

Boy shot dead

Juryman objects to coroner's stated opinion

One hundred and twenty years ago this week

(From the pages of the Markham Economist, February 13, 1868)

The Late Heart-Rending Accident

The shock that was felt here when it was known that a boy was shot dead — the thrilling question that arose to the lips, "Who is it?" "What was the manner and cause of death?" caused intense excitement for the time being, and cast a gloom over the community.

But the careless and indifferent manner in which the coroner's jury investigated the case and the verdict arrived at which satisfied but few, least of all the heart-stricken parents, did not show that sacred regard for human life which the occasion demanded.

It cannot be said that the accident was purely by misfortune and could not have been pre-

BACK ISSUES

Larry Rainey

vented or avoided by any ordinary foresight or precaution, on the contrary, it was the result of gross and culpable carelessness. How any person in the middle of the day could fire across a narrow street into a building, for the sake of a paltry pigeon, whereby human life was not only jeopardized but actually sacrificed, is almost beyond belief.

What reparation can be made to the bereaved? Nothing can res-

tore the life that has thus been swept away. What reparation has been made to the parents? None. Mr. Leaper, who is by no means in affluent or easy circumstances, has been obliged to pay all the expenses of the funeral out of his own pocket. Should this be so?

If the parties implicated will do nothing, should not the public? We think they should. If any sympathy is due anyone, it surely is the parents. And a proper way of showing it would be by contributing to make up their loss so far as can be done. Nothing is so sacred to society as a human life, and it ought to be environed with all the safeguards civilization can impose.

COMMUNICATION
To the Editor of the Economist
SIR.-In looking over the ECO-

NOMIST of last week, I was much surprised to notice after reading the verdict returned by the Jury summoned to investigate the cause of the death of William Leaper, jr., attached to the end of said verdict, a note from the Coroner, in which he "emphatically dissents" from the decision of the jury. Now Sir, I believe all will agree with me that it is an unheard of thing, for a Coroner or even the highest judge in our land after charging a jury, to interfere in any way or dissent from their decision.

Who had the best right to arrive at a just conclusion, a jury of thirteen men, who heard all the evidence patiently, and then all went and carefully examined the premises, and the place the parties stood when they fired into the

building as well as all the circumstances they could gather on the subject, who, I say, ought to be able to judge correctly, the jury of the coroner who never went near the place.

Who ever heard of a coroner, after a jury had retired to sum up the evidence, bolting into the room and insisting upon acting as foreman of the jury, and commence forthwith taking notes etc. It is too bad that the County of York cannot have a reliable man to fill so important an office as coroner. A change is much needed and the sooner the better.

By giving the above publication in your paper you will oblige.

JOSEPH DOBINSON,
One of the Jurymen.



DIRECTORY

A.G. Yan Electronics
• Sales, service, rentals
• T.V.'s, stereos, & video
• Authorized services
• Hitachi • Zenith • Sharp
• Repairs to all makes

10% off on carry-in service
20 Fred Varley Dr., Unionville
477-3186

KEN SMURTHWAITE HEATING LTD.
Air conditioning, Duct work, Custom sheet metal.
Stouffville 640-1428

MAYNARD CABINETS
Custom Furnishings
Wall Units, Desks, etc.
FRED
640-3441

BURGESS CONTRACTING RENOVATIONS
Residential - Commercial
BATHROOM, BASEMENT, KITCHEN, CARPENTRY, DRYWALL, TAPING, CERAMIC TILE, SPRAY CEILING.
FREE ESTIMATES
IAN 294-6440 • 471-7599

ROGER HEATH CARPENTRY
LIC. B3591
Contracting & Designing
Basement Finishing Specialist
Additions, Renovations & Repairs

FREE ESTIMATES & REFERENCES
294-9786 EVNGS.

ELECTRICAL JOBS
New Additions, Renovations, Rec Rooms
NO JOB TOO SMALL
PATRICK
640-3700

PAINTING & PAPERING
for your home needs
call Terry
298-8884

SILVER NAIL CONSTRUCTION
Carpentry Contractors — Residential & Commercial

Guaranteed workmanship — Paul Duffy, President
Free estimates — 225-1080
with no obligation — Metro Bldg. Lic. #B-8253

WALLPAPERING & PAINTING
OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE
STOUFFVILLE MARKHAM
283-4145

CERAMIC TILE, TUB & SHOWER STALL REPAIR
471-7599

HATHAWAY BROS.
PAINTING PAPER HANGING
AIRLESS SPRAY
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR

PRATT & LAMBERT
Commercial, Industrial
32 Years in Business
220 Main St. E. 640-3075
Success Square
Stouffville
640-4134 (after hours)

PAINTING & PAPER HANGING
Residential & Commercial
Interior & Exterior
35 years experience
Leo C. Spurrell & Son
Free Estimates **266-6251**

Mark Feldstein, Chartered Accountant
Accounting, Audit, Income Tax Preparation, Computerized Bookkeeping & Monthly Financial Statements.
Available for evening & weekend appointment.
731-0673 (Res.)
479-9706 (Bus.)

JIM A. BAJARI
BUILDING CONTRACTOR
CUSTOM HOMES
ADDITIONS & RENOVATIONS
REC. ROOMS - DECKS
REPLACEMENT WINDOWS
CUSTOM CARPENTRY
294-1122

COXWORTH CONSTRUCTION
Custom Built Homes
Additions - Renovations - etc.
KEVIN
640-6516
(serving Markham, Stouffville & surrounding area)

HANDYMAN
No job too small
General work and repairs, rec. rooms, bathrooms, hardwood floors, ceramic tile, saunas, whirlpools.
Call Glen **640-2666**

DAVID BARKEY
Painting and Decorating
Professional Reasonable
Experienced 294-3026

Word Master Word Processing
Reports, form letters, database, etc.
Fast, accurate, reliable service.
477-6356

WAYNE SMITH CARPENTRY
Additions — Renovations
Cabinets — Decks
640-6345

HANDYMAN W. McDONALD
• painting & decorating
• exterior, interior
• renovations
• drywall taping
• and carpentry

free estimates 640-6548
No Job Too Large or Too Small.

DOUG ELLIOTT & SON
Painting and Decorating
Paper Hanging a Specialty
37 years experience
281-9667 or 722-3694

Home Improvements
A Div. of Homebased Framers Ltd.
• Rec. Rooms, Dens
• Basement Completions
• Decks & Fences
• All Home Improvements
CARL ANTHONY
105 Northolt Crescent
Markham, Ontario L3R 6N8
(416) 470-0730

L. MAGYAR PAINTING & WALLCOVERING
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
CALL 479-2160

O McCrossan & Son Ltd.
Building Contractor
Custom Carpentry our specialty.
Additions, renovations, custom building.
294-6141

TO ADVERTISE
CALL
294-2200
495-9440
640-2100