

CROSSING DANGEROUS

JURY ASKS THAT A REMEDY BE PROVIDED.

Coroner's Jury Investigating Death of Robert Savage Asked that Matter be Brought to Attention of Railway Commissioners.

"That Robert Savage came to his death by being struck by a Grand Trunk railway train at Rideau crossing. We, the jury, are strongly of the opinion that this crossing is an exceedingly dangerous one, and that steps should be taken at once to remedy this condition in the interest of the public, and that a copy of this verdict be sent to the railway commission by the coroner."

The above is the verdict which was rendered at 12.30 o'clock on Friday morning, by a jury summoned by Dr. D. E. Mundell, coroner, to investigate the sad accident of Wednesday night, when Robert Savage met his death by being struck by a train at Rideau Crossing. Quite a large number of witnesses were heard. The session opened at 8 o'clock and the taking of evidence was not concluded until after 11 o'clock.

James Crawford was foreman of the jury and the other members were Richard Waldron, William Newlands, Richard Armstrong, W. J. B. White, Orla Beaudry, Alexander McKee, Albert T. Campbell, William B. McKay, Allan M. Reid, J. H. Bell and E. G. Barrett.

Leo Lawless and James Martin, who drove over the crossing just before Robert and Arthur Savage, swore positively, that no warning such as the blowing of the whistle or the ringing of the bell on the engine was given of the approach of the train, while members of the

train crew swore that the whistle was sounded and the bell rung. Leo Lawless was the first witness, and he told of making a trip to the home of Arthur German, about four miles from Cusheonville, with James Martin, and the Savage boys on Wednesday afternoon, to get two loads of oats. Witness drove with James Martin in one rig, while Arthur and Robert Savage drove in another. The vehicles used were very heavy lumber wagons and each carried seventy bushels of oats.

"My team was in front," witness said to the coroner. "When we arrived at Cunningham's Corners, Robert Savage (the deceased), got off his wagon to get a box of matches at Mrs. Berryman's store which is about 200 yards from the railway crossing. We moved on after this, and the wagon with the Savage boys also continued. I stopped within ten feet of the crossing to see if a train was coming, as it is a very bad crossing. There is some obstruction which prevents a clear view of the track at the east side of the crossing. After my rig had stopped, Martin and I looked back. The Savage boys had come to a standstill about fifty feet away from us. After stopping about a minute, we could not hear anything coming along the track. Arthur Savage asked me if it was all right, and I could see him looking down the tracks. I told him it was alright. We then crossed over the tracks and our rig was just over the crossing, when the train went whizzing back to the crossing just before Robert and Arthur Savage, swore positively, that no warning such as the blowing of the whistle or the ringing of the bell on the engine was given of the approach of the train, while members of the

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He had stopped long enough alongside the crossing before going over to have heard a whistle had it been sounded. He was positive it had not been sounded. He did not hear the bell of the engine ringing. He certainly would not have driven across the tracks had he been given any warning. Further than this, he could see no light on the engine. Dr. W. G. Anglin told about the injuries deceased had received. Death had been due to a fracture of the base of the skull.

Swore He Blew Whistle. Edward Ireland, engineer of the train, said: "When we were approaching the first crossing east of the Rideau crossing I gave the regulation whistle and started the bell ringing. There is a whistling post beyond this first crossing, or the second crossing. The distance between the whistling post and the crossing is one-quarter of a mile. I swear positively that I blew the whistle at the post for the second crossing. The bell also kept ringing until after the accident occurred."

Asked as to when he had first noticed the rig drive on to the crossing witness said: "I could not say just when. I guess I was about fifteen or twenty yards from the crossing. I stopped the engine as quickly as I could. I was travelling thirty-five miles an hour. The headlights of the engine were burning. Witness said the light on his engine was burning until he arrived at Belleville, and he could give no reason why it could not be seen. He did not know of any obstruction.

James Martin, driving with Leo Lawless, corroborated the latter's evidence. He heard no whistle sounded or the bell rung. He was in a good position to hear as the wagon made very little noise. The view at the east of the crossing was obstructed.

J. E. Kerr, fireman on the train, declared that he heard the whistle sounded for the crossing. He also heard the bell ring. Mrs. Elizabeth Berryman, who lives at Cunningham's Corners near the scene of the accident, said she heard one shrill whistle when the train was close to the crossing. She had known of other accidents at this crossing.

A Dangerous Crossing. Dr. G. W. Bell, who was a passenger on the train, said he did not think the bell had been sounded for a half mile approaching the crossing. He did not remember hearing the whistle or the bell.

Bernard Cunningham, of Cunningham's Corners, lockmaster at Kingston Mills, said he was at the scene of the accident. He did not know if the whistle had been sounded.

"I think it is a very dangerous crossing from either side," he said. "I have driven over it all my life. When I am driving cattle, I always have to go ahead of them."

Witness further stated that his brother's buildings and a grade hid the view of the train. He would consider it a very dangerous crossing.

J. Splan, conductor on the train, said he knew the whistle had been sounded. The noise of the train might prevent the hearing of the bell.

A. W. Elliott, a passenger on the train, said he was riding in the last coach. He did not catch any notice as regards the sounding of the whistle or the ringing of the bell. James Fennell was another witness, but he had unimportant evidence.

Paul Langer, a youth, working for Edward Braden, near the crossing, said he noticed the train when it was half a mile away from his home. He heard the whistle blown for the second crossing, but not the first. The whistle was sounded just as the train was on the second crossing. He heard the whistle on the engine.

B. R. Merriman, baggage man on the train, did not hear the bell but he did hear the whistle. He heard the whistle sounded twice some distance east of the crossing. He also swore the headlights of the engine was burning.

Eli Caron, a G. T. R. constable at the bridge at Kingston Mills, said that he knew that whistles were sounded at this crossing by the trains. He had no evidence to offer as regards the train on the night of the accident.

Henry Walter, brakeman on the train, said he heard the whistle sounded, but did not hear the bell, as it would not be possible to do so. Edward Braden, living near the crossing, was called at the request of one of the jurymen to get his opinion as to the character of the crossing. He said that there was a deep cut between the two crossings. This hid the view at the east side of the track. A person could not see a train. He said that the view was obstructed by a pile of lumber two hundred feet from the Rideau crossing on the top of a hill.

"Do you consider it a dangerous crossing?" the witness was asked. "Yes, I do," was the reply. "We have tried to get our county council to petition the Grand Trunk railway to provide better protection."

Witness stated that there was an obstruction of what he called a "snow fence" to within five hundred feet of the Rideau crossing.

The Power Question. The Utilities Commission has not yet come to any decision with regard to the Campbell power offer. A special meeting was held on Thursday afternoon to consider the street railway agreement which expires this week. It has not yet been decided under what terms the agreement will be renewed.

To Fire Royal Salute. Next Tuesday, being Queen Alexandra's birthday, a royal salute of twenty-one guns will be fired by the overseas battery at noon. The twelve-pounder guns will be used.

Insist on White Rose Bour.

CHURCH LADIES BUSY

THREE EVENTS HELD ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON

In Sydenham Street Methodist, St. James, and St. George's—The Responses Were Liberal.

The Women's Associations of Sydenham Street Methodist, St. George's and St. James' churches held successful events at their respective Sunday school halls on Thursday afternoon. The former assumed the proportions of a tea and sale and was highly successful, the sum of \$200 being realized. Mrs. Frank Anglin, president of the Women's Association of Sydenham Street Methodist church, received, and was assisted by Mrs. (Rev.) A. Brown. At the door Miss Helen McIntyre and Miss Edna Smith looked after the collection of the admission fee. Several tables were tastefully decorated and the hall was suitably decorated for the occasion. The work table was in charge of Mrs. D. Cays, Mrs. William Skinner, Mrs. J. S. Smith. The tea table interests were looked after by Mrs. E. Muirhead and Mrs. Flynn, while Mrs. J. G. Ettinger, Mrs. Harry Day, Mrs. H. Ansley and Mrs. R. S. Greenless had the supervision of the homemade table. The candy table was capably cared for by Mrs. Charles Taylor, Miss Eva Richardson and Mrs. R. G. Andrews. A novelty table was in charge of Mrs. I. G. Bogart and Mrs. C. Lane.

St. James' Event. The event held at St. James' Sunday school hall took the form of a party, and was a decided success. This affair lasted from three until five o'clock during which time a large number of people brought with them much produce, which will be forwarded to the Gordon school at Perth, diocese of Saskatchewan. During the course of the afternoon many of the young ladies assisted. Mrs. A. E. B. Williamson played some choice piano selections and the Misses I. Bureau and Elsie Ludlow sang two beautiful solos. W. H. Dalby carefully packed the articles of collection for shipment.

St. George's Tea and Sale. The Church Women's Aid of St. George's, on Thursday afternoon, held a successful tea and sale in the hall to raise money for the cathedral choir. The sum of \$261.91 was taken in at the door by Miss Bradley, and Mrs. John Carson and it was expected that the amount would reach \$275. The hall and the tables were prettily decorated. The ladies on the different tables were as follows:

Tea table—Mrs. Norton-Taylor, Mrs. W. A. Sawyer, Mrs. A. Klugh, Mrs. Potthill and Misses Mudleston, M. Pense, E. Pense, C. Loucks, B. White, Kent and C. White.

Infant table—Mrs. P. E. Prudeaux, Mrs. L. E. Burns, Miss L. Mundell and Miss E. Burns.

Doll table—Mrs. E. Rees and Mrs. G. Bowden.

Work table—Mrs. J. H. Sosa, Mrs. D. E. Mundell, Mrs. G. Hanson, Mrs. T. Mills, Mrs. W. G. Robertson and Mrs. B. Watson.

Home-made table—Mrs. T. D. R. Hemming, Mrs. B. Browne, Mrs. C. Taylor, Mrs. Bower, Miss M. Smith.

Apron table—Mrs. J. Hamilton, Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Clugston and Mrs. C. H. Fink.

Candy table—Mrs. Brownfield, Mrs. R. E. Kent, Misses Mabel and Margery Brownfield and Hilda Kent.

A Lucky Find For C. P. R. A discovery which may mean much to the province of Ontario has been made at Caledonia Springs, namely, that the waters of one of the four springs is strongly radio-active. A recent visitor who had hitherto gone for his cure to the Austrian resort at Badgastein, was prevented this year by the war and tried the Canadian spring. He was struck by the similarity of the waters which on test was found to be due to the presence of radium. The last official analysis was made in 1908, before the ramifications of radium were fully recognized, but Prof. Ruttan, of McGill, has been commissioned to make a new complete analysis. The value of a genuine radium spring in Europe is calculated to average from two to three million dollars, owing to the number of invalids who are attracted to such a spring.

"Come." The word "Come" connected with three texts of scripture, was Mr. Stephens' subject in Brock street hall last evening. "Come Thou," Gen. vii. 1; "Come Now," Isaiah i. 18; "Come Unto Me," Matthew ii. 28. The attendance was good, the meeting most interesting and impressive. God's provision for the salvation of all, His unwillingness that any should miss it through indifference, through neglect or procrastination and the awful consequences of the rejection of Christ was told in an earnest and able manner. Mr. Stephens speaks again to-night and Sunday night.

Veterans At Drill. The Kingston Veterans' Association held its weekly drill in the armories on Thursday night. Lieut. A. Stroud instructed one squad in signalling. Mr. Ingledew took the class in drill. Lieut. W. McCarthy instructed a stretcher squad and rifle practice was also on the programme. There were about one hundred of the veterans at the drill.

Imperial Comedy Company. Another bumper audience greeted the Imperial Musical Comedy company at the Grand Opera House last evening, when they presented "Mr. Dooley's Wedding."

To-night the company will present "Coming Thru' the Rye" and a popular play will be given at Saturday's matinee.

Kingston Lodge I, O. O. F. Kingston lodge, No. 59, I. O. O. F., held its semi-annual session of officers Thursday night. The officers elected were: Noble grand, S. V. McQuigg; vice-grand, F. C. Belva; financial secretary, R. J. Diack; recording secretary, W. Edgar; treasurer, R. Stafford; trustees, Dr. A. E. Ross, R. J. Diack and R. D. Sloan.

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STUDENTS MASS MEETING. To Discuss Military Training - Queen's Journal Comment. There will be a mass meeting of Queen's students in Grant hall this afternoon, convened by Principal Gordon. Matters affecting military training and the formation of an army of officers' training corps will be discussed. Regarding this meeting, Queen's Journal says: "It is common talk throughout the university that there are twice as many qualified officers volunteering for service already as there are places to fill. Under these circumstances we should be glad to know what the exact status of men volunteering for this service would be. "Especially would we like to know if any guarantee has been given by the militia department that the drilling now being undergone will be given consideration and an opportunity presented to men enlisting in the above corps, if thoroughly equipped, to proceed to the front on active service. "While we are in sympathy with every effort put forth to keep the peril and the needs of our country before the minds of her citizens there seems to us to be a grave danger of overdoing the efforts to arouse enthusiasm for military service. "As thinking men, we believe that just as soon as the definite need is presented, and a definite method of meeting it, we should be glad to see any further proposal, without any further delay, that our students will be found ready to do their duty."

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Died At Elginburg. On Wednesday night Mrs. Charles Smith, of Elginburg, passed away at her residence after a lingering illness. The deceased was seventy years of age. Two sons survive. The funeral will be held on Saturday afternoon to Cataract cemetery.

A Card. All the leading grocers of Kingston have agreed to sell a package containing five standard 5c. boxes of Silver Tip Silent Matches for 20c. Quality guaranteed.

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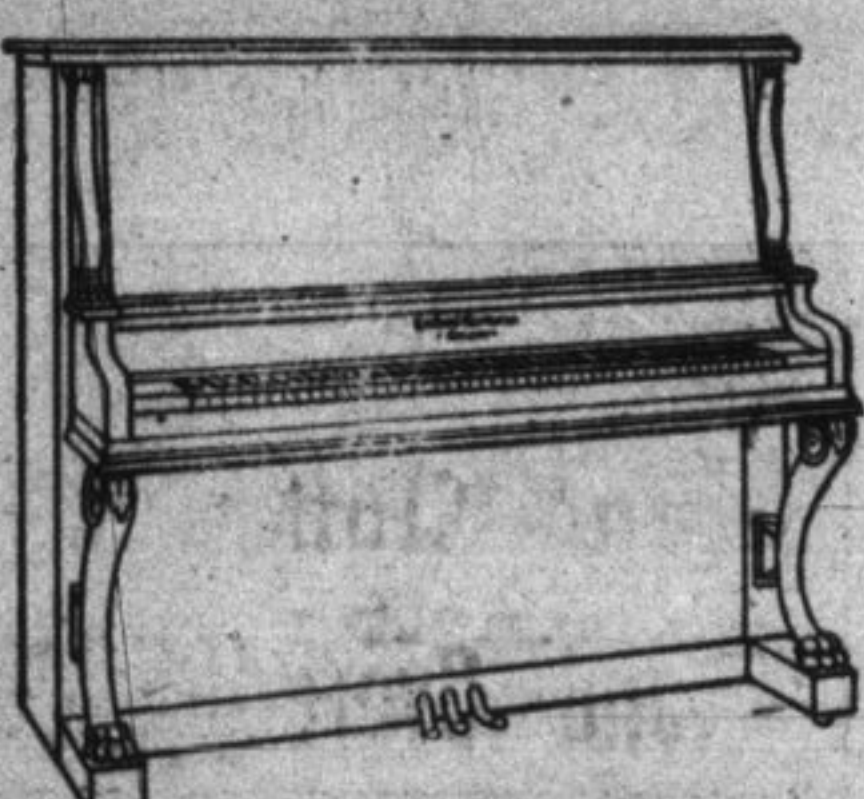
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