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Local Fire Brigade Lends Hand at Cobalt

Men and Truck Went Down When Flames Threatened Lang St. Buildings

The Haileybury Fire Brigade got a call to the assistance of the Cobalt brigade on Friday night last, when the silver town was threatened with a bad blaze on Lang Street. The call came about 11.30 and Chief Marcella and a number of men went down with the fire truck and helped to fight the flames for about three hours.

Three buildings were destroyed in the fire, with a loss that was estimated as being over \$8,000. They were all of frame construction and burned fiercely, there being little chance of saving anything from the inside and no chance of saving the buildings. Fortunately, the wind, which had been rather high during the early evening, had died down to some extent and the flames did not spread beyond the immediate neighborhood.

The buildings destroyed were the store of Joseph Zion, with living quarters above, a building belonging to S. Ansara, of Kirkland Lake, the lower floor of which was vacant and the upper occupied by Mr. and Mrs. J. McGarry, and another building in which was a pool room on the ground floor and a Finnish boarding house run by Mrs. Korhonen upstairs.

The fire originated in the room of Joseph Zion from an unknown cause and swept into the adjoining buildings. The occupants were compelled to make a hurried escape and had little opportunity to remove any of their belongings.

By hard work on the part of the combined fire brigades the flames were finally overcome and the local men arrived home at about 3 a.m. The fact that the blaze started on Lang Street, where practically all the buildings are of wood, caused considerable anxiety, as it was feared that they might get beyond the control of the firemen. However, the going down of the wind and strong efforts by the fire brigades prevented the spread of the flames.

In the old days if anybody missed a stage coach he was contented to wait two or three days for the next. Now he lets out a squawk if he misses one section of a revolving door.

A drunkard's nose is a light-house to warn others of the little water passing beneath.

A country school teacher says that he whips his pupils to make them smart.

Blaze in Basement Gives Brigade a Run During Monday Storm

A blaze in the basement of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Daigle, Rorke Avenue, gave the fire brigade a run during the storm on Monday evening at 7.30. The fire had apparently started from sparks dropping from the chimney in a pile of rubbish near the fireplace in the basement and on the use of a chemical extinguisher was necessary, although the firemen laid a line of hose as they arrived at the scene.

The basement was filled with smoke and the men had some difficulty in locating the fire, but little trouble in overcoming it when they reached the place. There was no damage to the building.

Rouyn Fire Causes Damage of \$10,000

Hurried Escapes From Hotel; Change of Wind Saves More Serious Loss

The mining town of Rouyn, Quebec, suffered damage to the extent of some ten thousand dollars through a fire which broke out at 5 a.m. Tuesday in the Mars Hotel and destroyed that building and a cafe adjoining before it was brought under control. It is believed that only a sudden change in the wind saved the business section of the town from a much more serious conflagration.

Guests in the hotel were forced to make their escape from the burning building through the windows, as the flames had gained considerable headway before they were discovered. There was no loss of life, however, although practically the entire contents of both buildings were burned.

The origin of the fire had not been definitely ascertained at last reports.

White Gloves Given Mr. Justice Raney at Supreme Court Here

Mr. Justice Raney, presiding at the sessions of the Supreme Court here, was on Tuesday afternoon presented with a pair of white silk gloves, in token of the fact that there were no criminal cases on the docket. This was Justice Raney's first court here and he made the announcement that there were no criminal cases himself, at the request of Crown Attorney Smiley, who was not present when the session opened. The presentation was made by Sheriff Caldwell in a short speech of welcome to His Lordship, who tendered his thanks for the courtesy.

Third Suit Against Railway Heard Here by Justice Raney

S. Alexander's Claim Against C. N.R. Again Heard by Supreme Court—Large Number of Witnesses Heard—Verdict Not Yet Reached By the Jury

For the third time since he was hurt in May, 1925, the plaintiff told his story of the accident before a Supreme Court jury. Alexander himself was the first witness when the case opened on Tuesday afternoon, and his evidence, as given to A. G. Slaght, K.C., his counsel, was substantially the same as the testimony he had related at previous hearings. He told the court that he had spent part of the day in Cochrane buying hardware for a store he was erecting and that he returned to Kapuskasing on the night train. Approaching Kapuskasing station, plaintiff said, he was passing between the first-class car and the second-class coach when a jerk of the train, caused probably by the application of the brakes, threw him off his balance and through an open vestibule door at the rear end of the second-class car.

Plaintiff said he knew no more until he woke up in hospital seven or eight days later, by which time Dr. Wright had amputated his leg. Subsequently he went to Montreal for further treatment. His expenses, he estimated, were \$1,441.10, and he had a further claim for a clerk he had been obliged to hire, because of his injuries, at \$35 per week and whose services he had retained until the store closed nearly two years later. Plaintiff was cross-examined by R. E. Laidlaw, counsel for the C.N.R. The lawyers on both sides have been changed since the last trial, Mr. Slaght coming in place of his partner, James Cowan, and Mr. Laidlaw appearing instead of A. McDonald, who conducted the defence at both previous hearings.

Other witnesses heard during the afternoon included Joseph T. Gerard, who had been with Alexander during part of the time in Cochrane and on the train on the day of the accident, and Oscar Morel, former chief of police at Kapuskasing. Gerard admitted to Mr. Laidlaw that he had not told the same story regarding the state of the car doors to the court as he had to the claims agent of the C.N.R., and he asserted that he had not been on oath when interviewed by the latter. He finally declared: "I tell the truth whenever it pleases me." The judge commenting later that "a witness who thinks this way, his evidence is negligible." Gerard told Mr. Slaght he had had a "a little whiskey" with the Agent, who had known he (witness) had a subpoena to appear as a witness for Alexander.

At the opening of the case, Mr. Laidlaw applied to His Lordship for leave to amend his statement of defence and to have read into the record the evidence of Ray Ferguson, brakeman on the train on which Alexander had been riding, and who was a victim of the recent wreck at Drocourt. Counsel for the C.N.R. stated that he wished to plead that the action had not been started within the period of time from the date of the accident required by law, which he said was three months, and also that plaintiff, just before the accident, was on a

car platform in contravention to the regulations. Mr. Slaght opposed the two later contentions, saying that the C.N.R. at both previous trials and at the appeal which resulted in the second hearing had not advanced this question of limitation, and he urged that his client should not be penalized for "a technical slip by a man with his leg off." The accident happened May 15, 1925, said Mr. Slaght, and the writ was issued on August 22 of the same year.

When court formally opened, Mr. Justice Raney stated he had been notified by Crown Attorney F. L. Smiley, K.C., that no criminal cases were down for trial, and His Lordship was presented by Sheriff George Caldwell with a pair of white gloves. The judge congratulated the district on its "freedom from major crimes." There was only one jury case heard at the court, and in this each counsel exhausted his right to four challenges before a jury was empanelled.

The alimony action from Cobalt, which had been set down on the jury list, was to be heard by the judge alone.

Plaintiff's case had been completed by 10.50 on Wednesday morning, and Mr. Laidlaw moved promptly for a non-suit, but His Lordship reserved his decision meantime. Counsel for the defence then adopted the unusual course in the court here of outlining his case to the jury. Previously, Mr. Laidlaw had told Mr. Justice Raney that it was the first time in his experience that the question of the statute of limitation had come up and, as it was considered a very important point by his clients, he was anxious to have the matter settled.

Six witnesses in all were called on behalf of the plaintiff, and of these two men, Rene Robitaille and Frank Duguay, testified on Wednesday morning. The former told how he had boarded the train at Jacksonboro on the night of the accident and had travelled to Kapuskasing, alighting there because he could not find out if the train was to stop at Val Rita, where he was living at the time, he said, with a man named Hector Lajoie. Robitaille swore the doors on both sides of the second class car, at its rear end, were open at Fauquier and at Moonbeam, and that Ray Ferguson, the front-end brakeman, was opening the north side door as Kapuskasing was being approached.

Robitaille was positive, he told Mr. Laidlaw, that he had been on the train that night but Napoleon Villeneuve, first witness called by the defence, swore he had seen Robitaille with Mrs. Alexander and another woman on the station platform at Kapuskasing before the train from the east arrived. Villeneuve also declared Robitaille had been working for and living with him at that time. Duguay told Mr. Slaght that he had helped to carry Alexander from about 150 feet east of the crossing to the station and then to the hospital, and that, going back later, he had found a shoe (Continued from Page 4)

Auxiliary Pump Is Called Into Use When Foot Valve Breaks

The gasoline auxiliary pumping plant was called into requisition last week-end following the breaking of a foot valve at the pump house, which put the electric pumps out of commission. The valve is a large one which could not be replaced locally and an interval of some days was required to get a new one delivered and installed. The auxiliary plant kept the supply of water up to the usual mark without much trouble and there was no interruption to the service.

This gasoline driven pump was installed following the fire of 1922 and has been since used chiefly as a standby in cases of fire. This is the first time it has been called upon to carry the whole burden of caring for the town's water supply and it proved its worth without doubt.

League of Nations Society to be Formed

Drive for Members Will be Made Following Public Meeting On April 16th

Haileybury will take part in a nation-wide drive for members of the League of Nations Society in Canada on Tuesday, April 16th, following arrangements made at a meeting of those responsible for the movement locally held last night in Hotel Haileybury. It has been arranged to hold a public meeting in the basement of the United Church at 8 p.m. on that date, when the objects of the Society will be outlined and the organization completed.

Announcements in the press, from the pulpits of the Churches and by the local Rotary Club will be made between now and the date set and it is hoped that a good membership will be obtained.

The object of the Society is the disseminating of information about the work of the League of Nations and membership entitles all to regularly issued literature in this connection. The date has been selected for the annual drive, the first Tuesday after April 15th, as the most suitable, as it follows closely on the anniversary of the battle of Vimy, in which the Canadian soldiers took such a glorious part, and because the first engagement in the great war in which Canadian troops took part was on April 23rd.

As the Society has for its primary object the promotion of international peace, it is expected that success will meet the first efforts towards organization here.

Fire and Explosion Take Life of Trapper

Using Gasoline to Light Fire Brings Sudden Death to Charles Henderson

Charles Henderson, aged 62, who lived alone in a small cabin in the Elk Lake district, lost his life in a fire which destroyed the cabin on Thursday evening last. There were no witnesses to the tragedy and only by reconstructing the scene could the police and coroner, who investigated, form any conclusions as to how it occurred. Henderson had lived in the cabin for some time and was engaged in trapping and doing assessment work at various properties. He was well known in the district.

The scene of the tragedy is about two miles from the Wigwam mine and is near the Gowganda road. The flames of the cabin were seen from the mine and Provincial Constable Dickson of Gowganda, and Coroner Dr. G. Crann investigated and decided that no inquest was necessary.

Only parts of the unfortunate man's body could be found and it was concluded that he had attempted to start his fire with gasoline. His remains were lying near the doorway and the stove in the cabin was blown to pieces. The fire was seen just at dusk and it was thought that Henderson had just returned from his day's work and was about to prepare his supper. His tracks could be plainly seen in the snow where he had returned to the house. The circumstances of the fatality were reported to the Provincial Police headquarters at Cobalt at the end of the week.

Report First Robin Seen Here Saturday

The first robin of the season was reported to The Haileyburian on Saturday morning last, March 30th, by Mr. L. W. Coon, Rorke Avenue North. He stated that the welcome bird was seen by him in the trees at the rear of a residence on the avenue and was singing gaily. Mr. Coon was afraid that he might not be believed, so he called a witness in the person of Mr. McPherson, who lives nearby, and they both admired the robin and listened to his song for some time.

From the state of the weather on Monday morning, it may safely be assumed that the early bird was just a little ahead of schedule and has taken measures to protect himself from the cold. At any rate, there have been no further reports of signs of spring since then.

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Saturday, April 6th

3 p.m.

Under the Auspices of the Catholic Girls' Club

AT HOTEL HAILEYBURY

Coal is Down in Price

The Mines are giving us far better prices for Pennsylvania Anthracite for shipments during April as well as a liberal discount for prompt payment.

We are going to let our customers have the advantage. It will pay you to see us at once regarding your next Winter's supply.

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