little home, as were a cow and several hens. The barn was not damaged in the fire.

CAPITOL

HERE MON. - TUES. - WED.

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NEWS AND COMEDY

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— in —

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MUSICAL REVUE and Cartoon in Technicolor

HERE THIS FRI. AND SAT.

Warner Baxter

Ketti Gallian

— in —

"UNDER THE PAMPAS MOON"

LUCK HAS ITS DISADVANTAGES

(From the (Sarnia) Canadian Observer)

Up to five years ago Wilfrid LeBlanc of Hull, Quebec, was a happy carpenter earning \$22 a week. Then he won \$149,000 on a British sweepstake, whereupon he abandoned his job, built a pretentious residence and proceeded to settle into a life of ease. Recently meddlesome people in quest of money have been paying unusual attention to Mr. LeBlanc. At first it was a flood of mysterious telephone calls. A year and a half ago he received a letter demanding \$10,000 under threat of serious consequences if the money were not paid over. No attention was given to it and nothing happened. This week there came a letter demanding \$5,000 and Mr. LeBlanc went to the police who instructed him to deposit the money according to the instructions in the letter, but the extortionists did not come to claim it.

When LeBlanc was a humble carpenter he had to get up early in the morning and work hard all day, living on meagre fare. Now he can sleep late mornings and have the best of food and clothing. He is quite comfortable in a physical way but his mental state is not so satisfactory. Those letters demanding money and threatening fearful consequences are not pleasant.

A great many people would give anything they possess to be rich and independent. They forget that such a condition might spoil all the contentment they have. This business of the threatening letter is disconcerting. However, the writers thereof are either lunatics or criminals who, sooner or later, will fall into the hands of the officials and will be called upon for explanations that may be difficult. The trouble is that to others of similar propensities may be left.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our dear wife and mother, Mrs. Alex. Price, who passed away Jan. 8, 1928.

Gone but not forgotten

Sadly missed by Husband and Family.

City Election

The Election for Mayor and Aldermen for the City of Fredericton will be held on Monday, Jan. 13th, 1936

Polling Places: Division No. 1. At or near the City Hall. Division No. 2. At or near the Court House.

Polls will be open at 9 o'clock in the forenoon and close at 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the said day.

How to Vote

Each voter shall be entitled to vote for one candidate for Mayor; for one candidate for Aldermen; place his or her ballot within the envelope handed to him or her by the Presiding Officer, and shall, without any delay, hand the envelope containing his or her ballot, unsealed to the Presiding Officer, who shall ascertain by examining his initials that it is the same with which he had furnished the voter, and if so satisfied shall immediately and in the presence of the voter, place the envelope containing the ballot in the ballot box, and the voter shall immediately leave the polling place. No ballot shall be received by the Presiding Officer until the voter has proceeded to the screened compartment within the polling place, and while there placed his or her ballot in the envelope furnished him or her by the Presiding Officer.

The Poll Clerk shall, under the direction of the Presiding Officer, then enter the name of the voter on the check list.

NOTICE TO ELECTORS

The names of the candidates are as follows: For Mayor—Kitchen, G. Willard, Mitchell, Moses. For Aldermen, Carleton Ward—Ross, Byron Robert, Wright, H. Stanley.

FRED I. HAVILAND, City Clerk.

City Hall, Jan. 7th, 1936.

or later, will fall into the hands of the officials and will be called upon for explanations that may be difficult. The trouble is that to others of similar propensities may be left.

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