

COLLINGWOOD'S SENSATION.

W. H. Brown Arrested for Conspiracy to Murder.

PRISONER TELLS HIS STORY

His Mother and His Wife Also Talk—What Agent Rose Had to Do With It—The Mother's Complaint—Prisoner's Step-father Was Also Insured and Died.

Toronto despatch: On Monday a statement was made before County Crown Attorney Curry by a Collingwood man named Rose, whose initials Mr. Curry last night could not recall. Mr. Rose in his statement made the extraordinary allegation that another Collingwood man, whose name is at present withheld, had asked him to become a party to the proposed murder of the former's mother. Mr. Rose said that an insurance of \$1,500 might be collected upon her life. The story that Rose told to Crown Attorney Curry will, if verified, prove one of the most sensational in the annals of Ontario. So horrified was the Crown Attorney upon hearing it that, while he could take no legal steps himself, the alleged crime having taken place in the county of Simcoe, he at once caused copies of Rose's statement to be forwarded to the Attorney-General and to Crown Attorney Cotter, of Simcoe county. The statement is unsigned, Rose after making it having consulted a solicitor, who advised him that by signing it he would be confessing that he had agreed to become an accomplice to the crime of attempting murder, and that before putting his signature to it he should obtain an assurance that he would not be prosecuted for his share in the affair. Mr. Curry would not give this assurance, and Rose thereupon decided to withhold his signature.

A Horrible Plan.
The story that Rose tells, and which has been before the police authorities, is that of a venerable age, living near the town of Collingwood, upon whose life there is a policy of \$1,500 in the Union Mutual Life Insurance Company of this city. The policy expires on Dec. 1, 1902. The son of the intended victim some time ago approached Rose, who is an insurance agent in Collingwood, and asked Rose to join him in putting the mother out of the way and afterwards collecting the insurance money. He offered Rose \$500 as his share in the proceeds of the murder. Rose, according to his story, knowing that the insurance policy would expire in a very short time, and hoping to save the life of the intended victim by appearing to fall in with her son's horrible plans, began to discuss the matter with him, intending to see that no harm should come to her.

Concealing the Scheme.
The first proposition on the unusual one, according to Rose's story, was that Rose should take her out for a drive near the bridge over the Nottawasaga river, and in some way induce her to go down and look into the water. He could then throw her in from behind and assert that the drowning was accidental. To this Rose says he made strenuous objection, and the would-be stricken then suggested that they should go to the intended victim by appearing to fall in with her son's horrible plans, began to discuss the matter with him, intending to see that no harm should come to her.

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Collingwood report: Wm Henry Brown, for twelve years fireman at the waterworks here, was arrested this afternoon by Chief of Police Fred Maiden upon a charge of conspiracy to murder his mother. The arrest was made upon instructions from County Crown Attorney Cotter, of Barrie. The information leading to the arrest was laid before Crown Attorney Curry, of Toronto, by John Rose, an insurance agent, whose story was published yesterday. Briefly, it was that Brown had proposed to him to kill his mother and collect a \$1,500 insurance policy on her life in the Union Mutual Insurance Co. The policy was in Brown's favor and he had consented to pay the premiums, but under the non-interference law of Maine it was good until the 1st of December. Rose stated that he led Brown on as a blind, with a view to saving the old woman's life,

and that after discarding two or three plans it was agreed he should take her to Toronto to be treated for rheumatism, and place a slow poison in her medicine. The prisoner Brown denies the story. He says he dealt with Rose with a view to selling the policy, thinking some other company might take it over, but that at no time did he think of bringing about his mother's death.

Brown Tells His Story.
Brown is a very short man, 42 years of age, and is distinctly of the laboring class. He is not intelligent, but evidences some degree of business. To a reporter who saw him in his cell this evening, he at first refused to talk, referring the reporter to his lawyer, Mr. Allan; but, changing his mind, he told his story in detail, the substance of which was as follows:

Four years ago Rose asked me to take some insurance. I told him I had all I could carry. We got talking about the rest of the family, and he told him it was agreeable to everyone I would pay for an insurance policy on my mother's life. He went to see her and she agreed. For I asked her if she had any objections, and she said she had not. The policy was a twenty-pay life, and I paid three years on it, \$35 a year. Then my mother died. I gave her a letter, saying if I did not support her, she would have the insurance transferred. I asked my wife about it, and she advised me to drop it, and I did. Last August Rose came to me at the waterworks, and he told me that he had taken in washing. Her husband worked twelve hours a day every day in the week, one month from noon to midnight, and the next from midnight to noon, and his wages were \$1.85 a day. They had two little girls.

Another man came and asked how much I would take for it. I said a thousand dollars. He said he would see. After that he came and wanted me to lend him \$10, saying he had not any money for expenses. I said I had it with me, but would send it to him by mail, thinking he needed some to get through the sale of the policy. I thought he was working on. I sent him the \$10 and don't know whether he got it or not. I never asked him. Some time after he asked for another \$10, and I borrowed that for him from Mr. Hillburn. On Wednesday of the first week he said my mother was going to die, and he wanted me to go to the station and see her off. I told him I couldn't because I had to work. I don't know whether she went or not. Last Thursday he came and told me he had a lawyer's letter from Toronto, who stated if he did not get some more money he would put it in a lawyer's hands. I told him he would get no more money from me, and he went away. The prisoner denied having made any agreement to support his mother in consideration of the policy.

Rose's Connection With the Case.
Rose did not, it is said, make a voluntary statement to the Toronto authorities, but it was through his talkativeness here that the affair leaked out and was brought to the attention of the police. Rose at one time resided here as agent for the Union Mutual, but was until a few days ago with the Continental Life, and resides in Toronto, coming here occasionally. Some time ago he was introduced to Mr. A. A. Bond, a young lawyer of Collingwood, by a client of his, a prominent citizen. Rose called frequently at his office thereafter. The reporter saw Mr. Bond last night, and he stated that on Thursday last Rose came into his office and asked him to write a letter for him, because he did not want it in his own handwriting. Mr. Bond told him he ought to use the typewriter, but he would not operate it. Mr. Bond wrote it for him. The letter was addressed to Rose, and purported to come from a doctor in Toronto. Mr. Bond could not remember the words, but the purpose of it was that if Rose did not pay over \$150 by Monday the writer would give the matter into the hands of a lawyer. It was intimated that the writer had handled other cases like it, and there had been no kick at \$1,000. It was signed "J. W. A." Rose then told Mr. Bond of what he said was Brown's scheme to get rid of his mother. Rose treated it as a great joke, and pointed out to him that it was an undertaking that would hang him or get him life imprisonment. But he asserted he was just trying to save the woman's life by jollying Brown along until the police had got him, and getting as much money out of Brown as he could in the meantime.

Brown's Mother Talks of Him.
The prisoner's mother was interviewed by a reporter. She is a well-preserved woman of about 65 years. She stated positively that when the insurance on her life was taken out her son agreed to support her, and had her second husband, who is a stepfather, had died four years ago. He was working for his stepson at the time. The cause of his death was diarrhoea. She found out afterwards that the prisoner had insured his stepfather's life for \$3,000. When she spoke to him about it he had promised to give her \$200 when he got it, but he had not given her anything. About her Toronto trip, she said Rose had given her \$250 to pay her fare. He met her at the Union Station, Toronto, and took her to his niece. He said he took her up a narrow stair to her room without introducing her to anyone, and after ten she saw nothing of him. Next morning she went to visit a friend,



THE WAY HE SUCCEEDED.
Prof. De Bam Bum—It's no use; I can't teach your daughter music. She runs the scales to suit herself.
Her Mother—Well, she inherits that from her father; he used to be in the ice business.

Company Boring for Oil on Strength of a Dream.
Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Oct. 6.—A corporation capitalized for \$3,000, which has as its principal asset a clergyman's dream, has begun to bore for oil near Millerton. About a year ago the Rev. Thomas Neal, of Busti, was called to Millerton to preach in a church where the pastor had just resigned. While in Millerton he had a curious vision. He dreamed of a stretch of hilly land surrounded by a gloomy forest. He saw derricks rise toward the sky with engines and drills at work. Suddenly the dream changed, the machinery disappeared and oil spouted from the ground.

Minister's Queer Version.
The Rev. Mr. Neal awoke next morning with the firm conviction that oil abounded in that city. He told his religious friends about it, and then trumped around the county until he had seen a monster apparatus in his vision. Then he started promoting a company to get the oil. Residents held a public meeting, subscribed for stock, and some took options on 3,000 acres of land where the oil was supposed to be.

The Huge Whale Story.
A Cape Breton Fisherman Describes His Escape From a Monster.
Halifax, N.S., Oct. 6.—Chased by a huge whale for more than a pair of hours to defend himself, is the story told by a fisherman, Fred Campbell, of Mainland, Cape Breton. Mr. Campbell was out in a small boat when he noticed a huge sea monster approaching him. Not wishing to encounter it, Mr. Campbell bent himself to the oars and tried to get in shore before the monster reached him. The whale gained on him, and he soon recognized that his only chance was to reach shore ahead of his pursuer. His means of defence were not of much account, but he made good use of what was at hand. The monster gave up the chase and tried to swallow the boat, man and all. Mr. Campbell reached over with an oar and for a few minutes succeeded in keeping the whale away. When he looked as though Campbell was doomed, the monster, in a flash, and its occupants, noticing the man's perilous position, hastened to his aid. The whale then disappeared.

Woman Weds Indian.
Mrs. Mary Young, Formerly of Montreal, Becomes B-ide in 3 Hours.
Chicago, Oct. 6.—Mrs. Mary Young, of Chicago, a member of an English family, obtained a divorce yesterday from Charles W. Young, of Montreal, Canada, on the ground of cruelty. Less than three hours afterwards she was again married to Dr. Angus Patton, a full-blooded Indian, a graduate of the Carlisle Indian School, and chief of a "medicine man" of a tribe of Canadian "redskins." The couple left Chicago on their honeymoon last evening, a few hours after their marriage. They expect to make their home in this city.

Man's Head Cut Off.
Accident to a Montreal Street Car Conductor.
Montreal despatch: Leonide Laviolette, a street railway conductor, slipped while collecting fares on his open car this morning at the corner of McGill and Lemoine streets, fell off the front end of the running board, and had his head cut off by the car wheels. He was instantly killed. The body was taken to the Morgue, where an inquest was opened. Laviolette was only twenty years old and had been a conductor for about three months.

White House Coal Conference.
Roosevelt Reads the Riot Act to Visitors.
Public Must Have Fuel.
Kaiser and Boer Generals Will Only Grant Them Audience on Conditions.
The Irish Members May Absent Themselves From Sessions of the House of Commons.
Barber Falls Dead.
Eric Sharpe Goes Free.

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Bride Lost Her Hair.
Mrs. Glover Threw a Package of Gunpowder into the Stove.
Manchester, N. H., Oct. 6. As the result of an explosion of gunpowder Mrs. Jessie Glover, the young wife of Harry Glover, lies at her home in a precarious condition. She is a bride of less than three months. At the time of the accident she was packing up the household effects preparatory to moving to another home. She threw a bunch of waste paper into the stove, and almost instantly there was a terrific explosion, the stove being torn to pieces and the entire room filled with fire to such an extent that the four walls and ceiling presented nothing but a blackened surface.

Grand Trunk Appointments.
Circular Issued by Supt. Jones Announces Some Changes.
Superintendent Jones, of the Grand Trunk, has issued the following circular, dated yesterday:

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APPLE CROP HAS IMPROVED.
Dealers Say the Results are Exceeding the Estimate.
Toronto apple buyers say that the crop throughout the Province is turning out much better than it promised earlier in the season. Not only is it larger, but the quality of the fruit has improved, the fungus noticeable in the early autumn has pretty generally disappeared, and the apples have filled out well, without serious blemish.

NO NATIONAL FUNERAL.
French Cabinet Negatives Proposal to Honor Dead Novelist.
Paris, Oct. 6.—The cabinet met today and discussed the question of a national funeral for the late M. Zola and the interment of the body in the Pantheon. Both propositions were decided in the negative. M. Chaurie, Minister of Public Instruction, will represent the Government at the funeral, and will make a speech in honor of the late author.

BARBER FALLS DEAD.
Child Eats Neuralgia Tablets and Dies.
Winnipeg, Man., Oct. 6.—Frederick Robertson, aged 67, and a barber by trade, fell dead last night. He was apparently in good health until the moment of his death.

ERIC SHARPE GOES FREE.
Boy Who Shot Little Girl Not Guilty of Manslaughter.
Kingston, Ont., despatch: At this afternoon's sitting of the High Court the hearing of the Sharpe manslaughter case was begun, the grand jury having returned a true bill.

WHITE CAP OUTRAGE.
James Arthur Tied to Tree and Lashed Severely.
Sullivan, Ind., Oct. 6.—James Arthur, a night watchman, was seized by White cappers at 1 o'clock this morning while making his rounds at the Gilmore mines, near here, tied to a tree and severely whipped with hickory switches. The white cappers accused Arthur of abusing his wife. The charge is denied by friends of Arthur.