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# THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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## PETERS-MCCOUBREY CASE OPENED YESTERDAY MORNING

### The Manslaughter Case is Being Tried Before Chief Justice Mathieson. Witnesses Examined

There was a large attendance at the Supreme Court yesterday morning on the occasion of the opening of the trial of Dennis Peters and Louis McCoubrey, jointly charged with manslaughter in connection with the deaths of George Roberts and Albert Youland at Southport Wharf on July 17th, 1926.

The prisoners pleaded "not guilty" to the manslaughter charge. Attorney General Stewart appeared for the Crown and Mr. W. E. Bentley, K. C., for the prisoners. The entire jury panel was exhausted and 19 challenges made before the jury, comprising the following, were selected and sworn: Victor Coyle, City, (foreman); James Morris, Bedford; John B. Fleming, City; James Coady, North Wiltshire; Francis Callaghan, Dromore; Alexander McIsaac, Fairview; John Neil, Rustico; John R. McWilliams, Eldon; Wallace Owen, Frenchfort; Walter G. McKinnon, Emerald; Hugh Campbell, Westmoreland; John J. Praught, Eastcliffe.

The Attorney-General in opening the case for the crown spoke in part as follows: "As you have already heard by announcement made by the Prothonotary Dennis Peters and Louis McCoubrey are indicted for manslaughter. I might explain to you what manslaughter means so that you may apply it to this case. Homicide as defined by law is culpable homicide not amounting to murder. Homicide is the killing of a human being. The killing in many cases may not be culpable. If one kills another by pure accident it is homicide but not culpable. Murder is culpable homicide with intent. Manslaughter comes between these two. Where one man kills another by neglect of duty imposed by law and in that neglect causes the death of another that is manslaughter."

Here he outlined the evidence to be given by different witnesses. The first witness to be called was James A. Reardon who on being sworn said he lived in Charlottetown and was a Civil Engineer in the Department of Public Works. Land surveying is a part of his work. He made a survey of Southport Wharf and the map produced in court was drafted by him. The map is drawn on a scale of 40 ft. to the inch. From the head of the wharf to the end of planking is 305 feet. It is 490 feet from the water edge on the east side at mean tide down to the beginning of the planking. The total length of the wharf from mean tide to the end of the wharf is 795 feet in all. From the corner of the road leading to Charlottetown to the mean tide following the road is 1360 feet. The width of the head of the wharf is 35 feet where planking begins is 30 feet at 380 feet from planking road from South widens out to 44 feet. (Here a lateral view of the side elevation of the head of the wharf was produced) Mr. Reardon said that the length of the pile from the surface of the river bed to top of pile was 18 feet 4 inches. On July 17th high tide was at 8.33 a. m. also at 15.24.

Mr. Reardon further gave figures relative to distances between water surface and top of wharf at different tides and on cross examination by Mr. Bentley explained how

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## PRESENTS WIFE WITH \$500,000 NECKLACE

(Special to The Guardian)  
NEW YORK, N. Y., Jan. 20.—James A. Stillman, as a tender expression of his re-awakened love for his wife and their consequent reconciliation, has presented Mrs. Stillman with a necklace worth in excess of \$500,000, says today's New York American in a copyrighted story. The bestowal was revealed the story says, by James (Bud) Stillman a senior at Princeton, who estimated its value at more than half a million dollars. The necklace is of a collar design 1 1/4 inches and is made of pearls, rubies, sapphires and diamonds, the pearls predominating.

## LOYD GEORGE'S OFFER ACCEPTED

### Huge Fund Will Be Available for the Next General Election.

(Canadian Press)  
LONDON, Jan. 20.—A capital sum of £500,000 and an annual income of between £40,000 and £50,000 will be placed at the disposal of Liberal headquarters as a result of the party's acceptance of Lloyd George's offer of financial assistance, according to the Daily News today. This assistance will enable the party to present a full line of battle in the way of Candidates in the next general elections.

## Much Exaggeration Over Britain's War Preparations

(Canadian Press)  
LONDON, Jan. 20.—Foreign Secretary Sir Austen Chamberlain held a conference at the Foreign Office today with former Premier Lloyd George, the Liberal leader, on the Chinese problem. Former Premier Ramsay MacDonald, the labor leader, held a similar conference with the foreign secretary yesterday. It was stated in official circles that these meetings were in complete accord with established precedent, that calls for complete knowledge by the opposition leaders of developments in situations affecting British foreign policy. Downing street is vexed over the emphasis that the London Press has been placing in British military preparations to meet emergencies in the far east. It was reaffirmed that the British policy is to negotiate with the Chinese on the most liberal basis and that the dispatch of warships and marines to China was purely precautionary and to assist in quieting the fear and panicky feeling of the foreign population in Shanghai.

## Consignment of Gold Received From Canada

(Special to The Guardian)  
NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—The Canadian Bank of Commerce yesterday received a consignment of \$4,600,000 in gold from Canada. This brings a total of \$20,900,000 gold shipped from Canada to the United States during the past two weeks. The movement is looked upon as unusual at this time of year.

## Post Office and Store Burned

(Special to The Guardian)  
HAMILTON, Ont., Jan. 20.—An explosion of natural gas completely wrecked the post office and general store at Ryckman's Corners south of here, early this morning. Harry Keys, the postmaster, is badly burned and is now in St. Joseph's Hospital here. Mrs. Keys Walter age 15, and Clara age 12, son and daughter are all suffering from bruises. Nothing remains of the building except the brick foundation and the stone chimney. It is said that considerable mail is burned. The total loss is estimated at about \$10,000.

## REDUCTION OF FREIGHT RATES IMPRACTICABLE

### Railways Could Not Stand Losses Lower Rates Would Entail, C. P. R. Counsel Tells Commission.

(Canadian Press)  
OTTAWA, Ont., Jan. 20.—Equalization of rates on a mileage basis is impracticable and would seriously damage business. The ton-mile revenue of Canadian Railways is a recognized measure of railway rates, is the lowest of any country in the world. Canada's railway service is today being performed at less than cost. If the railway board finds certain reductions in rates necessary, these must be accompanied by corresponding increases to make up to the carriers for the losses involved. These are some of the outstanding statements made by E. P. Flintoft, counsel for the Canadian Pacific Railway in opening the case for the company in the general freight rates investigation before the Railway Commission today. After this introduction, the railway counsel discussed the problem of the Maritime provinces. He called attention to the fact that the eastern portion of Canada had certain advantages in transportation including water competition and a geographic advantage in marketing the produce of the Maritimes in Europe. Reviewing the history of Maritime provinces rates he recalled that in 1922 the special arbitrators applying to Maritime provinces traffic over Montreal rates to and from points on Western lines were reduced to the basis in effect in 1916 thus eliminating altogether the fifteen percent, twenty five percent, and forty percent advances in rates made during and immediately after the war. He stated that owing to competitive conditions, New Brunswick had the advantage of practically a blanket rate. Traffic from Montreal to Saint John and Moncton moved on the short C. P. R. mileage of 488 as compared with 652 miles over the I. C. R. or 635 miles over the Transcontinental railway. Rates in eastern Canada, he stated, were now influenced not only by water competition and American rail competition but by motor competition as well. "The railways," he said, "are confronted today with a combination of motor truck and water transportation, which is already having a serious effect on their revenues in connection with certain classes of traffic."

## CHAPLIN'S FORTUNE ESTIMATED AT TWO MILLION DOLLARS

(Special to The Guardian)  
LOS ANGELES, Calif., Jan. 20.—Approximately \$2,000,000 of the fortune of Charles Chaplin was believed to have been unearthed by receivers today, but whether the comedian's possessions amount to more than that had not been decided. The screen comedian's fortune, so far as was known today consists of \$908,000 in cash, \$500,555 in bonds, notes, real estate and other negotiable papers and most of the cash balance of \$548,000 of the Chaplin Film Corporation.

## MARX FAILS TO FORM CABINET

### Has Returned His Commission to President von Hindenburg.

(Canadian Press)  
BERLIN, Jan. 20.—Chancellor Marx's negotiations for the formation of a cabinet of the middle parties have failed. He returned his commission to President von Hindenburg today. The president reserved decision as to what further steps would be taken to solve the ministerial crisis. The Marx cabinet resigned in December after a defeat in the Reichstag but continued to function over the holidays at the president's request.

## YOUTH ADRIFT ON ICE CAKE

### Coastguardsmen and Police Unable to Rescue Him—Fearing He May Have Slipped Into Icey Water.

(CLEVELAND, Ohio, Jan. 20.—An unidentified boy on a bobbing cake of ice in Lake Erie was the object of a frantic search by rescue workers today. Little hope was held for the rescue of the youth, last seen beating his arms against his sides to keep off the numbing cold as the floe upon which he stood floated into the darkness last night. Throughout the night the fire John A. Farley equipped with powerful searchlights plowed through the ice searching for the cake of ice, and its pathetic human cargo. Watchers along the shore stood with beacons to guide the youth should the course of the floe veer toward solid ice but no trace of him was found. Early in the night watchers had trailed him alone the shore as coast guardsmen and police tried in vain to launch rescue boats. Thin ice gave way under the weight of row boats or banked floes reached jagged heights which made launching impossible. As the tug was fitted for the perilous trip through the ice, sight of the lad was lost in darkness. Coast guardsmen pointed out that the ice upon which the boy stood might have broken up and declared that even should it drift shoreward, he was in danger of being crushed. Dropping temperature added to the danger and it was feared that he might have slipped into the icy water after losing his precarious footing on the ice. Efforts to learn the identity of the youth were fruitless. Police reported no one missing, and other agencies failed to identify him. The reason for his being on the ice was also unknown. An experienced skater, police declared would hardly venture far out on the ice because of warm weather and two days of rain, which melted much of the ice. An aeroplane was added to the rescue forces today. It is said that the chief of police has assigned two motor cycle policemen to accompany Young and protect him.

## Old Age Pensions

(Special to The Guardian)  
VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 20.—An act to provide for old age pensions for the people of British Columbia was introduced into the legislature today by Premier John Oliver. The bill authorizes the province to enter into a general scheme of old age pensions with the dominion on a 50-50 basis.

## C. N. E. Appointments

(Special to The Guardian)  
TORONTO, Jan. 20.—Two important appointments have been made by the Canadian National Exhibition management, those of publicity representative and director of amusements. The former has been tendered to Elwood Hughes and the latter to Charles Ross, who succeeds his brother the late Collin (Cully) Ross.

## Police Protection For George Young

(Canadian Press)  
NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—A special despatch to the New York World from Los Angeles today says horse worshippers and the curious are so thick on the trail of George Young, 17 year old Toronto youth who won the Catalina channel swim, that the chief of police has assigned two motor cycle policemen to accompany Young and protect him.

## LECTURE AT CALEDONIAN CLUB

### An Interesting and Eloquent Address by Hon. Fred J. Nash on "The Power and the Glory."

There was a large attendance in Caledonian Club last night on the occasion of a lecture by Hon. F. J. Nash, his subject being "The Power and the Glory" and he gave a very interesting and eloquent address. The President Mr. D. J. McDonald acted as chairman.

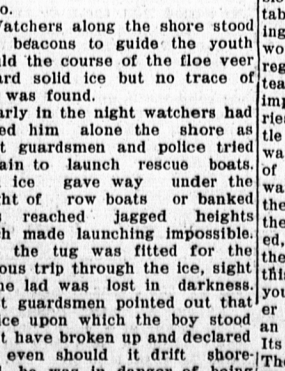
## Megantic to Be Fitted Out as Troopship

(Canadian Press)  
LIVERPOOL, Jan. 20.—The White Star liner Megantic is being fitted out as a troop ship for the transportation of marines to China. The liner, on instructions from the Admiralty, was placed in dry dock today and the work of fitting her out for her new duties was begun.

## Killed in Battle With Red Troops

(Canadian Press)  
SMOLENSK, Russia, Jan. 20.—After committing more than 100 murders and endless robberies and assaults in Smolensk province over a period of two years, Smirnov Antonenko, leader of a gang of desperadoes was killed today in a battle with red troops. His followers who were arrested will be executed.

## NO GIRL IS AS BAD AS SHE IS ROUGED



TORONTO, Jan. 21.—Maritime, moderate to fresh westerly winds, mostly cloudy, not much change in temperature with light rain. Maximum and minimum temperatures: Toronto, cloudy ..... 40-32 Montreal, fair ..... 28-30 Quebec, fair ..... 28-35 Halifax, cloudy ..... 28-36 St. John, fog ..... 39-38 Boston, cloudy ..... 50-28 New York, fog ..... 50-26 High tide this afternoon at 1.43 and tomorrow morning at 1.07. Sun sets this afternoon at 4.00 and rises tomorrow morning at 7.32. Last quarter moon, Tuesday, Jan. 25th 9.41 p. m. Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

## Abolition of Party Government Is Advocated

(Canadian Press)  
EDMONTON, Alta., Jan. 20.—Abolition of the modern system of party government in favor of administration by the parliamentary representatives as a whole was advocated by J. S. Woodsworth, federal labor member for Winnipeg North Centre, before the United Farmers of Alberta here last night.

## Hon. Jas Murdock Appointed Vice-President

(Canadian Press)  
TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 20.—News of the appointment of Hon. Jas. Murdock, former federal minister of labor, as a vice president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen has been received in Toronto. He will assume his new duties on February 1st. When he entered the King government as Minister of Labor Mr. Murdock was vice president of the Trainmen's organization for Canada and since his resignation he has been filling the post of deputy president.

## W. Browning Sues Browning For \$100,000

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—Edward W. Browning, wealthy real estate man, named in suit for separation by his wife, Frances Heenan Browning, and a suit by a reporter and a once-adopted daughter—both asking damages—was yesterday made defendant in another case. Yesterday's action was brought by Renee Shapiro, 21 years old, an actress, resident of Brooklyn, who seeks \$100,000 damages alleging an attack upon her July 5, 1923.

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## CATS RETREAT BEFORE HORDES OF MICE

(Canadian Press)  
BAKERSFIELD, Calif., Jan. 20.—The cats of Kern county's lowland are having experiences which rarely or never come into the folio existence. They are retreating in fear and confusion before the hordes of mice which have infested an area of 96 square miles around Taft, Maricopa, Fellows and Ford city. Mercedes has thrown a small army of cats from its city pound into the area to reinforce the local felines. The invading hordes were reported diminishing today but not from the efforts of the cats. Poisoned grain sprinkled in newly plowed furrows across the path of the rodent migration is killing them by the tens of thousands. "The cats run away when they see a drove of mice coming, said Sam Whitmore, resident in the infested valley who is taking a part in putting down the mice. The cats also refuse to eat them. The tables seem to be nausated at the sight of a mouse. Poison barriages of grain are maintained constantly by Whitmore. His home is in the direct line of the migration and one of the jobs has been to bury the rodents killed by the tens of thousands with the poisoned grain. Each morning the first job is to clear the house and outbuildings of dead mice and then the yard and surroundings and the task is a tremendous one, he said. He declared the mice became quite playful after eating one or two poisoned grains, and then as each grain following is taken they stagger as if intoxicated. After eating the sixth kernel they die.

## British Tanker Posted Missing

(Canadian Press)  
SAN PEDRO, Cal., Jan. 20.—The British tanker Togo which sailed from here Nov. 24th last with Capt. George Walker, his bride and crew of thirty-seven men for Tsauri, Japan, was listed as missing by Lloyd's today. No trace of the Togo has been found since December 17th, when three days from her destination she communicated with the tank steamer China Arrow.

## Announcements, Coming Events, Meetings, Etc

- The Tracadio Dramatic Club will present the four act comedy drama "Let's Elvira" in Webster's Corner hall on Friday night, January 21st. Ladies please bring pies. 3723-1-18-41
- Attend Hospital Cake Sale Saturday afternoon. Patronize home industry, bread, cake and pastry for sale at Prowse's Saturday. 3476
- A meeting of Stock Breeders will be held in the Agricultural Hall, Friday, January 21st at 2.30 o'clock for the purpose of discussing transportation matters as importance to Island Breeders.
- Wanted—Goose and Duck feathers, not mixed, Henry McFarlane and Co., Furniture Upholsterers, 107 Kent St., next Elton Hotel. 3563-12-25 et
- A meeting of the Provincial Horse Breeders Association will be held in the Agricultural Hall, Charlottetown Friday, January 21st at 3.00 o'clock p. m. Election of officers and other important business.
- The annual meeting of Ugg's Shipping Club will take place in the Hall, Ugg's, on Thursday, Jan. 27th at 7.30. Shippers entitled to remittance from contingency fund should make arrangements to be present. Loading hogs on Tuesday, Feb. 1st. List at once. W. D. Ross, Kinross, Secy. 3478
- Come and see the three act comedy "The Man from Toronto" at Victoria Hall on Tuesday, January 25th, played by the Albany Dramatic Society. Plenty of laughter. Admission adults 25c Children 20c. If stormy, Wednesday, January 26th. Canvases a specialty. 8175-1-21-31