

NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS.
Connected with Mental Work.

Records.

Victoria Times 2.8.9

On Wednesday evening last the Salvation Army Band, with the permission of the Provincial Secretary, gave an open-air concert at the Saanich Mental Hospital, Wilkinson Road. The selections were received with obvious delight by the inmates, whose pleasure in the occasion was shared by the residents of the district, the music being plainly heard throughout the neighborhood. For some time past the Corps has been giving Sunday afternoon services at the Home, and it is hoped to make the band concerts a periodical event.

Victoria Times 2.8.9

RETURNED MEN ARE ILL-USED IN ASYLUM

HAMILTON, Ont., Aug. 2.—Supporting their charges of treatment meted out to returned men in the Hamilton Asylum, members of the G.W.V.A., Mount Hamilton branch, today made public the following letter from a man recently employed at the institution as an attendant:

"As I was an attendant at the asylum up to two weeks ago, I am writing this letter in the hope that the information will be useful. The place is worse than hell, and the poor creatures confined there are treated like pigs. Returned men are placed in cells with convicts sent there from Kingston and other prisons. There were five soldiers in these cells when I left the place. One of the attendants is crazy himself, so what can you expect?"

"The Russian who killed his sweetheart in Toronto is allowed out all day, and Lepont, the murderer, was allowed out on Sunday.

"You can use my name if you desire, because this is the truth, so help me, God."

A mass meeting of all Hamilton veterans will be called to demand an investigation into the conditions at the asylum.

JAIL CONVERTED INTO HOSPITAL.

VICTORIA, March 13.—The Wilkinson road jail at Colquitz, just outside of Victoria, which has been closed for some time owing to the reorganization of the jail service, is about to be opened as a hospital for the criminal insane. The estimates just brought down in the house by the minister of finance provide for a sum of \$31,370 in this connection. This action has become necessary in order to relieve the congestion at Essondale and New Westminster.

SENSATION OVER CIRCUMSTANCES OF SOLDIER'S DEATH

Dies in Asylum With Right Arm Broken, Eye Out and Face Bruised.

HAMILTON, Ont., Aug. 20.—Relatives of John Forbes, a returned soldier, who died in Hamilton asylum some months ago, after being confined there for one week, have issued a sensational statement. They allege that they were refused permission to see the boy until after he was dead. They also declare that when they viewed the body in an undertaking establishment, the right arm was broken, they believe one of his eyes was gone and that the face and body were badly cut and bruised. The relatives have demanded that a royal commission, which is to be appointed, fully investigate the case. The death certificate gave the cause of death as alcoholism.

Recent disclosures regarding treatment of inmates at the asylum led Inspector Dunlop, of asylums and prisons in Ontario, to advocate the appointment of a royal commission to investigate conditions at the institution.

MUSICAL TREATMENT FOR MENTAL CASES

Miraculous Cures of Insanity Due to Effect of Music

At a recent banquet, the speaker of the evening was Dr. Walter B. Ryan, superintendent of the Hudson River State Hospital, who gave a particularly interesting address which dealt with the soothing effect of music on the insane and weak-minded and told how music and musical instruments were being applied in the asylums of the country. "To the asylums of France is due the credit of having first introduced music as a regular feature in the course of treatment," said Dr. Ryan. At the hospital for the insane near Rouen, an attempt was made, early in its history, to organize a band of music and a chorus and so successful did it prove that the example was followed by numerous other institutions, not only in France but elsewhere on the Continent.

"Later interesting experiments were conducted in one of the New York City hospitals for the insane, twenty-seven years ago, and the claim was made that several of the patients were greatly benefitted. It does not appear, however, that this was anything more than a spasmodic attempt to introduce music into the institution as a systematic part of the moral treatment.

Hospitals Equipped.

"At the present time we have in our State hospitals in each ward the music of pianos and phonographs, and practically every hospital is equipped with either a band or orchestra or both. On evenings of entertainment, and especially when the regular dance is given, these musicians do much to enliven the audience, dancers and non-dancers alike. Again at times concerts are given in the different wards, especially in those in which cases of acute depression or melancholia are received and cared for. In these cases music gives promise of having a distinct value.

"Our own experience has been most gratifying in exciting the interest and allaying the irritation of patients. They are evidently influenced for good in the majority of cases, and take an intelligent interest in the concerts provided for them, both in the ward and in the assembly hall. Patients in other wards request the privilege of going to the one in which the orchestra is playing, and many express gratitude for the relief which the music affords them.

Some Miraculous Cures.

"A great authority on melancholy, quaint old Robert Burton, firmly believed in the art, and declared it unnecessary to waste time over 'declamatory speeches in praise of divine music,' for it was well known that 'beside the excellent power it hath to expel many other diseases, it is a sovereign remedy against despair and melancholy, and will drive away the devil himself.'

"'Next to theology,' said Luther, 'I give highest place to music, for thereby anger is forgotten; the devil, also melancholy and many tribulations and evil thoughts are driven away.'

"Richard Browne tells us that he was daily enlisting the services of music in his medical ministrations. In his experience it was of greatest use in dealing with the mentally afflicted: He was in the habit of calling in its aid for the treatment of melancholia, mania and hypochondriasis, though he did not despise it when curing the gouty. To conjure away the 'melancholic shadows' and the deepest-seated vapors he had resort to the flute and the spinet. 'Music,' he declares, 'hath so transcendent a power over us as to raise or depress the passions of the mind, rouse or calm the motion of the spirits, accordingly as the sounds, differently modulated, differently touch the auditory nerves.'

"In briefly summarizing the results of experience, I would say that we have in music an element of moral treatment in the care of the insane that we cannot afford to neglect. It is within reach of all hospitals for the insane to provide systematic musical entertainments, and I am glad to say that those institutions which care for the insane in this state are progressive along this line."

Province, Sept 15th 1919.

OBJECT TO REPORT.

By unanimous resolution the executive endorsed the manner in which patients at the mental asylum in this province are treated and took vigorous exception to certain members of the Canadian Red Cross Society for their activities in this connection.

It was stated that the provincial executive, members of the Dominion command, the Dominion president and different locals of the G. W. V. A. at Vancouver, Coquitlam and New Westminster have made it their business during the past two and a half years to pay regular visits to the mental hospitals, looking after the welfare of the patients and investigating complaints and have always found that the veterans detained there were receiving every consideration from the authorities. These visits, it was stated, were paid at unexpected times and no opportunity was withheld for the fullest investigation.

The position of the executive on the matter was put in the following resolution:

"Whereas it has been brought to our attention that a certain resolution intending to affect our returned soldiers mentally afflicted, has been passed by the Canadian Red Cross Society of British Columbia.

"And, whereas, members of the provincial executive have always deemed it their first duty to keep in closest touch with the comrades who have become so afflicted, and have a very recent report upon the Essondale institution from a committee composed of members of both Dominion and Provincial executives of a most favorable nature.

"And whereas as we feel that our comrades are receiving the very best medical treatment possible, are comfortably housed, and have at their disposal machinery that has taken years to build up, and in our opinion could not be duplicated in these times.

"Be it therefore resolved that it is the opinion of this executive that the Canadian Red Cross Society was very badly advised in passing such a resolution, and that in the future such society should consult our association before taking any such step, which might affect detrimentally our own comrades, and that it is also the opinion of this executive that the Canadian Red Cross Society should be more careful in the selection of its visiting committee to hospitals where our comrades, mentally afflicted, are being treated.

Vancouver Daily Sun, Aug. 21, 1919

Vanc. Province Nov. 8. 19.

Vanc. Sun. Feb. 15. 20.

Won't Be Anxious to Ride Again With Strange Chauffeur

NEW WESTMINSTER, Nov. 8.—Two men, in a great hurry to reach Vancouver the other day, had an experience which they are not desirous of repeating.

Informed at the Blue Funnel jitney line that the next car would leave for the Burrard metropolis in ten minutes they expressed annoyance. Their need was urgent, they held, and they simply must be on their way.

Up chugged a little car with a smiling youth at the wheel. "Jump in, I'll take you over in a jiff," he chirruped.

In the pair climbed and, with the little car doing its level best, taking turns at amazing angles and at times almost occupying the entire roadway, the trio reached Vancouver.

"What do we owe you?" they queried, breathing a sigh of deep thankfulness when they stepped on terra firma again.

"Nothing at all," smiled the affable chauffeur, "I merely desired to please," and he spun the wheel of his little boat merrily as he headed for the Royal City again.

On his return the local police picked him up and under escort the obliging person was returned to Essondale, from which institution he had escaped a few hours earlier.

NO TRACE FOUND OF DROWNED MAN

NEW WESTMINSTER—The local police have carried on dragging operations since Saturday in an effort to recover the body of Hans Swanson, the demented man who broke away from the attendants at the mental hospital here and jumped into the Fraser river on Saturday afternoon. So far no trace of the body has been found. It appears that Swanson who was a large property owner in Edmonds, Burnaby, was suffering from a religious mania and stated that he heard voices calling him. On Saturday his condition seemed to have become worse.

Vancouver Sun April 14. 1920

Those Who Use Drugs Are Filling the Asylums

Inmates at Saanich Include Record Number of Addicts, Says Hon. J. D. Maclean, in Discussing Vote of \$46,480 for Mental Home, an Increase of \$15,000 Over Expenditures of Year Previous.

VICTORIA, April 13.—That the present epidemic of drug-using is adding to the numbers of the criminally insane in the province, was stated by Hon. Dr. J. D. Maclean, in the legislature this afternoon, in discussing the vote of \$46,480 required to support the mental home at Saanich for the coming year. The vote is an increase over last year's vote, which was \$31,370.

Hon. Dr. Maclean explained that the building, which was originally built for a jail, was admirably adapted for the class of patients treated at Saanich. These patients, he said, are all of a dangerous type who must be kept under constant surveillance, including both murderers and a number of manslaughter cases. It was in answer to a question by Major Burdeas to the increase of these dangerous lunatics that Dr. Maclean stated that the number of drug addicts confined at Saanich and elsewhere is greater

Victoria Times. 12.1.02

WOULD CUT DOWN NUMBER IN JAIL

Report on Proper Handling of Mental Defectives in Ontario

Toronto, Jan. 12. — Mr. Justice Frank Hodgins has reported to the Drury Government on the result of his investigations as Commissioner on the mentally defective in Ontario. He states that this province has not and never had any mercy for certain mental defectiveness, for the education of defectives or to prevent their easy development into irreclaimable criminals. The magnitude of the evil thus left untouched is very great, he states, and he advises that there is no more potent influence in the production of vice and crime than the unwatched mental defective. The situation is summed up in the following paragraph of the report:

"If the cardinal fact could be assimilated that the elimination of the mental defective from the school and from the street and from the agencies engaged in reforming character would render the efforts of teachers and social workers comparatively easy and empty the jails of over half their inmates, and that these unfortunates can, if taken in time, be made comparatively happy and useful, there would be little time lost in bringing about that desirable result."

Colonist. May 26. 1920.

Inmate Escapes—Paul Melock, an inmate of the Provincial Mental Hospital, Wilkerson Road, escaped from the institution yesterday afternoon. After a two-hour search by the police he was caught and returned.

This report was furnished by the police who had absolutely nothing to do with the retaking of Paul Melock, he was found hiding in adjoining bush within 50 yds of grounds by our own attendants. One hour after escape, have warned Colonel to get particulars from proper source in future. J.D.

SUSPECTED MANIAC ARMED WITH PISTOL CAPTURED BY CHIEF

NORTH VANCOUVER, Feb. 19.—District Chief of Police Lifton made a daring capture this morning in a densely wooded portion of Lynn Valley, when he succeeded in overpowering a suspected lunatic. The man was armed with a large automatic pistol, fully loaded. He will be examined later in the day by doctors and probably sent to an asylum.

Vanc. Sun. May 26. 20.

BROKE ANKLE IN ESCAPE.
Suffering from a broken ankle sustained when jumping from a window at Essondale, Horatio V. Lyon, an inmate of that institution, was captured by Sergeant Shirley and Officer Bell yesterday morning after a report had been received that he had escaped. He was taken to the General hospital for treatment.

Colonist, July 26, 1920.

THE DAILY COLONIST,

Robbins' Conf'd.

Van. Sun. July 26, '20.

ROBBINS APPEARS QUITE COMPOSED

Story of Murder of His Wife Is Told Again at Inquest— Father of Murdered Woman Is Witness

VANCOUVER, July 24.—Quite composed and apparently cheerful and at ease, William George Robbins, self-confessed murderer of his wife, entered the inquest room at the morgue this morning in custody of the police. He listened with interest to the evidence. Robbins spoke cheerfully to a friend whom he encountered as he left the police car.

The story of the murder, as told to Deputy Chief Leatherdale by Robbins on Thursday, is a morbid narration of a mind apparently diseased. The action of the husband, according to the officer's testimony, was brought about because he thought his wife had been instrumental in sending him to the Westminster asylum, and also because he thought she was not taking proper care of their two children.

Robbins told the deputy during the confession that his wife had doped him. He said also that the Tuesday morning after the murder he had thought she might still be alive, and he ran all the way to the body in the park with a wet towel to try and bring her back to life.

The deputy testified that before Robbins confessed he was given the usual warning, "that what he said would be used against him."

The first witness, Dr. George F. Curtis, gave medical evidence of the postmortem examination of the remains of the unfortunate woman. He said that the first bullet, fired through her body, would not necessarily have killed her.

Acting Chief Leatherdale testified that at 4:30 o'clock on Thursday Robbins, accompanied by a man named Field, walked into the deputy's office and said:

"I am Mr. Robbins. I killed my wife on Monday night."

The deputy asked him where this took place and Robbins answered that it was at Stanley Park. He informed the officer that he had been an inmate of the asylum, but had run away from there on June 9. He stayed around in the city, and finally met his wife on Monday at the Yale Hotel. They sent the two children to his brother-in-law's place, and he and Mrs. Robbins went for a walk in the park. As they started up the path leading to the spot where the tragedy was enacted, he asked her if she was afraid to be with him. She replied "No." He looked around and thought he saw a man. They walked on a little further and he turned and said, "What sort of a game is this?" Then he shot her. She fell and pleaded with him to let her up. She said she would not tell if he would do so. He refused to do so because, he said, she left the children alone and did not attend to them. So he shot her three times and then beat her with the gun until it was broken.

Deputy Leatherdale produced letters found on the body of Mrs. Robbins. One of these was opened. It read:

"You will find the body near the big tree. You will see a small tree with a belt on it. Well, the body is just across that. You will find my wife's body just by me."

Two other letters were also produced. They were addressed to Mrs. Field, sister of the prisoner, and to Mrs. F. C. Yorke, mother of the deceased. There was some hesitation to reading these, as they had not been opened by the police.

Robbins remarked, "Open and read them. There is nothing much in them."

The letter to Mrs. Field was accordingly opened. It read:

"Dear Sister Alice.—I only hope you will raise the children for me, as I do this cowardly act. I do it for them. My brother had nothing to do with my getting out of the asylum. Raise the children for me. She only had a telegram from me from Seattle. Then I went over and met my wife."

Clutching a pocket Bible in his hand and with tears streaming down his wrinkled cheeks, Francis M. York, the white-haired father of the murdered woman, sobbed out a plea of insanity in extenuation of the dreadful deed.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that Mrs. Robbins was shot to death by her husband in Stanley Park, July 19.

It was a dramatic moment in the proceedings when Capt. Yorke was called to the stand. Approaching the witness box, he stood for a moment looking intently at Wm. George Robbins, self-confessed slayer of his daughter. Robbins for the first time since his surrender to the police on Thursday showed agitation, covering his face with his hands to avoid the gaze of the old man.

Shaking his head in his great sadness, Capt. Yorke turned and took his place on the stand. Asked the date of the marriage of his daughter to Robbins, he took a small Bible from his pocket and from the fly-leaf gave the date, March 5, 1914.

"Do you know that Robbins was committed to the asylum?" asked Coroner's Officer John Deacon.

"My daughter wrote to her mother about it and came up here. He was committed from Victoria," answered the witness in a halting manner, and then, breaking down, he sobbed:

"The poor, unfortunate boy, for he is only a boy. He was never properly nurtured. His mother is in the asylum. She has been there off and on for thirty years. It was a case of her raising a boy when she was working and slaving to death.

"I have no animosity against this poor boy, but I have against the asylum authorities, who did not take care of him and who let him out. The murder was caused by his hallucination. I now think that he was the same all the time, off and on. He went off in spells. As for his father giving him dope—his father is a hard-working, fine old man, who would not for a moment think of harming the boy he loved more than anything else in the world."

MENTAL EXPERTS WILL EXAMINE W. G. ROBBINS

July 24, 1920
William George Robbins, the self-confessed slayer of his wife in Stanley Park last week, will probably be committed to the Wilkinson Road Asylum for the criminally insane at Victoria. This was the opinion expressed by police authorities today. It is considered that Robbins is mad.

Although he was formally committed to the Essondale Mental Hospital three months ago, and escaped from that institution, according to his own story, the police intend to have him subjected to another mental examination, it was stated by City Prosecutor William MacKay this morning. Alienists will probably examine Robbins today.

The young man has the appearance of being sane on every point except one. This hallucination is that his father, and others in league with him, are endeavoring to poison him. It was this fear that prompted him to murder his wife.

Vancouver Sun. Aug 13
1920.

ASYLUM INMATE IS DEAD AFTER STRUGGLE

Coroner's Jury Returns Verdict that No Blame Is Attached to Attendants

NEW WESTMINSTER, Aug. 12.—Ernest Barton, admitted to the mental hospital at New Westminster from South Vancouver a few days ago, died on Wednesday as the result of injuries received in a struggle with an attendant. No blame is attached to the medical or hospital staff who prevented the unfortunate man doing serious injury to himself or others, according to the verdict returned by the coroner's jury called by Coroner McEwen today.

It appears from the evidence, that Barton, who has a wife and family in South Vancouver, was out in what is called the airing room. Suddenly, without warning, he became violent and made a rush at an attendant. The latter, to prevent the patient from doing injury to himself, and also for self protection grappled with him, and during the struggle which ensued, and the strain of over-excitement, the unfortunate man sustained injuries from which he died.

Drs. McKay and Wilson testified at the inquest, the latter having performed the post mortem.

Vancouver Province 15/8/20

Inquest in Hospital

An inquest was held yesterday afternoon at the Provincial Mental Hospital into the death of Ernest Barton. The evidence was to the effect that Barton suddenly became violent and rushed at an attendant who grappled with him. A struggle ensued, and as a result of his violent actions Barton died of heart failure. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence, exonerating the hospital staff.

Colonist July 25 20

Murderer Mentally Unsound
 LONDON, July 24.—Edwin Charles Simmons, former lieutenant in the Canadian Engineers, has been acquitted of the murder of his wife, whom he shot in a Haddington hotel, seemingly through jealousy. Medical evidence indicated that the prisoner was on the border of mental instability.

Colonist July 24 20.

**MAILED POISONED
 CANDY TO ASYLUM**

Arrested Man Confesses It Was for Wife—It Killed Another Woman.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 23.—When detectives asked George Littrual to spell "asylum," he wrote it "sylum."
 The misspelled word corresponded to one on a package of candy sent to the Central Hospital for the insane, which is credited with having poisoned and caused the death of Mrs. Lizzie Brooks, an inmate, and according to the police, it led to a confession from Littrual that he had tried to kill his insane wife that he might marry another. Littrual confessed the plot after forty-eight hours of cross-examination, detectives reported.
 Mrs. Susie Littrual, the wife for whom the poisoned candy was intended, is uninjured. She detected a bitter taste and passed the candy around to her friends.
 In the confession Littrual signed and gave to Detective Chief Robert Sidebottom, he said he and the other woman, Bessie Sharp, had contemplated the crime for several months. He described how he came from his home in Gagey Bend to mail the candy, after buying it and the strychnine at Galatin. The return address of relatives was placed on the package to divert suspicion.
 The candy was received at the hospital Wednesday and Mrs. Brooks died the following day.

ESCAPES FROM JAIL

Inmate of Wilkerson Road Prison Makes Getaway—Enjoys Liberty But a Short Time

John Lynn, serving a life term for murder, and confined at the Wilkerson Road jail, where those criminally insane are now being incarcerated, escaped from the institution yesterday afternoon. An hour later he was recaptured hiding in the adjacent woods.
 Lynn is known to the local police, having been arrested here in January, 1913. While being held in jail here he escaped, but was later recaptured. He went to Kamloops, and a year or two later murdered a rancher. He was sentenced to a life term, but while awaiting trial he broke out of jail twice.
 Of late there have been several escapes by inmates at the Wilkerson Road institution, but in each case the

fugitives were rounded up. All the inmates there are deemed to be insane, and as nearly all of them have been sentenced for serious crimes, residents in the vicinity of the jail are more or less nervous when an escape is effected.

Colonist Dec. 29 1920

ALLEGED CRUELTY TO INSANE PATIENT

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—John Godrill, 22 years old, was admitted to the asylum for the insane here on Christmas Day and died suddenly yesterday morning. An inquest was opened last night by Coroner G. W. Graham, who stated that examination of the body had shown it to be a mass of abrasions.
 The coroner declared that the affair would be rigorously investigated, and if Godrill had been maltreated by the asylum attendants the public should know it.
 According to the asylum authorities, Dr. Graham said, Godrill had become obstreperous late on Christmas night, and had been removed to the observation room. The night superintendent had been notified and the doctor sent for. Nothing more was heard of Godrill until an attendant found him dead in his room.

H. Brewster There has been three escapes in past 12 mths. Total number of hours absent 4 1/2. G.S.

Lynn's record most in correct G.S.

Provincer Feb. 24. 1921.

Hamilton Hospital For Insane Swept by Fire; No Lives Lost

HAMILTON, Feb. 23.—The Orchard House wing of the Ontario Hospital for the Insane, one of the principal buildings on the grounds, was swept by fire this morning. No loss of life is reported.
 Five hundred patients were confined in the building, a four-storey brick structure, and the entire staff was pressed into service to rescue the patients who were marched into the main building and accommodated there temporarily.
 At 1:30 the fire was under control, with the one building practically destroyed. Several patients who escaped from the asylum in the excitement of rescue have been found.

Daily Graphic

Tuesday, April 13, 1920.

MADMEN IN MENTAL HOMES.

"BORDER LINE" CASES.

BY A COUNTY CORONER.

OSTENSIBLY, mental homes exist for the reception and care of "border-line" patients—persons whose mental balance is disturbed, but not to such a degree as to necessitate incarceration in a lunatic asylum.

In a good many cases the mental home affords a convenient refuge for the moneyed lunatic whose relatives are reluctant, for one reason or another, to have him, or her, certified insane.

I speak from considerable experience of such institutions, both as a county coroner and as a family lawyer.

In the former capacity I have had to investigate several cases of suicide among mental-home patients. In some of these the evidence pointed to the deceased having been insane when admitted to the home; in others to his, or her, having crossed the "border-line" after admission, but knowingly to have been retained as a still doubtful case. My experience in this direction is backed by that of other coroners.

As a family lawyer I have more than once been asked to assist in smuggling an undoubted lunatic into a mental home with the complacent connivance of its proprietor. The mental-home madman is free to go out when he pleases, forcible restraint being forbidden. He is still legally competent to manage not only his own affairs, but also those of others.

In one case, the suicide, who in my opinion had been mad for a long time, was, the very day he made an end of himself, to have signed important documents as a trustee.

The lunatic more or less at large is a danger not only to the community in general, but also to himself. There is no obligation on the keeper of a mental home to provide trained attendants or nurses.

Attendants are sometimes inadequate in numbers. In one case there was one attendant in a home consisting of four large houses. In my experience attendants and nurses are frequently totally untrained and incapable of exercising proper supervision over patients of suicidal tendencies. Mental homes are licensed and inspected by the (Lunacy) Board of Control.

The inspections, however, are often perfunctory. Clearly they should be in the nature of surprise visits, but as often as not the exact time of the inspector's arrival is notified beforehand.

It is therefore tolerably safe for the unscrupulous keeper of a home to shelter persons who should be in asylums, and of course he is well paid for doing so. My experience tempts me to observe that there is one lunacy law for the rich and another for the poor.

IS SHOT DEAD BY LUNATIC

Provinc. Sec. 16 22

Tragedy Occurred at Lund
Thursday Night—Resi-
dents Send for Help.

Man Lost in Bush Goes In- sane and is Terrorizing Upcoast Village.

Struck by a bullet fired by a raving lunatic, Ralph Dango was killed at Lund on Thursday night. The inhabitants of the little coast village are terrorized today and further casualties are feared.

The slayer is Alex. Johnson, who is barricaded in a house with a rifle and plenty of ammunition, while a police party headed by Provincial Constable Hadley of Powell River is on the way to capture or kill the deranged man.

Johnson was lost in the bush for two days and during his wanderings met with an injury to his head, according to messages received by The Province this afternoon.

He arrived in Lund on Thursday evening and commenced shooting. One of the bullets struck Dango, who died instantly. Johnson kept up his fusillade and many of the residents of Lund took to the bush in their panic.

A telegram came through to the provincial police office here this morning signed "Lund citizens," giving a bare outline of the situation and asking for help. Steps were immediately taken to despatch a force from Vancouver in a fast launch, but at 2 o'clock a telegram was received from Constable Hadley stating that he was proceeding from Powell River with an armed posse and that no help from Vancouver was needed.

Hadley and his deputies will reach Lund early this evening and news of the outcome of the affair should be received by Saturday morning.

Lund is about eighty miles up the Coast from Vancouver and the next port of call beyond Powell River.

Johnson is an elderly man who has been living alone on a pre-emption at Theodosia Arm.

Fugitives Planned Dramatic Escape From Mental Hospital

That the escape of the murderer, John Sylvester Lynn, accompanied by Saylor A. Malone, from the Wilkinson Road Mental Hospital yesterday morning was the result of careful plans and arrangements transpired to-day from further facts. Anyone looking for the criminals as unclean and unkempt men dressed in old garb will probably be mistaken. The desperados took with them soap, towels and razors, in addition to everything that was required to make a careful toilet.

A Valedictory Message.

Malone, in leaving left a letter in the pocket of the bound guard, John Walter, conveying his fond regrets to Granby Farrant, the superintendent. Lynn dispensed with the formality of a written farewell, but doubtless wished the institution a hearty valedictory.

Through the courtesy of Granby Farrant, the superintendent a representative of The Times was shown over the scene of the escape to-day. The Wilkinson Road Mental Hospital was previously built as a provincial jail, and in one of the wards in the east wing, the two men were lodged, along with some ten others, each in separate cells.

Were Lodged Separately.

Lynn was lodged in the corner cell of this wing, which is now termed a ward, and three cells away was Malone, with two other patients intervening. Lynn and Malone with the others, were locked in separate cells on the night preceding, as is the custom, and would not normally have been released again until the whole roster of patients were taken out at six o'clock, when they would have the run of the ward corridors.

On the night in question, Lynn and Malone, by a pre-arranged plan, tore out two ten-inch bars, of three-quarter-inch steel, which must have previously been cut with a hacksaw, from the bottom of their respective doors. The doors are the full width of their cells, some eight feet across, and the bars were taken from the lower right hand corner of each.

The Rendezvous.

Crawling through holes little more than a foot square the two met, and walked out of the open door of the ward, to a place underneath the staircase leading down from the main floor of the building. Under this stair they waited the arrival of the guard at 2 o'clock. They knew that Walker, the watchman, had to come down that stairway to a clothes closet right in front to punch his time clock at the hour.

Seized the Watchman.

They permitted Walker to descend and open the steel door of the clothes closet, and when he had accomplished that they set on him. One man seized him around the arms, while the other simultaneously smothered him in a coat. They gagged him with a strip of torn sheet, and thrust him into a chair, binding him tightly with strips of blankets and sheets torn from their bed clothing.

Secured Supplies.

Helpless in the chair, and bound so that no outcry could escape to the upstairs portion of the ward, Walker was guarded by Malone, while Lynn went on a forage with the keys from Walker's belt. Lynn returned with bread, all other food was locked away in cold storage. The bread was wrapped up in a towel, while Malone secured soap, towels, underclothes and razors to complete the daily toilet of the two men, with the idea doubtless that they could present a tidy appearance and mix with the public to aid their escape.

Make Getaway.

Taking a last look to see that the guard was effectively bound, the two picked up their bundles and opened the door of a corridor leading to the west wing. Running forty paces or so they turned to the right and gained an outlet on the north side of the building from the west wing. Luckily they did not lock the door of the steel clothes closet on the guard, who otherwise would have not been able to get out until released until after 6 o'clock that morning.

(Concluded on page 15.)

FUGITIVES PLANNED DRAMATIC ESCAPE

(Continued from page 1.)

Half an Hour's Start.

It took Walker a brief but frantic five minutes to wriggle free from his bonds. His hands and clothes were badly scored in this act, but he succeeded. At 2.05 the desperados left the building, and at 2.10 Walker was free and had alarmed the institution, waking Mr. Farrant first. At 2.25 two cars with guards set out to look for the men, but all efforts at search were fruitless. Meanwhile the superintendent had got busy on the telephone and had sent the alarm broadcast through the Island, by means of the three police departments, and all normal avenues of escape were rapidly sealed to the fugitives.

The Hue and Cry.

The hue and cry raised a posse of some thirty men from the Canadian Mounted Police, Provincial Police, Saanich Police and the city and detective departments, the posse spending the remainder of the hours of darkness in a close search of the neighborhood. From that time until the present posse has relieved posse in the search, and the Island as far north as Nanaimo is well covered along the main routes of transportation. All boats leaving the Island are investigated, and the train service is being closely watched.

It is now known that the men took razors from the store, not as arms, but as a measure of protection for the sake of a cleanly and well kept appearance. They were both dressed in civilian clothes, wearing neat blue suits complete, with collars and ties. They may or may not have secured ulsters prior to their break away. In money they had fifty cents taken from the Guard Walker.

The Valedictory.

The fact that the night watchman, Walker, was not armed, according to the rules of the place, doubtless saved him from more severe treatment, stated Mr. Farrant.

In leaving Malone tucked a six-page letter to the superintendent into the pocket of the bound guard. The letter read in part: "I am sorry to have to carry on this, but our plans were made, and I had to go through with it. . . I am fully convinced that I am being made the goat (by his partners in the Vancouver robbery) and I will relieve the authorities of the responsibility of discharging me. If I make good my escape I will try and lead a straight life. I will clear out and make good in another place, and then send for my wife and baby. I hope you do not feel hard on me. . . "The letter ran into six pages of similar argument, and disclosed the fact that Malone thought that his two partners in the \$20,000 Vancouver robbery had turned on him. Malone was still held pending trial, which had been traversed from the last assize to the present one, and again set off.

ALIENISTS SEEK RIGID FORMULA TO DECIDE CRIMINALS' SANITY

Present January 6, 1923.

London, Jan. 6.—The discovery of a formula which judges and juries will be able to accept when dealing with charges in which the plea of insanity is put forward—this is the task that a body of leading alienists here has just undertaken.

The whole question of criminal responsibility and its association with insanity has been referred to this committee of mental experts, whose investigation is one of the most important inquiries of recent years in the realm of criminal insanity.

The formula sought would render possible a definite pronouncement whether a man is responsible criminally or whether he is insane. This subject was brought into prominence by the recent case of Ronald True. After the question of his alleged insanity had been thrashed out during the trial and he had been sentenced there was a reprieve following the verdict of a committee of alienists to

whom the case was referred by the Home Office.

One main result of the discovery of the formula sought would be that the medical profession no longer would be placed in the very distasteful position of having to decide whether a man is to be executed or not. At present a man may be sentenced to death for murder and his mental condition may be inquired into after he has been sentenced.

What is aimed at is that the whole of the mental condition of the individual charged should be investigated before he is acquitted or sentenced to death, and that the whole responsibility should thus rest, as the law intends, on the judge and jury.

The Criminal Responsibility Committee consists of twenty-eight members and includes all of the leading alienists. Colonel Nathan Raw, who recently succeeded Sir James Crichton-Browne as the Lord Chancellor's Visitor in Lunacy, is its chairman.

JAIL BREAKS EASY IN MENTAL HOMES

Superintendent Explains Practice at Local Mental Hospital

Fugitives Regarded as "Very Slightly" Abnormal

The difficulty of guarding patients at the Mental Institution at Wilkinson Road was explained to The Times to-day by the superintendent, Mr. Gray Farrant. "You see this is really a hospital," he stated, "and we must not use force. The staff numbers thirteen, and not less than three men are ever on duty. The watchmen do not carry arms, and no punishment is allowed.

"If Lynn and Malone should be taken to-morrow, they will not be punished. They would be brought back and given a bath and a good meal first, and then placed back under the old conditions. The patients here are of three classes, the criminally insane, the insane criminals, and the private cases of mental unsoundness.

"Some 90 per cent of the patients here are criminally insane, or criminals who have become insane after committing their crimes. The remaining ten per cent. are just ordinary cases of mental defectives, and these latter are 'trusties,' aiding in running the establishment."

Mr. Farrant explained the system in vogue in relation to the patients, and showed that though locked up in separate cells in the various wards at night, the patients have free access to each other in daytime, being at liberty to wander where they will within limits of the building. Some inmates are permitted to go out into the grounds, and indulge in outdoor recreation.

"Many of these men come to us straight from the penitentiary, still under sentence or time expired. Others are placed here because they have become criminally insane, and not safe to be allowed free, yet they are all patients and have to be treated with kindness. No punishment is ever allowed."

"Very Light Case."

Questioned as to the sanity of otherwise of the two escaped men the superintendent declined to express an opinion on the matter, contenting himself with the explanation that if they were insane they were very light cases.

Malone and Lynn had free intercourse with each other in day time, and had apparently planned this break carefully. The bars sawed from the doors were two in number, and of these they carried one each away, leaving two behind. The bars as sawn off are ten inches in length or so, and weigh about four pounds, making a very effective weapon of offence or defence as the occasion might require.

The theory is that the men lay on their bunks at night and cut through two bars each, doing the work between the rounds of the guard. The guard makes rounds at all times in the night, makes entry in a roll book and punches two time clocks, in various parts of the building. The clocks show that the night watchman Walker was competent and had made all the regular calls up to 2 o'clock, when he was overpowered.

Protected Their Acts.

The fact that the sawn bars escaped detection is not a matter for wonder for the cuts were filled in with soap, traces of which were found, smeared with red paint scraped from other portions of the bars.

A Desperate Character.

Lynn was brought to the Mental Hospital on May 3, 1919, and made an escape in July 23 of the next year. He was captured on that occasion within three-quarters of an hour, found by the guards in a hollow log a half mile away from the grounds of the Wilkinson Road institution.

After a long list of other crimes he was tried at the Fall Assizes in Kamloops in 1913 for murder and sentenced to the hang on December 29 of the same year, the sentence being later commuted to life imprisonment. He escaped twice from the penitentiary and twice from other jails. He was wounded on the last occasion, only being captured when he was hit in the chest and shoulder by one of the penitentiary guards at New Westminster.

Malone was brought to the Mental Hospital in August 9, of this year, while still awaiting trial for a robbery in Vancouver, when he with two companions robbed an Imperial Oil Company messenger of \$1,840 in cash and \$20,000 in cheques. Monohan and Taylor were the companions of Malone on this occasion, and the proceedings against the trio were stayed at the last assizes by virtue of an order from the Attorney-General's Department. It is stated.

Present Restraints.

The facilities in taking care of their patients in the local Mental Hospital are of course not the same as accorded to the penitentiary authorities in looking after prisoners, and the chances of escape in the first institution are infinitely greater. Great care is nevertheless taken, and the cells are searched every day, including the bed clothes and all fittings. The task of testing the steel bars of the doors and windows would be well nigh impossible, as there are thousands of bars to be accounted for in this manner. To make the situation still more difficult no arms are permitted to be carried in the establishment, and kindness takes the place of force.

TAKEN BY CHICAGO POLICE



JOHN SYLVESTER LYNN

Capture of John Sylvester Lynn by the Chicago police who are detaining him at the request of the Canadian authorities, is announced in a news dispatch.

Since he sawed through the bars of his dormitory cubicle while a patient at the Wilkinson Road Mental Hospital here, and effected his escape for the second time from that institution on November 30, 1921, Lynn had been sought by the Canadian authorities without avail. Lynn was sentenced to be hanged for murder at Kamloops on October 31, 1913. His sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. After six years in penitentiary Lynn was committed to a hospital for the mentally unsound and sent as a patient to the Wilkinson Road institution. He made an escape after about a year's detention and was captured when recognized by the skipper of a tug at Sidney.

Lynn, in company with Sailor Malone, effected his second escape on November 30, 1921, after a very carefully planned ruse. Equipped with steel saws the men sawed their way through two one-inch bars in the doors of their cubicles. The work must have taken days, but they filled the chinks with soap. When the bars had been removed the two men crawled through holes just large enough to admit the passage of their body and lay in wait for the nightwatchman. Seizing the watchman as he descended the stairs outside of the dormitory they clapped him into a clothes cupboard. Then filling their pockets with food, razor and soap, they let themselves out into the night. Despite the usual hue and cry no trace of either Lynn or Malone were found. Malone is still at large.

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ESCAPED MEN STILL AT LARGE

Insane Criminals Have Bad Record — Police Watching Every Avenue of Escape From Island

John Lynn, alias Sylvester Flynn, convicted murderer, and Saylor A. Malone, adjudged insane while awaiting trial on a charge of highway robbery in Vancouver last year, escaped from the Wilkinson Road Asylum for the criminally insane at 2:30 o'clock yesterday morning, after separately sawing through the four steel bars of their respective cells, overpowering, gagging and tying the night guard, and coolly and methodically supplying themselves with food, clothing and a supply of razors.

Up to the hour of going to press this morning the men, who are known desperadoes, and who are believed by the authorities to have successfully feigned insanity for the very purpose of attempting the escape they have now accomplished, were still at large. It is believed they are still on the Island, and probably not far from the asylum. The asylum guards were in pursuit within half an hour of the overpowering of their colleague, J. Walker, and officers of the Provincial and city police have been in full cry after the refugees during the 24 hours which have elapsed since the escape. Provincial Police officers returned yesterday afternoon after a search of the Island as far north as Cobble Hill.

Possible Avenues Closed

All the avenues of departure from the city and Island were carefully watched yesterday, but without any clue to the whereabouts of the desperadoes. The police officers believe that the men will attempt to steal a launch for their escape to the Mainland. They are cool and desperate men. Lynn has already taken human life; while Malone is said to have sworn that he would never permit himself to be taken alive. The almost certain prospect that the man hunt will only be terminated with a mortal fight is supported by the fact that the men secured razors as the only available weapons of offence at the time of their escape, and by the probability that they will make it their first business to secure more deadly weapons.

John Lynn was born in Ontario. His age is 48 years. He is described as wearing his fair hair to a length of six inches, so as to hide a bald crown. His eyes are blue, and his height is given as five feet seven inches. He was wearing a blue suit and blue sweater when he escaped. He carries a vaccination mark on his left arm, and the scars of gunshot wounds on his right forearm and left shoulder. His weight is 145 pounds.

Malone is 30 years old. He is of dark complexion, height five feet eight inches. His identification will be assisted by the fact that he carries many tattoo marks on his arms, these including a representation of the head of George Washington, a ship, a lizard, a sailor's head, an anchor, a dagger, a United States coat-of-arms, a cupid and other marks. He has seen service in the United States.

At 2 o'clock yesterday morning, as Night Guard J. Walker was making the rounds of the asylum corridors, he was suddenly set upon by the two men, gagged, overpowered and tied to a chair with ropes made from blankets cut into strips. They took his keys, pocket knife and fifty cents in money that were in his pockets, and while one of them watched him the other ransacked the clothesroom and the dining hall, and took bread, matches, tobacco and two razors. They did not hurt Walker, nor did they lock the door on him when they left, and within ten minutes of their leaving he had escaped from his bonds and aroused Superintendent Granby Farrant. A few minutes later, and within half an hour of the first attack on Walker, the asylum guards had taken up the chase of the refugees.

Escape Long Planned

Evidence of the concerted and deliberate plans of the men to escape was left behind them in their cells. The windows of these were barred with four steel bars, three-quarters of an inch in diameter. In each

Continued on Page 11

ESCAPED MEN STILL AT LARGE

Continued from Page 1

man's cell these four bars had been sawn through, and were hanging loose in their sockets when the guard was aroused. Superintendent Farrant says that it would take one hour and a half to saw through any one of the steel bars, even with a due supply of hacksaws and oil. That hacksaws were actually used by Malone and Lynn is certain from the marks on the bars; but where the men got such saws is as yet an unsolved mystery.

It is certain, at any rate, that the work of sawing through the bars must have been carried on at intervals for several days. This fact, coupled with the deliberate actions of the men after they had throttled and bound Walker, lends color to the theory of the local police officers and the asylum guards that Lynn and Malone feigned insanity in order to carry out their project of escape on Vancouver Island under more propitious conditions than were to be found under the exclusively penal institutions of New Westminster.

While both the men have a lengthy criminal record, that of John Lynn is the history of a desperate criminal. He was convicted of murder by Mr. Justice Macdonald, at the Kamloops assizes, on October 1, 1913, and was sentenced to hang, which sentence was afterwards commuted to life imprisonment in the New Westminster penitentiary. He was shot by the guard while trying to escape from the penitentiary, on May 7, 1919; and was committed to the Wilkinson Road Asylum on May 7, 1919, on a medical certificate of his insanity.

Criminal Record

His criminal record goes far back of the capital charge for which he was condemned at Kamloops, and includes a conviction for daylight robbery with violence in this city. He was convicted in the City Police Court by Magistrate Jay, in 1910, on a charge of carrying concealed weapons, and was sentenced to seven months' imprisonment. Later in the same year he was convicted by Judge Lampman on a charge of holding up the bartender of the Excelsior saloon, in whose days located next to the New Hotel, on Government Street, next to prison or in the

Road asylum.

Malone also has a criminal record in the United States. He was committed for trial in Kansas City on April 12, 1912, on a charge of burglary, and evaded punishment by breaking his bond in the sum of \$1,000, and escaping from the State. In the same year he returned to Missouri, and was given a sentence of 90 days on a charge of obtaining money by false pretences. In November, 1913, he was fined in the sum of \$500 for a similar offence in the same city. In Toronto, in 1917, he was remanded on a charge of vagrancy, and was later deported to the United States.

MENTAL HOSPITAL FUGITIVE PAYS SOCIAL CALL

Takes Tea at New Westminster With ex-Jailer

The most amazing story of the career of John Sylvester Lynn has just come from New Westminster, being vouched for by a thoroughly reliable source.

Residing close to the New Westminster Penitentiary is an elderly man who is now pensioned after many years of service as a warder. A few days after the escape of Lynn and Malone from the Wilkinson Road criminal mental hospital, utterly unaware of the affair, this ex-warder met Lynn near his home, and with surprise asked him how he happened to be free.

"Well, the people here saw that I needed treatment, and sent me to Victoria, but those people soon saw that I was entitled to liberty and here I am, on my way to Chicago," said Lynn with a genial smile.

Knowing Lynn to be a man of many aliases, a double murderer and credited with no less than seven escapes from Lambton jail, the ex-warder was yet impressed with the evident delight and apparent freedom from worry which marked Lynn's manner, and after congratulating him invited him to come into the cottage and take tea.

Lynn accepted with alacrity, kept the conversation going with aplomb, and left after a stay of two hours, saying he had to catch the Chicago train to keep his promise to get out of the country.

LONG-TERM MEN ESCAPE HOSPITAL

Daily Province Nov 16 1921

VICTORIA, Nov. 16.—John Lynn, alias Sylvester, alias Sylvester Lynn, a murderer serving a life term, and Saylor Malone, also a long-term man with a record of violent crime, made their escape from the Wilkerson Road Mental Hospital at 2 o'clock this morning after overpowering John Walter, the night watchman.

Lynn and Malone sawed through the bars of the door of their cell, and knotted their blankets into ropes, cutting them up to make the ropes longer. When Walter appeared they overpowered him, placed him in a chair and bound and gagged him. Taking the keys they completed their arrangements and left. The other patients of the mental hospital were not interfered with and Walter is unhurt.

Both men have a long record for crime and both have effected jail escapes before and are described as two of the worst criminals in the country. They were imprisoned in the Dominion penitentiary at New Westminster and some time ago brought over here, being pronounced mentally unfit.

DAILY PROV

, MARCH 27, 1924—26 PAGES.

CIRCULATION
YESTERDAY:

NOMINATED

Conservatives in Delta — Page 7

Fifty-two **SOLD**
Merville
Settlers Win Court

CLUE RELATES TO MAN FROM CALGARY

New Information Is Subject
Of Enquiry by Coquit-
lam Police.

Essondale Has Alibi For
Taylor, Who Lives at
Colony Farm.

Residents Demanding More
Complete Supervision of
Essondale Patients.

Nervous Tension At Climax
—Detective Certain on
Footmarks.

PORT COQUITLAM, March 27.
—Police are this afternoon try-
ing to trace the identity and move-
ments of a man who may have
had a mission of revenge against
Mr. and Mrs. Witcherly.

On Saturday, a Cloverdale man
who today told his story to Chief
Matheson, said he had given a lift
on the Pacific Highway to a man
who said he had come from Cal-
gary to Coquitlam Friday night
and was now going to the United
States. This man enquired whether
there were many police at the
boundary.

There is a report that Mr. and
Mrs. Witcherly, when living at
Innisfail, Alta., some years ago,
gave testimony in a case in court
that resulted in a prisoner being
given a long sentence.

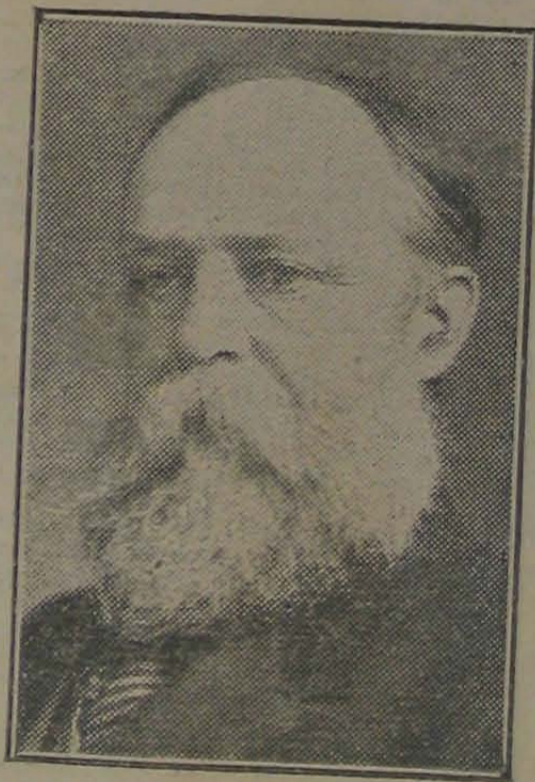
Leading police constables, who yes-
terday were congratulating themselves
that they had solved the mystery of
the murder of the Witcherlys last
Friday evening at Coquitlam by lay-
ing it at the door of an inmate of
Essondale Mental Hospital named
Taylor, were compelled to admit last
night that what appears to be a com-
plete alibi has been established for
Taylor.

Taylor lived in one of the cottages
at the Colony Farm. Official records
covering Friday night show that at the
hour the murder was committed he
was home safely in bed. Attendants
are also personally certain that Tay-
lor was present and they point to
locks on the doors and bars on the
windows to show that he could neither
have got out or come in later in the
evening.

Italian I Sweep A Over

CANADA'S GREAT WAS ALSO PAT

TORONTO, March 27.—In th
Walker, Canada loses not
financier, but a man whose name



SIR EDMUND WALKER.

integral part of the British Em
worthy cause, and an active su
philanthropies. Few men could
warm personal friends as Sir Ed
missed not only as a business ma
a lover of humanity.

Oliver Asser

Against P. G

LEADS EXPEDITION

DOCTOR FEELS CERTAIN.

Dr. Steeves, superintendent of the mental hospital, believes implicitly the reports of his officials and considers that Taylor therefore can not be connected with the crime, no matter how much the circumstantial evidence may point to him.

Mr. J. C. Vance, city analyst, is still working on the stained clothing that Taylor wore. With fresh blood it is possible to distinguish human from animal blood by analysis, but there is not much hope in this case that any definite result will come from stains that are admittedly some days old.

Taylor was a helper in the kitchen at Colony Farm and included in his duties was the carrying of freshly-killed meat, which might have stained his clothing. It will be Saturday before the analyst completes his work.

There is one police official who was among the first to follow up the theory that the crime was that of a maniac and he is still of the opinion that there may have been some slip in the official records at Essondale and the personal memories of the attendants that would provide a possibility that one of the 1400 inmates of Essondale was not where he was supposed to be last Friday night.

It is admitted at Essondale that Taylor was "on parole" on Friday afternoon and it is equally certain that he was seen in the vicinity of the Witcherly home. Two men who believed he had escaped from the asylum chased him, but lost him in the brush very close to Witcherlys.

THE SHOE FITS.

"Discarding all theories, and discarding any seeming evidence from the action of the bloodhounds used in the effort to trace the slayer of Mr. and Mrs. Witcherly," said Detective S. W. Bass of New Westminster today, "and considering only the facts as shown by measurements of the shoe worn by this inmate of Colony Farm, in comparison with the measurements of a well-defined footprint in the soil of the garden, twelve feet or so from the back of the Witcherly home, no other conclusion can be reached than that the footprint was made by that identical shoe. When it was made and under what circumstances is quite a different matter. It was not, however, made by a man running, for it is not a deep enough impression, though made in freshly-turned soil."

"In company with Officer MacDonald of the provincial police, I made careful measurements of both footprint and shoe on Tuesday. We had scanned the ground closely for shoe-tracks which had been left undisturbed since made. That was rather difficult for two reasons. The first was that numerous footprints, possibly made by curious people wandering round the place, had confused the traces. The other was that the footprints were nearly all in freshly-spaded earth, as the garden had been very well worked."

TAKE MEASUREMENTS.

"Four measurements of Taylor's shoe and of the footprint were taken. All of them corresponded exactly. The impression in the earth was clearly made by a shoe which had been half-soled, which was the case with the shoe we had from the suspected man. There are two nails which project slightly above the back edge of the half sole facing the centre of the heel. In the soil we could clearly see the mark of these two nails in exactly the same position. It would be very difficult to find two shoes which would leave such an exact impression."

"In examining the shoe itself for
(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3.)

TO MOUNT EVEREST



BRIG-GEN. C. G. BRUCE.

DARJEELING, India, March 27.—The third expedition for the conquest of Mount Everest, highest peak in the world, started from this place on Wednesday under the leadership of Brig-Gen. Chas. G. Bruce, who headed the 1922 expedition.

SIR EDMUND WALKER DEAD

Bank of Commerce President Succumbs to Attack Of Pneumonia.

MAN OF MANY PARTS

TORONTO, March 27.—Sir Edmund Walker, D.C.L., LL.D., C.V.O., president of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, one of the outstanding figures in the banking and financial world in Canada, and whose fame extended far beyond the borders of the Dominion, died early this morning at his home after an illness of only a few days, of pneumonia. Sir Edmund, who was in his 76th year, was predeceased by Lady Walker, who died last summer. Four sons and three daughters survive. Sir Edmund took to his bed last Saturday, a heavy cold having developed into pneumonia. His end was peaceful. All his children were at the bedside.

TRAVELLING WITH CHOIR.

Sir Edmund's last illness was the only serious one of his life. While travelling with the Mendelssohn Choir he suffered an attack of indigestion with a cold, which continued when he returned to Toronto. The symptoms of pneumonia developed on Monday. On Wednesday it was thought his condition had improved.

Sir John Aird, vice-president of the Bank of Commerce, when informed of the death of Sir Edmund, said that the news came as a great shock. "Above all, Sir Edmund was a great Britisher," he said. "He was a man of many parts, prominent not only in finance but in education and music."

(Continued on Page 21, Col. 5.)

JUST AS HE ENTERED.

Taking the point in the kitchen, just between the back door and the corner of the table, in the Witcherly home, a distance of twelve feet would extend through the doorway into the dining-room, near the doorway leading into the hall between the bedrooms. The shots having struck on Witcherly's right side, with a slight downward direction, it would appear from that and the position of the body as it lay on the floor, that he had barely entered his home, and had not even had time to fully turn in the direction whence the shot was fired, and it is questionable whether he was even aware that some intruder was in that part of the house.

There is also the positive evidence of Dr. Drew and Dr. Clarke, who held the post-mortem examinations. They gave evidence at the inquest that suicide on the part of either of the victims was impossible. The condition of the bodies, the nature of the wounds, the position of the shot-gun on the table with the breech open, and the absence of all powder marks on the clothing of Witcherly, all showed how untenable was the suggestion of suicide.

THE MISSING PARCEL.

"Because the two houses were exactly alike," stated Mr. H. L. Granhold, next door neighbor to the Witcherlys, "deliveries were sometimes mixed. Parcels for one family were left on the doorstep of the other house, and we would right the mistake when we found out. It is quite certain that the parcel said to have been left by Hudson's Bay Company delivery men on that Friday afternoon never came to our house, neither had we any knowledge of it either then or later."

The supposition is that Witcherly himself saw the delivery boy leave the parcel on Granhold's steps and went over and got it.

**Former Essondale Inmate
Alarms City Undertakers**

W. Cramer, a former inmate of Essondale, was picked up by the police about 9:30 p. m. Friday, following a call from an undertaker's that a man apparently insane demanded to see the bodies of Albert Witcherly and his wife, murdered recently at Coquitlam. He told the undertakers that he was from Essondale, and this, coupled with his strange manner, led them to communicate with the police.

A close investigation of his movements proved that he could not have been in Coquitlam at the time of the crime, and he was locked up overnight, and will go back to Essondale, from where he had been on probation for some time.

**THREATENED
IN LETTER**

Police Look Into Report
That Mrs. Witcherly Re-
ceived Such Missive.

REVENGE FROM EAST

PORT COQUITLAM, March 29.—A threatening letter received by Mrs. Albert Witcherly is now the subject of investigation by the police, with whom provincial officers of the Province of Alberta are co-operating. The suspicion is that by way of revenge the motive of the crime may be discovered. If nothing comes of this suspicion, then the authorities are little further ahead with the case than they were a week ago tonight, when the crime was first discovered.

The police have information that some time ago Mrs. Witcherly received some kind of letter which caused her to talk over the matter with a woman friend in Coquitlam. "I never saw such foolishness as to make threats like that," Mrs. Witcherly told her woman friend, who, however, did not read the missive.

LAD IN WAIT.

The theory that might support suspicion in this connection is that the person who wrote this letter might have come to Coquitlam and, watching his chance, visited the house while Mrs. Witcherly was alone. In a quarrel that ensued, she was killed, and then the murderer would lay in wait for the return of the husband. Bureau drawers were pulled out and this might suggest that the murderer looked for some paper—perhaps the letter that Mrs. Witcherly received and which might incriminate him if his signature appeared on it.

This suspicion may be far-fetched, but the police are giving it some attention. Back of it is the information that the Witcherlys appeared as witnesses in one or more criminal cases in Alberta in which the accused might have blamed the couple for their testimony.

VIEW OF CALGARY POLICE.

CALGARY, March 29.—After making a careful investigation on the suggestion of the Coquitlam authorities, the theory of revenge in the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Witcherly seems to have been discarded by the police here. Their investigations have proved that Mr. Witcherly had no enemies here, but that on the contrary, he was very highly thought of. His most intimate friends in Calgary state that he and his wife were of very retiring natures and that they lived much by themselves, without becoming greatly interested in matters outside of their home.

The theory of a murder and suicide is rejected by all those who know Mr. and Mrs. Witcherly in Calgary and Huxley, where Mr. Witcherly homesteaded when he first came to Canada. They admit that Mrs. Witcherly was a frail woman and that she was often far from well, but they assert that since she moved to the Coast her health had improved greatly. Having followed the press despatches on the case, they point out that it would have been impossible for Witcherly to kill his wife, fire a shot at himself and then beat in his head with a hammer. They also point out that it would be impossible for Mrs. Witcherly to kill her husband with the gun, beat his head in with a hammer and then kill herself also with the hammer.

**MURDER NOT
PREMEDITATED**

Nothing to Show That Man
Who Killed Witcherlys
Carried Weapon.

RUMORS ARE NAILED

PORT COQUITLAM, March 31.—The police spent an active week-end on the Witcherly case, but results on the whole have been negative.

There was a well-defined rumor in the town Saturday night that C. P. R. workmen at Spuzzum had talked with a tramp a few days before the murder, who asked if Albert Witcherly lived in Coquitlam and who said he was an uncle of the man since murdered. Chief McKinlay went to some trouble to trace the rumor to its source and found that no such incident had occurred.

CRIME OF FRENZIED MAN.

Officials once more incline to the theory that the murder was the work of an insane man. To suggest that the crime was premeditated one would expect that the murderer would carry some weapon of his own. But the deaths were accomplished by a sledge-hammer and a gun—both owned by Witcherly himself. The reasonable conclusion appears to be that the assailant did not go there prepared to kill anyone, but rather that the crime was committed in a frenzy. There is the locked and unlocked door to explain and if the murderer stayed in the house during Friday night and part of Saturday, or even returned to the scene on Saturday, the supposition is that he was mentally unbalanced.

DID THEY KNOW EACH OTHER?

A sawmill worker named Leonard Picton told the police today that he could produce evidence to show that Albert Witcherly and Taylor, the man first suspected at Essondale, were old acquaintances on the prairies and again in a battalion in which they both fought in France. Official information concerning Taylor at the mental hospital shows that he formerly lived in some prairie town, but there is no record that he ever was a soldier in the war. Mr. Granhold, former neighbor of the Witcherlys, can not recall ever seeing any inmate of the asylum calling there.

CAN NOT BE SUICIDE.

A surprising feature of the mystery is the persistence of the rumor that the crime was one of murder and suicide. To set at rest all such ideas Senior Constable John MacDonald of the provincial police here, states that he made certain experiments with the gun found in the Witcherly home and with the shells, a box of which was in the cupboard, exactly similar to that in the gun. The result of these experiments proves conclusively that the shot which struck Witcherly was fired at twelve feet distance.

Using the shells and the gun, Officer MacDonald fired at a mark from a distance of eight feet, the result being a jagged hole, the shot not scattering at all. Firing at a distance of ten feet, the shot was slightly scattered, but not so much as the spread of the shot wounds on the body. At twelve feet the spread was between six and eight inches, which very closely corresponds with the spread of the wounds. At fifteen feet the pellets scattered so widely as to preclude any possibility of the fatal shot having been fired from that distance.

Continued from p. 15.

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to left hand corner

EVERYBODY IN COQUITLAM HAS PET THEORY

The Daily Province Vancouver
Another Man From Essondale Seen Saturday and Again Early Sunday

March 25 24
No Question But That
Asylum Inmates Are Out
In Night Hours.

Not Much to Support The-
ory Witcherly was Killed
In Revenge.

Result of Blood Analysis Is
Still Anxiously Looked
For.

PORT COQUITLAM, March 23.— Anonymous letters and hints that revenge may have been at the bottom of the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Witcherly a week ago tonight are being diligently investigated by the police, but always the clues end nowhere, and the facts developed turn the authorities again to the possibility that an insane man, missing from Essondale in some unexplained way, may be responsible for the fearful crime.

When robbery was obviously not the motive for the murder, many investigators turned to the theory of revenge. Upon investigation, it hardly seems reasonable to the police to attach much importance to this. The Witcherlys were most peaceful people. Mr. James Witcherly, brother of the murdered man, on Thursday supplied the provincial police and Chief McKinlay with the details of the Calgary case which was brought forward as the possible cause of the murder.

It appeared that in 1911 Witcherly was a witness in a case in which a man was convicted and sentenced to five years' imprisonment for a statutory offense against a young woman. Witcherly was merely a spectator in the hunt for the man, and took no active part in securing the conviction. It so happens that Chief Mackay of Port Moody was stationed in Calgary at the time and remembers the case perfectly. He was able to assist the police on Thursday in showing that there could be no reasonable revenge theory in this particular case. There is no other known incident in the lives of either Mr. or Mrs. Witcherly that might lead to murder for revenge.

BACK TO INSANITY.

Insanity is the only possible clue, according to the view of most residents of the city, who were ready on Thursday night to produce a hundred witnesses to prove that inmates of the mental institution wandered about the town at all hours of the night, in spite of the direct denial of Dr. Steeves, whom they think must be unaware of what is going on in all the branches of his huge institution. Two women stated that not only were insane people in town at late hours, but two of them were present at the recent whist drive given by the Eastern Star Lodge, and which the Witcherlys attended. These demented people have been frequently seen, and have been treated very kindly by residents, who looked upon them as harmless, poor afflicted bodies, although some of the women were nervous.

RULES OFTEN BROKEN.

The statement, on behalf of the mental hospital, that their charges are not out at night and can not get out "after hours," is so at variance with the facts as every one knows them in Coquitlam, that there appears to be no room for argument on the matter. Mr. John Smith, magistrate and city clerk at Coquitlam, said today that the declaration that men are never out in evenings and can not get out is nonsense. Mr. Smith has himself entertained them in his own house as late as 11 o'clock at night, and they merely laughed and said they "would get in all right" when he asked if they would encounter difficulty on their late return.

Dr Steeves again today said that according to the records of the institution there were no absentees last Friday and Saturday night. On the other hand, Dr. Steeves said he could not deny the definite statement of a reputable citizen of Coquitlam, but he wished most strongly to call the attention of every one to their duty in reporting to Essondale when they knew of definite infraction of the rules.

THE LOCKED DOOR.

In this connection Mrs. Jackson has a curious story to relate.

On Saturday afternoon her attention was drawn to a peculiar looking man passing her store, which is next to the bridge. He walked in a very queer way as if demented, and she noticed that he wore a slouch hat and rough clothes. People in the store identified him as a man from the asylum, she says. On Sunday morning early the man was standing on the sandbank of the river on the opposite side of the bridge. She drew the attention of people to him when she came down stairs. She was positive that it was the same man. She believed that he might be the same man as Mrs. Scott was reported to have pointed out to asylum guards on Sunday. This man was hiding in the bush, according to local reports.

If this man committed the murder the mystery of the locked and unlocked door on Saturday might easily be explained. The Barbour boy, who delivered bread at the Witcherly house in the afternoon, found the door unlocked, put two loaves of bread inside, got a glimpse of the gun on the table, which scared him, and closed the door. H. L. Granhold states positively that the door was locked from the inside in the evening. If the murderer were insane he may, possibly, have remained in the house all night and part of Saturday with his victims, and was there when the baker's boy called.

Chief Richard McKinlay said last night that the Essondale Colony Farm clue was still a live issue, at least until there is some result of the analysis of the alleged bloodstains on Taylor's clothing.

DEVOTED TO WIFE.

Mr. George Bartlett, C. P. R. foreman, interviewed Thursday afternoon, stated positively that there was no truth in the rumor that there was the slightest domestic trouble in the Witcherly family. Witcherly was very devoted to his delicate wife and mentioned to a friend recently that he did not like her being out late. This was because of her delicate condition of health. She had been an onlooker, Mr. Bartlett understood, at a dance which

was held in the hall on the night of the Eastern Star whist drive. Witcherly was a quiet, unassuming man and was not gloomy or depressed. Bartlett was surprised when Witcherly did not turn up in time for work on Saturday and he asked Granhold to see what was the matter, as Witcherly was more likely to be twenty minutes early for work than late. When he did not turn up another man was put onto the job he would have been on. Granhold was on night shift. On Saturday evening Mr. Bartlett called on Granhold to find out what was the matter. Granhold said: "What, have they not come back yet?" He asked Granhold to get Chief McKinlay or someone to go with him to go to the house, but not to go alone as he sensed some trouble. He told Granhold that the Witcherlys might have contracted ptomaine poisoning and be sick in bed or that even something worse might have happened. Granhold could not get the chief, who was taking a man to the lock-up at the time, and he went and unlocked the door alone. He was surprised to see the lights burning as they had been burning the night before. Others were then called in.

The puzzles now confronting the police are: Was the door really locked as Granhold believes? They do not doubt that it was unlocked when the bread was placed inside. Why did the murderer to some extent clean up the place, so as to deceive Witcherly when entering the house, and lay in wait for him in the manner he must have done?

GRANHOLDS STAY AWAY.

Mr. Bartlett noticed a small thing when in the house on Saturday night, which may prove a clue. The rag which the murderer used to clean up with, rinsed and left in the sink, was not such a rag as is usually used for the purpose of washing dishes. It was a piece of good white material. It may have been part of the rags found under Taylor's mattress at Essondale. What, he wonders, do they make when joined together?

Nearly everyone in town has become a Sherlock Holmes and there are now more theories than houses in Port Coquitlam. The police don't attach any importance to them. "Folks will be seeing things" if they go on much longer," Chief McKinlay thinks.

Since it is becoming evident that the murderer is no longer in town and that the inmates of the asylum are being more carefully watched, the women are beginning to sleep again at night, but everyone is still eagerly waiting to hear that the man has been caught. Residents say that the city was considered so safe that door was often left unlocked at night, but that now they are double-locked.

The Granholds have left their house and are living on the north side of the town with friends. Their nerves are badly shaken, Granhold saying that he can not stay in his own place, as it is the exact counterpart of the Witcherly house.

NO THEORY LEFT FOR COQUITLAM MURDER

PORT COQUITLAM, April 1.— Every theory which has been built up to account for the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Witcherly has been so successfully disproved by the police and every clue has been followed to such an unsuccessful conclusion that the mystery of the terrible crime today remains as great as ever.

Some interest was aroused for a short time in the story of a supposedly insane man found wandering in the yard of George Martin, 374 Lanark street, South Vancouver, on the Monday after the murder. He told about being a "good friend of Smith's," and of putting a basement in his house for him, and of "following his wife into a bush."

It was thought that the "Smith" might have been City Clerk Smith, who lives close to the scene of the crime, but Mr. Smith has no basement in his house and he does not live on the corner as the Smith mentioned by the man found in South Vancouver was supposed to.

Despatches from Edmonton indicating that the uncle of the slain man was in Alberta at the time of the crime fully frees him from any possible complicity in the crime, police say.

TOLD OF BATTLE WITH MALAY MANIAC

WITNESSES AT MURDER INQUEST

Daily Province Van Jan 26 1924

Witnesses at Inquest Relate Thrilling Story of Insane Sailor's Act.

"Eight Minutes of Death" In That Wild Marine Inferno.

Two of Crew Escape Death By Fraction of an Inch.

Testimony of the Officers— Finding of the Jury.

Battling with a maniac in the narrow alleyway of the fore-castle of the SS. Pilar de Larrinaga, Leonard Matthews, Malayan quartermaster, narrowly escaped death that came to Chief Officer Alexander James and Antonio Ermo, a shipmate.

This was revealed in the dramatic story he told at the inquest Friday afternoon to enquire into the deaths of James, Ermo and Lyman Ben Baba, their slayer. The crazed seaman had already wounded the boatswain, Antonio Flores, and attempted the life of Stephen Dykes, a young English lad, Thursday morning, before Matthews and Sam Ballas, another quartermaster tackled him and attempted to wrest from him the two knives with which he was armed.

After hearing the evidence of Capt. J. V. de A'Echavarría and other witnesses from the ship's company, Sergeant George McLaughlin, who made possible the capture of the insane murderer by shooting him in the leg, and Detective Sinclair, the jury returned verdicts to the effect that Alexander James and Antonio Ermo had been murdered by Ben Baba, and that Ben Baba had ended his own life while insane.

EIGHT MINUTES OF DEATH.

The story, as pieced together by the witnesses, was a dramatic tale of eight minutes of death and terror on board the big freighter as she lay in stream off the grain elevator on Thursday morning. The men had been working in the hold, and Lyman Ben Baba had been assisting the carpenters preparing for a wheat cargo. Breakfast had been served, and the crew flocked to their quarters. Ben Baba quietly joining them at the meal, and nothing unusual was noted in his demeanor. He was a quiet, simple sort of a young fellow, whose good nature during the early part of the voyage earned for him the sobriquet "Smiler."

Breakfast having been completed, Antonio Flores, the boatswain, came to the quarters with a cheery "turn out." Some of the crew passed out, when with a sudden scream Ben Baba appeared armed with two razor-edged knives, and rushed at the boatswain, and aiming low, drove one blade into his thigh. Flores staggered back and groped his way to the deck.



CAPTAIN J. V. de A'ECHAVARRÍA, steamer Pilar de Larrinaga, seen noon after giving evidence at the inquest who killed Chief Officer James and quartermaster, who had a terrible struggle with his crazed countryman and who was slightly wounded.



STEPHEN DYKES, young English ordinary seaman on the steamer Pilar de Larrinaga, who had a narrow escape from death at the hands of Ben Baba, the Malay, who ran amok on board the ship on Thursday, killing Chief Officer James, Quartermaster Antonio Flores and wounding two others before fatally wounding himself in the throat. Baba lunged at young Dykes with a knife but missed by the fraction of an inch and Dykes succeeded in getting into a cabin and locking the door. The attack on Dykes was the first intimation of the crew that Baba had gone mad.

BY FRACTION OF INCH.

Ben Baba rushed out into the alleyway and encountered the boy Stephen Dykes. He made an upward lunge at the youth, but the point of the knife missed by a fraction of an inch, and Ben Baba's hand struck against Dykes' stomach. The boy sprang to one side into the quartermaster's room, and slammed the door shut.

Matthews was in the room. "Look out," cried Dykes, "Smiler's got a knife."

A scuffling was heard in the passageway, and Matthews opened the door a moment, calling in Malayan to the lunatic. "What is the matter with you? Why did you try to kill this boy?"

There was no answer, but he could see that Ballas, another quartermaster, was struggling in the narrow passage with the insane man, trying to get the knife. Ballas had twisted Baba's right hand behind him.

Instantly Matthews jumped to the assistance of his fellow quartermaster and seized the left arm of the assassin, but such was the tremendous strength of the maniac that the two men were unable to control or overcome him in the narrow, dark passage. In some manner he threw Ballas off and plunged the knife he had in his right hand into the back of the unfortunate man.

BATTLED FOR KNIVES.

"Ballas staggered away," explained Matthews, "and that left me alone, fighting with the crazy man for the possession of his two knives. I tried to throw him, but he was too strong for me, and he managed to strike me, hitting me below the left hip.

"I could do nothing more, so tried to escape. He was right after me, and the only thing that saved me was when I stumbled and fell out on to the deck. His knife just missed me as I fell forward."

THE INJURED BOATSWAIN.

The injured boatswain carried the word of the stabbing to Chief Officer James, and he ran to the fore-castle to attempt to stop Ben Baba in his intention of killing his shipmates.

"The boatswain staggered out of the

crew's quarters," explained Chief Engineer James Kerr, "holding his hand over a wound. He called to Mr. James, telling him that Ben Baba had stabbed him. James ran to the quarters and went inside. A moment later he tottered out on to the deck holding on to his abdomen and fell at my feet, exclaiming, 'I'm stabbed.'"

"Antonio Ermo was the next to run into the house where the crazy man was, and he staggered out exactly as had the chief officer, and fell on the deck beside James. Duncan, the third officer, ran up, and brought a pillow and put under James' head. Later he was carried to his bunk and Ermo was put in a spare room. Captain de A'Echavarría had been notified by Duncan of what had taken place, and he put Duncan and the third engineer at the entrance to the alley with revolvers, telling them to keep Ben Baba from coming out until the police arrived.

WIRELESS CALL FOR AID.

"A wireless message was sent to the ship's agents to send doctors and police. The captain was giving aid to James, endeavoring to bandage him, and I was doing the same for Ermo. As I went to put a pad on him he died."

Third Officer George Alan Duncan was apprised of the desperate struggle for mastery of the ship in the fore-castle by the cries of the boatswain. He stepped out of his room in time to see Flores stagger to the deck, and dashed back to his cabin for his revolver. On returning he saw the chief officer stumble out of the doorway of the fore-castle and collapse on the deck.

After placing a pillow under the head of the wounded officer he ran to inform the captain, and on his instructions, with the third engineer, took up a position at the doorway to the passage with the intention of keeping Ben Baba prisoner. The other members of the crew, stated Mr. Duncan, were prisoners in their quarters. Ben Baba took refuge in the quartermasters' room and started bombarding the witness and the third engineer with articles of furniture, including looking-glasses, plates, knives, belaying pins and other moveables, while he chanted weird jungle songs.

Capt. de A'Echavarría, in explicit, crisp sentences, told the story as he had it set down in the ship's log. His narrative included the manner in which the city detectives under Detective Sergeant George McLaughlin arrived and effected the capture of the insane man after finding it necessary to shoot Ben Baba in the leg to prevent his stabbing the officers.

Colonist Wed August

INSANE MOSTLY FOREIGN BORN

Hon. J. D. MacLean Gives Kiwanians Interesting Information on Mental Hospitals in British Columbia

The greatest percentage of the inmates in British Columbia mental hospitals are foreign born, Hon. J. D. MacLean, head of the Provincial Department of Health, told the Kiwanis Club yesterday in the course of an address on the Province's institutions for the care of the insane.

A survey made in 1919, said Dr. MacLean, showed that while 43 per cent of the people of British Columbia were Canadian-born, only 27 per cent of the inmates of the mental hospitals were born in the Dominion. On the other hand, the foreign-born constituted 57 per cent of the population and 73 per cent of the inmates of the hospitals.

After telling of the various institutions, Dr. MacLean pointed out that British Columbia had a greater number of mental defectives in her hospitals than had any other Province in the Dominion. He gave the reasons for this state of affairs.

The immigration laws, he pointed out, were Federal. Great difficulty was experienced in detecting those immigrants who were mentally afflicted, with the result that many entered the country. Then, too, he continued, there was in the minds of the public a feeling that it was a disgrace to have insanity in the family, and this, added to the fact that doctors often prescribed a change of scene and altitude for mental cases, led to an influx of defectives into British Columbia from other parts of Canada, and these had to be cared for when necessary by the Provincial Government.

Dr. MacLean stated that he had taken up on several occasions the question of a more thorough investigation of the mental condition of immigrants. The people were beginning to realize the desirability of a physically and mentally sound citizenship. The matter was one of particular importance to the Provinces, which had to pay for the cost of maintaining defectives in the mental hospitals.

Causes of Insanity

Dealing with the causes of insanity, Dr. MacLean said that experts attributed 30 per cent of it to heredity, 10 per cent to the stress and strain of life, 6 per cent to the drug habit, and 10 per cent directly and 10 per cent indirectly to syphilis.

"We should be more careful whom we receive into this country," declared the speaker, taking up the question of coping with insanity. "The best population we can have in British Columbia is a Canadian-born population. I do not wish to be misunderstood in this matter. I have no antipathy to immigration, but it would be more satisfactory to retain our own children in Canada rather than have an importation from abroad."

People with a history of mental disease should never marry, said Dr. MacLean. The battle against venereal disease should be vigorously prosecuted. The precautions which should be taken with people born into a family in which there has been insanity were explained.

Years ago insane people were given the same treatment as criminals, said the speaker, but the attitude in this regard had changed. The fact that what were formerly termed asylums were now known as mental hospitals, was evidence of this.

In 1907 the Province had 461 cases of insanity under its care; in 1912, 752 cases; in 1916, 1,205 cases, and in 1921, 1,649 cases.

The Province had today three institutions for the care of the insane, one being at New Westminster, one at Essondale, near the Royal City, and a third at what was formerly the Wilkinson Road jail, near Victoria.

Various Institutions

The New Westminster institution received all cases which were examined there and placed where thought best. At this place the actively insane were kept. All women patients were there also.

At Essondale the quieter patients were quartered, and there, too, were kept all boys and girls who were insane.

The Wilkinson Road institution was only for the insane having criminal tendencies.

It was sometimes said, Dr. MacLean stated, that once a patient was admitted to a mental hospital the authorities endeavored to keep him there as long as possible. This was an absurd idea, he asserted, as the accommodation was so taxed that the institutions desired to get rid of patients as soon as it was safe to do so.

Essondale, pointed out the speaker, had a thousand-acre farm on which produce for the institution was raised and where patients could find occupations of a suitable nature.

Comparing British Columbia with other Provinces, Dr. MacLean said that for every 100,000 people, Alberta and Saskatchewan had 150 to 160 insane cases, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec, 220 cases, Nova Scotia 254 cases, and British Columbia 315 cases.

The mental institutions of the Provincial Government had a staff of 272 employees, said Dr. MacLean. There was one central business office, and the medical superintendent was responsible to the Minister for the conduct of the hospitals.

No produce from the Essondale farm was sold, being all used for the inmates. Patients were employed in the various phases of farm work, and also engaged in other industries, such as shoe making, garment making, etc., the products in these cases, too, being used at the institution and not sold.

Last year 96 patients were discharged from the mental hospitals as cured, and 135 as improved, said Dr. MacLean. The British Columbia institutions compared favorably in the number of cures and in other respects with similar institutions in the Dominion, said the speaker. The total cost of them was \$600,000 per year at present, with an increase of 90 patients each year. The receipts from the Dominion Government and from private patients amounted to \$88,000, the balance of the cost being borne by the Province.

Kiwanian S. R. Newton presided at yesterday's luncheon.

The attendance prize was won by Kiwanian W. Ivel.

Vice-President Kenneth Ferguson made announcements concerning the coming district convention at Olympia, and Kiwanian Kerr dealt with the picnic to be held by the club at the Experimental Farm on August 9, he being chairman of the picnic committee.

Policeman Saves Self From Death By Killing Maniac

SEATTLE, March 31.—Cornered by a maniac with an axe, Policeman E. M. Imhoff of Kent, shot and killed his assailant, J. D. Pemberthy, in the yards of the Puget Sound Electric Company at Kent on Sunday night.

Pemberthy went insane late Sunday and residents of the district reported he was roaming the railway yards, armed with an axe.

Letters to the Editor

Lunacy Laws

Sir,—Mr. Geoffrey Kitto, in his instructive letter, speaks truly of the helpless condition of the so-called lunatic, who by the way is often more sane than his accusers; and once accused the adverse treatment commenced, and only if the poor unfortunate patient has the will strong enough to rise and seek again the for-a-time hidden, not lost, personality he has through some accident let slip from him for awhile (amid these sometimes abusive and adverse circumstances), does he again recover his normal balance. I have seen the treatment meted out to some of these unfortunate in the Old Country, and my whole heart has ached at the lack of discernment on the part of attendants.

We who long to see things change can rejoice as we view the advance in physiologic, which is rooting itself more firmly in the minds of the people. It has its dangers. It also has great things to disclose, rightly used. One of the blessings it will bring in its wake is a reversal in the aspect of treatment of both criminals and so-called insane patients, coupled with acted Christianity. A knowledge of physiologic on the part of attendants will work wonders in these great state institutions which, for the time being, are a woeful necessity. Seldom will force be required, for instead of an iron hand keeping them down, there will be an aspiring hand encouraging and pulling them up to heights undreamed of. As religion and physiologic advance hand in hand, will study of individuality and classification begin; discrimination be practised. Instead of any solitary confinement there will be pleasant, healthful work, and Christian love reform and still be a valuable asset to the community. Instead of padded cells, interesting occupation, and finally, instead of the harshness so often practised on the poor unfortunate, love. "Love never faileth!"

MARGARET BUSEY

1162 Yates Street, Victoria, B.C.,
April 1, 1924.

CONVICTS BREAK FROM ASYLUM

The Daily Colonist Feb 26 1924
Two White Men and Japanese Escape From Saanich Institution Saturday and Head Up-Island

POSSE TRAILS THEM TO NANAIMO REGION

Victoria Man, Failing to Recognize Them, Gives Them Ride as Far as Shawnigan Lake

SINCE early Saturday evening a posse composed of the superintendent of the Wilkinson Road Asylum for the criminally insane, and two of the jail guards, has been following the trail of three prisoners, two white men and a Japanese, who made good their escape from the institution shortly before 6 o'clock Saturday afternoon. Last night Mr. Farrant and his two men were in the vicinity of Nanaimo, and it was reported that the capture of the escaped convicts was possible within a short time.

When the escape of the three men was discovered Saturday evening, a search party was immediately organized, but the trail taken by the fugitives was not discovered until Sunday, when a resident of Victoria stated that three men, two whites and a Japanese, had asked him for a lift while he was on his way up the Malahat Road in the morning. He had not recognized the men as escaped convicts and had taken them as far as Shawnigan Lake. Upon leaving his car they had proceeded north on the highway.

It is believed that later they secured a ride in another northbound motorcar and reached the neighborhood of Nanaimo by Sunday evening, with the intention of crossing over to the Mainland.

The method of their escape from the Wilkinson Road asylum has not been reported, but it evidently involved a cunningly laid plan, as it was not discovered until the men had made a clean get-away and had been gone for some time. No information could be secured from the asylum last night relative to the terms the convicts were serving or a description of their appearance.

Movements of the fugitives Saturday night are as yet a mystery, but from a report received from a resident at Patricia Bay, it is probable that they traveled to that point via the West Saanich Road, and then crossed over in a boat to the Malahat Road in the vicinity of Mill Bay, where the Shawnigan Lake Road begins. The Patricia Bay resident referred to stated that about midnight Saturday he heard yelling in the vicinity of his house, which sounded as though men were calling to each other.

The Daily Colonist
F, FEBRUARY 27, 1924

FUGITIVES ARE STILL AT LARGE

Constable Cremer Arrests Hiyaki, Japanese Convict, Who Escaped From Asylum on Wilkinson Road

SEARCH FOR TWO WHITE MEN IS CONTINUED

Motorists, Failing to Identify Them, Provide Rides, Money and Meals — Capture Is Expected

CAPTURE of William Taylor and James Locke, who escaped from the Wilkinson Road asylum for the criminal insane shortly after 7 o'clock Saturday night, and whose trail has led up-Island to the Nanaimo region, had not been made at a late hour last night, according to information received from the Provincial Police Department, which is aiding the asylum authorities in the search.

Traced to Nanaimo
NANAIMO, Feb. 26.—The two men who escaped from the asylum for the criminally insane at Wilkinson Road, Victoria, on Saturday night, have been traced to Nanaimo by officers from the asylum, three of whom are in the city. All trace of the men was lost after they had entered Nanaimo, and it is thought they have obtained work on some adjacent ranch.

The capture of the third member of the trio of fugitives, a Japanese named Sino Hiyaki, was effected in Victoria at 10:30 o'clock yesterday morning by Constable Cremer, of the Victoria Police Department, and upon being turned over to the Provincial Police, was taken back to the Wilkinson Road asylum yesterday afternoon. Notification of the escape of the three prisoners was received by the city department at 11 o'clock Monday night, and from information picked up on the trail of the two white men, Taylor and Locke, it was believed that the Japanese had headed for Victoria.

Constable Cremer, working on the description supplied by local headquarters, "spotted" Hiyaki at the corner of Johnson and Broad Streets, and stopping him, asked where he was going. The Japanese replied that he was on his way to the house of a friend. The constable, however, had

Continued from Page 1

other plans and Hiyaki's brief liberty was ended.

Superintendent G. Farrant, of the Wilkinson Road asylum, who returned yesterday afternoon from the vicinity of Nanaimo, stated over the telephone last night that the three men had been members of the semi-parole class of prisoners—that is, they were allowed partial liberty in the interior of the asylum. They had been employed during the days in the kitchen and laundry, and in the evenings, up to 5 o'clock, were allowed recreation in the billiard-room.

Following their escape early Saturday evening, it was found that they had smuggled the handle of a clothes wringer from the laundry, and had used it to pry the lock from a door in the billiard-room leading to the asylum grounds. The night attendant, or guard, had been in the room at 7:30 o'clock and had spoken to them. He went away and returned at 7:55 o'clock, just five minutes later. He found the door open and the three prisoners gone.

The alarm was immediately given and Superintendent Farrant and a number of attendants commenced searching the vicinity. The night was an exceptionally dark one, and thick bush practically surrounds the asylum buildings.

From the story told by Sino Hiyaki, the three fugitives struck off in the direction of Burnside, but the latter could not keep up with his companions and was left behind. He headed for Victoria and arrived in the city at 11 o'clock the same evening.

Superintendent Farrant stated that the two white men traveled in the direction of Portage Inlet, and that neither were in the neighborhood of Gordon Head or North Saanich, as was reported. Notification of the successful escape was immediately made to the Provincial Police Department, he said.

Rode in Automobile
He and two of his men went up the Malahat Road, and it was discovered that the fugitives had secured a lift from a motorist as far

as he was given \$25 by a friend. On Monday he deposited \$15 of that amount with a Japanese tailor to apply on a suit of clothes, and agreed to pay the balance when the suit was finished. When he was captured by the Victoria police and searched, he was found to be in possession of a cheque for \$50 which had been given him by another friend.

Making Good Time
"The other fugitives, Taylor and Locke, have been given automobile rides, money and meals, and since they escaped have been making as good time through the country as a pair of tourists."

When they escaped from the asylum James Locke was wearing a grey suit of clothes. He is five feet eight inches tall, and weighs one hundred and fifty-five pounds. Two teeth are missing from the front of his mouth. William Taylor, who is a Victoria man, is twenty-one years of age, five feet six inches tall, clean shaven, and of slight build. He is marked by a decidedly flattened nose. When he left he was wearing a brown suit of clothes and a grey cap.

Locke came from the Mainland, where he was tried on a charge of assault and found to be insane. No criminal charge was ever laid against Taylor, but he was placed in the asylum for safekeeping, as he was judged insane and dangerous. Hiyaki, the Japanese, had been convicted of grand larceny in connection with money involved in some Mainland railroad contracts, and had served two years in the penitentiary. Upon his release he was found insane and committed to the asylum.

Under the Clock

—Mar. 2 '24
City Hall Activities in Brief

The story was told at the City Hall yesterday about an official of a certain organization here who was approached to give assistance to some men who had no employment. "Why," the official is reported to have said, "two of the men who escaped from the Wilkinson Road Asylum got work at once on a farm up the Island." "Yes," someone explained, "but they were crazy."

TWENTY-SEVEN CONVICTS ARE CAPTURED

Thirteen Jailbreakers from
Asylum Are Still at
Large.

Residents of Chester, Ill., in
Terror and Guard Homes
With Arms.

Posses of Police Scour
Woods Where Fugitives
Thought in Hiding.

Many of Those Escaped Are
Murderers Committed on
Insanity Pleas.

CHESTER, Ill., July 23.—Twenty-seven of the forty-one convicts who escaped last night from the state hospital for criminal insane had been recaptured this afternoon. Thirteen were retaken in a woods after offering slight resistance. As one of the men was slain by his fellow convicts, thirteen more were still at large in this vicinity today following a wholesale jail delivery at the state hospital for the criminal insane here, in which one of the convicts was slain, two guards were stabbed seriously and other guards and officials badly beaten. Many of those who escaped had been committed to the institution on their pleas of insanity when charged with murders in various parts of the state.

Numerous posses, including fifty guards of the Southern Illinois penitentiary, police officers and citizens scoured a thick wooded section north of Chester, where most of the fugitives are believed to be hiding.

POPULATION IN TERROR.

Chester, a town of 4000 population, and farmers residing nearby, received news of the escape with terror. Within a short while the streets were deserted and most of the male residents remained awake all night guarding their homes with firearms.

The dead convict is William Jackson, a negro, sentenced in Chicago for murder. He was shot by a guard shortly after he and forty other inmates made their escape.

After overpowering the guards, the convicts used a wooden bench as a battering ram and hammered a hole through the stockade, through which the men poured and fled in all directions.

SEVENTY-FIVE TOOK PART.

Seventy-five convicts took part in the fighting. Those recaptured were found hiding among the hills, in underbrush and in barns. The superintendent of the institution said that the hundreds of guards, deputies and citizens searching surrounding Illinois and Missouri territory expect to capture those still free today.

The convicts escaped from the bullpen of the institution, where they were being given an airing preparatory to being sent to bed. Without warning half a dozen inmates brought knives from their jackets, attacked the guard and precipitated a riot among seventy-five others who aided those who escaped in breaking bars and smashing through the high wire surrounding the enclosure.

Dr. Stubblefield, the superintendent, was knocked down, trampled and sustained a fractured arm in leading the guards against the crazed men.

The coupe had apparently been planned for several days. How the half dozen inmates obtained the knives is a mystery that is being investigated by prison officials.

The inmates gave no warning of their attack. They walked quietly about the enclosure and the guards were strolling among them unarmed as required by state law.

The knife wielders were on top of the guards so suddenly that the guards had no chance to defend themselves.

There was considerable confusion among officials of the hospital over the identity of the men still at large. A check up is being made.

MARCH 2, 1924

FERNIE BAD MAN COMES TO GRIEF

PORT ALBERNI CHIEF TAMES
"TOUGH GUY"

Bryan Quigg Given Thirty-Day Term
for Boisterous Conduct—Was
Lunacy Suspect

PORT ALBERNI, March 1.—Bryan Quigg appeared before J. A. MacIntyre, police magistrate, in the police court yesterday morning and pleaded guilty to a charge of being intoxicated in a public place. It appeared that he remembered little of what had happened the previous evening, but his memory was greatly revived by Chief Cronk, who told of receiving a phone message to the effect that a man was wandering around town in a half-drunken condition and acting as if crazy, it being suspected that he was one of the escaped lunatics from Victoria. Arriving on the scene, the chief located his man, and found that while the description answered, the man was not one of the lunatics.

Instead of going quietly on his way, however, Quigg advised the chief that he was a "tough guy" from Fernie, and proceeded to demonstrate his abilities. The result was that after a short tussle he landed in a cell, where he at once proceeded to break all the windows and try to live up to his reputation. After several hours of ineffectual attempts to break out, he subsided into sleep, from which he emerged with a very convenient loss of memory. Twenty-five dollars or thirty days was the verdict. No money being forthcoming, he leaves for Okalla today to serve his 30 days. He has just returned from serving two years for theft at Fernie.

TWENTY-SIX INSANE CONVICTS AT LARGE

Fifteen Were Recaptured at
Chester, Illinois

One Convict Killed When Men
Making Escape

Chester, Ills., July 23.—Fifteen of forty-one insane convicts who escaped from the Illinois State Hospital for the Criminal Insane here were recaptured this morning.

During the disorder attending the escape one of the convicts was slain, two guards were stabbed seriously and other guards and officials were badly beaten. Many of those who escaped had been committed to the institution on their pleas of insanity when charged with murders in various parts of the state.

After the escape numerous posses, including fifty guards of the Southern Illinois Penitentiary, police officers and citizens were soon scouring a thick wooded section north of Chester, where most of the fugitives hid, and the recaptures resulted.

The delivery occurred when 227 convicts, who were in the exercise yard, a steel wire stockade, sensed a moment when their guards were relaxing and pounced upon them. Ten guards, who were with the men in the inclosure, were overpowered.

After overpowering the guards, the convicts used a wooden bench as a battering ram and hammered a hole through the stockade, through which the men poured and fled in all directions.

CONDUCTOR FALLS VICTIM TO LUNATIC

PASSENGER ON UNION PACIFIC
RAILWAY OPENS FIRE

Labors Under Delusion That He Is
Followed by Robbers—Two
Other Men Injured

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., Feb. 9.—Belief that W. H. Barnett, 53 years old, of Caldwell, Idaho, who this morning shot and killed Frank Morton and wounded two others on a Union Pacific passenger train near Barstow, is insane, was expressed tonight by officers at the county jail. Physicians have not examined him.

After killing Morton, Barnett shot and wounded the brakeman and a passenger. They are not seriously injured.

Barnett is laboring under the delusion that robbers were following him from Salt Lake City.

"I tried to get away from them by moving from one coach to another," he said. "I took my money out and laid it on the seat and said: 'Take it, but don't hurt me.'"

Barnett for eighteen years was a printer at Caldwell. He has a wife and four children at that place. Soon after the train left Barstow, Barnett rose from his seat and shot Conductor Morton, who was reading his train orders to the brakeman. Morton was instantly killed. Barnett continued to fire his pistol and panic ensued in the car. Constable Williams, Yermo, a passenger on the train, rushed at Barnett, but he had emptied his gun and reached the vestibule of the car before the officer could restrain him.

Morton for many years has been a conductor on the Salt Lake Railroad and later the Union Pacific. He lived in Los Angeles.

Insane Patient Killed.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Jan. 19.—Two inmates of the hospital for the insane at Waumanss, a suburb, fought with heavy mops on Sunday, until one was killed. The victim was John Kuehn, 57. Albert Joe, the victor, was subdued by guards.

CITY POLICE MAKE CAPTURE IN MENTAL HOSPITAL ESCAPE

Two Men Still at Large With Police Seeking Trail

Escape Hushed up and City Police Not Notified For 48 Hours

How he spent his first forty-eight hours of liberty after incarceration as a prisoner in jail and later as a patient in a mental home is a story that was told after his recapture this morning by Sino Hiyaki. In company with James Locke and William Taylor, Hiyaki effected his escape from the Wilkinson Road Mental Hospital just before midnight on Saturday.

His companions outran him, he told attendants after his recapture this morning by the city police, so he walked quietly across country to Gordon Head. He skirted the Pither farm and struck out for town over the roads. Later he got a lift into the city and looked up some friends from whom he secured money.

ENJOYS A PICTURE

He secured a room at a Japanese boarding house and spent the remainder of the night in comfort. Sunday, his first day of liberty, was spent in a pleasant manner and without undue attention from anybody. Monday found him ripe for amusement so he attended a motion picture show. All went well until he stood too long at the corner of Johnson and Broad Streets at 10.30 this morning.

Standing there enjoying the third day of his liberty Sino was recognized by Constable Cremer of the city police through the unfortunate possession of a pair of "cauliflower" ears. His companions are still at large. He was handed over to the Provincial Police and told freely of his adventure before being taken to the Wilkinson Road Mental Hospital.

Sino made no effort to conceal his own movements since his escape, and the manner of that escape.

(Concluded on page 2.)

CITY POLICE MAKE CAPTURE IN MENTAL HOSPITAL ESCAPE

(Continued from page 1.)

ALMOST DISCOVERED

Taylor, Locke and the Japanese were trustees at the institution where Sino used to perform the functions of a mess waiter. Late on Saturday evening Taylor and Locke, he alleged, produced a short length of iron bar and Locke wielded it against a padlocked door. The door gave but made a clatter which brought attention from one of the hospital attendants.

They allayed the suspicions of the attendant, asserted Sino, and told of the escape. Opening the door which had been forced all three slipped out quietly into the night. His companions urged him to hurry, but he could not keep up the pace and they ran ahead, taking a westerly cut across country towards the West Saanich Road. Sino walked leisurely along until he, too, took to the fields, and made his way by Gordon Head to town.

The escape was hushed up under standing orders in connection with the Wilkinson Road Mental Hospital, and though the Provincial Police were placed in possession of the facts as soon as the escape was discovered it was not until forty-eight hours later that they communicated with the City police. Less than twelve hours after the City police had been notified one of the three missing men was picked up in the manner described.

TWO STILL MISSING

The two men still missing are: William Taylor, 22.5 feet 6 inches in height, clean shaven and slight last wearing a brown suit and a grey cap. He is marked with a decidedly flattened nose; and James Locke who is 5 feet 8 inches in height, 155 pounds, wearing a grey suit and of medium build. He has one or two teeth missing from the front of his mouth.

All three men were patients at the institution, which though harboring civil cases, is mainly for the detention of those adjudged to be criminally insane.

Hiyaki has a police record for alleged forgery and when recaptured this morning had cheques in his possession partly filled out. Under detention for several years, however, Sino had not heard of the excise provision in stamping cheques and a common postage stamp was adhered to the face of one cheque. While under detention he attempted to throw the blanks away, it is alleged.

It was not until 11 p.m. last night that the City police were made acquainted with the fact that the escape had occurred.

Meanwhile Taylor and Locke are at large. They are believed to have taken the up-Island route by means of free rides in passing cars but this has not been substantiated definitely yet.

The incident recalls previous escapes at the Wilkinson Road institution. The last serious one was the break made by Lynn, a convicted murderer, and a companion who had been sentenced for burglary but later taken with Lynn as a patient to the mental hospital. Lynn escaped twice from that institution.

The first time he was recaptured when working as a deck hand on a tug boat at Sidney when his skipper recognized a photograph of the man in The Times.

On his second escape Lynn with his companion made a clean get-away and as far as can be ascertained has not been heard of from that day to this. On the last attempt it will be recalled Lynn and his companion sawed their way patiently through the bars of the hospital dormitory, filling the cracks with soap to avoid detection.

Killed by Train

NEW WESTMINSTER, April 28.—

A patient of Essondale mental hospital threw himself underneath the wheels of a passing Canadian Pacific Railway train today and was instantly killed. According to hospital authorities the man, named G. Hardy, suddenly dashed away from the institution and rushed in front of the approaching train before they could intercept him.

MONTREAL PRISON RIOT WAS QUELLED

Firm Course of Acting Warden Restored Order After Christ- mas Outbreak

Convicts Broke Cell Fittings, Three Men Given Solitary Confinement

Montreal, Dec. 29.—Inmates of the Federal penitentiary at St. Vincent de Paul here became riotous over the Christmas season, with the result that the whole institution is now under strict discipline and about forty of the ringleaders in an internal riot are undergoing punishment.

H. C. Fatt, acting warden and temporarily in charge of the establishment, said:

"Some of the inmates exceeded the limits at Christmas time, when the rules are always somewhat relaxed. At the present time it happens that we have in this institution some of the very worst and most violent characters in Canada. It began with some of these, who shouted and would not be silent.

"On Christmas Day the men had an excellent dinner. For some hours they appeared quite contented, but the noise, which had been begun the previous night was resumed and the men again threatened to get out of hand."

CELL FITTINGS BROKEN

Some of the cell fittings were broken up, bed coverlets and stools thrown about, but damage to no serious extent was done.

The acting warden further stated:

"Three of the ringleaders in the original outbreak on Christmas Eve were punished by solitary confinement, and on Saturday night there was another demonstration by the whole establishment, the inmates shouting out that they would not be quiet until those men were released. That, of course, was an unheard-of proposal, to which we would not dream of acceding, and as a result we had a number of inspectors sent from Ottawa to reinforce the ordinary staff and a number of other inmates, about forty in all, were placed under special punishment and discipline. Now, however, everything is shipshape and normal conditions practically exist."

Reporter Deceived Doctors and Was Declared Insane

Des Moines, Ia., May 7.—A hoax, conceived in the mind of a local newspaper reporter, to test the theory that "any bright criminal could prove himself insane and thus escape punishment for his crimes," proved successful yesterday when John Duncan, the reporter, playing the part of an insane man, actually was adjudged insane by the Sanity Commission, which ruled him "a dangerous lunatic" and remanded him to the state hospital at Clarinda. Efforts will be made soon to have him declared sane. Members of the lunacy commission say they were not advised of the hoax. They are none too well pleased about it.

NEW B.C. ASYLUM BUILDING OPENED

All Mental Cases Will go First to Essondale Under New System

Commencing to-day, all mental cases committed to the Provincial hospitals will be taken first to Essondale. This change is brought about by the opening of the new acute wing at Essondale, which was put into actual operation on Monday. From now on, every case, whether it be mild or acute, will first be taken to Essondale, where the patient will undergo a period of observation extending over a period of thirty days, after which women patients will be transferred to the Sapperton institution, while the male patients will be kept at Essondale.

The new acute wing, which has been built by the Province at an expense of over \$700,000, represents everything in modern mental study and practice. It is perhaps the most complete and most modern of its kind on the North American continent.

Attempts Made To Assassinate Spanish Premier

Seven Bombs Set Off in Barcelona During General Rivera's Stay There, Paris Paper Hears

PARIS, Feb. 10.—A dispatch to The Journal from Hendaye, on the Franco-Spanish frontier, says that advices received from Barcelona confirm reports that several attempts were made on the life of General Primo de Rivera, the Spanish premier, during his recent stay in Barcelona.

Seven bombs, it is said, were exploded in different parts of the city. One was detonated in the doorway of the captain-general's office, where Primo de Rivera was staying. Another, which had been placed on the railroad track a few miles from the station, exploded with a terrific roar the moment the premier was about to take a train for Madrid.

The dispatch says the attempts are attributed to Syndicalists and Catalanist elements on the eve of the trial of alleged authors of the attempt to blow up a tunnel through which the king's train was to pass on its way to Barcelona last year.

Distressing Overcrowding Found by Commission In B.C. Asylums

Continued from Page 1

to cost some money to bring about the necessary reforms. But even if the Government has to give up some of the good road schemes in the interests of a more urgent humanitarian demand, it is worth it," said Mr. Hayward. When he was at the City Hall he had often been forced to close his ears to a minority appeal in some humanitarian cause in order to listen to a majority appeal on behalf of some purely utilitarian thing. "But since I went into this matter I have realized that I will have to get behind the women in some of their work instead of ours. Each member of the commission had been impressed in the same way; they were determined to pull together in their presentation of their recommendations to the Government and would sink their party identity to bring about the reforms needed.

History of Commission

The last Legislature had appointed a committee to investigate the question of mental hygiene on account of the startling increase in the number of mental patients in the Provincial asylums. The committee went out of existence when the House rose, but the Minister was so anxious to pursue the inquiry that he had constituted the members into a Royal Commission for this purpose. Each member was serving without salary and the inquiry would be carried out at the least possible cost.

The inquiry was fivefold in its quest: To investigate the cause of the increase in the number of mental patients; the causes and prevention of lunacy in the Province; the entry into the province of mental defectives; the care and treatment of sub-normal children, and, in fine, to probe the whole question of insanity and its origin, causes, and increase.

Conditions Mentioned

'Practice What You Preach,' Trustee Advises Council

LET them practice what they preach," was the comment of School Trustee J. L. Beckwith last night on the letter sent to the City School Board by the City Council, which asked the school trustees to give careful consideration to their estimates and keep expenditures down to a minimum. The communication was ordered received and filed by the School Board, without further discussion.

women who were a source of serious danger to the community in that they married and raised families. Statistics showed beyond doubt that a large proportion of the children of such marriages possessed an even lower type of mentality than their parents. These children found their way into the mental asylums and prisons. They, in turn, also had families, and eventually the lowest type of idiot was produced, a growing burden for the taxpayer, a growing menace to civilization, a growing population whose lives were a misery to themselves and those around them.

The number of patients that found their way into our asylums and penal institutions might be reduced if these subnormal people were not permitted to produce children. The birth problems of the subnormal marriage must be controlled.

Question to Be Faced

"And if it is to be controlled at all it must be by the State, by passing laws that will make it possible to cope with this particular matter," maintained the speaker. The Mental Hygiene Commission had in mind certain suggestions which it intended to make to the Government for birth control.

"We think the Government will have to consider birth control," said Mr. Hayward.

Some other countries had already tackled the problem and had adopted measures for birth control. California claimed that her insanity statistics had appreciably improved since the adoption of compulsory sterilization before marriage of the subnormal and mental defective class. But before any such measure could be successful here it would be necessary to have similar legislation in the neighboring provinces and states. Washington had taken measures to institute a system of compulsory health certificates before marriage in that state, but contracting parties had discovered that all they needed to do to evade the law was simply to slip across the border to Victoria and go before a minister here.

"The public will have to realize what a benefit is to accrue both to the public and to the patient by the adoption of a birth-control system for the subnormals who marry," said Mr. Hayward. "The people must be educated to a realization of what it would mean to the state if we could stop the propagation of insanity in our midst."

Increase Shown

In conclusion, Mr. Hayward gave statistics showing the increase in the number of mental patients in the asylums since the opening in 1872 of the mental hospital at New Westminster. He quoted for ten-year periods, commencing with 1872.

In that year there were eighteen cases treated. In 1882 there were fifty-five cases, an in-

In respect to the tour of the hospital made by the Jury the following presentation was brought in: "Your Lordship:—We, the Grand Jurors, have taken the opportunity of inspecting the Mental Hospital at Wilkinson Road, and found the conditions there very satisfactory. In our opinion the protection is sufficient; the premises are clean and in good state of repair, and in every way give the appearance of capable and thoughtful supervision. "R. W. MAYHEW "Foreman of the Jury."

INQUIRY FAILS AND MURDER MYSTERY STILL UNSOLVED

Suspected Essondale Inmate Asleep When Coquitlam Couple Were Killed

Police Without Any Promising Clue on Which to Base Investigation

Vancouver, March 27—Leading police officers who yesterday were congratulating themselves that they had solved the mystery of the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Witcherly last Friday evening at Coquitlam by saying it at the door of an inmate of the Essondale Mental Hospital named Taylor, were compelled to admit to-day that what appears to be a complete alibi has been established for Taylor.

Taylor lived in one of the cottages on the Colony Farm. Official records covering Friday night show that at the hour the murder was committed he was home safely in bed. Attendants are also personally certain that Taylor was present and they point to locks on the doors and bars on the windows to show that he could neither have got out or come in later in the evening.

REPORTS ACCEPTED

Dr. Steeves, superintendent of the Mental Hospital, believes implicitly the reports of his officials and considers that Taylor therefore can not be connected with the crime no matter how much the circumstantial evidence may point to him.

J. C. Vance, city analyst, is still working on the stained clothing that Taylor wore. With fresh blood it is possible to distinguish human from animal blood by analysis, but there is not much hope in this case that any definite result will come from stains that are admittedly some days old.

Taylor was a helper in the kitchen at the Colony Farm and included in his duties was the carrying of freshly-killed meat, which might have stained his clothing.

It will be Saturday before the analyst completes his work.

evening at St. Joseph's Hospital, William Fletcher, age fifty-six years. The late Mr. Fletcher was born in Lancashire, England, and had been a resident of this city for the past seven years. He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Mary Haworth of 716 Market Street, one brother in Quessnel, and a brother in England. The funeral will take place from the Sand's Funeral Home on Friday at 2 o'clock. Rev. F. A. P. Chadwick will conduct the service. The remains will be laid to rest in Royal Oak Burial Park.

The funeral of the late John...

asylums. The committee went into existence when the House rose, but the Minister was so anxious to pursue the inquiry that he had constituted the members into a Royal Commission for this purpose. Each member was serving without salary and the inquiry would be carried out at the least possible cost.

The inquiry was fivefold in its quest: To investigate the cause of the increase in the number of mental patients; the causes and prevention of lunacy in the Province; the entry into the province of mental defectives; the care and treatment of sub-normal children, and, in fine, to probe the whole question of insanity and its origin, causes, and increase.

Conditions Mentioned

Mr. Hayward reported having found admirable conditions at the Saanich institution, which was, even when he had paid it a surprise visit some months previously, spotlessly clean and orderly, the patients all occupied in some form of work to which they were suited.

But at Westminster the conditions were different. Here had been found "terrible overcrowding, all the buildings greatly overtaxed.

"Something positively must be done in the near future to remedy the conditions here," said Mr. Hayward. The building was provided with bed space for only 1,600 patients; but actually it has to accommodate 2,000. The patients were so close together in some of the wards that at night a restless patient tossing his arms about was very likely to strike the patient in the next bed.

Overcrowding Very Bad

The process of examination and classification of the patients was expeditious. All mental cases went first to Essondale. If curable they remained there for the six or eight weeks during treatment, then to be sent home. At the old mental hospital at Westminster there were 700 women more than that number of men, the general plan being to separate them into wards for the treatment of their particular phase and degree of insanity.

But overcrowding was very bad in all the wards, and the least insane patients worked under a terrible handicap in having to be associated with the more violent types of insanity, a condition which was intensely depressing to those who were sufficiently near normal to notice their surroundings.

Some definite conditions were cited. At Westminster he had found that in little rooms measuring 7 feet by 10 feet, "rooms not big enough to accommodate one patient comfortably," there were three beds. Every room was equally overcrowded.

At Essondale the men were being accommodated in "old bunkhouses"; in another old two-story building left by the contractor, "a perfect firetrap," one hundred children of the idiot and imbecile type were housed.

Public Unaware of Conditions

"If any of you ladies had occasion to visit this building where the children are, it would make you heartsick, and you would wonder why a just God would allow such pitiful lives to exist. The general public has no idea of such conditions. And until they have learned through the publicity which we earnestly hope to give they will not make the effort we want them to to remedy these conditions," said Mr. Hayward.

But Mr. Hayward said that no institutional care would stop the increase of this type of patient.

"They will continue to increase just so long as the subnormal type of patient is permitted to propagate his kind," said Mr. Hayward, leading up to his argument on behalf of sterilization of the subnormal and mentally defective of both sexes. The community was dotted over with many of both sexes who were subnormal, yet not institutional cases, men and

the public and to the patient by the adoption of a birth-control system for the subnormals who marry," said Mr. Hayward. "The people must be educated to a realization of what it would mean to the state if we could stop the propagation of insanity in our midst."

Increase Shown

In conclusion, Mr. Hayward gave statistics showing the increase in the number of mental patients in the asylums since the opening in 1872 of the mental hospital at New Westminster. He quoted for ten-year periods, commencing with 1872.

In that year there were eighteen cases treated. In 1882 there were fifty-five cases, an increase of thirty-seven; in 1892, 175, an increase of 120; in 1902, 413; in 1912, 1,065; in 1922, 2,137, an increase of 1,072 over the preceding ten years; and in 1924-1925, the period of the last census, 2,327. Still increasing, the asylums of the Province at the present time housed about 2,000 patients all the time.

"People ask what is the cause. Some say it is the after-effects of the war. But in his report the medical superintendent does not show this. The number of insane whose insanity is alleged to be due to war strain was only three. Heredity is by far the largest alleged cause," concluded Mr. Hayward.

Some Opposition

After the hearty vote of thanks moved by Mrs. Graves and passed amid applause, Mr. Hayward answered a number of questions.

Dr. Irene Bastow Hudson advanced the view that sterilization of the unfit was morally a crime, and could in no sense be justified until other measures had been tried. These measures included the proper treatment of mental defectives and the mentally diseased; also the institution of health certificates to be produced by both contracting parties before the marriage contract could be legalized.

Mr. Hayward named the personnel of the commission: President, Dr. Rothwell, New Westminster; secretary, General Odum, and Messrs. W. A. Mackenzie (Penticton), Harrison (Comox), and R. Hayward (Victoria.)

evening at St. Joseph's Hospital, William Fletcher, age fifty-six years. The late Mr. Fletcher was born in Lancashire, England, and had been a resident of this city for the past seven years. He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Mary Haworth of 716 Market Street, one brother in Quessnel, and a brother in England. The funeral will take place from the Sand's Funeral Home on Friday at 2 o'clock. Rev. F. A. P. Chadwick will conduct the service. The remains will be laid to rest in Royal Oak Burial Park.

The funeral of the late John Cook

CONCERT AT MENTAL HOME

Enjoyable Programme Given Last Evening For Pleasure of Patients

Resuming their weekly concerts for the pleasure of patients at the Wilkinson Road Mental Home, a small band of musicians from Victoria last evening visited the home and gave a most enjoyable programme of instrumental music, solos and comic songs.

Under the direction of J. T. Baker the orchestra, composed of patients and the following violinists: F. Macdonough, Mrs. J. L. White, Ralph Mackie, Miss Beth Graham, Arthur Morton and Miss Vera La Pointe, gave five selections, "Spirit of Minstrelsy," "The Skaters' Waltz," a selection from "Tannhauser," "Southern Melodies," and the "Anvil Chorus."

The orchestra this year is showing splendid ability and the numbers last evening were fine, the tone and balance of each instrument being delightful.

The solo "Pale Moon" was given by Mrs. L. Discombe, and A. R. Frith rendered the "Bell of the Lighthouse." Later on in the programme Mrs. Discombe sang "The Kerry Dance" and Mr. Frith gave "The Clang of the Forge."

Two comic songs entitled "Mr. Waterhouse's House" and "What the Colonel Told the Adjutant," were given during the evening by R. G. Lovett, R.N. Mrs. W. F. Howell gave another comic song, "Whot Cher," and Miss D. Spencer danced an Irish jig.

R. Cooper rendered the "Berceuse" from "Jocelyn" as a cello solo.

Miss W. Jenkinson, Miss G. D. Cooper and T. Miller acted as accompanists for the evening.

Granby Farrant, superintendent of the home, acted as chairman and at the close of the entertainment thanked the visiting musicians for giving such pleasure to the inmates.

SECOND BREAK FROM MENTAL HOSPITAL

Police and Guards Seek Arthur Holt

Successfully evading the guards at the Wilkinson Road Mental Home, Arthur Holt, an inmate who is stated to have been placed in the institution by relatives, yesterday gained his freedom, and is believed to be hiding on the Island.

According to the scanty information available, Superintendent Farrant declining to issue any statement, Holt got away shortly before 10 o'clock yesterday morning. Provincial police authorities were at once notified, and a posse was organized to search for the man. The Saanich police were not informed of the break until after 7 o'clock last night, when they joined in the search, it is stated.

To-day the police officials scattered through the upper areas of Vancouver Island have been notified and are on the watch for the evader.

Holt is described as follows: About thirty-five years of age, five feet five inches tall, 130 pounds weight, reddish hair, short clipped reddish moustache, ruddy complexion, wearing a dark green, nearly black suit much faded and a dark blue skull cap. He walks with a shuffling gait, drooping shoulders and carries his head bent forward.

NEW BUILDINGS NEEDED AT ESSONDALE

Government May Be Asked To Spend \$2,000,000 On Mental Hospitals.

Increase in Insanity Results In Severe Congestion at Existing Institution.

Net Growth of Insane Population Estimated at 120 a Year.

Legislature to Receive Lunacy Commission's Recommendation at Session.

VICTORIA, Dec. 14.—British Columbia must prepare to spend heavily to cope with its growing problem of insanity during the next few years. Investigations conducted by the Royal Commission on Insanity, which are being checked over by officials of the Public Works Department, show plainly that many hundreds of thousands of dollars will be required almost immediately to accommodate the increasing number of insane persons whom the province must care for at its various mental institutions.

ADDITIONS ADVISED.

Existing mental hospital accommodation is regarded as hopelessly inadequate and means of enlarging it temporarily until facilities of a permanent character can be added are being considered by the public works department. This is in anticipation of the Insanity Commission's first report, which will be filed with the legislature during its coming session and which, it is believed, will recommend big additions to the present equipment of mental institutions. The government would not be surprised if the commission recommended buildings costing in the neighborhood of \$2,000,000 to relieve the present congestion at Essondale.

Hon. W. H. Sutherland, minister of public works, recently investigated conditions at Essondale himself to see the condition of the buildings there at first hand. His enquiries convinced him that something must be done and done soon to give the Mental Hospital more accommodation.

INCREASE 120 YEARLY.

The mental institutions of the government must care for a net growth in the insane population of about 120 a year, and with their present facilities they are utterly unable to meet this continual drain on their resources. At Essondale many wards are seriously crowded and make-shift arrangements for accommodating the increasing number of patients have been exhausted.

Construction of a large new permanent building at Essondale is proposed now and, it is believed, will be favored by the Insanity Commission. This would take time to build, even if it were approved by the Legislature, and meanwhile room must be found for the increasing number of mental patients. An annex at Essondale and the transfer of some of the patients to the Colquitz Mental Home, outside Victoria, are methods proposed for immediate relief and are being investigated now so that early action may be taken.

In any case, during the next few years this province will have to foot a large bill for mental diseases and the most distressing feature of the insanity problem is that there appears to be no end of it. Of late years it has been increasing in volume steadily and there seems to be no prospect of it abating.

V. NOVEMBER 22, 1921

ESCAPED PRISONERS

GOT TO MAINLAND

Are Thought to Be Sane for Time Being—Planned Get-away With Extraordinary Skill

Excepting that it is now practically certain that they got clear away, developments in the work of rounding up the escaped prisoners from the Wilkinson Road Asylum for the Criminally Insane, on Nov. 17, John Lynn, alias Sylvester Flynn, and Saylor A. Malone, show no change from what the police previously announced. But the efforts for their recapture are being continued both on the Island and mainland, as well as across the border in the State of Washington. Everywhere the police authorities are on the lookout for the men, whose records show them to be exceedingly dangerous characters to be at large.

The police are now convinced that both men have been feigning insanity, and that they had planned their break from custody with extraordinary cunning and forethought. The fact that they had been in collusion in the escape is a clear indication, it is claimed, that they are not insane. The authorities declare that lunatics never practice collusion.

Made Clear Getaway

It is now certain that the men made a clear getaway from the Island at once and have reached the mainland. The police are maintaining a vigilant search for them, but the main work of capturing them has shifted to the mainland.

The report that they had been in a house in Heals last week has been traced down and it was found that there was no foundation for it.

Should the man Sylvester Flynn be caught at any time he can only be returned to the asylum, as he is serving a life term and has been adjudged insane, but Malone is awaiting trial on a charge of highway robbery and is only under observation at the institution and can be dealt with for breaking from custody and for any other crimes he may commit.

Unexpected Return. — Escaping from the Essondale farm at Coquitlam, a patient of the mental home made his way down to this city yesterday and surprised his relatives by an unexpected visit. The relatives had not been notified that the patient was to be discharged, and found the man still slightly demented. The police were notified and the patient will be returned to the institution this afternoon. How the unfortunate man succeeded in covering the intervening distance without being detected is still puzzling the police.

VALID ASYLUM WILL.

Inmate on His Deathbed Found Capable of Making It.

A will, involving between £2,000 and £3,000 and made in a lunatic asylum, was the subject of an action before Mr. Justice Horridge yesterday.

Two daughters of the late Mr. Joseph Priddle, of Enfield, propounded a will dated April 28, 1920, and three sons said it was not properly executed, alleging that Mr. Priddle was not of sound mind at the time he made it.

Counsel said that Mr. Priddle was well known at Bisley as a rifle shot, and in 1901, while there he got sunstroke.

Twice subsequently he was certified insane, and on one occasion he threatened to shoot his son and daughter-in-law.

While in the asylum, in which he died, he gave instructions for a draft will to the fiancé of one of his daughters. Two days later he was medically certified as capable of making a will.

The judge accepted this will and gave judgment for the daughters.

LUNATIC KILLS ASYLUM HAND

Weyburn Mental Patient Slays Employee With Blows from Axe.

Van Daily Province

REPORT BEING MADE

WEYBURN, Sept. 14.—Frank Levis, an employee of the Weyburn Mental Hospital, was killed late Wednesday afternoon by Fred. Dawson, one of the inmates. Levis was struck several times across the head with a sharp carpenter's axe, inflicting wounds which caused instant death.

Levis was working in his room beneath the hospital laundry when Dawson came in from work on the outside. Without a word Dawson approached him and struck the fatal blows. After the killing, Dawson calmly laid the axe aside and walked to his room.

His excuse for leaving the bridge gang where he was employed was that he was going for a drink of water. The tragedy has been investigated by the authorities and a report is being submitted to the attorney-general's department.

Mental Criminals

Sir.—In connection with the escape of the two alleged lunatics from the Wilkinson Road jail, it is interesting to note that both these criminals—and doubtless the majority of those still in custody—have been sent here from the Mainland, and from Vancouver in particular.

Needless to say, this class of migrant is not a desirable type, and I write to suggest that such representations be made by the public and other bodies of the Island as will lead the proper authorities to discontinue the practice of sending them here. One recalls the vehement objections of the Australian colonies to the results of the transportation system of the last century.

Vancouver has, in connection with the location of Governmental institutions, always displayed a spirit which may fairly be described as greedy and grabbing, and has met with considerable encouragement in the manner in which, one after another, the best of these institutions are being established or transferred to that centre. It is but fair that they should take the lead with the good, and I suggest that a strong effort be made to have the Wilkinson Road institution transferred to Van-

Distressing Overcrowding Found By Commission in B.C. Asylums

Mr. Reginald Hayward, M.P.P., Makes Impressive Statement to Local Council of Women in Reporting Findings of Mental Hygiene Commission in Survey

DISTRESSING conditions of overcrowding, both at Westminster and Essondale Asylums, were reported to the Local Council of Women yesterday by Mr. Reginald Hayward, M.P.P., member of the commission recently appointed by the Government to investigate the question of increasing insanity in British Columbia. Mr. Hayward, although confining his address to the fifteen minutes allotted by the Council, succeeded in compressing into that short space of time some very interesting and convincing statements as to the actual conditions which the commission had found in the three mental hospitals of this Province, and in conclusion he made a strong plea, looking to the limitation of increase of insanity through heredity, for sterilization of the subnormal and insane.

Mr. Hayward read from a paper he had prepared in lieu of an "address," as he said, the commission had asked for copies of all addresses given on the subject by any of the members in order that a complete record might be kept of what the commission was saying and doing.

The speaker intimated something of the impression which the serious condition of overcrowding in the asylums had made on him when he said that it had convinced him of the necessity of supporting more than he had done in the past some of the efforts at social betterment which were being made by the women's organizations.

"I sincerely hope that we shall have the women's organizations as well as other organizations behind us when we come to take action. It is going

Continued on Page 2

20 APRIL, 1921.

MADMAN IN COFFIN.

Terrible Scene at Requiem Service.

Grand Guignol plays are outdone by a drama enacted at Vilna a few days ago.

An inmate of the local asylum died, and his cold body was taken into the chapel. Another lunatic, who had seen the body of his comrade carried away, stole into the chapel, took the body from the coffin, and put it in the cupboard used to keep the church furniture. This done, he lay down in the coffin, covered himself with a shroud, and fell asleep.

JUMPED FOR COFFIN.

A few hours later a priest arrived and conducted a requiem service, says the Warsaw correspondent of the "Daily Express." When it was finished bearers lifted the coffin to take it away for the burial.

The motion woke the madman, who jumped out, struck one of the bearers a blow on the head, and ran away. The bearer collapsed and died from fright, while the priest and the others fled panic-stricken.

SEARCHERS' FRIGHT.

Their cries brought a crowd to the chapel entrance. Eventually some of the bearers ventured inside to see what had happened. They found an empty coffin and a dead man on the floor, and naturally put the corpse into the coffin.

They then began to search for the shroud, which the madman had taken away with him. One of the searchers opened the cupboard in the hope of finding something fit to cover the body. Directly he did so the hidden dead man fell on him head first and knocked him down.

The live man fainted with fright and once again lifted the coffin, the crowd rushing out and scattering through the city.

"JOB'S DAUGHTERS."

MASONIC ORDER INSTITUTED FOR GIRLS.

In many countries an order for women, which works under the patronage of Masonic lodges, is in existence, and is known as the Order of the Eastern Star. There are no chapters of the Order in England, but many have been established in Scotland, and are in a flourishing condition.

This Order, in conjunction with members of the Masonic Order, has now created an organization for girls between the ages of 13 and 18, which is to be known as the Order of Job's Daughters.

It has been instituted, says "The Times," to band together the daughters, sisters, nieces and granddaughters of Freemasons and members of the Eastern Star for the betterment of social conditions and the teaching of practical duties. The girls will be impressed with the love of home and country and reverence for the teachings of the Bible.

STRAWBERRY VALE CHURCH AIDED BY ENJOYABLE FETE

The garden party which was held in the grounds of the Mental Home on Wilkinson Road, under the auspices of the Ladies' Guild of St. Columba Church, Strawberry Vale, was a distinct success, both financially and otherwise. The grounds were a source of real pleasure to the visitors and the thanks of the committee are tendered to Mr. Farrant, superintendent of Home for the efficient manner with which he had prepared the various stalls and tea-houses, so necessary to make these affairs a success.

A thriving trade was done at the aunt sally, coconut shy and the golf course, under the skilful handling of Mr. Stanley Fisher, Master Kenneth Genn and the Rev. W. Nixon. The stalls in charge of the Ladies' Guild were well patronized and were as follows: Refreshments, Mrs. Farrant, Mrs. Rowlands, Mrs. Towns and the Misses Everest; candy, Mrs. W. Simmonds and Miss Stella Simmonds; needlework, Mrs. T. Rasper and Mrs. Greenwood; ice cream, Miss Gertrude Foster and Miss Everest. Miss Sea presented a rich fruit-cake for the guessing competition which was won by Mrs. Munro and Mr. Hall. Mrs. Veals kindly acted as cashier for the occasion, thereby helping the stallholders considerably.

When darkness fell the visitors were welcomed inside the building for the musical part of the programme. Miss Barr, ever popular as a soloist, sang again and yet again her sweet voice charming her audience completely. Mrs. Ryner with her rich soprano also delighted her hearers. Thanks are extended to all who helped to make this affair so successful.

Sympathy Is Keynote of Treatment at B. C. Mental Hospital

By J. BUTTERFIELD.

ERNEST Dowson, the poet, hovering at times between reason and unreason, dwells in one of his poems upon a madman he observed during a visit to an asylum:

"... Till I am fain
Of all his sad eyes promised me—
Half a fool's kingdom."

Other writers have made much of this supposed romantic aspect of lunacy. Authors have spoken feelingly of the "rapt look of those sitting with their heads full of golden dreams, ruling a kingdom of their own and made unutterably happy through their affliction."

After visiting the Provincial Mental Hospital for the feeble-minded at New Westminster and the new building at Essondale, however, I have failed to note that there is romance in a broken mind any more than there is in a disaster that has overtaken any other beautiful thing. The dominant note in the lines from Dowson which I quote, lies not in the promise that the poet has cherished, but in the "sad eyes." The essence of the matter is sadness.

Sees Romance of Humanity.

But there is romance—the romance of progress and humanity—to be found in the overtone to this tragedy. The romance lies in the possibility of bringing help and resurrection of their faculties to the mentally afflicted that is held out by modern scientific methods of treatment. Readers of ancient fictions aimed at the reformation of the lunacy laws are acquainted with the noisome cell, the clanking chains, the strait waistcoat and the torture, of those who were confined in old days where the charitably minded might shudder as they threw their contributions through the bars—but there are still many who are not acquainted with the sweetness and light that attends the ministrations of a more informed age towards the unblest of the world whose minds—never strong—have made shipwreck upon a contemplation of their own ineptitude and have been too much wounded in a battle against problems that were too great for them.

Science no longer divides mankind into the sane and the insane for it is recognized that the diseases of the mind are almost as various as diseases



vacuity is in most of their faces; some sit thus with their hands folded in their lap, others knit, read or sew.

Sadness Is General Note.

To some of them the doctor spoke and brought some flicker of interest to them, others were less responsive and polite. One patient seemed anxious to catch his eye and when she did so he smiled and asked her if she would play for us. This invitation was what she wanted and she responded with alacrity, revealing a fine touch and considerable tonal discrimination. But sadness and frustration are the general notes.

The more common causes of unreason are dementia praecox and depressive insanity. According to the history sheets preserved at New



who have been wayfarers along the by-paths of life and have never from birth set their feet upon any of its highways and who have now found a sufficient harborage in one of the buildings of the Colony Farm. They are the totally imbecile, whose minds have never formed.

Cure Is Not Impossible.

For many others, however, a certain degree of restoration is not only possible but probable in the course of time under capable and informed treatment. For some it is only a matter of months before their reason re-establishes its dominion, while others require years of care and guidance. Eternal personal contact of the doctors with the patients is the only road to knowledge of their progress. The daily items of conversation picked up in his rounds are remembered, compared and, in many cases, filed for reference so that the general trend of the bruised intelligence in its fight upwards to regain the normal is constantly noted.

Any remark by a patient, says Dr. Steeves that seems suddenly to indicate a knowledge of his own delusions or shortcomings is welcomed as a sign of returning reason, but it is not until he shows in his talk that he is beginning to understand a justice and a fitness in the fact of his restraint in the institution that his real cure is beginning. From that day he is studied with especial care and the improvement is rapid once that great impediment has been overcome.

It is the unbalanced mind that is filled with a hot sense of injustice and of undeserved wrong that is shut out from hope until a different attitude prevails. It is noticeable, however, that there is very little open resentment shown by the patients at their restraint, only an apathetic acquiescence.

Light May Be Brought Back.

When a little shaft of light is able to pierce the pathetically tenuous veil that separates the sound from the unsound mind so that the man can see—however faintly—the justice to himself and to humanity of his removal from society and the ways of normal man it does not take long to enlarge the opening and bring the full light of a safely working reason back into the machinery of mind.

And all the time, slowly, methodically, with infinite patience and infinite attention to the smallest details, the curative study of the afflicted is being woven into a vast mass of evidence that is constantly in use for the improvement of modern methods in treatment. The basic idea of this study is that each individual case presents points of difference to the doctor exactly in the same way as the healthy mind.

It is the endeavor of the doctors to approach

light with which the room is flooded in a very short time will reduce the overwrought and excited patient to a condition of quietude.

Yellow Room Also Provided.

Inversely there is a yellow room having the opposite reaction. The normal person submitted to this treatment for a while becomes intensely vibrant and energetic, but its effect upon the mentally depressed is extremely beneficial. These light treatments are called helio-therapy.

Among other direct methods for the treatment of excitement and violence are continuous baths and thermal cabinets heated with electricity for the reduction of weight by the application of dry heat.

... on the whole work

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 tude and have been too much wounded in a
 battle against problems that were too great for
 them.

Science no longer divides mankind into the sane
 and the insane for it is recognized that the diseases
 of the mind are almost as various as diseases
 of the body and that they must be as variously
 treated. From this it arises that the chief directing
 mind of a great mental hospital no longer cor-
 responds merely to the chief constable of a penal
 institution; he must add to the most up-to-date
 knowledge of mental therapy a number of quali-
 ties that study can not give him.

Understand Human Frailties.

He must have understanding of human needs
 and human frailty, rapid intuition, quick decision,
 pleasing personality wedded to determination,
 and a capacity for appearing to enter thoroughly
 into the view-point—however bizarre—of the
 diverse types of mind under his observation. These
 are some of the qualities—added to an impressive
 stature and virility—possessed by Dr. H. C.
 Steeves, superintendent of the Essondale institu-
 tion and shared by members of his staff of doctors.

The fabric of the institution follows the spirit
 of its executive intelligences, for a successful
 attempt has been made to avoid at all points any-
 thing in the architecture and appointments that
 would suggest the prison. But at the same time
 it is equally well guarded by less obvious methods.
 Everywhere throughout the treatment of the
 patient an effort is made to turn the current of
 the institutional life through the normal channels
 of everyday existence and to effect improvement
 by capturing the imagination and confidence of
 the patients.

To accompany Dr. Steeves into one of the
 great day-rooms is informative. There is a
 pathos beyond speech in the spectacle of fifty or
 more women of all ages—but mostly of the
 middle years—sitting dumb and listless around
 the walls of the brightly furnished room. The
 first impression is as if some spiritual freezing
 plant had been at work on their souls. A fixed

vacuity is in most of their faces; some sit
 with their hands folded in their lap, some knit,
 read or sew.

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To some of them the doctor spoke and brought
 some flicker of interest to them, others were
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 This invitation was what she wanted and she re-
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The more common causes of unreason are
 dementia praecox and depressive insanity. Ac-
 cording to the history sheets preserved at New
 Westminster, 53 per cent. of the admitted cases
 have been traced to hereditary causes.

There are none of the traditional "padded
 cells" at Essondale; there are none of the brutal
 physical restraints made infamous by old records.
 The nearest approach to the padded cell is a room
 entirely bare of anything that the patient can take
 hold of and whose walls are of plain wood.

Dr. Steeves informs me that the violent lunatic
 is a rarity and that he usually responds to kind-
 ness. In this connection he related the story of an
 escort of four men who brought a man in from
 up-country secured with handcuffs, rope and
 chains. When the receiving authorities began to
 remove these, the faces of the escort registered a
 very authentic fear and with one accord they
 gasped: "You aren't going to loose him, are
 you?"

Bewildered at His Liberty.

Upon being assured that such was indeed the
 intention they incontinently fled while the un-
 shackled "case" stood in bewildered amazement
 at his liberty of movement.

Violence in lunacy is due to excitement and
 fear. Modern science has developed curative
 means to reduce the excitement and the general
 tone and flavor of life at the institution together
 with the kindly treatment afforded the patients
 is a prominent factor in the palliation of the delu-
 sive fears that haunt the unbalanced mind.

That is where the humanity and the under-
 standing of the doctor are valuable. These
 afflicted people will make a confidant of him and
 temporary understandings suitable to the nature of
 their delusions are arrived at to the satisfaction of
 all parties concerned.

In the reduction of excitement and occasional
 violence, not only direct but indirect means are
 used. Direct by treatment and indirect by the
 substitution of interests implied in occupational
 therapy.

You have probably at times suffered from the



LEFT TO RIGHT
DR. H. C. STEEVES - SUPERINTENDENT
DRS. PENWELL, CREASE & RYAN (Asst. Superintendents)
OF PROVINCIAL MENTAL HOSPITAL

"Blues," as a condition of depression is called
 for want of a better description. Well, it now
 appears that science has discovered that the
 "blues" are a very real and rightly named set of
 conditions and that they may be produced by the
 simplest means. In the Essondale institution is a

spacious room furnished at all points like all the
 other single rooms used for the segregation of
 patients, except that its one great window—pierc-
 ing the whole of one wall—is glazed with acrome
 blue glass. In any form of daylight, but more
 especially in strong sunlight, the effect of the blue

light with which the room is flooded in a very
 short time will reduce the overwrought and ex-
 cited patient to a condition of quietude.

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Inversely there is a yellow room having the
 opposite reaction. The normal person submitted
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 light treatments are called helio-therapy.

Among other direct methods for the treatment
 of excitement and violence are continuous baths
 and thermal cabinets heated with electricity for
 the reduction of weight by the application of dry
 heat.

In the occupational direction the whole work
 of running the institution offers a curative field
 for the feeble-minded, the mentally depressed, the
 obsessed and those suffering from delusions, for,
 under competent supervision, the splendidly
 equipped kitchens are manned by patients as are
 the tailor shop where uniforms are made and re-
 pairs effected, the boot making department, the
 carpenter shop and other necessary activities. A
 man may work at whatever trade he wishes or
 finds interest in.

In addition to these, a system of occupational
 therapy has been instituted, under which the
 patients who can not grapple with the ordinary
 tasks of life, may learn such matters as basketry,
 weaving and bead work.

Afraid of Wireless Pursuit.

A very frequent form of complaint among
 patients suffering from delusions at the present
 day is that those who are persecuting them are
 sending electric currents through them or pursuing
 them with wireless.

This is obviously a comparatively modern form
 of complaint and upon being asked why modern
 patients should have developed a new form of
 insanity, Dr. Steeves pointed out that it was not a
 new form of insanity but rather a very old one.
 The basic idea is that the victim is being perse-
 cuted and the vehicle of that persecution, he says,
 in all ages has always been found in anything that
 is very much in the popular eyes at the time the pa-
 tient succumbs to his affliction. Thus at one period
 evidence in such cases, the influence of the war
 is well known and today wireless and the radio
 are blamed.

Perhaps most pitiful of all—because their case
 is hopeless—are those who are born without the
 machinery of reason, the idiot children who are
 under the care of the department. These I did
 not see, they do not belong to this world. It
 was painful enough to see those of adult growth

Light May Be Brought Back.

When a little shaft of light is able to pierce the
 pathetically tenuous veil that separates the sound
 from the unsound mind so that the man can see—
 however faintly—the justice to himself and to
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 study is that each individual case presents points
 of difference to the doctor exactly in the same way
 as the healthy mind.

It is the endeavor of the doctors to approach
 every case with an open mind and to regard it as
 much as possible as if it were the first case of an
 ordered mind that had ever come under their
 notice.

Study in the construction of the relation of the
 mental processes to the condition of the patient
 also for the work of the specialists at the hospital
 much invaluable information is lost under older
 methods of treatment.

In an age where there are so many cults
 declaiming to the world that they are not
 tirely subject to the mind, these men are
 very much to prove by scientific methods that
 mind is keenly reactive to the body. A
 writer has declared that the body, including
 brain, is a mechanical and chemical organ and
 it reacts to mechanical and chemical treatment
 matters of health—both mental and physical.

And he offers the notable argument that if you
 swallow a pint of carboic acid you will die in
 spite of all the mental concentration of all Chris-
 tendom. The work at Essondale tends more and
 more to substantiate this theory that the mind is
 very sensitive to the general condition of the rest
 of the body.

This is the work that is going forward quietly
 and painstakingly in the Provincial Mental
 Hospital; it is well attended with increasing
 success as the collated experience of mental
 specialists throughout the world is daily increased.
 There are failures and disappointments, but on
 the whole there is a generally and steady upward
 tendency.

It is to the credit of British Columbia and her
 people that the number of patients being treated
 at the present time is somewhat below the average
 for other Canadian provinces and the States of
 the Union. This average is usually placed at
 one-half of 1 per cent.—or one in every 200 of
 the population. Upon this basis the figure for
 the Provincial institution should approximate
 2600 whereas it is a little below 1800.

THOSE CHAPPED HANDS

Don't allow them to worry you any longer. Use Rexall Camphor Cold Cream and get relief.

50c Per Jar.

VAN HOUTEN'S
Rexall Drug Store.

FIFTIETH YEAR

LOCAL POLICE HAD TOUGH TUSSLE WITH ESCAPED PRISONERS

Men Who Escaped from Victoria Jail Located on Cedar District Farm—Taylor Captured but Locke Made Get Away from Police.

Chief Constable Bert Stephenson and Constables Shepherd and Marshall had one of the hardest scraps of their careers this morning when they located James Locke and William Taylor, the two men who on Saturday night last made their escape from the Wilkinson Road Asylum for criminally insane near Victoria, on O'Brien's farm in Cedar district. The two escaped prisoners, who have been at the O'Brien farm since Monday night, were engaged in moving some potatoes when the three officers of the law closed in on them and the fight was on. Chief Stephenson and Constable Shepherd tackled Taylor, but before they succeeded in handcuffing him both officers received a number of cuts and bruises, while Constable Shepherd's clothing was ripped and torn, requiring a change of apparel. While the Chief and Constable Shepherd succeeded in handcuffing Taylor and getting him under control, Constable Marshall was not so fortunate with Locke. Single handed and not wishing to use any undue force, Marshall grappled with Locke who threw the constable off and broke for the woods with Marshall in full pursuit. Officers are still scouring the woods in search of Locke, but up to the time of going to press he had not been apprehended. Taylor was brought into town and placed in custody behind steel bars in the Provincial jail.

Not at C. Bowen's
farm - but at
Capron's ranch

Not wheeling potato
lock building a
pig pen some debt
from Taylor

Four officers not
with three

I brought Taylor
into town

g life means slow
on, sustained value,
y performance from
while you continue
, and a measurable
e when you wish to
it.

that the Ford gives
ual value per dollar
not only this year
long term of years
—means that when
the Ford you obtain
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whilst the police were searching
for bank
the bank
the bank

VICTORIA, B.C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1927

Making Life Worth While for Insane

Humane Methods Lighten Suffering of World's Unfortunates

Work Proves Wonderful
Tonic for Patients at the
Mental Home at Colquitz

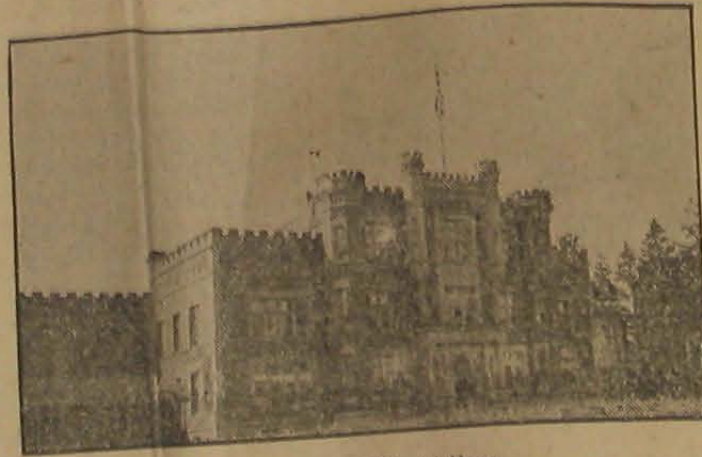
Wilderness Has Been Turned Into Beautiful Estate and Profitable Farm; Patients Build Greenhouses, Sunken Gardens and Fish Ponds; New Methods of Greatest Possible Freedom Triumph Over Old Methods of Restriction; Asylum Is No Longer a Place of Grim Despair

CARING for 178 mentally defective men representing twenty different nationalities so that their deficiencies will be minimized and their minds directed along a channel to the extent that their lives are as near normal as possible is the gigantic task which Granby Farrant and his staff of twenty face at the Provincial Mental Home at Wilkinson Road, a branch of the Essondale Mental Hospital. In 1919 the Wilkinson Road home was taken over by the Provincial Secretary's Department of the Provincial Government to relieve overcrowding at Essondale. The mental homes of the Province are among the important responsibilities resting upon the Government

otherwise unsightly spots from which rock has been blasted, perfect borders of flowers, pig pens, cattle barns, stables, poultry pens, a rabbitry and stretches of perfect green lawn have crowded out the wilderness.

Every bit of the work the superintendent points out, with justifiable pride, has been done by the

SNAPPED AT THE MENTAL HOME AT COLQUITZ



Main Building of Mental Home



Part of transformed wilderness



Raised on farm worked by patients



Greenhouse built by patients

ner of the Provincial Employment Bureau also was not all he had claimed to be as a photographer. In the excitement or nervousness he made a perfect picture of the bars of the roof of the cage. How he will carry out his promise made to the patient for a copy of the picture is his own business.

The superintendent is a great believer in birds and livestock as being both interesting to the patients and profitable. He has a team of horses, cows, chickens, pigs and rabbits which would take care of themselves in any show. They are not kept for this purpose, however. They are profit bearing. All are kept in well built outhouses kept in a perfect state of repair. Every out-building on the place was built by patients, and every one is a good substantial building that will bear favorable comparison with any building erected by contract labor in the ordinary way.

PRODUCE FOR THE KITCHEN

Milk, poultry, eggs, pork, rabbits and a dozen varieties of vegetables which grace the meal table are all products of the thirty well tended acres. Every inch of land that will grow anything is under cultivation to produce all the vegetables and field crops needed. This not only reduces the cost of maintenance but provides pleasant and healthy occupation for the patients

cellent groom. Too excellent. Mr. Farrant and three visitors were estimating the size of the horses.

"They are six and a half feet high," said one of the visitors.

"You measure horses by hands. Four inches to the hand."

"Then they would be—" said the visitor and paused to estimate.

"Sixteen hands," snapped out the patient while the visitor still calculated.

The patient showed the horses with all the pride of ownership. He was the right man in the right place. Like the rest of the patients he was not forced to work, but a little advice and kind encouragement and most of them are ready to seize the opportunity to keep occupied.

TAME WILD DUCKS

Of interest near the stables was an artificial duck pond where a number of tame ducks waddled contentedly side by side with gayly colored mallards. The mallards have made their headquarters there—eighty of them. They fly around with the pigeons of which there are hundreds at the farm and come home to roost like chickens every night.

Yorkshire bacon hogs, running as high as 240 pounds dressed cows, a dozen different varieties of chickens complete the livestock on this prolific thirty acres.

A laundry is in the course of

days of Dickens and Reade was advisably drawn over the operations of such institutions.

Nothing could be more in direct contrast of life in an institution in the days of the novelists mentioned and life in an institution as it is lived at the Wilkinson Road Mental Home to-day.

CONGENIAL WORK

There is discipline. Of necessity there must be where twenty different tongues are spoken and every man is in some way different from the average citizen. But there is no irksome aggravating discipline. There is no annoying daily routine to perpetually call to a man's mind that he is an inmate of an institution.

Mr. Farrant's secret of success in running a mental home might be sized up in two words—"congenial work." Where it is possible every patient is profitably employed in the grounds or in the main building and the result of their work is shown in thirty acres of well-kept grounds and farm lands, greenhouses, gardens, buildings and furniture.

The substantial building in which the men are housed was built in 1913 for a jail but with the outbreak of war in the Summer of 1914 the first use to which it was put was an internment camp for alien enemies. The attractive building stood in thirty acres of wilderness. It was not until 1919 that it was opened as a Provincial Mental Home. Since then the wilderness has been transformed.

SUNKEN GARDENS BOWLING—TENNIS

All the thirty acres are under cultivation. Neat profitable gardens have replaced the desolate brush land. Vegetables to supply the whole of the 178 men in hospital are produced. Greenhouses and other outbuildings have been erected. Bowling lawns and tennis courts have been laid out. Artistic fountains playing into ponds stocked with goldfish or trout cause visitors to gasp with surprise. Sunken gardens making beautiful

Every bit of the work of the superintendent points out, with justifiable pride, has been done by the labor of the patients. Mr. Farrant shows a deep rooted objection to any emphasis being laid on the fact that the men are mentally defective. "Just call them patients," he says. "Don't stress the reason why they are here."

WORK LIKE OTHER CITIZENS

And probably that one remark of the superintendent tells the whole secret of the success of the mental home at Wilkinson Road. Instead of looking upon those under his charge as men who have been sent to him because of some insane tendency should not be free to take their place in the world as ordinary citizens, he looks upon them as men to be put to work under conditions as much like those of outside workers as possible; as men to be kept busy working at jobs for which they are suited to the extent where there is nothing to remind them that they are not working differently to any other man.

ALL FRIENDLY

A visit to the home would indicate the method is a complete success. The superintendent proved to be as proud of the home as the proprietor of a handsome country estate. In many ways it resembles a fine estate. The patients might be taken for ordinary workmen. He knows every one by his first name. He calls them "Bill," "George," "Dick" or "Happy." There is friendliness, but no over familiarity. To them he is "Sir," or "Mr. Farrant," according to the inclination of the patient. The mark of insanity is apparent on only a few of the patients and but for the few on which it is noticeable, a visitor would hardly realize that he was being shown over a mental home by a superintendent.

The first impression is pleasing. There is a substantial attractive building set in well laid out grounds. The front of the institu-

tion is covered with Boston ivy which very much adds to the general appearance. The ground directly in front is taken up with flower beds, orchards, bowling and tennis lawns. As a background

to the lawns there is an excellent conservatory filled with choice plants surrounded by a rockery and two artificial ponds, stocked with trout and gold fish and with fountains set in the centre.

BLACK BEAR IS PET

Next in interest comes the big black bear brought from Wrangel when it was a cub. Both the superintendent and the patient who cares for it are proud of this black

bear. The superintendent called to the patient to see the bear pose for a picture. Without hesitation he stepped into cage. Bruin was very friendly. I would do everything but pose Wilfred A. Tur-

tenance but provides pleasant and healthy occupation for the patients most of whom work under the supervision of the staff.

A number of them are paroled and take charge of different departments. It is interesting to see how keen they are on the work placed under their direction. This interest is a striking proof that the superintendent's panacea is the right one. Outstanding in this regard is the carpenter's shop. The hand of an expert carpenter is marked throughout the building and on many outside jobs. Well made tables, chairs and cupboards which would be prohibitive if they had to be purchased outside at the regular market value are the work of one of the patients. The greenhouses are in charge of a past-master in the art of gardening. Four thousand geraniums, a wonderful variety of chrysanthemums and tomato plants were being nourished.

"HOME GROWN" GOLDFISH

Incidentally the gold fish were brought inside to enjoy the warmth of the greenhouses for the Winter. The patients are proud of the gold fish. They are "home grown" and it is believed no one else in Canada has ever attempted breeding gold fish.

Hundreds of rabbits are in charge of a man who makes a good job of his task. They were perfectly kept in a long building and among them were many which would undoubtedly make a sweep if placed on show. There was Flemish giant, twenty-one inches long and weighing eighteen pounds, which the patient in charge was proud to call attention to. As 200 pounds of rabbit meat had recently been served the stock was somewhat depleted, but there were still a hundred or so left for foundation stock. The rabbits, like a lot of the other produce of the farm make a welcome variation in the men's diet.

There is a team of magnificent horses in a stable built by inmates. One of the patients makes an ex-

tenance but provides pleasant and healthy occupation for the patients most of whom work under the supervision of the staff.

A laundry is in the course of construction which, when completed, will be a credit to the institution. The men do the washing and it is all hand work. Here some of the well built tables made by the carpenters' department are in use. A number of patients were working on serviceable clothes stands made on a plan drafted by the superintendent which wheel the clothes right in to the huge drying rooms.

WELL ENTERTAINER

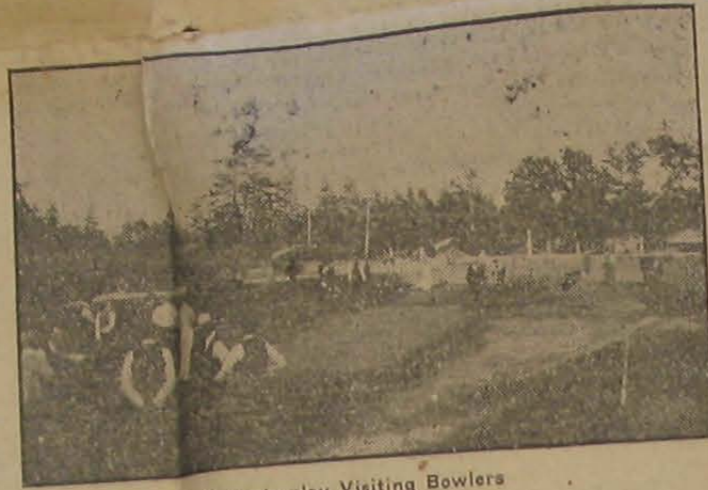
It is by no means all work and no play at the home. During the Summer months bowling, tennis and croquet are played every evening with a field day once a week to give an opportunity to those who are unable to play in the evenings. Handball, quoits and other games are played daily in a large recreation court. During the Winter months moving pictures and concerts are given every two weeks in the spacious assembly hall which also serves as one of the main dining-rooms.

There is also a recreation room where billiards, pool, cards, etc. are played. It is not an uncommon sight to see three tables of bridge going from which it is claimed some clubmen might learn a wrinkle or two.

Nor are the religious duties neglected. Services are held every Sunday, the Rev. A. L. Nixon officiates at Church of England services. Father Silver celebrates Holy Mass. The Salvation Army under Adj. Fullerton pays frequent visits and the army band songsters often give concerts of a religious nature.

MUSICIANS!

Talking of music the patients' own orchestra should not be overlooked. The conductor who is an attendant, did not have a wide variety of musical talent to select from, but with three violins, a number of mouth organs and an exponent on the bones he has an aggregation which will fearlessly attempt to play anything from the "Melody in F," to "Yes Sir, She's Ma Babv" at sight.



Patients play Visiting Bowlers



Pond where goldfish are raised



Wild Ducks and Tame Ducks fraternise



Stretches of perfect lawn



A beautiful rose pergola



Sunken pond and flower border

ASYLUM WILL CASE



Mrs. Robertson, left, and Mrs. Abford, daughters of the late Mr. Joseph Priddle, whose will, made in Camberwell House Asylum, was disputed, leaving the Law Courts with Mr. Robertson. The will was upheld.



Funeral Service of the late Hector Monro

Temple Hall, November 9th
at 2.30 o'clock

Rev. Dr. Clem Davies, Officiating

“Life is ever Lord of Death and Love can never lose its own”

HYMN “Jesus Lover of My Soul”

SCRIPTURE READING

TRIBUTE

HYMN “Abide with Me”

FUNERAL MARCH “God be with you”
from Temple Hall by the City Temple Band

At Royal Oak Burial Park

HYMN “Rock of Ages”

COMMITTAL SERVICE

“O Dry Those Tears” Dave Townsend and Band
(HECTOR'S FAVORITE SOLO)

The Music led by Temple Choir will be sung to the accompaniment of
the City Temple Band of which the late Hector Monro was a member

JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL

Jesus, Lover of my soul,
Let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high:
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
Till the storm of life be past;
Safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none,
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
Leave, ah! leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me;
All my trust on Thee is stayed:
All my help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenceless head
With the shadow of thy wing.

Plenteous grace with thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound,
Make and keep me pure within;
Thou of life the fountain art,
Freely let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart,
Rise to all eternity.

ABIDE WITH ME

Abide with me, fast falls the even-tide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me
abide!

When other helpers fail, and comforts
flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little
day;

Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass
away;

Change and decay in all around I see;
Oh, thou who changest not, abide with
me!

I need thy presence ever passing hour;
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's
power?

Who like thyself my guide and stay can
be?

Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide
with me!

Reveal thyself before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point
me to the skies,

Heaven's morning breaks, and shadows
flee;

In life in death, O Lord, abide with me.

ROCK OF AGES

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Save me from wrath and make me pure.

Could my tears forever flow,
Could my zeal no langor know,
These for sin could not atone;
Thou must save and thou alone;
In my hand no price I bring,
Simply to thy cross I cling.

When I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eyes shall close in death,
When I rise to worlds unknown,
And behold thee on thy throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee.

This funeral program a Memorial Token from the
Victoria City Temple Congregation.

Dr. H. C. Steeves Dies in Victoria

**Called Suddenly *Had Been Suffering
With Heart Ail-
ment**



DR. H. C. STEEVES

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 7.—Dr. H. C. Steeves, superintendent of the Provincial hospitals at Essondale, passed away at the home of friends last night. For some time he had been suffering with heart trouble.

Dr. Steeves' death came with remarkable suddenness. He registered at the Empress hotel yesterday morning and during the evening was in conference with Granby Farrant, who is in charge of the Wilkinson Road Mental home at Colquitz, Vancouver Island, and the bursar of Essondale, who accompanied him from Vancouver.

A local reporter interviewed him early in the evening and he seemed in perfect health. He discussed the great problem which British Columbia faced with every other province in caring for the insane and suggested, subject to the approval of the provincial secretary, that a series of articles be written on the subject, so that the general public would realize the seriousness of the situation.

Dr. Steeves was busy discussing and preparing institute estimates to be presented to the legislature at the forthcoming session.

Born in New Brunswick, 40 years ago, Dr. Steeves received his early education at Mount Allison college, later graduating from McGill. He came to B. C. in 1912 and from 1914 to 1917 was assistant superintendent of the Mental hospital under Dr. C. E. Doherty. Following the death of Dr. Doherty overseas, he was promoted superintendent, 1921.

Dr. Steeves had worked in connection with Essondale, New Westminster and Vancouver Island Mental hospitals.

Prominent in Masonic circles, he was a member of King Solomon lodge. He was first vice president of the Provincial Exhibition association.

He is survived by his widow and two children, Marion, 11, and Lee, 12.

AERIAL PATROL FOR FISHERIES

OTTAWA, Dec. 7.—Aerial patrols to enforce fishery regulations will be organized on Pacific coast once more in 1927, an item of \$100,000 will be placed in estimates.

This service, carried out in 1925 and previous years, was abandoned in 1926 in order to save money. However illegal inroads upon fish became so prevalent that federal government now realizes air patrol is only efficient method of law enforcement.

DR. H. C. STEEVES DIES AFTER COLLAPSE WHILE DRIVING TO COLQUITZ

**Superintendent of British Columbia Mental Homes
Victim of Heart Trouble; Leading Figure Among
Insanity Experts of Canada** *Dec. 7, 1926.*

The death occurred with tragic suddenness last night of Dr. H. C. Steeves, medical superintendent of mental homes in British Columbia.

Dr. Steeves, who came to Victoria yesterday to visit the Provincial Mental Home at Wilkinson Road, was being driven to Colquitz when he collapsed in the automobile. He was taken to a house near by, but passed away within a few minutes.

Although apparently in good health Dr. Steeves had been suffering from heart trouble for some time. No inquest will be held.

WAS ABLE OFFICIAL

Dr. Steeves' death removes a leading figure among the insanity experts of Canada and one of the ablest public servants in the employ of the Government.

FOUR DIO PRO...

Feb 2, 19 At Essondale *Sandy Van*

Sir,—I have seen of late two letters referring to the Essondale institution, one in reference to treatment of epileptics and one from "War Veteran Who Has Been There," and you did well to publish them. For inmates there have very few champions to defend them on the outside, and I think there is need of more such publicity. There would seem to be a great need for some other form of appeal apart from the doctors or officials of the asylum that a sane or harmless person (to whom it is a real injustice to be in close confinement and deprived of personal liberty for any long duration) might take their case. The censorship that is exercised over inmates' correspondence makes them helpless or unable to do anything themselves if the officials there so wish. Then there are those that are sane, but handicapped by some disability or old age.

H. H.

Born in 1886, Dr. Steeves had just completed his fortieth year, but though comparatively young he had established a national reputation for himself for his work with the insane. He was a graduate of McGill University and came here in April, 1913, to accept a position as assistant on the staff of the New Westminster Asylum. In 1921 he was promoted to take charge of that institution, the Essondale Mental Home, the Colony Farm and the Colquitz Mental Home, institutions which represent British Columbia's efforts to handle the insanity problem.

GOVERNMENT SHOCKED

News of Dr. Steeves' untimely death came as a shock to the Government, which valued his services highly. As chief adviser to the Royal Commission on Insanity Dr. Steeves was in the midst of his greatest work to prevent and care for insanity in British Columbia. This commission and the Provincial Secretary's Department was relying largely on his advice in this work, which has been under way all this year.

Dr. Steeves is survived by his widow, a son, Lea C. Steeves and a daughter, Marion.

Dr. Steeves' death came with remarkable suddenness. He registered at the Empress Hotel yesterday morning and during the evening was in conference with Granby Farrant, who is in charge of the Wilkinson Road Mental Home at Colquitz, Vancouver Island, and the bursar of Essondale, who accompanied him from Vancouver. A Victoria Daily Times reporter interviewed the doctor earlier in the evening, and at that time he seemed in perfect health. He discussed the great problem which British Columbia faced with every other province in Canada in caring for the insane, and suggested, subject to the approval of the Provincial Secretary, that a series of articles be written on the subject so that the general public would realize the seriousness of the situation.

Bandit Hideout Sought On Burnaby Mountain

BURNABY, March 29.—An intensive search of the area east of Burnaby Lake, known as Burnaby Mountain or Snake Hill, is being made by police in an effort to find a possible hideout used by Bagley and Fawcett there.

It is situated south of the Hastings-Barnet Road, west of Port Moody and is bounded on the north by Burquitlam.

It was on Burnaby Mountain that Stewart Brown, mental patient from Essondale, succeeded in eluding police last fall.

He hid himself in a shack on the mountain for one month while the entire police forces of the Lower Mainland were searching for him.

He told police after his capture that at one time police were within 100 yards of his hideout and himself and did not see him.

The area is densely wooded with deep gullies and rough trails running the base of the mountain and to

Burrard Inlet.

According to W. H. Cameron, game warden, both Bagley and Fawcett displayed intimate knowledge of the district.

Bagley skirted the north side of the mountain when he drove Cameron in his own car Saturday afternoon. Both stated they had a shack.

There are a number of shacks on Burnaby Mountain, formerly occupied by shingle bolt cutters, and several of them have already been searched by police.

The mountain offers easy access to Burrard Inlet as well as Vancouver and New Westminster.

It is about six miles from Vancouver and the same distance from the Royal City.

Search Fails To Reveal Bagley Boat

At New Westminster search of the entire Fraser River waterfront has been completed by police.

Ownership of all boats was established.

March 31 - 1938

Only Few Ever Leave Colquitz

This is the third instalment in an important series by The News-Herald which takes the reader inside the Essondale Crease Clinic and Colquitz Mental Home in Victoria. The series is written with the co-operation of the BC Mental Health Services.

By SYDNEY JACKSON

The story of Sally Jones and her three months cure in the Crease Clinic is not the whole story of mental health in BC. As a voluntary patient, she represents fifty percent of the patients in the Clinic; as a patient discharged after three months, she represents 80 percent of the total in the clinic.

But there is the other side of the picture. There is the percentage of mentally sick for whom even the vast strides of modern medicine can do little. There are the criminally insane, and the incurable.

The Provincial Mental Home, Colquitz, Vancouver Island, was built as a prison in 1914, and served for a time as a detention home for the services in the First World War. It stands, efficient and imposing, in its own grounds and vegetable gardens. It is the permanent home for some 286 patients. Only a few will ever leave.

The strongest criticism has been hurled at Colquitz. Leo Nimsick (CCF - Cranbrook), charged in the Legislature that patients at Colquitz were "milling around like animals", and "living in a snake pit". Harold Winch has claimed that patients are incarcerated with little or no hope of escape.

Others have averred that

BC is inhuman in its treatment of the chronic and criminal insane.

What is the truth about Colquitz?

Dr. L. G. C. d'Easum, medical superintendent, and Mr. P. T. McLeod, chief psychiatric nurse, devoted an entire day to conducting me round the old gaol. "It's no good pretending this is anything else but a prison" said the doctor. "It's difficult to make a cell look like anything else but a cell."

So there are a few score men confined to a cell block their only vista being the interiors of their cells. On an average, there are 30 patients with full parole in the grounds, five with partial parole, ten with pool-room parole, and a daily average of 100 engaged in some sort of useful occupation. The daily average confined to rooms is ten—of which six are mentally disturbed, the others sick.

Two Sent To Essondale

The wards are scrupulously clean. But there is a complete lack of any comfortable seating, and the day-room furniture is drab and detrimental to the patients. The measure of the officials' despair with the conditions can be gained by their delight at obtaining, last year, a concrete airing court surrounded by high wire in which patients could exercise during winter months. Otherwise, Colquitz has been allowed to remain what it was—a 40-year-old prison.

There are a few changes in the population of Colquitz. One-third have a criminal record, including several convicted of murder. Last year, only two patients were released back to Essondale and one was considered cured and returned to Oakalla.

An old man spoke to me in the ward. He has been in Colquitz since it opened as a mental home in 1919. He has been in mental institutions since 1903. In 51 years, he has cost the taxpayer some \$50,000.

There are a handful of men in Colquitz who are dangerous, unable to associate with their fellows, and unable to retain their clothes. These are the cases which visiting MPs see during a brief visit, and who inspire criticism. The naked

men prowl the barred cells day and night. At times, under the influence of baths or shock treatment, they show improvement enough to be taken out under guard. But they are here for life. They are the men who would be little better off in a new and modern hospital.

A man in the open cell showed me one of a dozen books which, he said, explained the past and future of the world. He had spent years illuminating and writing them. Another sat alone with one arm in the air. Another, more contented, worked on the soft-soled shoes which all patients wear.

Valiant attempts have been made by a hard-working staff to better the lot of the hopeless men of Colquitz. A movie apparatus has been ingeniously contrived in the dining hall. Bingo is organized, and games like croquet and bowls are arranged. Service clubs visit with entertainments. The Salvation Army band plays regularly.

But nobody pretends that Colquitz is anything but an oubliette, a place for forgotten men to be restrained.

Colquitz is the other side of the medal, remote from the hopeful world of Essondale and the Crease Clinic.

(To Be Continued)

HE CARVES AND CARVES . . . BUT TINY BURRO NEVER DONE

Busy Hands Ease Hopeless Days for 287 in Stark Asylum

This is the second in a series of three articles on mental health, intended to inform readers of the growing problem of caring for and treating the mentally ill and of the advances that have been made. Colquitz Mental Home, the only provincial institution on Vancouver Island, has been used as a focusing point. Today's article describes how Colquitz patients spend their days.

By TOM GOULD

Colquitz Mental Home is a stark, red-brick, grim looking building. It thrusts itself boldly into the rolling landscape of West Saanich. Turrets on the high walls, and a proud flag give it all the appearance of a medieval castle.

The building houses 287 men. Some are young and vigorous. Some are old, and it is apparent that their lives soon will be at an end. All of them have sick minds.

These 287 men are only a small part of B.C.'s mental population. A total of 6,300 persons are now being cared for at provincial institutions at Essondale, Terrace, Vernon, and at the Crease Clinic. They require the services of one-quarter of the province's civil servants; their numbers are 100 to the population of the city of Nanaimo.

They increase by 300 every year, and to cope with them, a hospital of the size of Victoria's Royal Jubilee would have to be constructed every two years.

Each year these unfortunates cost the province some \$10,000,000. In the next ten years, \$80,000,000 will be spent to keep them, and house them, and \$3,000,000 will be spent on new buildings.

Behind the imposing walls of Colquitz time is nothing. One of the patients spends his days, and will live out his years, at a small corner of the woodworking shop. He picks up scraps of wood, and fashions them into tool boxes. Each box has a lock, and a crudely fashioned metal key. When one box is finished, and varnished, he stacks it in a corner, and starts another.

Another patient is blind. The windows on his ward are 20 feet above the floor, but he has no use for the sunlight. Each day he sits on the same spot, on a hard wooden bench. He knows that spot well. It is so many paces from his barren cell, and so many paces from the washstand. No one knows what thoughts run through his mind as he sits in that lonesome ward, his sightless eyes facing four tiers of barred cells.

Still another patient carves tiny burros out of soft wood. Each burro is made from the same pattern. But none are finished. They stand in a glass-doored cupboard, for which he has made an ingenious lock. No lock is visible, and there is no apparent way of opening the doors. That is his secret.

For these men, shunned, avoided, needlessly feared by an ignorant public, the days are filled by a variety of tasks. One hundred work out-of-doors. They hoe weeds in the garden, mow the broad lawns, feed and tend chickens and

turkeys, milk and care for a small herd of pure-bred Holsteins.

Another 70 are employed in-doors. They make beds, air mattresses, work in the laundry, boiler room, garage, kitchen, tailor shop, and clean the narrow, bare halls, stairways and corridors of their home.

Some are capable of doing nothing. They spend their days sitting, quietly, and alone.

The workshops are a hive of continuous activity. In one small niche, a young man sits patiently at a sewing machine. He is making a shirt out of old curtains. The seams are fine.

A shy smile lights his face as he hands the almost-complete garment over for inspection.

Off to one side of the tailorshop, deep in the basement of the main building, a garrulous old patient proudly displays his handiwork; a pair of hand-made leather lasts, over which he is about to fashion a specially-designed pair of shoes for a kitchen worker with badly distorted feet.

For the prisoners of Colquitz, who are locked into the institution by the sickness of their minds, busy hands are the only answer to the frustration of confinement.

When their hands are busy, and their bodies engaged in work or play, their troubled minds can find rest and respite.

Some patients have a skill in their handiwork that shames the most meticulous hobbyist. One makes guitars and violins from wide lengths of board. Their tone is rich and full, and the attention to detail almost miraculous.

The well-equipped workshop in which they spend their hours is lined with work, intricately turned bowls, beaten copper tea sets, trays and vases, leather belts and purses,

carved figures, plastic ornaments, and picture frames.

For others, work is found in the home's greenhouses, and gardens. Here they raise the flowers that attract the attention in their beds in front of the parliament buildings; and the food that appears on the Colquitz tables.

On warm days they go into the recreational grounds for play and rest. Under the watchful eyes of the male psychiatric nurses (the only two women at Colquitz are employed in the administration office), they kick a football, or practice baseball pitching.

The recreational area is a rectangle, surrounded by high barbed wire fencing, with a concrete sidewalk running around the inside edge. Some of the patients, one over 80, move endlessly around the walk. They are going nowhere, they merely shuffle around and around.

Others sit under the comforting shade of one of four wooden shelter buildings, playing chess, or talking, or perhaps just resting on the grass.

Sometimes, entertainment groups from Victoria go out to Colquitz. Among them are the Hometowners, the Versatiles, and a Norwegian folk-dancing troupe.

The main dining room contains a television set, and all wards are connected to a radio circuit which sends music, sports and news programs into the cheerless quarters.

The patients are allowed freedom according to their individual nature. Patients in whom some trust can be placed are allowed to wander at will about the spacious grounds, to play tennis and baseball.

(Saturday's article deals with the over-all picture of mental health in B.C., and of the tremendous strides that have been taken through a strong research program, and an awakening public.)

May 7/54

FORMER WILKINSON ROAD JAIL TO BE ABANDONED EVENTUALLY

Makeshift Colquitz Mental Hospital Serving Desperate Need

May 6/54

This is the first of three articles dealing with mental illness, presented in conjunction with Mental Health Week. They are intended to inform readers of life and problems encountered in Vancouver Island's only provincial mental institution, and of the aims and successes of the mental health services unit of the provincial government. The first article portrays conditions under which patients at Colquitz Mental Home live.

By TOM GOULD
Colquitz Mental Home was constructed for use as a jail. It was taken over in 1919 by the provincial mental health services branch as a makeshift, but it serves a purpose, and fills a need.
To say that it is good, or that it is not good, is impossible. The West Side, and the East Side, barren wards with four tiers of barred cells, and windows 20 feet from the floor, have been described as "snake pits" on the floor of the B.C. Legislature.
They are not pleasant places. To the average healthy-

person, life in these quarters would be horrifying, revolting, sickening; a barred, locked, sealed, confining Hell.
Each night the patients who live in these wards are locked into their cell.
On three sides they gaze at white-painted brick walls; on the other heavy iron bars. Beyond the bars is more brick wall. They have only a simple cot in their cell. It is painted white, and is covered with a white coverlet and pillow. A white toilet bowl sits across the cell, and in some, a white wash bowl.
That is all there is; no lockers; no hangers for clothing, no drawers or desks for

personal belongings, because there are no personal belongings here.
Many patients sleep in dormitories; identical white cots are spaced less than two feet apart; there are no pictures on the walls to break the monotony of white.
Colquitz is overcrowded—badly overcrowded. No one could doubt this after looking at the tightly-packed beds.
Nor could they doubt it after looking at the dining rooms, with their narrow tables. The dining rooms are scattered about the building because no one room, or two rooms for that matter, is big enough alone.
It is a cheerless, disheartening place, for a person with a healthy mind.

Perhaps the worst feature of it are the padlocks. They rule the patients' very existence. Each window has a padlock, each door, each board, each drawer, each building, each cell, each stairway, and each corridor.
But one thing must be kept in mind. Colquitz patients are not men of healthy minds. They are sick. From 20 to 30 per cent of them are criminals, who have raped, robbed, or burned, and some who have murdered.
They are well cared for. The food is good, wholesome and well-prepared in a spotless modern kitchen. Colquitz is clean, the floors shine, the rooms are fresh and aired often, and the entire building through cleanliness, has

escaped the obnoxious "institution odor."
The patients are not maltreated. They are not subjected to beatings with rubber hoses. They are not tortured and teased by sadistic guards. No one wrestles them into the restricting confines of a straitjacket, and there are no padded cells.
There are no guns in sight, no guards on mounted towers, ready to split the darkness of night with a spotlight in search of escaping patients. The big front gate is always open.
Colquitz patients are not forced to work. They do the work, or the job, to which they are most suited by temperament, but only if they want to work. For the vast majority who do, there

are special additions to the dinner plate to fortify them for their labors.
They are allowed an issue of tobacco. Recreational facilities are plentiful. They play billiards, read, play chess or checkers, baseball, football, tennis, watch movies, listen to the radio, and watch television.
Restraints are few. The cell blocks, with their disheartening tiers of barred concrete and steel cages piled row upon row, are necessary, although they create a feeling of revulsion in the visitor's mind.
The cells house patients who would be a potential danger both to themselves, and to others if allowed freedom during the night.
To appreciate the good side

of Colquitz, one must attempt to look at it, and the environment it rules, through the eyes of a patient, and through his mental processes.
To some, softer, more comfortable beds would be resented, as would cushioned chairs. Some require heavy canvas sheets because they would rip ordinary sheets to ribbons in a night of disquiet.
Many welcome the nearness of others during the long nights in the crowded dormitories, and would be displeased if they were to be separated from their fellows. Others are beyond caring.
Most of them appear happy, and contented. Some hold imaginary fears close to them, and complain of unreal hurts.

and of harsh treatment, but the majority are living in an environment that suits their condition, and they enjoy life, in their own way.
Colquitz is a "high security" mental institution. It fills a necessary gap in the complicated service of providing care for the mentally ill.
As Provincial Secretary Wesley Black has admitted, it "leaves much to be desired." Eventually it will be closed. The patients will be transferred to a new centre near Essondale, where B.C.'s mental services are being centralized.
Until that time, which is not foreseeable at an early date, the red brick walls will be home to those within.

(Friday's article describes how the patients of Colquitz spend their time, how they fill the idle hours.)

287 in

of pure-bred Holsteins. They make beds, air their rooms, garage, kitchen, are halls, stairways and ling. They spend their leisure activity. In one room, at a sewing machine, the seams are fine. The hands the almost deep in the basement old patient proudly handmade leather lasts, specially-designed pair of distorted feet. No one is locked into the wards, busy hands are their bodies engaged. They can find rest and their handicraft that One makes gutters. Their tone is rich almost miraculous, which they spend their turned bowls, beaten her belts and purses,

OUT OF THE DARK AGES IN 20 YEARS WITH 'SHAME BARRICADES' BROKEN DOWN

New Approach to Mental Illness Problem Getting Results

May 8/54

This is the last in a series of three articles dealing with mental health, presented in conjunction with Mental Health Week. Earlier articles described life and conditions at Colquitz Mental Home, the only provincial mental health services unit on Vancouver Island. Today's article gives an over-all picture of B.C.'s mental health problem, and strides that have been taken to meet the needs of the people of the province.

By TOM GOULD
Colquitz Mental Home is the end of the road for B.C.'s mentally ill.
It could be described as a necessary hang-over from the days not long past when mental patients were shame-

fully thrown behind iron and rock barricades; to be hidden far from the downcast eyes of the public.
A massive research program, and an awakening public intelligence, have partially beaten down these

formidable barricades, and taken mental ill health down to the front doorstep, and into the home.
The transition has been rapid. To quote deputy provincial secretary R. A. Pennington, who heads an army of civil servants battling the mental illness problem: "In 20 short years we have emerged from the Dark Ages to the approach to mental illness."

accepted for what they are, hospitals where people go to be treated for sickness of the mind.
No more startling illustration of the extent to which they have been accepted can be given than by a comparison of the number of voluntary admissions to B.C. mental hospitals in 1945, and in 1953. In 1945, 33 persons entered voluntarily, out of 834 total admissions.

They are active treatment, geriatric division, preventive services, rehabilitation services, and research.
For each of these divisions a parallel can be found in medical hospitals, clinics and health centres.
In the active treatment division there is Woodlands School, in New Westminster, where over 800 defective and retarded children are treated, cared for and educated up to the limits of their mental capabilities. It compares with the Queen Alexandra Solarium, where care and treatment is provided for crippled children.

Essondale, which holds 3,500 psychotic patients.
In the medical hospital field we have chronic units, to care for patients whose illness is of chronic nature. Here again the parallel can be drawn with Essondale and with Colquitz.
There is a parallel in the nursing homes which care for elderly citizens, who require some medical attention in their last years, and in the mental health service's units at Port Coquitlam, Terrace and Vernon.

years. As recently as 1950, it was reported that for every dollar spent on mental illness research, \$65 was spent on medical research.
Mental illness is like physical illness; if treatment is given in the formative stages of a disease, a lasting cure is far more likely.
If a person can recognize the symptoms of a slipping hold on the realities of life as quickly as they appear, a chronic condition can be avoided.

healthy lives through early treatment. Only in this way can the mental hospital population be leveled off, and units such as Colquitz evacuated and boarded up and forgotten as a thing of the shameful past.
Soon B.C. will add another unit to its mental health services program. An out-patient department will be opened in Vancouver, where patients can drop in for a few hours' treatment after work in the evenings, or for a short period during the day.
Mental ill health will be reduced to the status of a minor case of blood poisoning. It will have been relegated to its rightful place.
It is no longer disgusting. It is out in the open and out from behind the gates and walls and iron bars.

Women's News

Women's Day — A sub- June at the home of the Mother's Day Tea. Fowler, Thorpe Pl. sored by the Women's Association of \$100 was given to the Garden City United Church. Mrs. H. E. Wilson opened the tea. Mrs. Ellington second welcomed the mothers' and press convene. Staley received guests. School of the Sunday School children with songs and retained with Mrs. M. E. Curry. Mrs. M. E. Curry were apron and home re stalls. Approximately 100 was realized.

SYDNEY REYNOLDS
Specialist and OB GYN
FINE CHINA, ORE
At a meeting of the Burnside McMillan Chap. IODE, held Thursday, Mrs. A. V. Craigdarroch R. a garden. Still an some ward. Each burro finished. he has made is no apparent. For this an ignorant. One hundred garden, now

Because of this tremendous advance, it is not entirely improbable that within this century mental illness shall be reduced to as an innocuous disease as measles.
The basic problem is to educate every man, woman and child to the belief that mental illness is a medical problem, no different than cancer, or tuberculosis.
Mental hospitals must be

In 1953, 768 men and women went forward of their own volition, to seek mental health treatment, out of 2,534 admissions.
The high brick walls are crumbling.
B.C.'s mental health services, a model upon which praise has been heaped in all corners of the globe, is divided into five divisions.
To compare with general hospitals, there is the Crease Clinic of Psychological Medicine, where intensive active treatment is afforded to some 320 psychotic patients, and

Here elderly citizens whose mental capacity has become impaired, the senile, find accommodation and care. Another unit for the psychotic aged is on the planning boards for Vancouver Island.
Research and rehabilitation are still in the formative

Through education to mental illness this is being done. In 1947, the population of our mental institutions increased 28.44 per cent in relation to admissions. In 1953, this percentage dropped to 11.51.
Thousands of persons have been restored to normal,

Research and rehabilitation are still in the formative

June 16/57

'Mental' Nurses Rebel

Hospitals Understaffed, Men Ill-Paid, Overworked

British Columbia mental hospitals will return to a state of "bedlam" unless hospital staffs receive higher pay and more persons are trained in psychiatric nursing to relieve the present shortage of personnel.

should be available at the Colquitz home to allow the work week to be reduced to 40 hours and improve the present "minimum" of treatment of patients

The hospital, however, does have a good building and location, and patients are well-fed, well-clothed, and fairly well entertained, he said.

This charge was made yesterday by a psychiatric nurse at Colquitz Mental Hospital. Another male nurse at the home, phoned for confirmation by the Colonist, backed up the charges.

Just a month ago a private bulletin from the provincial health department stated that patients in Terrace mental home are not being "efficiently cared for" because of the staff shortage, he said.

TERRIBLE STATE

"This is a terrible situation in a mental hospital," he said of Terrace. "Patients go without their baths. Patients lie in their wet blankets. They lie in their own excreta."

He noted that the provincial government was considering building a new mental hospital.

"We can't staff the hospitals we have," he said. "We have 300 patients out here and not one qualified occupational therapist."

He blamed the "terribly poor" pay and long hours for the shortage of skilled personnel.

A nurse's aide starts his pay at \$195 a month, and over six years his salary rises to \$245. Top pay for a psychiatric nurse is \$271. Nurse in charge, responsible for 300 patients and a staff of 18 nurses and 24 aides, receives \$291, he stated. The work week is 44 hours long.

STRIKE POSSIBLE

The male nurse's telephone call to the Colonist was prompted by a report that 153 stationary engineers employed by the government have voted to strike June 26.

"The nursing staff themselves in B.C.'s mental hospitals will very likely go on strike," he said.

Although backing the engineers, who include steam plant employees at Colquitz Mental Hospital, the psychiatric nurse asked, "How I am supposed to nurse the patients when there is no hot water to wash them, or to clean clothes, or cook, I don't know."

Steam cookers are used in the hospital kitchen.

The government should have settled this pay issue long ago, he declared.

He further charged that there is no machinery set up on Vancouver Island to train people to become psychiatric nurses.

Not enough nurses are being trained at Essondale, on the mainland, to provide new staff for the home here, he said.

Continued on Page 3

Staff Up in Arms

Continued from Page 1

"We have had only one replacement in the last six years."

"Psychiatric nursing is no fool's job," he said. "It requires two year's training at least."

Unless provision for staff training is made, B.C. mental hospitals will "go back to bedlam days when incapable and untrained persons handled mental patients," he said.

Another eight or nine nurses should be available at the Colquitz home to allow the work week to be reduced to 40 hours and improve the present "minimum" of treatment of patients.

The hospital, however, does have a good building and location, and patients are well-fed, well-clothed, and fairly well entertained, he said.

More "progressive" treatment would call for individual rooms instead of wards as at present with beds two feet apart and aisles four feet wide, he said.

"Then we could treat people like people, and not like animals, herding them together."

The nurse's story was backed by a colleague, who said that although Vancouver Island patients were being cared for, they were not receiving the extent of care that they could get if there was sufficient trained staff available.

He said the B.C. government was calling for applications from women to fill positions at Terrace as it could not attract men at the wages offered.

"Women cannot fill the positions that men can handle in mental hospitals," he said. "Women do not have the emotional stability or the strength that is needed sometimes."

Times Apr: 25 / 57



HANDCRAFTS PART OF MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Occupational therapy displays, as shown by Mrs. B. Whipps, Mrs. R. L. VanWart, Mrs. R. E. Dent and Mrs. L. M. Kendall, left to right, will be presented in conjunction with the film festival next Monday at 10.45 a.m., 2 and 4 p.m. in the Douglas Room at the Hudson's Bay, to open Mental Health Week, April 28 to May 4. The displays

have been arranged through Dr. L. G. C. d'Easum, Colquitz Mental Home medical superintendent, and Miss Margaret Roberts and Mrs. McGrath, head nurse and occupational therapist, observation ward at Royal Jubilee Hospital. Miss Roberts and H. Helander, Colquitz Mental Home occupational therapist, will be present during the day to answer questions regarding the display.

Mar 18/59

Mental Hospital Declared 'Dungeon, Prehistoric Cave'

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — A Vancouver Island mental hospital for the criminally insane was described in the legislature Tuesday as a "dungeon" and "prehistoric cave."

Cedric Cox (CCF-Burnaby) told government members of the House they should visit Colquitz mental hospital to see for themselves the "concrete cubby holes into which inmates have to crawl.

"It's just like going back to prehistoric days when people crawled into caves," declared Cox during a debate over the salary vote for provincial secretary W. D. Black, who is in charge of mental hospitals.

LIKE ANIMALS

"They (inmates) are like a bunch of animals in a cage awaiting slaughter," said Cox, adding that the building, about four miles northwest of Victoria was built as a jail in 1912.

Black replied it was "an old jail," housing the criminally insane "for the most part," as well as male patients who have reached a stage of mental deterioration beyond help.

"It certainly is not the best place in the world to house these people," said Black, "But it is not bad at all compared with many mental hospitals I've seen elsewhere."

had not progressed on construction of a new mental hospital on Vancouver Island because of the problem of acquiring staff, but the project hadn't been abandoned.

PLANS HELD UP

In earlier debate on mental hospitals, Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby), told Black he

should "thank the opposition" for last year "goading" the provincial secretary and government "into doing what they should have been doing about mental health."

He was referring to last year's battle in the House over the condition of mental health services. The opposition claimed deterioration of services but Black hotly denied their accusations.

Dowding noted there had been "considerable improvement" in the situation since last session, but added it wasn't enough to justify anyone sitting back."

The CCFer scolded Black for last year "abusing people who took an interest in the situation."

The minister explained plans

Victoria Times
Mental Hospital
Feb 27/1960
'Disgrace to B.C.'

Colquitz mental institution in Saanich is a "disgrace to the province," Randolph Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan) said in the legislature Friday.

"A new hospital was promised 13 or 14 years ago," he said.

He charged serious overcrowding with 80 people in a room half this size," he said, indicating the legislative chamber.

Mr. Harding made the complaint while winding up the budget address for the Opposition.

He said it is pathetic how "we duck our heads in the sand to avoid some big issues."

He said the system of rehabilitating prisoners in B.C.

B.C. Alcoholic Foundation. "Our institutions are filled with people through abuse of alcohol."

He said no one could estimate the damage caused by alcohol in accidents, crime and juvenile delinquency.

He wasn't supporting prohibition, he said.

"You can't cure it by temperance legislation, but we've got to allocate more monies to the various institutions who have taken it upon themselves to do something about it."

New Mental Home Plans Not Shelved

partments) had underspent estimates by \$10,200,000 since 1952, said Mr. Harding. He said the money went into debt reduction.

MORE TO SAY

Health Minister Eric Martin cried out: "That's absolutely incorrect."

But Mr. Harding indicated he would have more to say when the minister's current estimates come up for debate.

Mr. Harding said the \$20,000,000 provincial income from liquor sales compares poorly with the \$110,000 voted to the

April 29/60
 Plans to build a modern replacement for Colquitz Mental Hospital have not been shelved by the government but are being held in abeyance, Health Services Minister Eric Martin said yesterday.

Proposal to build a new provincial mental home on Vancouver Island was suspended temporarily when American psychiatric expert Dr. Mathew Ross undertook to do a survey of B.C. mental institutions last year, the minister said.

STUDY FOR JAPAN

The doctor, who has recently conducted a similar study for Japan, is expected to file his report with the B.C. government in the fall, Mr. Martin stated.

"His report will undoubtedly deal with the Colquitz Mental Hospital and its possible replacement," he added.

NOW-DORMANT

If Dr. Ross' report recommends replacement of the old Colquitz establishment, once a prison, he may inadvertently rekindle a now-dormant controversy between Nanaimo and Greater Victoria over where the new institution should be built.

Saanich Reeve George Chatterton put in a strong bid to have it located in Saanich a number of years ago but Nanaimo thought it should be more centrally located.

Legislature Charge

Colquitz Jammed 'Rat-Infested'

Mental patients in Colquitz Mental Home are crowded in sometimes like a rat-infested nest, Cedric Cox (CCF, Burnaby) charged in the legislature yesterday.

"Let's treat them better than we treat dogs and cats," appealed Mr. Cox.

His remarks brought Health Minister Martin to his feet. "I object to this. Things are not as bad as that," Mr. Martin said.

"I am not satisfied with Colquitz. It was built in 1913 as a jail. It was never constructed as a mental hospital," Mr. Cox said.

Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook) appealed to the minister to "bring some light to the patients at Colquitz Mental Home so at least they could see God's green grass."

He said windows were 14 to 15 feet from the floor,

Victoria Times
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Mr. Harding made the complaint while winding up the budget address for the Opposition.

He said it is pathetic how "we duck our heads in the sand to avoid some big issues."

He said the system of rehabilitating prisoners in B.C. jails is inadequate and not enough is being done in the field of boys and girls industrial schools.

He complained that a little boy charged with stealing dimes from a milk bottle can end up alongside an 18-year-old charged with rape.

All of the points he made led up to the contention that the department has been under-spending its budget. Health and welfare (now separate departments) had underspent estimates by \$10,200,000 since 1952, said Mr. Harding. He said the money went into debt reduction.

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"You can't cure it by temperance legislation, but we've got to allocate more monies to the various institutions who have taken it upon themselves to do something about it."

uncomfortable.

If she prefers a home for the aged, respect her wishes. She'll be able to enjoy the companionship of other olders and maintain a "guest" status with her children. And if she becomes ill or feeble, she'll get the care she needs and not be a burden.

Are you going steady? Making marriage plans? If so, send for Ann Landers' booklet, "Before You Marry—Is It Love Or Sex?" enclosing with your request 20 cents in coin and a large,

replacement for Colquitz Mental Hospital have not been shelved by the government but are being held in abeyance, Health Services Minister Eric Martin said yesterday.

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STUDY FOR JAPAN

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Richmond Craig's Weekly Message

"Why Are We Christians?"



have been set agoing since the advent of Christ, we would see that they are all inspired by the spirit of Jesus. The Gospel of Jesus has produced results, and these results have stood the acid tests of time and criticism.

The Hopes and Promises of Our Faith

And in these dark days of stress and strain, we are firm believers in the Christian faith, because of the comforting and helpful promises that it gives to all who are assailed with trouble, or encompassed with sorrow. The glorious hope of immortality beyond the grave, and the definite assurance of this through the Resurrection of the Christ, gives blessed easing to the agonies of today. The one voice that speaks to the aching hearts of men and women, during these agonizing times, and soothes and consoles them in the hour of their

great trials, and sore bereavements, is that of our Saviour Jesus Christ. In the upper room in Jerusalem he spake to his disappointed disciples and counselled them to have faith in Him. He would not leave them comfortless. The same loving compassionate soul speaks as plainly and as comfortingly as ever to a disappointed and sorrow-stricken world, and through our tears and grief and pain, He asks us all to listen to His great message of Hope and Love, "I am the Resurrection and the Life, let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in Me, in my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you." With a confidence such as these memorable words inspire we are able "to give an answer to every man that asketh us a reason of the Hope that is in us, with meekness and fear."

"Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."—I Peter 3:15.—(Notes of sermon preached in Westminster Church, Vancouver, B. C.)

Why are we Christians? This is, I think, a pertinent question. In every day life and business, men and women are continually faced with the necessity of giving their reasons for holding certain views, and we who profess the Christian faith, should be willing at all times to give an answer to every man that asketh us a reason of the hope that it is us. We should be able to give an intelligent answer to this most important question, "Why Are We Christians?"

Emphasis On Personal Relationship

We make answer to this question, not because we feel that we are Christians in any pre-eminent degree—would God that we were—but simply because we believe that the emphasis in our belief should be laid on the personal relationship betwixt the soul of man and Christ, and not upon any external mark, system, or doctrine. That which characterises and determines the Christian life and standard is personal relationship between God and man.

And so, we find ourselves drawn to Christianity first of all because of the **Unique Character of Jesus Christ The Founder.**

The verdict of mankind, of believer and unbeliever alike, is that the moral character of Jesus is unsurpassed. No religion in the world has known such a founder. He stands out as the

The Spiritual Side of Everyday Life

STUMBLING-BLOCKS

"You may step over the stumbling-block easily, but how about the next Man?"

On wet days, when lessons were done, long years ago, we children were allowed to play a game of our own invention called Tig-all-over-the-house.

As its name suggests, this game provided plenty of exercise for limbs cramped in study. It benefitted us morally as physically, though the name does not suggest that. (Whether it benefitted our stair-carpet is "another story.")

The moral benefit came from a strict rule of the game relating to stair-rods.

Readers of The Standard will find if they race up and down stairs in sufficient numbers, that a stair-rod now and then becomes loosened. This is a very real source of danger, as one might be tripped up—sent flying to the foot of the stairs. So a rule was made that anyone perceiving a loosened rod should cry "Pax," drop on his knees, and remedy the defect before the game was resumed.

Even now the habit is so strong that not one of us can pass a loosened stair-rod in a strange house, and the custom of removing the stumbling-block has been extended to orange-peel and banana-skins in the streets, and, I trust, to other ways of helping a neighbor.

Helping a Neighbor

For that was the lesson of the stair-rods—to help someone who was coming after. One might step over the stumbling-block in safety oneself, but it would trip up the next comer.

Isn't it true that a great many people consider that perfectly fair in the game of life?—"Each man for himself," they say. "As long as I am safe, why worry about the next man? Let him learn to be as careful as I."

And would not this world of ours in which the great game goes on be an infinitely happier, brighter, and more useful place if the stair-rod rule were followed, and each one thought of his neighbor as well as himself, and cleared away obstacles instead of stepping over them?

In the game of tig one did not know who was coming next—the favorite sister or the butt of the family, the stair-rod rule held good for all. In the game of life we never know who will come next along the path. The point is to do the kind thing and clear the way of evil. Then sometimes God lets us have the gratitude of one we love as a reward.

I'm Much Too Busy

So easy to say that! Want of time is the great excuse just now. "I'm

The verdict of mankind, of believer and unbeliever alike, is that the moral character of Jesus is unsurpassed. No religion in the world has known such a founder. He stands out as the greatest and only perfect leader in history, and why—"because of the great and beneficent scope and aim of the Gospel He preached and lived."

The great mission of Jesus Christ into this world was to do nothing else, and nothing less than to restore the two relationships which had been broken by sin, namely that between man and his God, and that between man and his fellows. This lost relationship can only be restored through faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as the Savior of the world.

What Faith Means

Now faith in Christ does not mean simply intellectual assent to the bare fact that this man called Jesus Christ died upon a cross. Faith is not mere belief on evidence, or on testimony. It is not even the intellectual acceptance as true of what God has said. Faith is not faith without the element of personal confidence, self-commitment, trust. A man may accept all known truth about God and Christ, and believe it on the authority of God himself, and yet be destitute of faith. By faith in Christ we do not mean faith in a dead body on a wooden cross. Nor is it a trust or confidence upon one act of atonement. We are Christians because our trust, confidence and personal resting is upon the Christ who performed the act.

Confidence In the Personal Christ

This is the essence of saving faith. The poor woman who bathed the feet of Christ with tears knew nothing of doctrines about Christ, and could give no intellectual assent to them. She knew nothing about an act of atonement for Calvary was yet in front; but she knew, that the sweet face of Jesus was the first that had looked on her in love; she knew that his voice was the first that had touched and quickened the broken chords of her heart. She saw ATONEMENT in those wonderful eyes of Jesus, and she cast her whole self in simple trust, and confidence and personal restfulness upon Him, and according to the Master's own words it was her faith in Him that saved her. We believe in the atoning act of Christ, but we are saved, not because of that belief, but because we cast ourselves on the personal Christ.

The Power of the Spirit

And again we are attracted to Christianity because of the Power of the Holy Spirit made manifest in the lives and hearts of men. No other religion in the world guarantees power to those who adopt it, to keep its laws and prospects. We know whom we have believed and we are persuaded that He is able to keep that which we have committed unto Him. This spirit is not a mere influence, but it is God himself as a spirit, in contact with our spirits. God thus works in man for the accomplishment of his purpose in Christ.

The Products of Christianity

The types of characters which this Christianity of ours through the power of the Holy Spirit has produced is another of the reasons why we are attracted to it. If we were to make out a list of the saintliest and noblest names of history, and of the most beneficent movements, that

all. In the game of life we never know who will come next along the path. The point is to do the kind thing and clear the way of evil. Then sometimes God lets us have the gratitude of one we love as a reward.

I'm Much Too Busy

So easy to say that! Want of time is the great excuse just now. "I'm much too busy to stop and right a wrong." "I'm much too busy to find a kind action." Think of the stair-rod rule when you say that. You would be racing along as hard as you could go, but the stop had to come, and it was for such a little time after all. It might be saving a limb, or even a life, but fifteen seconds sufficed for the whole piece of work.

Kind actions are never measured by the length of time they take to perform; and it is just the busiest people who find odd moments to perform them. The point is to make the rule, practise it till habit helps in the prompt performance. That done, besides the gain to those who come after the benefit by the help, there will be the still greater gain of a fine character made ready for heaven.

As You Are Strong

Often the strongest people—those whose characters are made of the best material in the rough, are the hardest and least considerate. They need to remember not to judge others by themselves. "I am strong enough to step over the stumbling-block, but as all are not, I will clear away," is better than, "I can look after myself, so why can't she?"

Strength is given to one just for the sake of the weak who are to follow—spiritual strength as well as strength of body and mind—so let us pray:

"O strengthen me, that while I stand
Firm on the Rock, and strong in Thee,
I may stretch out a loving hand
To wrestlers with the troubled sea."

THESE TWO THINGS

There are two fundamental truths that we must keep firm and unflinching hold upon in these days that bring to us much to test our faith. The first one is, mankind is redeemable. That is not the same as saying that all kinds of men may be saved, using that word either in its old-fashioned or its quite modern acceptance. The compass of the truth is this, that the phrase, "a redeemed humanity," really means something, that it stands for an ideal and purpose in the thought of God Himself.

And the second truth is this, that the Gospel, revealing the grace of God in Jesus Christ, is given to accomplish that redemption, and will not fail in its task. If we believe these two things, if we keep a firm hold upon them in all the breadth and fullness of their implications, the darkness and sadness even of the present great world. With these truths in our souls we can go about the tasks of today with courage and hope and a great expectation.

Near-By Power

Will your kind of Christianity stand closeup examination? Or is it the kind of which "distance lends enchantment to the view?"

We all know that the hardest place in which to be true witnesses for Christ is in the home circle. It is easy, somehow, to be "off our guard" at home—but the Devil is never off his guard there. Perhaps we expect the home folks to make allowances for the weakness of our human nature in the home; and yet that is the place of all places where Christ longs to reveal His miracle power in us.

If we find ourselves most unloving to those whom we really love most, our Christianity is a sad failure at a vital testing-place; and we cannot possibly do for others outside the family circle what we might do unless we let Him show His power in us to those near at hand.

If we would be used in blessing to "the uttermost parts of the earth," we must let that same sort of blessing begin "in Jerusalem." It was true on the Day of Pentecost, and it

is still true today, that "the light which shines farthest shines brightest at home."

THE VISION

The two were walking along a suburban road. It could hardly be called a road, it was so deep in mud after the sudden storm. Their feet were clogged, their hats were soaked with the drippings from the trees, and they were still a mile or so from shelter.

"Of all the bad roads I ever saw, this is the worst!" the man exclaimed.

"Oh, look!" said the girl. She stood still at the spot where the road turned. Far off, under the rain-washed sky, the towering buildings and gleaming roofs of the city lay as in a picture, soft and clear in the late sunlight. "Isn't it beautiful? And on this muddy road, too. It's like getting a glimpse of the New Jerusalem as one goes plodding along the roads of the world, isn't it? Who cares for the mud after seeing that?"

No road is mean or prosaic that has such glimpses. The Christian cannot find a path, no matter how obscure from which the vision of the City of God cannot be glimpsed every day. If he thinks only of the mud, and never looks toward the view—well, whose fault is it?

RECONSTRUCTION AFTER WAR

Premier Lloyd George joined in the recent invitation from Westminster Chapel, London, to Rev. J. H. Jowett now of New York. The British Weekly says that Mr. Lloyd George wrote a strong letter to Dr. Jowett urging him to return to England. He said, "London will need prophetic voices more than ever in the period of reconstruction after the war." Dr. Campbell Morgan, the former pastor of Westminster and who is retaining his membership in the Church also supported the invitation.

Street, was a success in every way. A button-hole competition resulted in Miss Needles winning the first prize and Mrs. Gillen the consolation. Those contributing to the program was Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. McDuffie, Miss Hadfield, Miss Jacks, Mrs. Waters and Miss Needles. Those assisting the hostess in serving were Miss W. Jacks, Miss M. Potter and Miss Pedlow.

The next regular meeting of the Ladies' Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church will be held at the home of Mrs. Wm. Burton, 2832 Twenty-fourth Avenue, on Wednesday, May 2.

GRANT WOMEN RIGHT TO SIT ON COUNCIL

Victoria, April 13.—The legislative municipal committee today recommended a change in the Municipal Act placing women on the same footing as men, so the future councils of the cities of Vancouver, Victoria, etc., may have women numbered among them, and women, too, may be upon any other elective body, a privilege heretofore held by men. This is the result of the passage of woman suffrage by the legislature, a measure which was brought in by the Liberal government, the party having advocated equal suffrage for some years.

The deputation of women comprised Mrs. D. Gordon Grant, Mrs. D. O. Lewis, Mrs. R. L. Ledingham, Mrs. Poleby and Miss M. L. Hall, all of Victoria.

CORK CLOTH

Cork fabric, a recent French production, the result of a new process, is described in the Scientific American supplement. Says this paper: "It is water-proof, a non-conductor of heat, and unbreakable. By using a special machine, thin slices of cork of an even thickness are obtained from a block of cork. The slices are placed in chemical baths in order to remove the resinous parts, which make cork a more or less brittle substance. Upon their removal the cork sheets become flexible, and may be compared in this respect with thin leather. In fact, the sheets can be folded and bent without breaking. By combining the cork sheets with any suitable cloth, preferably a thin and strong cloth of good color, an excellent water-proof material is obtained. An adhesive preparation is employed to glue the cork to the cloth; or, if a stronger garment is desired, the cork sheets are placed between two layers of cloth."

BIRDS GIVE WARNING OF GAS TO SOLDIERS

One of the favorite characters in the folk-lore of all nations is the kindly disposed fish, or bird, or frog, or rabbit who heaps benefits upon the hero, coming to his rescue in moments of peril at the very nick of time.

This pretty fairy-tale is coming true at present for the heroes of the trenches, whenever those grim ditches have been dug near a forest or orchard. For the birds overhead give warning of the approach of the noxious fumes of asphyxiating gas before it is perceptible to the sense of the soldier. Dr. Cabanes, writing in La Chronique Medicale, says that the birds are roused from their slumbers before the odor of the gas has been detected in the trenches, and at once begin to make a confused clamor as they hastily take their flight to the rear, thus warning the men behind the guns to don their gas-masks and be ready for the deadly unseen foe. This circumstance is in accord with the well-known use of a canary to detect foul air in mines, and it seems probable that the superior sensitiveness of birds in this respect is due to

A Word For The Helpless, or A Reform That Waits

An Open Letter, to the Prime Minister, Victoria, B. C.

Dear Sir,—While provincial problems of the first importance confront your distinguished administration, and grave abuses, long accumulating, are never swept away completely in a single day—not even by Hercules, nor by a Russian Revolution—nevertheless there is one cause, one class, one complaint, one institution for which I claim your humane heart and sympathetic ear.

It is the class for whom few speak, and who cannot speak for themselves; and if they could they would not be believed. They are the most helpless of all God's creatures. I refer to the treatment, under the existing conditions, of the unfortunate inmates of the rest hospital for the mind, called commonly the Asylum for the Insane. Whatever little remains of tenderness in this material and selfish world of ours goes out to them. They have no advocate, no champion, rare visitors; and few friends. But every gentle woman pities their case; and every man of heart pleads it without fee or interest or reward. And so a reforming ministry, not yet spoiled by office nor hardened by abuse, may stoop to hear their feeble voice. They would not waste your time suggesting obvious remedies here. No details, no personalities, no fixing of blame, no retroactive reflections. Only action.

For those public employees responsible for our mediaeval methods of treatment in that institution mis-called the Mental Hospital, are themselves the product of an antiquated, cold-blooded, vicious and heartless system. Much of that system is beyond remedial measures, as the abuses it engenders are beyond belief.

We hear much canting insincerity these days to the effect that we should be conservative of all old public employees—good and bad. That any change would be little short of a national calamity. But it is not easy to teach an old dog new tricks, nor safe to put new wine in old bottles. For a long time past, some of us have been listening more or less patiently, and more less credulously, to charges against the internal management of more than one place of detention in this province. And these charges, made by sane and experienced men and women, who both deservedly and undeservedly have sojourned some time at certain of these curative and paternal institutions, are charges they are ready and willing to substantiate before a competent court of inquiry. They speak that they know, and testify that they have seen. These are charges, not only against the system. They are charges of cruelty, incompetence, violence, ill-temper, terrorism, indelicacy, arrogance, theft, waste, bribery and corruption.

Inspection

Now is it not a fact that the so-called inspection of all these institutions by which misconduct could be detected, is something of a connivance, and something of a farce?

Should not a Provincial Asylum, be open unannounced, at unexpected moments, to you, and to every mayor of every municipality in the province, with a key in all your pockets? Should not greater distinctions and

better classification be made than any we have seen between the insane and the neurotic? And the grand jury's visit and report—is it not simply a stage-set white-washing operation?

Should not a patient be always gently and carefully received, with a presumption always of curability; so that a poor woman suffering perhaps only from a shock at child-birth, may not awake to consciousness amid a lot of hopeless gibbering lunatics? And occupations should not be repulsive, and recreations should be elevating, cheerful and intelligent.

Would you believe them when they tell us that women are beaten by guards; that others are dragged by the hair; that men—and in other places than Westminster even—are knocked down and dragged by their feet the whole length of a corridor while on the hard floor, the human head bumps time to this Prussian brutality?

Even I, who write these lines have seen it done, and exposed it, without effect, save the honor of some petty official vengeance it procured me, and the pleasure that even other than good men derive from doing a good action.

Is it good or safe that single-handed, irresponsible ignorance should ever have discretionary punitive power over fellow men? Is it conducive to good nourishment or rather to German prison camp starvation treatment, that a warden should have a little fixed daily allowance for their board, with the resulting temptation to personal profit, and a more and more economical regimen?

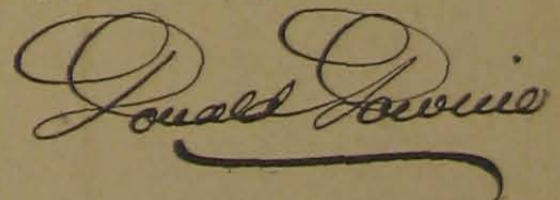
It is hoped that under your promising regime, we shall change all that.

And this Easter day is the very day of hope for the despairing and the dead. And this is the epoch in human history when not the great tyrannies alone but the thousands of small ones also that still flourish in our democracy should be doomed. It may seem to mere politicians—but not to statesmen who love their species—a petty matter to speak of the sad case and the hard treatment of these helpless people who have no votes, nor friends, nor influence.

Art is long. And the session is fleeting, I know. But we have sent to you, among others, in this excellent Vancouver delegation of ours, a competent medical man to whom such abuses and such a probe, and such a reform should appeal.

And so when the much more important matters of John T. Scott and Robert Gosden, and the discharge of an office boy, and the change of a game warden shall have all been disposed of, and such secondary matters as this may appropriately meet the eye, then members will no doubt gladly aid you in bringing to these unfortunates and to these reforms all the encouragement which they deserve.

I have the honor, etc.,



Vancouver, B. C., Easter, 1917.

New Westminster will celebrate its annual May Day festival on the first Friday of next month. Voting for the May Queen is proceeding.

Dominion War Loan bonds are advancing, following the lead of the Anglo-French loan, which, issued at 92, is now quoted at 95.

HOSPITALS FOR INSANE WELL MANAGED, STATES PRESIDENT J. H. M'VETY

Representative of Trades and Labor Council Visits Provincial Mental Hospitals and Praises Them Highly.

President J. H. McVety, of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, who made a personal investigation of the provincial insane asylum at New Westminster and the farm in connection therewith at Essondale, submitted a report at last night's meeting of the council, in which he not only states that Jack Anderson, the man who wrote a letter to the council, as a result of which the investigation was made, was once an inmate and evidently should still be, but that both institutions complained of are run in a highly satisfactory manner. His report follows:

"At the last meeting of the council a letter was received, addressed to the president, from one Jack Anderson, complaining about the treatment accorded patients in the mental hospitals. Mention was made of further correspondence which he had handed to Gordon Kelly, president of the Longshoremen's union, which has since been turned over to the undersigned. On my recommendation the secretary was instructed to write the hon. the provincial secretary asking for an investigation of the charges contained in the letter from Anderson. At my request the letter to the provincial secretary has not yet been forwarded, as I undertook an investigation on my own account.

Anderson a Paranoic.

"Through the courtesy of Dr. G. J. Mackay, superintendent of both hospitals, I was able to see the papers of Anderson, and I found that he is an escaped patient of the type known as a paranoic, one who has hallucinations about people plotting against him and spreading scandalous stories about him, this being the definition given by the standard authorities on the subject. The following paragraph from one of his letters, written on Feb. 28, 1917, explains his trouble, as well as a score of medical works:

"While working at Ocean Falls, October and November 1916, my enemies' agents and their friends caused me to have a great deal of trouble. All the time I was there they sought to break down and ruin my mind by "sizzling," lying and annoying words and phrases at and upon me by mental telegraphy, ventriloquism, mesmerism. Some persons are so adept at these means of annoyance that one can hardly tell that the words and phrases are not one's own thoughts. A great deal of this later annoyance (and injury) has been practiced on me during the past four weeks in town."

Doctor Says Insane.

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Doctor Says Insane.

"After Anderson had escaped he consulted various solicitors, among them being Mr. G. G. McGeer, M.L.A., who referred Anderson to Dr. McIntosh, M.L.A., a consulting physician. Dr. McIntosh advises me that the man is insane and should be returned to the hospital and that his hallucinations are those common to the type.

"At the urgent request of Dr. Mackay, I visited every ward in both Essondale and the New Westminster institutions, also the colony farm and the various works carried on at both of the hospitals. I talked to patients whom I knew personally and others not previously known to me; checked up stories from within with friends and acquaintances outside, spending three half days between the two hospitals. Also discussed the institutions with persons who were on parole or discharged, the sum total of the complaints being that the attendants or rather three of the one hundred or more employees, were rough with the patients. One of three has since left the service, and the other two are under close observation there being no actual evidence obtainable against them.

Patients Number 1300.

"Having regard for the feelings of the relatives and friends of the 1300 patients in these two institutions, 328 of whom are women, and knowing that a great many citizens are interested in the conduct of public institutions, a few observations, in view of the publicity given Anderson's complaint, may be in order.

"The building at Essondale, built about four years ago, from the standpoint of light, heat, ventilation and fire protection, could hardly be improved. The New Westminster buildings are becoming very old, but even then these are better lighted, heated, ventilated and protected against fire than the average residence. Both buildings could not be kept cleaner and the same can be said of the clothing of the patients, the bedding, and the care and preparation of the food-stuffs.

"There are no padded cells, handcuffs, straps or other means of restraint in use, with the exception of canvas camisoles which are occasionally used by order only of the physician in charge.

"The attendants, of both sexes, appear to have been selected solely with regard to their fitness for taking care of people unable to take care of themselves and have not the appearance of 'keepers.'

Institutions Well Managed.

"Having in mind that the present population is 1300 and that more than 5000 patients have passed through the institutions, and taking into consideration all the information I have secured from present as well as discharged patients, their relatives and friends, and my own examination of the institutions, studies of the subject from standard works and discussions with medical practitioners, I am satisfied that the best possible care is being taken of the patients and that the institutions are being well managed.

"To Dr. Mackay and his assistants I am indebted for an opportunity to pursue every possible line of research I deemed necessary, his attitude being a desire for frank criticism and an invitation to such of the patients as I interviewed to tell what they knew of the institution and attendants, regardless of whose feelings might be hurt."