

MAN BELIEVED MURDERED AT TUPPER LAKE

Body Found After Fire Starts In House

INVESTIGATION STARTS

Troopers Believe Slayer Set Fire To House To Cover Up Crime

TUPPER LAKE, Jan. 25.—Five men who were summoned from here to Tupper Lake Junction, two miles away, this afternoon, to extinguish a fire, were startled upon entering a room in the house where the fire appeared to have started, to find a man lying on the floor dead with a revolver nearby. They carried the body out of the house and identified the man as Joseph Peore. He had been shot through the chest.

Firemen at once notified Sergeant R. J. McDowell of this outpost and he at once began an investigation. He entered the room where the body was found and located the bullet. The smoke and burning embers made it impossible to continue the investigation until later.

It is believed that Peore was murdered and that his slayer set fire to the house to cover up the crime.

Sergeant McDowell communicated with Captain C. J. Broadfield at Malone and District Attorney H. W. Main and Coroner Fred Spritt were notified and they left for here to join in the investigation.

Peore's body was removed to a local undertaking establishment where an autopsy will be taken.

GET BOOZE AND FOUR OCCUPANTS

All Subjects Of Great Britain

SOUTH OF CHAZY

Immigration Border Patrolmen Albert Yarrington and John Gosnell while on patrol duty about three miles south of Chazy late Thursday evening, noticed a car coming down the highway at a fast rate of speed and flagged the driver to stop for the purpose of making a search.

The driver evidently became confused after he saw the signal and lost control of the car and it went into the ditch.

The officers upon reaching the car found four occupants, all aliens. The driver said he was Herman Gibeault of Montreal and the other three men gave their names as Gibeault, Gene, Rene Gibeault and Albert Gibeault, all of Montreal. Seventy-eight bottles of wine were also found in the car.

The four men were brought to Rouses Point where they are being detained. The car and wet goods was confiscated by customs officers.

Gibeault will be arraigned before U. S. Commissioner G. S. Bixby today on a charge of smuggling aliens into the country. The other three men will be held as material witnesses.

F. J. BRELIA BUYS OUT MUSIC STORE

Fred J. Brelia, manager of the E. E. Clarkson Music rooms, located at 8 Clinton street, city announced yesterday that he had purchased the business from the E. E. Clarkson company of Burlington, Vt.

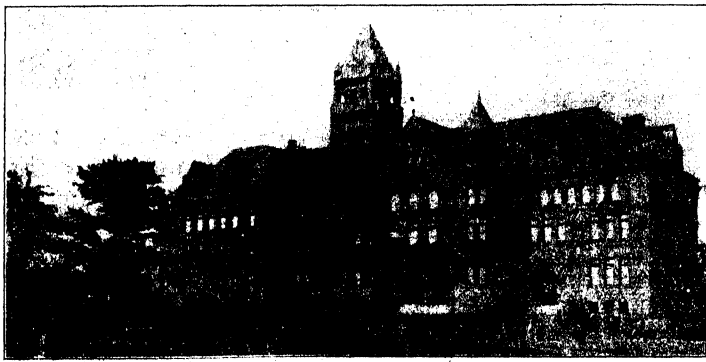
CAPTAIN PHINNEY ASSIGNED HERE

According to the war department orders issued Thursday Captain A. E. Phinney, U. S. A. has been assigned to duty at Plattsburgh barracks. He is expected to arrive here sometime in March.

MAN ARRESTED FOR CONCORD OFFICIALS

Guy H. Gregg of Concord, N. H., was arrested Saturday near Peru by Sergeant L. L. LeVasseur and Trooper E. W. Weller of the Keeseville outpost at the request of New Hampshire Officials. Gregg is wanted in Concord on a charge of removing mortgages on property.

PLATTSBURGH STATE NORMAL SCHOOL 1890-1929



Plattsburgh State Normal School Destroyed By Fire Saturday

Fire of Unknown Origin Leaves Charred Ruins Where Picturesque Building Once Stood—Six Children Caught in School Saved From Certain Death By Member of School's Faculty—Plattsburgh Fire Department Aided by Morrisonville Fire Apparatus and 26th Infantry Department Unable to Prevent Disaster—Property Valued at \$235,000 With \$87,500 Insurance Carried On It By City of Plattsburgh—Many Valuables Consumed By Flames

On that beloved spot where once stood the picturesque and handsome Plattsburgh State Normal School building today there remains nothing but bleak, ice covered ruins, the walls alone standing uneven against the horizon, mute evidence of the tragedy which swept the building and left it a heap of charred destruction. The fire of Saturday which started in the boiler room located at the north end of the basement floor of the building, started at about ten o'clock quickly wove its sinuous and destructive path along the basement corridor to the south end of the building, raced up through the stairways to the main floor and then ate its way up the remaining floors to burst flaming through the roof, all this within half an hour of its origin. Fanned by a brisk northwest wind the fire raged in fury, tearing asunder the framework of the building to toss the brick walls to the ground. The lofty tower of the building outlined against the red flames and black smoke endured both but weakened by the falling of its supports, it was an easy prey for the strong current of air and tottering pitifully fell to the ground a mass of bricks and slate.

News of the fire spread quickly throughout the city and the black smoke that sailed high into the heavens could be seen from surrounding towns. Hundreds of Normal students and residents of the city rushed to the western section of the city in vain hope that the building might be saved, but the fire had made such headway in so little a time that it was absolutely impossible to prevent it from totally destroying the school. The fire from its early moments sped beyond the power of the fire fighting forces and spread before the wind with almost lightning rapidity. Sparks driven by the velocity of the wind set many fires in other parts of the city and it was necessary for the firemen to hurry to these sections and quench the eager flames. The residences of Charles Signor at 129 Brinkerhoff street, Harry Viell, 124 Brinkerhoff street and Thomas Brown of 128 Brinkerhoff street caught fire but these were brought under control by the firemen from Morrisonville who came to this city to aid the Plattsburgh Fire Department.

Students in Building At the time the fire started Prof. Lyndon R. Street, was directing six children who are members of the Normal School band in the use of their instruments in the southwest side of the school building. The instructor smelled the smoke and investigating discovered that the corridor was a mass of smoke. The children by this time also sensed the peril and attempted to leave the building by the way they had entered but were forced back by the smoke. Prof. Street gathered the youngsters together in the room where they were being taught and smashed a pane of glass in one of the windows. He then took each of the children and dropped them to the ground, a distance of about 10 feet. One of the three young boys hurt in the drop is believed to have suffered a fractured skull. He is Jack Agnew, 8 years of age. The others were Eugene Dewey, 4, a visitor at the school, an injured ankle but no fracture; Myron Dev-enburgh, 10, no injury; Harold Jerry, Jr., 11, injured leg; Paul Agnew, 10, no injury; and Leon King, 9, no injury. After each child had been removed from the building Professor Street then jumped to the ground.

Cause of Fire Unknown Although the exact cause of the fire will probably never be known, Chief Eli Seymour of the Plattsburgh Fire Department, believes that it was caused by spontaneous combustion, in the boiler room of the school. Chief Seymour questioned Wilfred Parnaby, day janitor at the school, and Parnaby stated that when he left the building at 9:45 o'clock there were no signs of any smoldering fire.

Aid Offered City When the Plattsburgh Fire Department arrived at the scene of the fire several lines of hose were laid despite the fact that it was impossible to prevent the destruction of the building. Fire officials at Morrisonville learning of the catastrophe here immediately dispatched their truck with a force of men to be used at the discretion of the local chief. Aid was also rendered by the 26th Infantry fire department which sent a truck to the scene of the blaze. The latter two, however, were kept in constant hurry by the sparks which carried by the strong wind settled on the roofs of many residence and they thus checked any possible series of fires.

Hundreds Visit Scene Hundreds of people and many cars rushed to the blaze and the local police were unable to cope with the situation properly, but they were re-enforced by members of the Military Police at Plattsburgh Barracks and the State Police who kept the roads clear and the throngs of people from endangering themselves. Sunday the smoldering ruins were again visited by scores of people from all sections of the county and in fact northeastern New York.

\$87,500 Insurance Although the loss is placed at \$235,000, insurance on the school carried by the City of Plattsburgh amounts to \$87,500. Plattsburgh has carried this insurance on the building for many years. Built in 1889-90 The bill providing for the establishment of the Plattsburgh State Normal School was introduced in the legislature in 1889 by the late Hon. Stephen Moffitt and became a law June 15 of that year. The building that was destroyed Saturday was erected during the years 1889 and 1890 and was enlarged during 1895 and 1896. It stood in the middle of a large park bounded on the north by Cornelia street, east by Beckman street, south by Brinkerhoff street and west by Draper avenue. The grounds were tastefully laid out by a professional landscape gardener and contain an artificial lake fed by a fountain, thus giving a pleasant contrast to the green lawns, gravel walks and stately trees. The building was three stories high with a spacious basement of brick and stone trimmings. It was 200 feet east and west and 160 feet north and south. In the basement were the boiler rooms and gymnasiums, study rooms, apartments for the janitors, closets and store rooms. On the first floor were study rooms, large and attractive reception rooms, offices of the principal, Dr. Hawkins. The second floor was occupied by Normal Hall, the main study halls, library reading rooms and recitation halls. The third floor contained the science departments. There was also a handsome and valuable museum on this floor.

Valuable Library The Normal School here contained a valuable library. Many volumes were in constant use by the students and some, perhaps, can never be duplicated. Several highly valued paintings were destroyed in the fire, one of these being left the school by the graduating class of 1926, 27, 28, and was placed on the west side of Normal Hall, the auditorium of the building. Other valuables such as statuary and furnishings were also consumed by the flames. There was not time to save anything in the building, everything within an easy prey to the fire. The Freshmen Class lost \$150 which was in the safe, but this may be recovered later. The State Normal School band's instruments which were housed in the school were also lost as was Prof. Street's Studebaker coach which parked in front of the building. Unable to remove the car, it also fell an easy prey to the leaping flames.

600 Students at School When the Normal school assembled for work during school hours 400 students of the general and commercial departments besides 200 pupils of the grade school were housed in the building. Practically every county in the State is represented at the Normal, the only State Normal school which contains a commercial department.

Doors Not Locked Contrary to the rumor that has been heard throughout the city the doors of the Plattsburgh State Normal school were not locked. These doors, however are made in such a manner that they cannot be opened from the outside. Typewriters Offered The Underwood Typewriter company of New York City has notified local Normal school authorities that the company will forward to Plattsburgh as many of their typewriters, as their school officials desire. All machines used by the Normal students were destroyed in the fire. Phone Operators Kept Busy Between 10:30 and 11:30 o'clock the Northern New York Telephone corporation handled 3600 local calls. It has been estimated that 2000 of these calls were handled in the first half hour. The usual Saturday morning busy hour load is 1800 calls. Normal service capacity is considered as 2300 calls. Fourteen operators were employed to handle this rush traffic, usually only 7 operators are required. Mayor and Council Act The mayor and common council of the City of Plattsburgh in a special meeting convened at the City

Hall, Jan. 26th, 1929, adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Plattsburgh State Normal school was totally destroyed by fire today, and while the common council keenly feels the loss of this noble building with its long and honorable record of usefulness, and while sympathizing with the entire community, the alumni, the students, the teachers and the principal of the school, Dr. G. K. Hawkins in a blow that must be to them like a bereavement, involving as it does the destruction of those memories and associations beyond the power of money to buy, we nevertheless feel that we should express our thankfulness and ask others to share therein, that the terrible visitation did not strike while the building was filled with pupils and teachers. We feel thankful to Providence for avoiding such a catastrophe. We look forward to seeing the Normal school replaced by a more modern and even more beautiful one, where the work of education may continue. We feel that none of us should falter in this crisis and pledge the help of the city government and indeed of all its citizens to help carry on.

Should temporary quarters be required, the city offers the use of its city hall, auditorium and even its department rooms, which we can place elsewhere. From intelligence gained this afternoon we think we can also state that the county will assist with the county buildings, numerous societies will offer their halls, that the parochial schools are offering part of their buildings and that part of the public school system will be available. With these additional resources and the help of all our people we feel that we can go forward and face the future confidently.

Hon. T. F. Conway Sends Sympathy New York, N. Y., Jan. 26, 1929. Hon. John H. McGauley, Mayor of Plattsburgh, N. Y.

I regret the loss of the Normal building and hope immediate and effective steps can be taken to replace it and in the meantime to continue the school in Plattsburgh. I shall be glad to cooperate in any way I can to this end.

Normal School Will Resume Work Wednesday

The Plattsburgh State Normal School classes will resume work at nine o'clock Wednesday morning in the City Hall. The Model School of the State Normal will resume work on Wednesday with pupils in grades 2 and 3 reporting at the Elm Street school at one o'clock. Pupils in grades 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 will report to Broad street school at one o'clock.

CATTLE LOST IN DAIRY FARM FIRE

Fire of Unknown Origin Destroyed Barns and Machinery of William Durbay at Picketts Corners

Fire of unknown origin totally destroyed the dairy barns on the farm of William Durbay at Picketts Corners, early Friday morning. Fed by 140 pounds of hay the flames made quick headway making it impossible to save thirty head of valuable cattle, besides machinery valued at about \$500.

The building 35x90 feet consisted of a carriage house in the front section and cattle stables in the rear. A Dodge sedan in the front part was the only thing saved. The total loss is placed at about \$8,000, which is covered by insurance to the extent of about \$2,000.

The fire was discovered by John Napper a neighbor who aroused the Durbay family and other neighbors but the fire had made such headway it was impossible to combat.

SARANAC CO. BUYS INDEPENDENT MILLS

Local Paper Products Plant Employs 240 at Present Time

The Saranac Pulp & Paper Company, Inc., one of Plattsburgh's most dependable and thriving industries has just completed arrangements for the purchase of the Independent Paper Mills, Inc., of this city, manufacturers of paper napkins and paper towels, whose plant is located in the mills of the Saranac company.

In the future the Saranac Pulp and Paper company will operate its converting division under the name of HY-G Products, Inc., and operations will continue as in the past.

The Saranac company, together with its new purchase, is doing an excellent business at the present time. The plant employs more than 240 hands and is in operation 24 hours a day.

BORDER PATROL GIVEN ORDERS NOT TO SHOOT

In Cities or Thickly Populated District

TULLOCH STATES

Investigation of Plattsburgh Complaint Is Concluded

John C. Tulloch, collector of the port of the St. Lawrence customs district made public Saturday a letter he sent to John H. McGauley, mayor of Plattsburgh in connection with the alleged shooting at the automobile of an innocent bystander by customs patrol inspectors. The letter stated that Mr. Tulloch had issued strict orders to the border patrol not to use their guns within the city of Plattsburgh or any other thickly populated district except in self-defense.

Immediately after Herbert Doucette who said his automobile had been hit by a bullet from the gun of Border Patrol Inspector A. J. Smith had filed a complaint, B. Loyal O'Connell, district attorney, began an investigation. He was told that on the night of January 7, Mr. Doucette had parked his car in front of a store in Plattsburgh, and was going in to make a purchase when he noticed two cars proceeding south on the same street at a high rate of speed. The occupants of the car in the rear, the district attorney was told, was firing at one in front. A stray bullet hit the windshield of Doucette's machine, pierced it and damaged the chine, pierced it and damaged the interior of the car.

District Attorney and Mayor McGauley sent letters to Collector Tulloch.

Special Agent F. D. Henry, acting under instructions, made an investigation. He first interviewed Mayor McGauley who told him that he had no desire to interfere with the enforcement of the prohibition law but believed that Collector Tulloch had the right to use his discretionary powers in asking officers not to shoot within the city limits, at least where the lives of residents of this city might be jeopardized.

Customs Patrol Inspector Francis Covey, when asked to give his version of the affair, said that on the night of January 7, he was patrolling the highway from Plattsburgh to Ingraham in company with Inspector A. J. Smith. Coming toward them at a high rate of speed they saw an automobile which they noticed was "hung low." Believing that it contained contraband Smith, who was driving, turned the machine around and gave chase. As the two machines near Scotomation Creek road, in Plattsburgh the officers caught up with the other car and attempted to pass it. As the border patrol car drew alongside Covey got out on the running board and signalled the driver of the rum-runners' car to stop, he said. When it failed to do so Covey fired one shot at the rear tire he claims. The pursued machine then spurred ahead and the chase continued through Plattsburgh. No other shots were fired. Smith and Covey told Mr. Henry.

The bootlegger's car was seized by the officers about a mile north of Ausable Chasm. On discovering that it contained 53 quarts of Canadian whiskey, Betty Brown and LeRoy Battle were arrested by the border patrolmen.

Both officers strenuously denied that any shots had been fired in the vicinity of Doucette's parked car.

Mr. Tulloch in his reply to a letter of Mayor McGauley said that he was inclined to agree that the use of firearms in a thickly populated district should be restricted. He was absolutely opposed to any action which would endanger the lives of citizens, he said.

MISS HONSINGER PLAYS OVER WJZ

In a program presented in the auditorium of the John Wanamaker store Saturday afternoon at New York City, Miss Louise Honsinger, talented pianist of this city accompanied Sonoria Maria Theresa Balerio, soprano and the Triani Sisters, Spanish dancers from the Palace Theatre according to an announcement in Saturday's Herald-Tribune.

Miss Honsinger is also one of the artists who broadcast in the "Gold Spot Hour" presented to radio audiences by station WJZ of New York City on Saturday evenings from 6:30 to 7 o'clock.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS COMMITTEE HELD MEET

Committee Goes Over And Accomplishments Of Year 1928

At its first meeting in the year 1929 the Clinton County Bovine Tuberculosis Committee went over the work and accomplishments of the year 1928.

The Committee composed of Chairman J. P. Hanley, Altona, Cassius Broderick, Chazy, A. L. Senecal Plattsburgh, J. J. Kimball, Saranac and Russell Clark, Peru, met at the Farm Bureau Office Thursday, Jan. 24th, and Geo. Czarr, Farm Bureau Manager, and Secretary of the T. B. Committee reported that more work had been done in eradicating this cattle disease than in any previous year in the county.

In summarizing the reports of the Veterinarians Dr. F. E. Boyd, Federal Veterinarian, of Peru, Dr. J. A. McCrank and Dr. J. N. Graves, of Plattsburgh, Veterinarians employed by the County T. B. Committee. The figures showed that Dr. Boyd had tested 10,967 head, Dr. McCrank, 4,194 head, Dr. Graves, 3,953 head and work done by other Federal and State Veterinarians 5,360 head, making a total of 24,474 head. Of this number 1,241 were condemned and slaughtered. This is 5.07 per cent of the total tested. In 1927 the percent reactors was 10.77. A comparison of these two percentages indicates that the disease is being rapidly eradicated in Clinton County.

The total amount of money received by the owners of these condemned cattle was \$154,250.00 an average of \$124.29. This of course, includes all young stock and older cows.

The work for the year was carried on in a very efficient, systematic manner. All retests of infected herds were reported in the Townships of Ausable, Black Brook, Saranac, Peru and Schuyler Falls. A complete retest of the townships of Chazy, Dannemora, Plattsburgh, Ellenburg and Clinton was made. At the present time a complete retest is being conducted in the township of Altona. A large number of retests were conducted in the townships of Champlain and Beekmantown.

In 1918 Clinton County was listed in State records as having an infection of 17 percent. At the present time the infection is less than 2 percent. During the ten year period there has been 8463 reactors in this county. There are 3870 herds in this county and of these herds there are 1403 that are fully accredited, and 1654 herds that have passed one clean test.

The State Department of Agriculture and Markets at Albany, have reported that 554 of the 940 townships in the state have been tested at least once and that 60 per cent of the cattle in the state are under the accredited herd plan.

During the first part of 1929 the Committee plans if weather permits to retest the township of Champlain, and carry on retests in the townships of Mooers, Beekmantown and Chazy.

Figures in 1928 indicate that the indemnity paid for condemned cattle compared very favorably with present market prices, and it is expected that cattle owners will give their full co-operation to the Veterinarians when they desire to have their herds tested.

PICKEREL DEVOUR LAKE GEORGE TROUT

LAKE GEORGE, N. Y., Jan. 25. (AP)—Unless something is done to prevent the pickerel in Lake George from devouring the trout the waters of Old Harbor within a few years, according to James S. Royce of Warrenburg, assistant state superintendent of fish hatcheries.

Last fall, when Mr. Royce attempted the netting of trout for their spawn he was able to secure a mere "handful" of eggs, a fact which he attributed to the pickerel that infest the lake's waters. Scarcity of ice fish also is attributed to the pickerel.

As a possible remedy it has been suggested that the law protecting pickerel be abolished or held in abeyance for a few years, until anglers are able to exterminate them or at least materially reduce their numbers.

REDS TAKE FIRST POSITION IN DRIVE

For the first time since the Y. M. C. A. membership drive opened the Red team assumed first position when they outdistanced its other rivals by 251 points. The Blues are second with 244 1-4 and the Whites third with 232 1-2. Hildreth maintains the lead in the race for individual honors.

POLICE REPORT FOR YEAR 1928 MADE PUBLIC

Convictions Numbered 343 Fined Totaled \$1544

31 CARS RECOVERED

Sweeney Recommends That Three More Policemen Be Added to Force

The recommendation that at least three more patrolmen be placed on the local police force is made in the annual report of Acting Chief of Police John Sweeney made public Friday.

There were 343 convictions during the past year of 1928, says the report, and a total of \$1544 in fines was collected.

The summary of the report says: "In addition to the detailed account there were 98 automobile accidents investigated, thirty-one stolen cars were recovered, the value of which was set at \$20,000, and a diamond troch valued at \$1500 was also recovered.

"By the good cooperation of the members of the department several robberies were cleared up and several undesirable were driven out of the city. Several shop lifting cases were also cleared up.

"One of the best jobs of the department was the arrest of Charles Harvey with a stolen Cadillac car, which was the means of capturing one Roy Brown, the leader of a gang of auto thieves, who is now serving a 25-year sentence.

"Motor vehicle traffic in the city is a problem but with the assistance of the mayor and the police committee this can be worked out to better satisfaction than in the past. "I would recommend at least three more patrolmen to properly police the city, and also recommend one more car for the use of the department."

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Includes Police Intoxication (36), Disorderly conduct (177), Assault (3rd) (8), Highway Law (14), Petit larceny (12), Truancy (1), M. V. City Ordinance (93), Fines (1544.00), Days in jail (1001), Suspended sentence (80), Grand jury (1), Total cases (342).

DEPUTY M. V. COMMISSIONER HELD HEARING

Herbert Shutt's License Is Revoked

Deputy Commissioner Bernard Schmidt of the motor vehicle department held a hearing in the motor vehicle office of the county clerk's office Friday morning. Herbert Shutt of this city whose license was suspended following an automobile accident in which Rupert Wheeler was fatally injured, appeared before the commissioner and asked to have his license restored. The commissioner revoked his license.

Louis Schneider of West Plattsburgh whose license was suspended after being convicted in federal court of transporting contraband believed in telling the truth and as a result his license was revoked. The commissioner was just going to restore his license when he said "Schneider, you haven't driven a car since your suspension?" Schneider stated he drove a truck once and so the commissioner responded "license revoked."

Fred Mitchell of Keeseville who was arrested at Churubusco for violating the federal law and had his license suspended, appeared before the commissioner and asked to have his license restored. His request was granted.

Herbert Halem of Keeseville who was arrested for operating a car without a license, appeared at the hearing and requested that he be permitted to make application for a license. Decision was reserved.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 28. (AP)

—Dead in her home for more than three weeks as a result of suicide by gas, the body of Katherine S. Smith, 60, today was discovered by her son when he broke into the house in which she lived alone. The body, frozen, was in bed in a room with a gas jet still open. Mrs. Smith was last seen by neighbors on New Year's eve.