

## MANY WITNESSES AT INQUEST

The inquest in connection with the death of the late Mrs. Margaret Fitzpatrick was held on Tuesday with Dr. Bissonette, of Stirling, presiding as Coroner, Mr. Wm. Carnew, Crown Attorney, represented the Crown and E. Gus Porter, K.C., M.P. represented Marmora Agricultural Society.

The inquest lasted most of the day the following witnesses being called: Mr. H. Gillen, Mrs. A. McLaughlin, Mrs. Adam McGarvey, Dr. Crawford, Dr. Thomson, Messrs. John Burns, Clayton Tucker, Jas. McAvoy, Wm. Holland, C.A. Bleecker, W.A. Sanderson, Fred Johnston, Seymour Henry, J.C. Bowen, Chas A. Dracup, A.T. Neal, Jas. Montgomery, Ross Turley, Thos. R. Warren, Geo. Wellman, Leonard Sharpe, Dan Shannon, C.W. Clancy, Thos Potts, Bert Crawford, John Hay, Hugh Farrell, Ed. Moloney, John Rainey, Jas. Scott, Wm. Wright, Dan Sharpe, Wilbert Bedore, John Thompson, Jas Fitzpatrick, D. Crippen, Donald Moloney, Elgin Jackman and John Snarr.

Most of the evidence was very much along the same line. Mr. Gillen told of the procedure in connection with the selecting of the Jury and summoning of witnesses, etc. He also stated that the Agricultural Society had engaged five special constables in addition to himself and their duties were particularly to try to keep people from crossing the track while the speeding events were going on. The number of special constables was larger than had ever been employed before.

Dr. Crawford told of the injuries to the deceased revealed by the post mortem examination. Her nose was broken, there was a bruise under the skull on each side of the head and the skull was fractured. Dr. Thomson corroborated his evidence.

Mrs. A. McLaughlin, who was with her mother at the time of the accident and was also knocked down and injured, did not have a very clear recollection of what occurred. She told of going with her mother to the Fair and of crossing to the midway and then starting to recross the track when the band began to play. She did not see the constables or hear any warning until just as the accident occurred she heard some one call out, but didn't know what was said.

Mrs. A. McGarvey told of seeing the deceased and her daughter start to cross the track. They were not going straight across, but were going towards the band stand where the band was playing. They appeared to be talking and did not look up the track as they crossed. She did not see the horse until it was a few feet from them and it was too late to stop it then.

Mr. John Burns told of being sent for ropes to stretch across the crossing before the accident started and the various constables told of the efforts made to protect the public and keeping them off the track while speeding events were going on.

Mr. Clayton Tucker, president of Stirling Agricultural Society, who acted as starter, stated that the horsemen had been notified to get ready for the Free-for-all race, but he had not yet called the race. As he was placing the horses he did not see the accident.

Mr. Chas. A. Dracup gave very clear account of the accident. He was standing on the west side of the track when Mrs. Fitzpatrick and daughter started to cross from the east side. Quite a number of people were on the track and had lined up along the fence on either side. The deceased was south of the other people on the east side down near the judges' stand. Just as the horse was passing between the people she and her daughter stepped out and started to cross the track. They were talking and did not appear to look up the track to see if it was safe to cross. The horse struck Mrs. Fitzpatrick hurling her against Mrs. McLaughlin the latter also being knocked over by the shock. Messrs. Elgin Jackman and John Snarr corroborated this evidence in every particular.