SHEFFIELD INDEPENDENT, Monday, 10 Jan., 1927.

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POISON DRAMA IN A PEAKLAND CAVERN.

RAMBLER'S GRIM DISCOVERY.

MARRIED MAN AND YOUNG GIRL DEAD IN CAVE.

WINNATS MYSTERY.

THE WINNATS.

IN the dark depths of a cavern in the Winnats at Castleton, Derbyshire's famous beauty spot, the bodies of a man and a girl were found on Saturday night. They were identified yesterday as:

Harry Fallows (26), 28, Hinde street, Moston, Manchester;

Marjorie C. Stewart (17), 44, Hinde street, Moston, Manchester.

Bottles of poison were found in the cave. The man was married, and had one child, and was living apart from his wife.

EERIE SEARCH.

The discovery was made by Mr. Fred Bannister, a young Manchester rambler, of Upper Duke street, whose suspicions had been aroused by an incident he witnessed a week previously.

On Saturday, after enjoying a day's tramp on the bleak Kinder Scout, where only the keenest ramblers go at this time of the year, he was returning to Castleton in the gathering darkness, and while walking alone down the Winnats, he decided to test his theory and visit the cave.

Climbing up the side of the steep gorge, well known to Sheffield people, he found an outer cavern merging into a narrow bottle neck. Aided by his flash-lamp, Mr. Bannister passed through the bottle neck and found himself in an inner cavern.

He groped about for a moment, and flashed his lamp into the dark corners and eerie shadows of the silent cave.

Then he made a ghastly discovery. There, in a sitting position, was the body of a young woman, fully dressed and bearing no marks of violence or disorder. He touched her hand and found it quite cold. It took but a moment for him to ascertain that the woman was dead.

HORROR-STRICKEN.

Appalled and alarmed, Mr. Bannister rushed out of the cave, scrambled down the rocks, and dashed along the Winnats road into Castleton. He went straight to the police station, which is at the other side of the village, and informed Sergeant Barnett of his horrifying experience.

The sergeant sent for Doctor Baillie, of Castleton, and the three men at once returned to the Winnats. Night had now fallen, but it was not long before the cavern of death was again entered.

Mr. Bannister pointed out the position of the woman. Before the men had left the cavern, however, the gleams from their torches had revealed yet another tragedy.

Penetrating into a dark corner, the light fell on the body of a man lying prone on the cold floor of the cave, and about 15 yards from that of the girl.

The body was also fully clothed and [illegible] no marks of violence. Near the body of the woman lay a [illegible] cup and saucer and alongside the body of the man a broken bottle was found.

POTENT POISON.

[illegible] the fragments retained [illegible] having contained a potent [illegible] well known disinfectant [illegible] tightly corked, and [illegible] with the same fluid, was [illegible] in a pocket of the man's [illegible]

[illegible] "Sheffield Independent" [illegible] night, that such bottle must [illegible] a large quantity of poison [illegible] contents of one bottle," he said [illegible] enough to [illegible] particular poison would [illegible] death [illegible] within a [illegible]

GRUESOME TASK IN CAVE.

[illegible]

"I WAS HORRIFIED."

RAMBLER RELATES HIS GHASTLY EXPERIENCE.

Deep mystery surrounds the circumstances which led to the presence of the tragic couple in the secluded cave.

Some light is thrown on the mystery, however, by Mr. Bannister who, last night, related a remarkable story to the "Sheffield Independent."

He stated that he encountered the couple at the entrance to the cave last Sunday week.

He and two friends were on a ramble at Castleton when they saw a man and a young woman sitting side by side in the dark at the entrance to a cave.

"I am quite certain they were the same two," he said. "We had torches, and they told us to put them out. We passed on, and thought no more about it."

INTUITION.

Describing his dramatic discovery, Mr. Bannister said he went alone to explore the caves in the Winnats Pass, on Saturday. He went into all the caves except this one, but as he was coming down the Winnats something seemed to tell him to return to the cave where a week ago he saw the couple. Mr. Bannister added:

"I returned and entered the cave, and about 50 yards inside my flashlight shone on the legs of a woman, who was reclining against a rock. Her hands were cold. I was horrified. I did not then see the man."

THE POWDER-PUFF.

It is understood that a handbag at the feet of the woman contained a manicure set, powder puff, and a ticket bearing an address, and a telephone number. The address was that of a young woman with whom the dead girl had exchanged Christmas greetings.

Yesterday Mrs. Wesite (sister of Miss Stewart), with the parents of Fallows, arrived at Castleton and identified the bodies. They declined to be interviewed.

PICNIC SPOT.

TRAGIC CAVE VELL KNOWN TO MOTORISTS.

The scene of the tragedy is well known to Sheffield people, who visit the Winnats in thousands during the summer months.

The cave where the bodies were found is about 75 yards from the famous Speedwell mine. It is further up the Winnats road, on the right hand side, and is about half a mile from the nearest house. To get to it, it is necessary to climb some distance up the side of the gorge.

The cave is not a natural one, but is part of the old lead workings with which the Castleton district is honeycombed.

In summer, motorists, leaving their cars where the road ends and becomes a bridle path, climb up the valley side and hold picnic parties at the mouth of the cavern.

When the rambling season is at its height the bodies could have lain hidden from the public view only for a short time, but at this time of the year the district is comparatively deserted.

CURIOUS CROWDS.

The girl's body was about 50 yards from the entrance, and the man's about 15 yards farther along. Both man and girl were respectably dressed. The girl was wearing a brown mackintosh.

The discovery created a great sensation in Castleton, and crowds of the village people visited the cave and peered into its mysterious depths yesterday. Further in the cave, beyond the spot where the bodies were found, is a steep drop into a lower chasm.

The "Sheffield Independent" learns that the girl Stewart was employed at a Manchester warehouse, and that the man is unemployed. Both had been missing from their homes since New Year's Eve.

ROMANTIC WINNATS.

Castleton and the Winnats are romantic Derbyshire beauty spots. The rugged beauty of the Winnats has made it a popular resort for people from all parts of the country. In 1925 there was a proposal to drive a modern road through the Winnats, but protests were made that this would mar the unspoilt rural simplicity of the spot and the project dropped.

CARPENTIER ON THE STAGE.

PARIS, Saturday.

Georges Carpentier, after appearing as a film actor in England, has now signed an agreement to perform in a music hall sketch in Paris.

He announces to-day that he will both sing a song and dance the Charleston and that he has no dread of nervousness. He also declares that he has not abandoned the ring, although temporarily exchanging it for the theatre.—C.N.

COMPOSER BEREAVED.

BERLIN, Sunday.

The death has taken place at Bayreuth of Houston Stuart Chamberlain, son-in-law of Richard Wagner, the famous composer.—C.N.

DISTRIBUTION OF MINERS' RELIEF FUNDS.

MR. COOK'S REPLY TO MR. SPENCER.

"NOTHING TO HIDE"

MYSTERY OF LETTER FROM CANADA.

FOLLOWING upon the publication of a letter received by Mr. G. A. Spencer, M.P., Nottingham, from Mr. Tom Mace, secretary-treasurer of the General Executive of the Board of "The One Big Union," of Winnipeg, Canada, a "Sheffield Independent" representative interviewed Mr. A. J. Cook, in London, on Saturday.

"I am surprised," said Mr. Cook, "that a reputable journal should make such statements without investigation.

"There is no mystery, nor has there been any strange silence. All sums received have been used for the miners, and receipts sent for all sums received."

"I will welcome the fullest inquiry from any responsible source," continued the miners' secretary. "I have nothing to hide."

MR. SPENCER'S VIEW.

Mr. Spencer, commenting on the letter, said that if there were no ground for any suspicion, it was time that a statement was published as to the amounts received from various sources. There was grave suspicion that considerable sums which were collected for the miners during the stoppage never found their way to the proper quarters.

Mr. Cook is issuing immediately, he told the "Sheffield Independent" representative, a full statement of all moneys received from Canada.

The letter from Mr. Tom Mace stated that they in Canada had written to the Federation asking for receipts for their donations, and for information regarding the donations of various groups in the United States.

LETTER NOT RECEIVED.

Mr. Cook says that he himself has received no such letter from the Canadian Trade Union, and he is not aware that any other official of the Miners' Federation has received such a communication.

Referring to the donations of the Canadian Trade Union, Mr. Cook said they were received anonymously by the Co-operative Wholesale Society Bank, who were not asked for an acknowledgment. Mr. Cook added that this bank has now sent acknowledgment to the Canadian Bank, who sent the money.

SITTING ON VOLCANO.

Speaking at Taunton, yesterday, Mr. Cook declared he made no apology for last year's fight. As a result of that struggle an unparalleled economic crisis was approaching which would have its political counterpart.

In the coalfields there was a wilderness called peace. The enforcement of an eight hours day had worsened the situation for thousands of unemployed young men, and as the result, revolt was spreading everywhere, and we were sitting on a volcano. The crisis that came last year would come again with greater ferocity.

ONLY WAY TO PEACE.

Speaking at Cricklewood, yesterday afternoon, Mr. Cramp, Industrial Secretary, National Union of Railwaymen, said he had never believed in the power of the general strike to settle any involved industrial problem, and expressed the opinion that it would not be entered upon in the same way, should issues of a similar complexity recur.

It was useless to talk peace when there was none. The condition of peace could only be established by trade unionists having an opportunity to understand the circumstances of industry in which they were employed, and of participating in the direction of its destinies. Hard thinking, not the singing of the Red Flag, or the National Anthem, was necessary to overcome after-war problems.

FIVE DAYS BY AIR TO INDIA.

SIR S. HOARE AND A WEEKLY SERVICE.

The Hercules air liner, in which Sir Samuel and Lady Maud Hoare have flown to India, landed at New Delhi on Saturday.

The Air Minister was welcomed by a huge assembly, including Sir William Birdwood, Commander-in-Chief of the Army in India, members of the Viceroy's Council, the Chief Commissioner, and others.

As the air service developed, Sir Samuel said, the journey would not take more than a week, and eventually with night flying in some parts, it could be reduced to five days. Air services should, in course of time, be running regularly at least once a week.

Captain Shorr and Mr. Forte, in their D.H. Moth light planes, arrived at Karachi on Saturday at 1.35 p.m., Indian standard time.

FRENCH ELECTIONS.

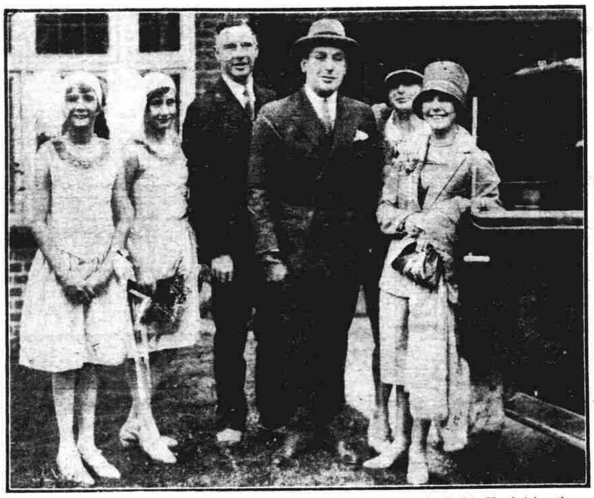
PARIS, Sunday.

The re-election of one-third of the members of the Senate took place to-day. Politicians returned up to the present include M. Caillaux and M. Millerand; the defeated candidates include M. Millerand, the Nationalist ex-President; M. De Selves, President of the Senate; and M. Israel, the chief secretary of M. Herriot.—Reuter.

EMPIRE TELEPHONES.

OTTAWA, Sunday.

The first link in the proposed Empire wireless telephonic chain was forged at noon to-day, when Commander C. P. Edwards, the chief of the Canadian Radio Telegraphs, talked via the Marconi beam system with Mr. E. M. Vivian at Bridgewater, England.—Exchange.



THEATRICAL WEDDING—On Saturday the wedding took place of Mr. Cedric Hardwicke, the lead in "Yellow Sands," at the Haymarket, London, and Miss Helena Pickard, leading lady in "The Purple Bedroom" at the Coliseum.

MATRIMONIAL MIX-UP.

WILLING TO WED: VICAR SAYS TOO LATE!

MARRIED HAPPINESS was delayed a day by the breakdown of two taxi-cabs at Ecclesfield this week-end.

The wedding of Mr. William Jepson, of Ecclesfield, and Miss Ada Slater, of Grenoside, had been arranged to take place at Ecclesfield Parish Church on Saturday afternoon, at two o'clock.

Dressed ready for the ceremony, the bride left her home in ample time to

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reach the church at the appointed hour, but when the taxi, in which she was travelling, had reached a point half-way between the two villages there was a breakdown.

It was soon evident that the engine trouble could not be easily rectified, and another car was hurriedly summoned from Ecclesfield.

THE LATE ARRIVAL.

When this second car was on the way to retrieve the waiting bride, slight engine trouble developed, but this was quickly remedied, and Miss Slater was hurried away.

Meanwhile the bridegroom and his party were waiting in church, an anxious and wondering group, and people armed with bags of confetti had to hold fire.

All fears were allayed when the bride arrived at five minutes to three, but consternation was caused when the Vicar (the Rev. A. Pawson) announced that the wedding could not take place.

He explained that the ceremony could not be completed by 3 o'clock, and marriage after that hour was illegal.

But he promised a happy ending by agreeing to conduct the ceremony yesterday.

FESTIVITY DESPITE DELAY.

Unfortunately arrangements had been made for wedding festivities in the Gatty Memorial Hall, on Saturday night, and as these could not be postponed it was decided to hold the party as though nothing had happened. The wedding was therefore celebrated before the actual ceremony.

But everything ended happily yesterday, and no hitch marred the proceedings when the couple were really made man and wife at the quiet ceremony conducted by the Vicar yesterday morning.

At Ecclesfield, this case is not an isolated one, for during the past two years three more bridal parties have failed through some oversight to meet the requirements, and have left the church unmarried.

TO-DAY'S WEATHER.

Westerly winds, moderate to strong, stronger locally at times; occasional local rain or drizzle; mainly cloudy; visibility moderate to good, but perhaps some local mist or fog patches; mild.

Weather will be mainly cloudy and mild, with occasional slight rain or drizzle in most places. Some fair periods [illegible] improbable.

100 DEAD IN CINEMA FIRE.

PANIC FOLLOWS OUTBREAK.

MANY TRAMPLED TO DEATH.

HALIFAX, Sunday.

A SERIOUS FIRE broke out this morning in the East End of Montreal. A hundred lives are reported to have been lost, and extensive damage has been done to property.

Seventy-six bodies have been recovered from the ruins of the Laurier Theatre, which was totally destroyed by the fire, and fifty persons are in hospital suffering from injuries, many of the cases being grave.

The fire started shortly after 2 p.m., just as the Cinema Theatre was filling for the afternoon performance.

Many of the dead were young people, from 14 to 20. A panic followed the first signs of the fire, and many persons were trampled to death.

The police believe the fire had its origin in the operator's box.

At 6 p.m. the fire was apparently under control. The police and ambulance men were removing the dead and injured. The dead are mostly French-Canadians.—Reuter.

RATES FOR GOODS TRAIN TRAFFIC.

EARLY INCREASE OF 6½ PER CENT.

The "Sheffield Independent" learns that the railway companies have decided to raise the rates for goods train traffic at an early date by about 6½ per cent.

Some weeks ago the companies stated that their grave financial position was receiving serious consideration, and they have now reached the conclusion that their experience during the last three years, leaves them no alternative but to increase their charges.

It may be remembered, said a railway official yesterday, that these rates were, by order of the Minister of Transport, increased to 100 per cent. over pre-war, in 1920. The companies, voluntarily, reduced them on various occasions between November 1921 and August 1923, thus bringing them to their present level, but the experiment, after a prolonged trial under varied trade conditions, proved not to have been justified by the results, the companies having failed to earn sufficient revenue to carry on their business on an economic basis.

The increase referred to is not to be confused with the recent judgment of the Railway Rates Tribunal.

"INCURABLE" CURED

FORMER ENGLISH SOLDIER AT LOURDES.

PARIS, Saturday.

The "Echo de Paris" states that a case of a cure effected at Lourdes has been officially registered by a medical bureau.

It relates to John Traynor, of Liverpool, a non-commissioned officer of the Marines, badly wounded at Gallipoli.

Traynor was pronounced incurable. He visited Lourdes on three occasions and was last year certified permanently cured. Traynor is a Liverpool coal merchant.—Reuter.

It is announced by the Treasury that the Portuguese Government has paid the British Government the first instalment of £125,000, in respect of the year 1926, due under the War Debt agreement, signed on 31 December, 1926.

LEADING CLUBS SLAUGHTERED.

THIRD ROUND CUP-TIE FEATURES.

THE THIRD ROUND of the F.A. Cup competition yielded a big "bag" of surprises, many famous clubs succumbing to the much smaller "fry".

Of the 32 ties, only four ended in draws, and eight home teams were beaten. This compares with nine drawn games and eleven unsuccessful home teams in the corresponding round last year.

Nearly half the First League clubs have disappeared already, several victims of members of their own division.

The feature of the round was, of course, the slaughter of famous clubs, most of them old Cup winners. Blackburn Rovers, Huddersfield Town, Sunderland, Aston Villa, Tottenham, Manchester City, Bury, West Bromwich Albion, and Sheffield United have terminated their interest in the competition for this season.

FOUR GOALS A MATCH.

Only Sheffield United failed before their own supporters. But Blackburn were scarcely expected to succumb to Southport, and Millwall excelled themselves in so decisively putting an end to Huddersfield's career. Exeter's failure against Accrington was totally unexpected, and Chesterfield and Poole were other "small" clubs who put up fine games against much-fancied opponents.

Of the 22 First Division clubs, 11 won, 9 were beaten—4 by other First Leaguers—and two were involved in the drawn games.

There will be general pleasure that the Corinthians came through their first Cup ordeal of the season so creditably, for even a Third League club like Walsall are no mean opponents on their own ground.

The attendances were large, an aggregate of something like 700,000 people watching the 32 ties. Altogether 135 Cup goals were scored—over four goals a match, a very high average indeed.

SPECTATOR'S DEATH.

During the excitement of the Swansea-Bury match a spectator named Thomas Beynon, of New road, Skewen, had a seizure, and died later in the Swansea hospital.

The supporters of Oldham Athletic were enjoying the satisfaction of seeing their team winning against Brentford, when the game had to be stopped through fog.

Notwithstanding fog and rain, hundreds of enthusiasts left Blackburn for the Rovers' Cup-tie at Southport. Mills and workshops closed earlier to enable the operatives to take advantage of four special trains, and numerous charabancs were crowded. At one or two mills where the request to close earlier was refused, a number of operatives took French leave.

Several unemployed, anxious to witness the contest, set out on foot in the early hours to cover the 25 miles.

HANKOW QUIET.

CHINESE OUT OF HAND AT KIUKIANG.

BY A DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT.

The situation at Hankow has taken a turn for the better, but at Kiukiang conditions have gone from bad to worse.

The British authorities at Hankow have come to an arrangement with the Cantonese authorities that the Cantonese troops and pickets shall be withdrawn from the British Concession and their place taken again by British police assisted by police from the former Russian and German Concessions—which are administered by a mixed foreign and Chinese body.

It is stipulated that no British subjects are to be molested in the future.

On these conditions it is expected that British subjects will return to their homes and offices, and that normal business will be resumed at Hankow.

The Cantonese seem to have realised that their anti-British policy is a form of economic suicide.

At Kiukiang, on the other hand, the Chinese mob has got completely out of hand. The British are supposed to be protected by the Chinese police, but evacuation of the women and children has become necessary.

NEWARK CAR OUTRAGE.

MAN DETAINED BY POLICE.

BULLET-MARKED CAR FOUND.

DISCOVERY NEAR LINCOLN.

There have been dramatic developments in the Newark outrage on Friday, when, in a struggle with a motorist, a police constable was wounded in four places by revolver bullets.

YESTERDAY AFTERNOON the Notts County Police discovered a car answering to the description of that wanted, in a garage on the Hykeham road, near Bracebridge, a suburb of Lincoln.

The car was marked with bullets.

The owner of the car is believed to be a Mr. Edgar Smith, a traveller, and it was reported last night that the police had detained a man named Smith in Westbourne Park, London, and that a revolver and a quantity of ammunition was found on him.

It was stated last night that the car was found in Mr. Roberts's public garage on the Hykeham road, and that Smith lived with his wife in furnished apartments nearby.

After his detention yesterday, Smith was removed to Harrow road Police Station, and remained there last night for transference to Newark some time to-day.

He is a powerfully-built man of about 30, and stands nearly 6ft. high.

PLUCKY CONSTABLE.

Below we give fuller particulars of the sensational affair (which was reported in the "Sheffield Independent" on Saturday).

A young woman complained to Police-constable Dainty, of Newark, that she had been stopped by a motorist, who attempted to molest her, and Dainty immediately went on his bicycle in search of the motorist. The constable found a car by the side of the hedge about a mile from Newark, and the motorist hiding in the garden of a villa. He questioned the man who got into the car, and endeavoured to drive away.

P.-c. Dainty jumped on the back, and while the car was proceeding at ten or fifteen miles an hour the motorist turned, and, whipping out a revolver, fired and shot the constable in the right thigh. Dainty then closed with the man and was struck in the face.

The car ran into a wall during the struggle, and came to a standstill. Realising the position, the motorist again fired at the constable, who received a superficial wound in the neck.

"I AM NOT STOPPING."

About this time [illegible] motor-car came up, and Dainty asked for assistance, at the same time warning the newcomer to be careful as the man he was struggling with [illegible] a loaded revolver. It was alleged, however, that the second motorist replied, "Well if that is the case I am not stopping," and drove away.

The constable, nothing daunted, continued his plucky endeavour to effect an arrest. His assailant, who was now in the road, endeavoured to get away, but Dainty, who was still in the car, held him by the neck. The man then fired a third time, the bullet hitting Dainty in the right thigh.

He finally succeeded in getting away, and Dainty, suffering from the effects of his desperate encounter, struggled to an hotel about half a mile distant.

WOMAN SEIZED AND GAGGED.

Major Malcolm, Chief Constable of Cheshire, has issued a police notice offering a reward of £10 for information which will lead to the apprehension of three men in connection with a serious assault on a young woman, of Faddiley, near Nantwich, on Thursday night last.

The woman, it appears, was walking along the Nantwich-Ridley road, when she was stopped by three men who drove up in a motor-car. While two of them seized her, the other gagged her with his muffler, and she was carried fighting and resisting over Brindley Common to a ditch.

Later she was found on the Ridley road in a hysterical condition and exhausted. She has since been confined to bed suffering from shock.

GIRL STABBED.

A Gloucester girl, Miss Joan Richards, of 9, Regent street, was stabbed on Saturday afternoon in remarkable circumstances.

She went to Cheltenham to play hockey for the Barnwood team against Cheltenham, and was walking across a field to the hockey ground when a youth aged about 18 rode up on a bicycle and stabbed her in the shoulder with a large knife.

The youth was a complete stranger to Miss Richards, and there was no reason whatever for the attack.

RHUR COAL PRODUCTION

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

COLOGNE, Sunday night.

A considerable reduction is shown in the Rhur coal production figures for last week. Some 600,000 tons less than the highest figures for last year were produced. This is a little more than for the first week of January 1926.

More than 56,000 tons of British coal were imported into Hamburg during the last two weeks of December.

HINDUS STABBED.

CALCUTTA, Sunday.

Despite elaborate police precautions, five Hindus were stabbed and one injured by a shower of brickbats, while a Sikh procession of 4,000 persons was in progress in the Indian quarter of Calcutta, to-day.—Exchange.

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