

ARTHUR BANNISTER'S SIGNED CONFESSION  
THROWS LIGHT ON THE SORDID TRAGEDY

The Electric Chair  
May Take Place of  
Hanging in Canada

That or the Lethal Chamber May Be Adopted  
According to Hon. Ernest Lapointe.

Capital Punishment

The Penitentiary System is Also to Be Inquired  
Into by Commission

(Special to The Daily Mail)  
OTTAWA, Jan. 10.—The electric chair, the lethal chamber, or some other modern method of executing those sentenced to death for capital crimes, may be substituted in Canada for the archaic hangings now extant. The Royal Commission on penology which is to investigate the penitentiary system of Canada will also be charged with an enquiry into the capital punishment phase. Hon. Ernest Lapointe, minister of justice, referred in the House last session to a "ghastly incident relating to a hanging in Montreal."

"I wonder whether we should not if we retain capital punishment and I am not prepared to say we should do away with it, have a change because this is the criminal code of this country. In the method of execution so that it should be carried out only in a penitentiary and not in any district. I believe the electric chair or some other device must be preferable to this remnant of old days when such things as we have read about in the papers recently are likely to happen. The question ought to be studied and I think it is a reform that should be brought about in this country."

Wants Advisory  
Committee From  
York Council

(Special to The Daily Mail)  
Speaking at the York county council's annual warden's dinner here last night C. F. Bailey, superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Station, asked for the co-operation of the council in spreading information to the farmers of the work which is carried on at the station. Mr. Bailey asked that an advisory committee from the council be formed to assist the station in disseminating this knowledge to the county farmers. Mutual benefit would result, he felt sure. Mr. Bailey suggested that the committee might arrange conferences with the station officials—also picnic—in order to get together and discuss matters relating to agricultural work at the station. In this way "our work would be more effective" and benefit would accrue to the farmers also.

Friends will regret to learn that Mrs. William Fisher is ill with pleurisy at her home on Union Street. She was somewhat improved this afternoon.

ARCHBISHOP O'DONNELL REPORTED  
TO BE SERIOUSLY ILL IN HALIFAX

HALIFAX, N. S., Jan. 10.—"Very slight improvement" was noted last night in the condition of Most Rev. Thomas O'Donnell, Roman Catholic archbishop of Halifax, who became seriously ill early yesterday.

His condition was still critical and bulletins were being issued from the Episcopal residence at two-hour intervals. Prayers of the laity were sought for his recovery.

He was apparently in good health Wednesday night when he talked to

PRESS CLUB  
MEMBERS HEAR  
NOTED WRITER

Miss Marshall Saunders  
Present at Function  
in Toronto

TORONTO, Jan. 10.—"It was most difficult at first to recapture the atmosphere of the past and to pick up the threads of the story first told many years ago, but now I find myself easily living again all the life-story of my Anne—only I must watch myself carefully lest such modernities as motor cars or radios, or even a newfangled sled, creep into the story by mistake," L. M. Montgomery (Mrs. Evan Macdonald, O.B.E.) told an interested crowd of listeners at the Canadian Women's Press Club tea recently as she spoke of the new Anne book she is now preparing.

None of the characters in any of her many books have been drawn from real life, she said, although she has had numberless experiences.

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WOMAN IS  
HAPPIEST AT  
MIDDLE AGE

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Jan. 10.—A woman's life is happiest when her first baby or her first grandchild is born, rather than during her courtship or honeymoon, 400 members of the Twentieth Century Club of Lansdowne decided.

"About 50," was the favorite age of the women considering the problem. They expressed varying opinions, but voted for the contentment of middle age, after children are grown, the hard work of home life is over, and when a woman's time is her own.

Many of the women recalled happy memories of "sweet 16," but none wanted to return to that period. The older members of the club said they preferred to look forward to the "quietness of the twilight years."

Forty Five Cents Per Day

A few days ago The Daily Mail asked the question "Where does the forty five cents a day, provided by the Liquor Control Board to pay for the maintenance of prisoners confined under the Liquor Act at the county jail, go?" Nobody seemed to be able to answer this question. Yesterday afternoon at the county council session Ex-Warden W. J. Gaynor asked the same question. In order to enlighten the councillors and the other authorities and the public generally The Daily Mail will explain the matter for their benefit. They could not explain it for ours.

Each month the secretary-treasurer makes out a list of the number of prisoners convicted for liquor offences together with the number of days which they are confined. He multiplies this by forty five cents a day and sends the total bill to the Provincial Secretary-treasurer. The provincial secretary-treasurer dips into the box where he keeps the money collected through liquor fines and so on, which he calls the administration of justice box, and sends back to the secretary-treasurer of the county the amount of the bill for the "keep" of such prisoners.

When the secretary-treasurer receives the money which is intended to be applied to the maintenance of the prisoners it is placed in the administration of justice funds and out of this money is paid the salary of the jailer and other jail expenses.

It might be explained in this connection that the city of Fredericton is different from most other cities and towns as it is not a part of the county of York and is not entitled, therefore, to use the county jail of that county. An arrangement was made many years ago whereby the city of Fredericton paid into the county of York an amount each year based upon the number of prisoners rightly belonging to the city who were sent to the county jail. About ten years ago the amount contributed by the city to the county had reached as high as \$5,000 in one year. This year the amount will run about \$2,800. The reason for this is that the forty five cents a day paid in to the county from the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer is split in two and half of it is passed over for the maintenance of the prisoners from the city thus reducing the share which the city has to pay into the county.

This all explains where the money passed over by the Liquor Control Board to the provincial treasury to be applied to pay the board of prisoners at the rate of forty five cents a day, goes to. It would appear from the above outline of the arrangements that the money whether rightly or wrongly is not all applied to pay for the actual board of the prisoner but it also goes to pay the salary of the jailer and other incidental expenses. This is a matter which the councillors will have to work out for themselves. If this forty-five cents a day is not wholly for the purpose of paying the prisoners' board that is a matter for the councillors, who are responsible to the people of the various parishes, and to the city council, who are responsible to the people of Fredericton, to figure out for themselves.

It might be stated that while the County of York is one of the municipalities which is receiving forty-five cents a day towards the maintenance of prisoners, there are other counties which receive from the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer's department only thirty-six cents a day for the same purpose. It seems to be a strange thing that some of these counties which are receiving the thirty-six cents per day are able—like the County of Gloucester, for instance—to provide their prisoners with a substantial jail menu, while the County of York, which is receiving the forty-five cents a day, is providing a menu which leading clergymen and others have severely criticized.

Ten Thousand Old People  
Draw Pensions in Toronto

TORONTO, Jan. 10.—There are 10,177 people in Toronto drawing full or part allowances from the Toronto Old Age Pensions Board, it was revealed in the board's annual report.

The report also showed that the amount paid to these pensioners last year was \$2,147,772, of which one-tenth was contributed by the local taxpayer. The remainder was paid by the Provincial Government.

**7,000 On Full Pension**  
The number receiving full pension was 7,602, while those receiving part allowance was 2,375. The number of women was 6,160 and men 4,617, according to the report, while 8,472 of the number were between 70 and 80 years of age. One pensioner was 100 years old.

"The number of applications for pensions during 1935 was 1,750, which was 120 less than in 1934. For the second year in succession we have had a smaller number of applications than in the preceding year," said the Chairman, John O'Connor. "This gives reasonable ground for the conclusion that we have reached the point where

applications will cease to show an annual increase so long as the present qualifying age of 70 is continued."

A number of the pensioners are in homes paying for their care out of the allowance which they receive from the city and Province.

"During the year a number of our beneficiaries have found that they no longer needed a pension and asked that they be discontinued," the report stated. "In some instances members of the family have returned to work and assumed obligations to the pensioners, and in other instances pensioners have secured employment and asked that pensions be suspended or discontinued entirely. Cash received from the sale of property was given as a reason by some."

PRAYER SERVICES

The Week of Prayer was continued last evening with Rev. G. W. Guion speaking at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Rev. George Telford speaking at the Reformed Baptist church. The latter spoke on "The Church and Missions". Large audiences were present at both services.

YORK COUNTY  
COUNCIL CAUTIOUS  
RE ABATTOIR

Discuss Resolution to  
Support Cold Storage  
Plant But Not Abat-  
toir—Continue This  
Afternoon.

The York Municipal Council at this morning's session considered a resolution presented by the abattoir committee, to grant support to a proposed cold storage plant in the Fredericton district for the purpose of storing produce. The resolution which presented various provisions, did not give any consideration of a grant for an abattoir and did not mention any specific amount for a grant. The resolution was being discussed when the meeting adjourned until this afternoon when the discussion will be continued.

Mayor W. G. Clark, M.P., appeared before the council this morning and addressed them on questions concerning the Victoria Public Hospital. He was accompanied by Luke S. Morrisson, a member of the Hospital Board.

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WAR NETTED  
\$30,000,000 TO  
J. P. MORGAN

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 10.—The money changers of the world are at present in the lime-light J. P. Morgan and his partner netted the neat little sum of thirty million dollars during the war.

J. P. Morgan astonished the United States munitions committee yesterday with an amiable account of how David Lloyd George settled an intense American rivalry for European war business—in favor of the House of Morgan.

His recital of dealings with the then chancellor of the exchequer, delivered between rumbling chuckles and puffs on a malodorous old briar pipe, shared interest with a statement, made by George Whitney, a Morgan partner, that \$24,000,000 of Britain's private debt in the United States was paid off "with the help" of the United States Treasury.

In addition, the committee produced voluminous statistics on the American business boom which followed the war orders, and with Thomas W. Lamont, a senior Morgan partner, frequently objecting, sought to link the situation with a web of circumstances drawing the United States into the war.

For 1915, 1916, and 1917, the committee's accountants reported exports of arms, ammunition, iron and steel to the allied nations totalling \$2,167,000,000. Eighty-four per cent of that business, it was testified, was done through the Morgans, as general purchasing agents, at a profit of \$30,000,000.

ELDERLY DEVON  
RESIDENT DIES

James Ashfield, aged 92, passed away early this morning at his home in Bridge Street, North Devon. Mr. Ashfield was born in Ireland and came to this country when he was three years old. For thirty-three years he resided at North Tay where he carried on farming, for the past thirty-seven years. He was one of the oldest residents in the community, he was well known and highly respected by all. He is survived by his widow, two sons, Murray H. and Allan J., at North Tay; two daughters, Mrs. Allen Thomas, Tay Settlement, and Mrs. Wesley Tait, Fredericton; two half-brothers, Isaac, Royal Road and Alex, Vancouver; twenty-two grandchildren, several great grandchildren and several nephews and nieces. Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

Brother and Sister  
Arthur Bannister  
Arrested in Case

Bertha Lake Allegedly Struck by Man Now  
Dead

Injured Woman Runs Out of Shack

Brother and Sister Had Gone to Lake Shack to  
Bring Home Brother

COOPERATION  
WOULD LOWER  
PRICE OF CARS

Maritime Consumer is  
Shown Little Consid-  
eration says Counsel

OTTAWA, Jan. 10.—The voice of the Maritime provinces was raised at the tariff board yesterday during the enquiry into the automobile industry. After days and weeks hearing the manufacturers, the parts makers, the wholesalers and the dealers, the board heard the voice of the consumer.

Wishart Robertson, counsel for the provincial governments of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, bluntly told the manufacturers that "precious little consideration" was being given the consumers' interests.

The parts manufacturers asked the board for substantial increases in the duty on parts, proposing that the in-

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CONTEMPT FOR  
ARMAMENTS  
RESTRICTION

LONDON, England, Jan. 10.—A charge that Sir Charles Craven, high official of the Vickers munitions interests, took an attitude that "the more munitions in the world, the merrier for the world" was made last night at the British munitions investigation.

Sir Philip Gibbs, novelist, and member of the Royal Commission on private manufacture of arms, made the accusation, adding that he believed Sir Charles regarded with contempt all efforts to restrict world armaments.

Sir Charles, in reply, minimized the danger of armament sales, and declared: "I do not agree that armament firms create war."

The commission adjourned until January 22, after questioning Sir Charles, the managing director of Vickers-Armstrong, Limited, and director of Vickers, Limited, for the second successive day.

Developments in the sordid tragedy at Pacific Junction in which four lives are believed to have been ended, have brought to light what are believed to be the actual facts of the mystery.

What Inspector John D. Bird, in charge of the Moncton R. C. M. P. detachment, who investigated the crime, said was a "signed statement" obtained from Arthur Bannister—completed last night—threw entirely new light on events yesterday, which were said to have led up to the tragedy and those which immediately followed it.

At the same time—sensational developments following one another with startling rapidity—came the police version of how three sets of footprints in the snow had been followed for some miles directly to the Bannister home.

Previously it had been reported that two sets of footprints led from a spot within a few feet of where Bertha Lake's body was found through the woods to the Canadian National Railway, some distance from the Pacific Junction station, where they were lost. Now police announce that three sets of tracks, one set presumably those of Frances Bannister, were followed to the Bannister home, about four miles away.

The police were suspicious of the first "story" related by Arthur Bannister, arrested at his home Tuesday by R. C. M. P. Constable R. J. Kent. He had said, the officers claimed, that two strangers had called at the Lake home Sunday night, while he was there, and that there had been "some

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Flowers Bloom  
in Vancouver

Vancouver, Jan. 10.—While the Prairie Provinces shivered in the icy grip of winter, and lower temperatures hit Province, further east of Vancouver residents exhibited plump pussy-willow blooms, picked in end tramps through the woods near the city.

In addition, other springlike signs were noted in sweet-smelling japonica plants, whose magenta-colored blossoms dotted city and park flower-pots.

POLICEMAN CHARGED WITH BEING  
ASLEEP ON BEAT WITH ALARM CLOCK

TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 10.—A policeman snoring gently on his beat with a faithful alarm clock ticking away by his head to awaken him at the proper time was described by counsel yesterday at the Royal Commission inquiry into charges 25 Toronto constables looted downtown stores and warehouses.

The constable named, however, said he could not remember any such occurrence.

"I suggest you were once caught asleep on your beat with an alarm clock beside you set to wake you up at the proper time", commission counsel Norman F. Newton said to Constable Fred McMurdie, one of the officers named by former constable W. J. Wat in his accusation of thievery.

"I don't remember any such incident", declared McMurdie, but admitted being found asleep on one occasion in the cab of a truck. It was brought out McMurdie was disciplined four times for being absent from his beat in the downtown area.