

## Opening of Legislature Tomorrow Afternoon

Elaborate Ceremonials to Start the Legislators on the Work of the Session—The Military Display, With Firing Party From Moncton Battery—Mr. Murray to Move Address in Reply to Speech, Seconded by Dr. Bourque—Mr. Clarke of Charlotte to be Speaker.

Arrangements are practically complete for the opening of the Legislature tomorrow afternoon and with pleasant weather conditions the ceremony promises to eclipse any previous formal opening in recent years. Much interest will be added to the occasion by the large number of visitors in the city attending the two conventions in progress. These people number upwards of 300 and practically all of them will attend the opening ceremonies.

The military display in connection with the formal opening will be of more interest than usual this year, as the Guard of Honor will be composed of regular troops. It will be furnished by H Company, R. C. R., stationed at No. 3 Military Depot, this city. Lieutenant L. duDomaire will command the Guard of Honor and Lieutenant Willis will act as subaltern. The band will be furnished from the 71st Regiment. The firing party to handle the salute will be furnished from the 19th Battery, Canadian Field Artillery, stationed at Moncton, and they will arrive in the city at 9.20 a. m. tomorrow. The firing party will consist of two officers, two non-commissioned officers and ten gunners.

They will leave for home again tomorrow night by C. P. R.

### Opening Ceremony at 3 p. m.

The opening ceremony is to take place at 3 o'clock and the Guard of Honor will march from the Military Depot at 2.15 o'clock. Shortly before 3 o'clock His Honor will reach the Legislative Building accompanied by the usual staff, including his A. D. C.'s, Private Secretary, Coroner Wainwright, Sheriff Sterling and military staff. The military men in attendance will include Col. George Rolt White, D. O. C. Lieut. Col. H. H. McLean, Lieut. Col. J. F. McKenzie, Lieut. Col. Surgeon Bridges, Lieut. Col. Chénic and Major Fiset, R. C. R.

The speech from the throne will be of about the usual length and will refer to important public matters which have transpired in the province during the past year, as well as forecasting the Government's action in certain directions in the future.

The address in reply to the speech from the throne will be moved by Mr. Murray, of Kings, and seconded by Dr. Bourque, of Kent.

Mr. Clarke, of Charlotte, will be elected Speaker and at least one Government bill will be introduced during the afternoon.

Mr. Upham, M. P., P. elect for Car-

leton, is expected to arrive this evening and in that event will be sworn in tomorrow morning and take his seat in the afternoon.

In the evening there will be the usual State dinner given at the Queen Hotel. Covers will be laid for forty-two.

### Staff at the Legislative Buildings.

At the Legislative building, to-day the telegraph offices have been fitted up for the session and the door keepers and messengers reported for duty. There will be but few changes in the personnel of the staff. Alfred Turner, head door keeper, has been retired after 26 years of service, and N. J. Smith has been added to the staff of door keepers in his place. Fred Segee, who has been head page, will not be able to attend this year and Archie Williams, son of Charles Williams, has been appointed in his place.

A number of the members are already in the city. Mr. Dickson, of Albert, and Mrs. Dickson are at the Barker and Mr. Murray, of Kings, and Mrs. Murray and daughter are at the Queen. Mr. Byrne, of Gloucester, also arrived to-day and is at the Queen. Mr. Clarke, of Charlotte, who will be Speaker, arrived last evening and is at the Barker.

By to-morrow at noon practically all the members will be in the city.

## WAR EXPERIMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN

The Utility of the Automobile in the Transportation of Troops and War Material Demonstrated Today.

London, March 17.—An interesting experiment was made by the war office to-day to demonstrate the utility of the automobile as a means of rapid military transport to supplement the resources of the railroad. Acting on the assumption that a hostile army had landed at Hastings and that the railroad was blocked with troop trains, a relieving force of 1,000 men, with full war kit and guns, was moved to the scene by automobiles. Some 500 machines, loaned by members of the Automobile Club, picked up the men and their accoutrements at the various barracks and conveyed them to the Crystal Palace, whence the start was made. The machines travelled at a rate of twenty miles an hour over the hard, frozen roads toward Hastings. The lighter cars with the men took the lead, leaving the heavier with the guns and stores to bring up the rear. Great crowds gathered along the route of the run to watch the column, which was over a mile long. At Hastings the cars were drawn up on the sea front. "The relieving army" will return home this evening.

## GREAT INTEREST IN TARIFF BILL

Washington, March 17.—The absorbing topic of interest when the House of Representatives met to-day was what the tariff bill contained, it having been announced that the measure would be reported from the committee on ways and means to-day. There was much uncertainty as to what the developments would be in connection with committee appointments. In filling the vacancies on the ways and means and rules committees yesterday Speaker Cannon did not seek the advice of Mr. Clarke, the minority leader, and it is not probable that his action in so doing may prove issue between the democratic bolters and their party leaders. The Senate was not in session to-day.

## STREET RAILWAY WORKERS PROTEST

Winnipeg, March 17.—The conductors and motormen of the street railway have appointed a committee to open negotiations with the company for new working arrangements. One of the chief objections to the present schedule is the fact that the men work on short shifts of three or four hours at a time, and in order to put in full time they must serve much more than really nine hours. They want a continuous run similar to that in force in the majority of other cities, where men complete their schedule within a twelve hours' limit.

## BETTER WATER COMMUNICATION

London, March 17.—The correspondent of the Standard says: "Prince Oscar, the first steamer on the New Canada line, sails for Halifax on the 19th inst. The Canada line only carries steerage passengers, and as there is no direct steamship communication with better conditions for passengers to Canada, this is to be altered shortly. The decree has gone forth that Canada must be wooed and conciliated, and no efforts are to be spared to promote better relations."

## PRINCESS PATRICIA 23.

London, March 17.—Princess Patricia of Connaught, who, according to report, has recently added the Count of Turin to her list of rejected ones, received congratulations from the royal family and numerous friends to-day on the occasion of her twenty-third birthday. Princess Patricia, who often is called the handsomest member of the English royal family, was born on St. Patrick's Day, in 1886, and received the name of Patricia in consequence. It is said that she might have been Queen of Spain instead of her cousin, the Princess Eugénie of Battenberg, had she so desired. But she has repeatedly told her most intimate friends that she doesn't care to marry any man with a title, even if the title be that of king.

## RAILWAY INDICTED.

Carson City, Nev., March 17.—The federal grand jury has returned an indictment against the Southern Pacific railroad on a charge of granting secret rebates to the California sugar and white pine agency. Fifteen counts are mentioned and the total fine could be \$300,000.

## Chaos Around Railway Depot

A Runaway Train Dashes Through Granite Walls of Windsor Station Montreal, and Pushes Into Waiting Room—The Killed and Injured—Building Likely to Collapse

Montreal, March 17.—While running at the rate of forty miles an hour the Boston express, which was due at Windsor station this morning at 8.30, rushed through the station yards and down track No. 7, and did not stop till it landed itself right into the large main waiting room of the Windsor station, coming through the immense granite walls into the ladies' waiting room, where the engine tender and baggage car piled up, smashed out of all description, and caused a scene of chaos beyond description.

The accident was undoubtedly due to the blowing out of the engine just after it left Westmount station. The engineer was blown from his cab, and the fireman so injured, it is believed, that he was unable to do anything to stop the mad race to Montreal.

People half a mile from the station saw the train dashing towards destruction, and concluded that there was something wrong. Then as the engine sped over the switches and curve at a speed probably never before known, at least in this part of the country, there was a wild rush for the outlying sections of the depot to view what was then apparent would be a fatal disaster.

The injured at the Royal Victoria Hospital number four people. One of them, a little girl of about eight years old, was dead, when she was taken into the hospital. Her name is still unknown.

The following are the names of three other victims: John Baptiste Garlepy, about 40 years old, laborer; William Anderson, about 30 years old,

cuts on head, but conscious; Douglas Stuart Young, employee at Windsor station, cuts in face, right hand badly bruised.

At the General Hospital: Markingham, engineer, Montreal West, compound fracture of skull, will probably die; unknown Pole, fracture at base of skull, severe internal injuries, will probably die; Robert Buckingham, 54 Clarke's avenue, Westmount, scalp wounds, and internal injuries, may recover; Cecilia Delisle, Indian girl, from Caughnawaga, scalp wounds, bruises and internal injuries, may die; J. Wells, 234 Guy street, ear almost torn off, broken ribs, and wounds; Wm. Plant, 39 St. Andre street, ribs fractured and concussion, may recover; Alice Goodleaf, Indian girl from Caughnawaga, struck by falling debris, injured about head and shoulders; C. E. Christie, Cowansville, slightly injured.

It is a question if Montreal has known such wild scenes of excitement for many years, is that which closely followed the accident. The entire police reserve force was called out, together with all available detectives, and with firemen roped off the ground and gave the rescuers a chance to do their heroic work at the risk of their lives, for there can be no doubt that within a short time the disaster will be added to by the collapse of the girders which are supporting the building. With the fall of this mighty piece of wrecked machinery that section of the building may, it is easy to suppose, collapse, probably bringing with it the entire corner of the station.

## STEEL BUSINESS IN THE U. S. BAD

Earnings of Steel Corporation Decreased \$274,706,927 as Compared With the Previous Year.

New York, March 17.—The annual report of the United States Steel corporation was made public to-day and showed that for the year ending December 31st, 1908, gross receipts of \$482,307,840 were earned, a decrease of \$274,706,927 from the preceding year. The net earnings of the corporation were \$91,847,711, a decrease of \$69,116,963 from the year of 1907. The report shows that \$16,965,181 was appropriated for depreciation, replacement and extinguishment funds, together with sinking funds on bonds of subsidiary companies, which is a decrease of \$10,754,563 from 1907. The interest on bonds outstanding and sinking funds of the corporation was \$29,247,851, an increase of \$1,250,001 over the previous year. The surplus for the year after the payment of interest charges, dividends, appropriations, and all other charges was \$10,342,986, a decrease of \$4,836,851 from 1907.

## PERSONAL.

Mr. Daniel Hossack, the veteran piper, of Stanley, is in the city to-day.

Mrs. Charles Morrissey and Miss Mollie Morrissey arrived from New castle this afternoon for the opening of the Legislature. They are at the Barker House.

Mr. James Robinson, ex-M. P., is at the Barker House. Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Mitchell, of Keswick are at the Queen Hotel. Among those here for the Farmers' and Dairymen's Association meeting are R. Robertson, experimental farmer, Nappan, N. S.; A. G. Gilbert, experimental farmer, Ottawa; F. L. Fuller, superintendent of agricultural societies of Nova Scotia; W. N. Robinson, of the Maritime Farmer, Sussex; N. W. Doherty, Sussex.

Messrs. H. Braithwaite and M. F. Pindexter arrived from the Miramichi to-day.

Mr. George W. Fowler, ex-M. P., is at the Barker House. Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Gregory are receiving the congratulations of their friends on the arrival of a baby girl at their home, Charlotte street.

Mr. R. A. Murdoch, of Chatham, is at the Barker House.

## St. Patrick's Day.

In honor of St. Patrick's Day to-day there were special masses at St. Dunstan's church, this city, and St. Anthony's church, St. Marys. Prioritor Monahan of the Barker House observed the occasion by presenting his guests with neat bouquets of Shamrocks and his thoughtfulness was much appreciated.

## PUGSLEY ASKED TO EXPLAIN THIS

Leather Belting Purchased at a Price Three Times as Great as it Should Have Been.

Ottawa, March 17.—There was a typical case before the Public Accounts Committee this morning. The actual amount of money lost by the government was not so large, but the difference between the market price and the prices paid by the government are instructive. The item related to some leather belting purchased by the Public Works Department for \$531. The price paid for the belting was the last price less 10 per cent. difference.

This morning F. S. Moodie, salesman for the McLaren Leather Belting Company, Montreal, testified that the jobbers' discount, which the government were said to have obtained, was 60.102, and instead of paying \$531 the government should have paid \$293. The witness said he would have sold the belting at that price. "All the leather manufacturers in the country," he said, "had agreed to give jobbers' discount to the government." Even a customer not a jobber at all was entitled to a discount of 60.102.

## Died Suddenly.

Word has been received from Plaster Rock of the sudden death, there of Mrs. Kitchen, wife of Mr. Nevers Kitchen, of Prince William, sub-contractor with the Willard Kitchen Company on the Grand Trunk Pacific. Mrs. Kitchen's death occurred on Tuesday evening, very suddenly, after she had been in her usual good health during the day. The late Mrs. Kitchen was 42 years of age and was formerly Miss Roach of Lake George. Besides her husband, three daughters survive. The remains will arrive here this evening by the Gibson branch C. P. R. train, and will be conveyed to Prince William to-morrow by Undertaker John G. Adams, and the funeral services will be conducted there to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock by Rev. Mr. Wetmore, of Florenceville, Carleton county, after which interment will be made.

## Orange Grand Lodge Officers.

Officers will be elected some time to-day by the Grand Lodge and either Rev. A. A. Rideout, of this city, or Dr. A. W. MacRae, of St. John, will likely be the Grand Master. Mr. Geo. E. Day, of St. John, is chairman of the press committee of Grand Lodge and is carrying out his duties in an excellent manner.

## THE WAR CLOUD GROWS OMINOUS

Menacing Attitude of Serbia Lead Powers to Believe That Hostilities Will Eventuate.

Washington, D. C., March 17.—The latest despatches from the great European centres indicate that the war cloud in the Balkans is daily becoming more ominous and menacing. The warlike proclamation issued by the Serbians against Austria has excited all of the chancelleries of Europe, and there is no concealing the general fear that it is likely to lead to an early outbreak of actual hostilities.

How this crisis that threatens the peace of the whole of Europe has been brought about is briefly set forth in the following statement, which will give the average American reader a better understanding of the main facts in the situation than he probably has been able to gain from the flood of cable news during the past few months.

Austria, in annexing Bosnia and Herzegovina, provinces inhabited almost wholly by Serbs, stated that she was merely regularizing the long accomplished fact of her possession and virtual government of the two countries. Austria further contends that she has only to settle matters with Turkey, the ancient and nominal ruler of the provinces in question, and that Serbia has nothing to say in the matter, as she was no party to the Treaty of Berlin, and has suffered no territorial loss.

Serbia, on the other hand, declares that the violation by Austria of the Treaty of Berlin, devised to secure peace and security for all the Balkan states, menaces vital Serb interests, and reduces her to a position of absolute dependency upon the good will of Austria; that Serbia, as the head of the Serb peoples, is entitled to ask Europe to insist upon guarantees for the rights and liberties of the Bosnians, and for such concessions from Austria as will secure Serbian independence, political and economic.

France, Russia and England, as signatories of the Treaty of Berlin, are prepared to make representations to Vienna, on the understanding that they are not treated as unfriendly actions. Italy sympathizes with Serbia, but Germany dissuades Austria from listening to these overtures and she presses for the coercion of Serbia, to which the others will not consent. Russia has clearly intimated that public opinion will not allow her to be indifferent if Austria makes an attempt to crush Serbia.

## DENIES REPORT.

Detroit, Mich., March 17.—President William C. Otter, of the Pere Marquette Railway, declares there is no truth in the rumor of a pending sale of the Pere Marquette railroad to the Baltimore and Ohio.

## ADVANCE IN SUGAR.

New York, March 17.—All grades of refined sugar were advanced ten cents a hundred pounds to-day.

## HUGE FORGERY PLOT SPOILED

Gang of Scoundrels Arrested in Italy Who have Long Been a Scourge to European Cities.

Rome, March 17.—Startling developments concerning the extensive operations of the international gang of forgers of checks and bank notes, four ringleaders of which are under arrest at Milan, continue to come to the surface as a result of the international police investigation now in progress. As stated at the time of the arrests a week ago, the operations of the gang were confined chiefly to New York and London.

The capture of the four leaders was due to the misgivings of Signor Polotti, a very skilful lithographer, whom the forgers had entrusted with the engraving of an immense number of checks, varying in value from \$10 to \$200 apiece, which they represented were required by the American Express Company for its branch establishments in Rome, Genoa and Naples.

Signor Polotti confided the affair to the police, who directed him to proceed quietly with the commission, while they prepared a surprise for as many as possible of the gang, which during the past two years has given untold trouble in America, England, France and Belgium.

In Italy last December, after a series of frauds at Genoa, amounting to \$60,000, they presented a letter of credit of the Commercial Bank of Milan for \$15,000 on a firm of private bankers in New York. The culprits have again and again exploited the New York bank, and the Milan police are convinced from a mass of documents and stamps now seized at their lodgings that this criminal gang must have had one or more accomplices in the employ of the bank itself.

Four members of the gang were caught red-handed. They are all middle-aged, well dressed men of Italian origin, though a considerable part of their career has been spent in the United States and Great Britain.

They had in their possession newly made banknotes and checks of the total value of over \$2,000,000, which they were about to forward to confederates in New York and London for circulation.

Orfeo Origoni, one of the ringleaders under arrest, comes of a well-known Naples family and formerly was an artillery officer in the Italian army. He is a nephew of the famous General Marescialli. He has been a consular agent and representative of various commercial firms in Japan and North America.

The Milan police are elated at the capture, but regret that many members of the gang are still at large, though they have clues which are expected to prove useful to the police of New York, London and Paris.

## An Arrival.

Mr. Thomas Blair, of St. Marys, is wearing a happy smile to-day, the cause being the arrival of a baby daughter at his home.

## INSURANCE CO'S TO PAY \$27,000

Agreement Arrived at in Matter of Insurance on Destroyed Provincial Hospital Building.

St. John, March 17.—R. W. W. Frink, member of the N. F. Fire Underwriters, said this morning that the disputed insurance on the Provincial Hospital for Nervous Diseases would be settled by the companies paying 54 per cent. on all insurance in effect at the time of the fire. This amounts to \$27,000.

## STOCK MARKET FAIRLY STRONG

Montreal, March 17.—Stocks were mostly firm to-day. Dominion Coal was higher at 58. Textile at 64 for common and 100 for pfd. were strong, and Soo was held at 44½. Twin City sold at 104 and Dominion Steel sold off from 33 to 32 5/8, with pfd. at 113½. Nova Scotia was steady at 58½, as was Quebec Railway at 50½.

## On Wall Street.

New York, March 17.—Trivial price changes resulted from the light opening dealings in stocks and the market showed no pronounced tone. Some quotations: Amalg. Copper, 68, 68½, 67 1/8; American Sugar Refineries, 129½, 129, 129; Canadian Pacific, 166 5/8, 166, 166¼; St. Paul, 143¼, 143, 142 7/8; Northern Pacific, 137 3/4, 137 5/8, 137 5/8; National Lead, 75½, 76, 76; Union Pacific, 176 7/8, 177, 176 5/8; U. S. Steel, 45 1/8, 45¼, 44½; U. S. Steel pfd., 110 5/8, 111, 110 7/8.

## JUDGE'S CHARGE IN COOPER CASE

Nashville, Tenn., March 17.—After reading the indictment, Judge Hart began his charge to the jury to-day in the Cooper case.

He said in part: While this indictment contains but one charge upon its face, it embraces four distinct felonies, murder in the first degree, murder in the second degree, voluntary manslaughter, and involuntary manslaughter. The Judge defined these degrees and concluded: You enter upon this investigation with the presumption that the prisoner is not guilty of any crime and this presumption stands as a witness for him until it is rebutted and overturned by competent and credible proof, sufficiently strong to satisfy you beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty of some of the offences which have been here defined and explained to you.

Mr. James S. Harquail, of Dalhousie, is at the Queen Hotel.