

## Brief Chronicle of 1902 Local Events

Transcribed by Sharon Anderson, February 17, 2007, from scanned copies of a book from Tim Smellie

- January
- 2 Departure of Barbados of Messrs. J. B. HARRISON and G.F. FRANKS to attend the Intercolonial Agricultural Conference
  - 3 Municipal welcome to Sir James Alexander SWETTENHAM, the new governor
  - 4 Death in hospital of William CUMINGS, who was accidentally stabbed at Lichfield on the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant.
  - 6 Action brought in the Supreme Court by Caroline ROSE, widow, against Messrs. SPROSTONS, Ltd. To recover \$500 damages for the loss of her son, who was Drowned in the Pataro. Plaintiff was non-suited.
  - 8 Publication in the *Official Gazette* of an application by Mr. J. H. De JONGE, on behalf of the Omai Gold-Mining Syndicate, for a concession covering 120 square miles on the left bank of the Essequibo.
  - 13 Inquest relative to the death from scalds received in the factory of Pln. Ruimveld of a lad named BHUDWA.
  - 22 Boating disaster in the Massauri; eleven lives lost; Bosey ROBERTS sentenced to death at Criminal Sessions for the murder of Adelaide TELFORD at Plaisance on November 2, 1901
  - 24 Marriage of Miss Angela de FREITAS to Mr. Manoci RODRIGUES
- February
- 8 Miss F. M. KING married to Mr. William SHANKLAND at Brickdam Cathedral
  - 13 Arrival of the immigrant ship *Main*
  - 14 Fire at lot 26, North Street
  - 15 Execution of Bosey ROBERTS for the murder of Adelaide TELFORD; Inquest in Georgetown, relative to the suicide of Frederick AGARD, jeweler, in Hincks Street
  - 17 Death of Mr. N. W. KING, manager of Pln. La Grange
  - 19 Fire in Murray Street
  - 26 Appointment of Mr. H. A. BOVELL to Chief Justice of British Guiana
  - 27 Announcement of the retirement from the B. G. Militia of Major SWAIN
  - 28 Death of Mr. George S. JENMAN, Government Botanist; Death of Mrs. A. FERREIRA, of Victoria
- March
- 1 Inquest at the Police Magistrate's Office regarding the suicide of Antonio VELLADO of Bentick Street
  - 12 Decision delivered in the Supreme Court for \$1,250 damages, with costs, in the case of D.W.A. MCKINNON v. S. DAVSON & Co, a claim for \$4,700
  - 13 Deputation of lawyers to the Governor relative to the proposed removal to New Amsterdam of Mr. A.F. C. WEBER, acting Assistant Police Magistrate, Georgetown
  - 18 Meeting of Portuguese citizens; "protest against oppression and Misrepresentation
  - 20 Organ recital at St. Philip's Church
  - 27 Eugene ALLEMEYER and fourteen other escaped criminals sent back to Cayenne by the F.M.S. *Ville de Tanger*
- April
- 1 Sale announced of the *Berbice Gazette* to the People Newspaper Co., Limited
  - 2 Death of Mr. George GREIG
  - 4 Announcement of the appointment of Mr. Francis TAYLOR PIGGOT, M.A., as Attorney General of British Guiana
  - 5 Boat accident at La Penitence, two men drowned
  - 15 Boating accident off Ponderoyen
  - 16 Return of the Rev. W. B. RITCHIE; reception at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church; Arrival of Mr. J. STEELE, C.B., to enquire in the excise system of the Colony; News received of the death, in England, of Mr. G.H. HAWTAYNE, C.M.G.
  - 19 Coronation Celebrations
  - 24 Death of Mr. James THOMSON; Mr. P.N. BROWNE returned
  - 30 Small Pox in Barbados

- May
- 3 Death of Mr. A.E. STRIPP
  - 5 Receipt of the news of the death in Scotland of Mr. D.E. JARDINE, proprietor of the *Daily Chronicle*
  - 8 Departure of Colonel McINNIS; Captain of a Steam Launch charged with manslaughter
  - 10 Inquiry at City Police Court relative to the death of a prisoner
  - 11 The Catastrophe in the Windward Islands – pulpit references
  - 21 Suicide in the Demerara River
  - 22 Death of the Rev. Frederick SCURFIELD
  - 23 Graphic description of the reception of La Pelee by the Rev. D.J. REYNOLDS
  - 24 Post Office Robbery in Georgetown
  - 27 Arrival in the Colony of refugees from Martinique
- June
- 1 Mysterious robbery at the “Black Lion” rum shop
  - 3 Fire in Georgetown; Drowning fatality in the Demerara River
  - 4 Water Street flooded by high tides
  - 9 Suicide in the Eldorado Hotel of an orchid collector; drowning fatality in the Demerara River; Inquest at Providence; Presentation to the Rev. W.G. ANDREWS
  - 11 Gruesome find in the Demerara River
  - 12 Rural Constable dismissed for neglect of duty
  - 14 The Eldorado Hotel Suicide – Inquest. Receipt of the news of the shooting of Capt. O.S. MELING in Venezuela
  - 17 Lecture by Commissioner CADMAN on the “Darkest England” Social Scheme in the Town Hall
  - 23 His Excellency reprieved Jeremiah JAMES, the Potaro murderer; News received of boating accident in the Massaruni
  - 24 Official announcement that Father GALTON has been appointed R.C. Bishop of this diocese.
- July
- 1 Executive Council meeting to consider charges against Mr. KELLY, Magistrate’s Clerk, East Coast Judicial district
  - 3 Death of Mr. L.F. VALLADARES, the proprietor of the “Nugget” printing office
  - 4 W.H. GRIMSHAW, Magistrate’s clerk, charged at Vergencegen Court with Theft and remanded
  - 5 Body of William HURRV, fireman of the S.S. *Sprostenwood*, recovered from the river near the Fort
  - 11 Attempted suicide of W. HUTTON, solicitor’s clerk
  - 13 Alleged murder of an Arab named IMANSBOLRHAH by Alfred VEIRA; Sermon at St. George’s Cathedral by Dean DASWELL, regarding marriage with a deceased wife’s Sister
  - 17 Boating accident in the Massaruni reported
  - 18 Murder of a coolie woman at Leguan
  - 19 Verdict of manslaughter against Alfred VIEIRA, who killed an Arab by blows with a stick on the previous Sunday, at La Penitence
  - 21 Verdict of willful murder against Matadeen for alleged murder of a coolie woman at Leguan; LAHOWRIE, a free East Indian immigrant, committed for trial at Sparendaan for the alleged murder of RAMCHURRAN, also an immigrant
  - 22 Annual meeting of the Demerara Rowing Club at which Professor HARRISON and Mr. E.M. SANDERSON were re-elected President and Vice-President respectively; Boat accident in the Berbice river whereby one life was lost
  - 23 News received of two cases of small-pox at Barbados; News received of the death in Scotland of Mr. R. JEFFREY, formerly partner in Messrs. Booker Brothers
  - 25 Official telegram received that the Coronation will take place on August 9<sup>th</sup>
  - 26 Barbados declared an infected port
  - 29 Retirement announced of Mr. F.A. CONYERS, for 36 years secretary of the Hand-

- in-Hand Mutual Fire Insurance Co., Ltd  
 30 Woman electrocuted in Croal Street
- August 2 Departure of Rev. Mr. SHIRLEY  
 5 Receipt of news of the murder of Mr. James MAVOR, an old Demerara planter  
 7 Opening of the inquest into the electric wire fatality in Croal Street  
 8 Trial of an alleged counterfeiter; Decision reserved in the Marshall Syndicate's claim against J. C. MENZIES  
 9 Coronation Day in Georgetown  
 12 Alleged counterfeiter referred for trial  
 15 The Croal Street electrocution case – conclusion of the inquiry; Decision in the Marshall Syndicate's claim; Death of Mr. C.D. KING  
 16 Artillery concert at the Fort  
 19 Death of Mr. Donald SKEKEL  
 22 Meeting at the Town Hall of the Victoria Memorial Committee; Decision to erect a band stand on the Sea Wall  
 27 Town Council Election – Mr. S.A.H. CULPEPER returned as representative of the North Cumingsburg West Ward  
 28 Punt struck by lightning --- three men seriously injured  
 29 Arrest of Manoel MENDONES, insolvent, on a charge of accounting for part of his property by fictitious expenses; Lecture by the Rev. W.B. RITCHIE on a tour from Paris to Venice  
 30 Passenger on the S.S. SAVAN detected smuggling tobacco and whiskey
- September 1 Feast of Saint Philomena  
 2 Death of Mr. F.A. WINTER  
 3 Interview with Professor SPAWN on the banana industry; Funeral of Mr. F.A. WINTER  
 4 Arrival of Colonel LUSHINGTON and Mrs. LUSHINGTON; Sad death of a mother – the jury recommend the prosecution of two uncertified midwives  
 6 Receipt of news of the death in England of Dr. E.F.H. HENERY; Arrest of the clerk and wharfinger of Manoel MENDONCA, insolvent, on a charge of conspiracy  
 7 Reference by Rev. Canon JOSA, at Christ Church, to the death of Mr. F.A. WINTER; police parade at St. George's Cathedral  
 8 Woman sentenced to a month's imprisonment for abandoning a child; Charge against Manoel MENDONES, insolvent – evident of the Administrator General; Large consignment of diamonds from the Massaruni to Messrs. ARMONY and FOGEL and the Marshall Syndicate  
 12 Charge of embezzlement against Francisco C. FERNANDES, clerk to Manoel MENDONES, insolvent  
 13 Woman burned to death in Bourda  
 14 Sacred concert in the Promenade Gardens  
 16 Charge against East Indian Interpreters of making alterations in Government records  
 17 Sudden Death in Croal Street  
 18 Application by John GOBIA to withdraw his signature as surety for the East Indian Interpreters charged with altering government records; Receipt of the news of the death in England of Mr. R.J. KELLY, a retired Demerara planter  
 20 Drowning accident in the Demerara River – four lives lost; Burning accident in Bourda- the inquest  
 22 Unveiling of the Russell Memorial Cairn at the Lamaha Stop-off  
 25 Burglaries in Water Street  
 27 Death of an infant from a coal-pot accident  
 29 The recent disturbance at Victoria – prosecutions at Sparendam  
 30 Sudden death of a girl in the Colonial Hospital; Burglary epidemic in Water Street

- October
- 1 Charges against Manoel MENDONES and F.C. FERNANDES dismissed
  - 3 Death of Mr. J.A. MURDOEH; receipt of the news of the tragic death of Mr. A.B. BARNARD
  - 4 Burglary epidemic continues to rage; The Lowande Circus Company, opening performance
  - 8 Reported case of bigamy – charge against a druggist --- Sunday trading prosecution, defendant fined \$150
  - 10 Shocking double murder in Berbice – mother and daughter hacked to death
  - 13 Death of Mr. J.E. MATTHEWS
  - 17 Concert in the Promenade Gardens
  - 19 Boating accident in the Demerara River
  - 22 Mr. A.A. THORNE returned unopposed as the representative of Lacytown Ward, in succession to the late Mr. J.A. MURDOCH; Receipt of the news of the death of Mr. William BLAIR, Inspector of Schools; Burglary at Messrs. WIETING and RICHTER's store
  - 23 Report of the find by two pork-knockers of a large gold nugget in the Barima district; Entertainment at the Ursuline Convent in honour of Bishop GALTON
  - 24 Reported embezzlement by a cashier
  - 25 Burglary in Cuming Street
  - 27 Alarm fire in Kingston
  - 28 Spontaneous combustion of kerosene oil in the engine room of the S.S. *Arthur*; Frear's entertainment in the Assembly Rooms
  - 29 Raid on "Wharf Rats"
  - 30 Charge of bigamy against a Druggist – evidence of the second wife
- November
- 6 Lecture by the Rev. W.B. RITCHIE on Pompeii; Interview with Hubert TITUS, alias Gold Bead, an expert Demerara burglar
  - 7 Ruined "CHEFFA" keeper interviewed
  - 8 Fire in Hadfield Street]
  - 10 Parade of the local forces at Eve Leary; Excursion to Wismar and Dora
  - 11 Ball at Government House; Mr. T.A.I. GILBERT, Barrister-at-Law, charged with theft
  - 12 Receipt of the cablegram announcing the Knighthood of Mr. H.A. BOVELL
  - 14 Disorderly Barbadian to be sent back to Barbados; Concert in the Promenade Gardens; Congratulations of Bench and Bar to Mr. H.A. BOVELL on his knighthood
  - 21 Terrible tramway accident in a North road; purser of the S. S. ORINCO robbed
  - 23 Tribute to the late Rev. Hugh Price HUGHES by the Rev. D.J. REYNOLDS
  - 26 Barbadian speculator robbed of \$420
  - 27 Burglary at Mr. J.I. CHAPMAN's grocery; prisoners referred for trial. Man burned with sulphuric acid at La Penitence store
  - 28 Fatal accident in North road, Inquest; Motorman censured
- December
- 2 Mr. G.H. PLUMMER, Magistrate's Clerk, suspended
  - 3 Theft charge against Mr. T.A.L. GILBERT, Barrister-at-Law; Mr. S.F. BARNES, solicitor, charged with assault; Firemen on board the S.S. *Masaruni* charged with terminating their contracts with Messrs. SPRESTONS, Ltd. Without giving notice
  - 4 Claim by Mrs. N. SILAS against Dr. MATTHEY for the delivery of a Rifle Association prize cup; Sentence for Mr. G.H. RICHTER in a claim for damages against the Electric Company
  - 5 Fire at McINROY's building; Seizure of rum on board the punt *Julia* 6 Fatal burning accident in Kingston- opening of the inquest; Burglary at "Ross Hope's"
  - 8 Burglar crashes through a skylight at Mr. J.P. SANTOS' store in Water Street; Burglary at Mr. W. FOGARTY's store, Water Street

- 9 Stowaway by the S.S. ARDIE from Madeira charged before Mr. P.H. HILL  
11 Annual sale of work at St. Philip's School Hall; Fancy Fair in Providence  
Church grounds; Firemen convicted on strike on board the *Massaruni*  
12 Laying of the Foundation Stone for a market in Bourda ward  
14 Consecration of the new Moravian Church in Queenstown ward  
16 The punt *Eve* put under quarantine  
17 Seizure of rum on board the *Julia*; sailor charged with being concerned in  
the removal of it  
19 Commencement of the work of the installation of the overhead telephone  
cable; Manoel RODRIGUES fined \$68 for smuggling cigars and cards on  
board the R.M.S. *Solent*  
20 T.A.I. GILBERT, barrister-at-law, convicted on the theft of \$13 belonging to  
Mr. J.A. HENRY, clerk at "Booker's"  
21 Church parade at St. George's Cathedral  
23 Death of Mr. G.H. Van NOOTEN  
24 Mr. J. Wood DAVIS re-elected Mayor  
25 Salvation Army Xmas dinner to the poor; Death of Capt. MORLEY  
27 Death of Mr. James FITZGERALD, of the Immigration Department

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