

DERCUM TO STUDY CASE OF MINISTER

Young Selinsgrove Preacher, Suffering From Aphasia, Was Stricken in Pulpit

SPEECHLESS SINCE JAN. 11

Dr. F. N. Dercum and a group of nerve and brain specialists today will make a study of the condition of the Rev. L. S. Drumheller of Selinsgrove, who is in the Jefferson Hospital suffering from aphasia.

The pastor was stricken while conducting services in his church on January 11. Since that time his mind virtually has been a blank.

He can understand nothing but a few of the simplest words. "Well," is one of them. He seems to have a vague idea of the meaning of "mother."

The almost total absence of thinking ability of any kind is what makes the case so baffling to the experts. Doctor Dercum, who was summoned in consultation over the condition of President Wilson, is evincing unusual interest in the case.

Mr. Drumheller's parents live at 2831 Lehigh Avenue. He has been unable to recognize them when they visit him at the hospital, it was said.

Even the repetition of the word "mother" in the presence of Mrs. F. A. Drumheller, his mother, has little effect on him.

Authorities at the Jefferson Hospital will not discuss the case. Beyond admitting that he is treating Mr. Drumheller for aphasia, Doctor Dercum also refuses to go into the matter.

"A man is helpless when attacked by aphasia while preaching at any other time," Doctor Dercum explained.

Mr. Drumheller is a fine fellow and his condition is improving.

Mr. Drumheller's powers of movement also are impaired. He seldom walks unless ordered to do so.

The pastor is in a secluded part of the hospital, removed from street noises and disturbances in other parts of the hospital. He is under almost constant observation, a nurse or attendant being with him to encourage any effort made by him to regain his memory.

Mr. Drumheller's wife, a young woman, breakdown in the midst of a service. He sank to the floor of the pulpit and was unconscious when removed from his church to the parsonage.

After local physicians at Selinsgrove failed in their efforts to rescue his doctor, he was ordered to the hospital here by the experts and in consultation. He was taken to the hospital last Thursday.

HELD FOR \$2700 THEFT

Identification of Photograph Secures Man's Arrest on Larceny Charge

Identification of a photograph is the key to the arrest of Harry Torch, giving an alibi on April 1. Torch, who was held in \$2500 bail for court by Magistrate McElroy at Central Station today on a charge of larceny of dry goods valued at \$2700.

The plaintiff was the firm of Haines & Co., a haberdashery house, with offices in the Colonial Trust Building. This came on November 2nd of last year, when the American Express Co., Eighteenth and Market streets, sent a man down to their office to get a package of merchandise. Torch, it is alleged, got the package and disappeared.

Miss Louise Sevren, a shipping clerk, employed by Haines & Co., was the chief witness at the hearing and it was through her efforts that Torch was arrested. She was with the police records and identified a picture of Torch as the man who came to the office with a regulation badge and cap and took away the package.

A. O. WEIDNER DEAD

Assistant Superintendent of Atlantic City Railroad Is Apoplexy Victim

A. C. Weidner, assistant superintendent of the Atlantic City Railroad, died suddenly in Laurel Springs, N. J., last night while visiting friends.

Mr. Weidner was sixty-three years old. He was born near Reading, Pa., and his first job was with the Atlantic City Railroad, where he was employed at the time of his death. He held the position of assistant superintendent, with offices at the Camden terminal, for many years.

He apparently was in the best of health when he left his home in Haddon Heights to visit his friend last night. He collapsed while sitting on a chair, a physician was summoned, but no appendix was found. Death was due to appendicitis, the doctor said.

Mr. Weidner lived with his wife, Miss Clara Swentz, who resided in Haddon Heights for more than twenty years.

He was a Mason of high standing, being identified with the Excelsior Cemetery, of Union and Crescent Streets of Trenton, as well as being a Knight of the Golden Eagle and a member of the P. O. S. of A.

Street Cleaning Chief Busy

The first task of Director M. McPherson, the new chief of the Bureau of Street Cleaning, was begun today, when teams and men started to clear the streets of snow which was left as a result of the first real snowstorm of the season. Col. Hepburn visited the bureau yesterday and suggested that hourly reports be obtained from George S. Bliss, the weather forecaster. A watchman was stationed in City Hall last night to receive this report.

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