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87 YONGE STREET FOR RENT Temporary—immediate possession—ideal situation for Christmas trade. H. H. WILLIAMS & CO., 20 Victoria St., Toronto.

PRES. MAHON ARGUES FOR CITY RIN CARS Head of Street Railway Employees' Union Recommends Detroit to Take Charge of the Traction Franchises.

DETROIT, Dec. 9.—(Special.)—The minority report of the sub-committee on municipal ownership of the citizens' committee of fifty, filed by W. D. Mahon, international president of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America, scores vigorously the idea that the renewing of the street railway franchise to the Detroit United Railway will prove a solution of the traffic problem here. He demands the adoption of a municipal system and says, in part: "We have investigated every phase of this question. We find that the municipal ownership of public utilities is one of the uppermost questions in the civilized world; that it is fast being put into operation in the cities of the old world as well as the new, and that whatever the city has had a fair chance to try, it has not only been met with satisfaction, but it has been a grand success."

W. D. MAHON. NEW YEAR'S DAY FEAST FOR 4000 "KIDDIES" Bains' Banquet Will Be Held This Year in the Big Horticultural Hall.

Four thousand boys and girls of Toronto will be given the time of their lives on New Year's Day. Encouraged by the success of the two previous years, J. M. Wilkinson, editor of the religious section of The Sunday World, proposes to enlarge the scope of the "Kiddies Festival," and he has secured the use of the horticultural building at the exhibition, where there will be room for all who may come and partake of the hospitality of those citizens who may feel disposed to contribute.

COPENHAGEN WON'T BELIEVE Rector Torp Sure That Cook Detractors Are Mistaken. COPENHAGEN, Dec. 9.—Dr. Torp, rector of the University of Copenhagen, said to-night that the charges published to-day in The New York Times against Dr. Frederick A. Cook as being the original discoverer of the North Pole would not be accepted by the university. He said the documents prepared by Loos and Dunkle, which The Times has agreed to send to Copenhagen, were not the original observations made by Dr. Cook during the expedition, without alterations.

NOT PARTY GOVERNMENT German Chancellor Makes His Maiden Speech in Reichstag. BERLIN, Dec. 9.—Dr. Bethmann-Hollweg, the "silent chancellor," delivered his maiden speech in the Reichstag today. He set forth that the imperial government's policy was to stand aloof from parties and groups of parties; in short, that the government of Germany was not a government by party. The recent political crisis over the taxation bill had made no change in German institutions, he continued. Radicalism strove to divide all Germany into two political camps, but the existence of such a dualism was a notion devised for party objects.

HEAVY FINES. HAMILTON, Dec. 9.—(Special.)—William Wain was fined \$125 and Dell Wilburn \$100 for selling liquor at an auction, which is under local option.

TWO FREIGHTERS ARE LOST ON LAKE ERIE "Richardson" Goes Down Off Buffalo Harbor and Five Drown—"Clarion" Burns, Boat Load Missing.

BUFAELO, Dec. 9.—In the wintry gale that has swept Lake Erie for twenty-four hours, the big freighter W. C. Richardson of Cleveland, bound from Duquith to Buffalo, with a cargo of flaxseed, foundered early to-day when she was within half a mile of the harbor entrance. Five of the crew perished. The remainder numbering fourteen were rescued from the wreck by the crew of the propeller, Wm. A. Paine, which had anchored on the Waverley shoals, just off the west breakwater, an hour before the Richardson sank. To-night the Paine is still riding at anchor in the heavy seas, and the rescued men are all on board. She will be unable to enter the harbor until the storm abates.

THE GOVERNMENT HEN: It's pretty but I can't possibly cover them. BRITISH POLITICAL CRISIS. STRIKING MINERS CHILLED INTO VIOLENCE. Approach of Winter Makes Desperate the Men Out of Work, and Non-Union Men Are Assaulted.

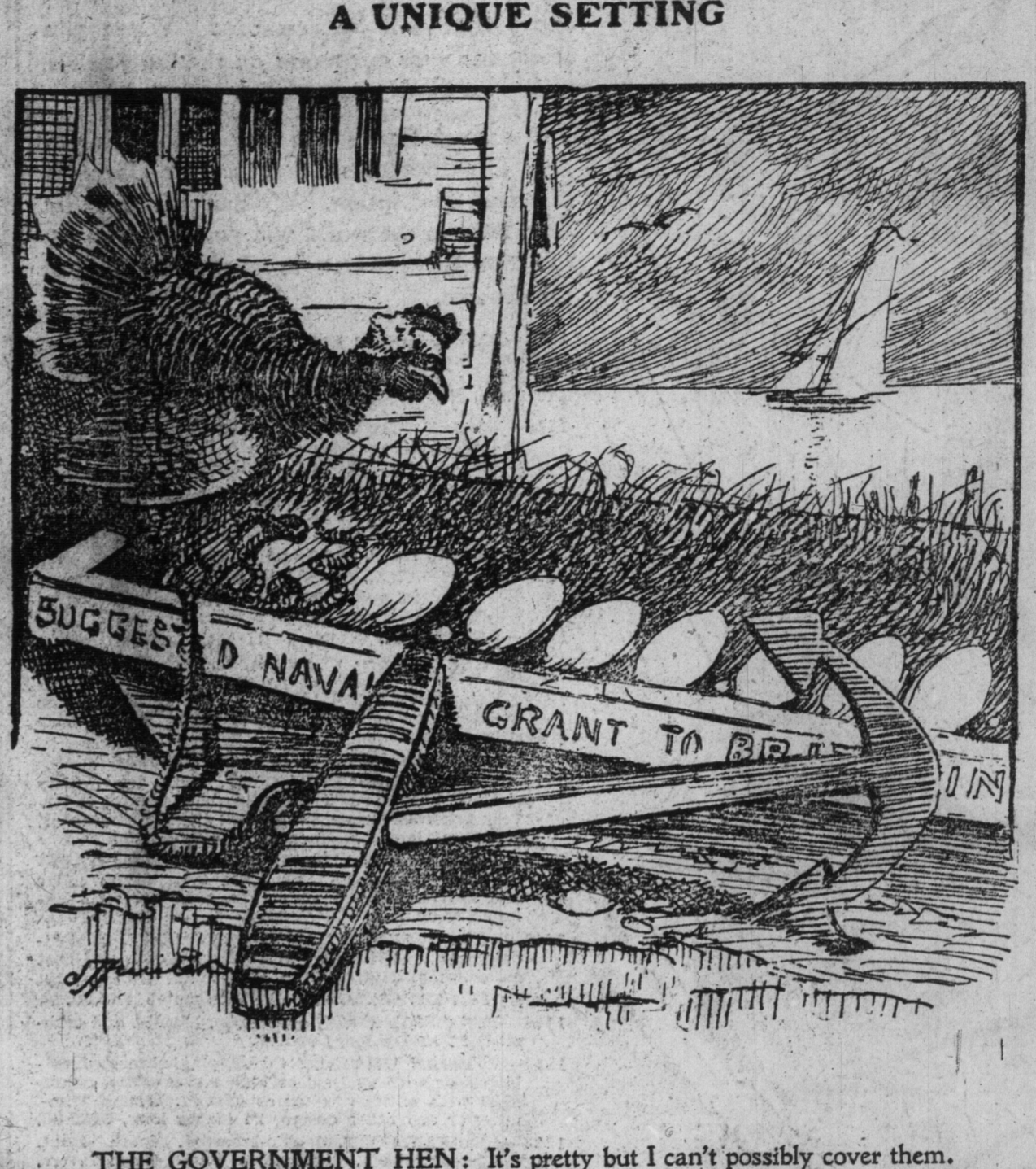
TWO DEAD, 13 MISSING Steamer Clarion Burned in Lake Erie—All May Have Perished. CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 9.—Two men lost their lives and the fate of thirteen others is unknown to-night, as a result of the burning of the steamer Clarion, near Point Pelee, in Lake Erie, early to-day.

MORINE ON OUR NAVY Thinks It Will Not Be of Much Service to Britain. Hon. A. B. Morine was the speaker at the meeting of the Borden Club last night, and his subject was the naval policy of the Dominion Government. In his opinion the proposed navy would not be of much service to Great Britain. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's ultimatum that the Canadian navy must be only under the orders of the Canadian Parliament was incomprehensible, and the declaration from the same statesman "has about English supremacy been challenged the daughter states would rally round her was weak and unmeaning."

NO CASH, NO KEY Essex County Council Dispute a \$3.00 Account. WINDSOR, Dec. 9.—(Special.)—Essex County Council is disputing an account of \$3 out by Essex for manufacturing a brass key. The key was made to fit a lock on the vault in which were deposited valuable papers belonging to Francis Cleary, clerk of county court, and J. H. Rodd, crown-attorney. When the key was made, it was retained possession of the key.

STEALS SOLDIER'S UNIFORM Rejected by Recruiting Officer, Two Men Attempt to Get Even. William Brown, 23 years, no home, and Henry Berry, 32 years, 38 Gould-street, were seized with a mad desire to bleed and die for their country; whereupon they hid themselves to Stanley barracks, where they offered their bodies and souls in service, but were rejected.

THIRD SECTION Winnipeg Has Bad Fire in "30 Below" Weather. Six Store Furniture Factory and Warehouse Gutted and Surrounding Property Damaged. WINDSOR, Dec. 9.—(Special.)—Fire which started at 1:20 p.m. yesterday afternoon, completely gutted the furniture factory and warehouse, a six-story building, of W. B. Sterling Co., at Fort and Graham-streets, causing loss of about \$100,000. Smoke and water loss also damaged the Leslie Furniture Co. warehouse, and several retail stores facing on Main street, Smith and Bruce, architects, and Martel and Sheehan, liquor dealers, tenants on the ground floor also suffered losses.



THE GOVERNMENT HEN: It's pretty but I can't possibly cover them.

LABOR MEN ON TUBES Independent Party Discusses Civic Transportation Problem. At the first meeting of the season of the Independent Labor Party at the Labor Temple last night a discussion took place on the tube question. The discussion generally was favorable to the tubes.

WINDSOR GROCER MAKES ONE FOR 2 1/2 OUNTS. WINDSOR, Dec. 9.—(Special.)—A Moussau, local grocer, thinks he holds the championship for drawing the smallest cheque ever handled in a legitimate business transaction. He had been burning natural gas just a short time before his meter was read, and was presented with a bill for 2-1/2 cents, for which amount he drew a cheque in payment.

BOY STRUCK DOWN BY AUTO. Elmora Harris, 235 Bodkin-avenue, was struck by an auto, owned and driven by G. Miller, Warren-road and Lenwood-avenue, as he was riding his bicycle north on Avenue-road at 5 o'clock last night. A street car behind the auto was also sounding its gong so that the horn of the machine could not be heard and the lad turned out in front of the auto. He was rendered unconscious for an hour and was taken into Dr. George W. Graham's office at 249 Avenue-road, where he was attended and sent home. He sustained a concussion of the brain and a slight scalp wound.

THIRD SECTION BERLIN, Dec. 9.—(Special.)—The Canadian Club was addressed here this evening by George C. Gibbons of London, chairman of the International Waterways Commission. There was a large attendance, members being present from Galt, Preston, Hespeler and Waterloo. Mr. Gibbons expressed his firm belief that all great issues between Canada and U. S. can be settled by means of permanent boards such as waterways commission.

HOUSE GOES SLOW IN THE EIGHT HOUR DAY

Minister of Labor Says More Information is Necessary; and Suggests a Committee. OTTAWA, Dec. 9.—(Special.)—Mr. Veveille's bill to enforce an eight-hour day on all kinds of government work and supplies came up for second reading in the common-to-day. He made a strong appeal to the minister of labor to support the bill.

Mr. Macdonald contended that under this bill, government contractors could not hope to compete with factories in which more than eight hours a day was the vigia. Dr. Edwards said it was impossible to have an eight-hour day on the farm, and they should be satisfied with this legislation would have on workers generally.

Hugh Guthrie regarded an experiment of this kind on public works property as called, as a good policy, but he thought the house should have the fullest information before committing itself to the strict terms of the bill. Hon. Macdonald thought the house could not restrict too carefully whether the bill would do what the mover said it would do. He reviewed the history of the dealings of the government with labor men, and said that the house should have fuller information before committing itself to a proposal which was not quite clear.

Major Beattie said he had a great deal of sympathy with the bill, but failed to see how workmen generally could find any relief from it in its present form. The bill might be amended so as to workmen all over the country. He said he was prepared to support any measure which would bring relief to the work people of this country.

While driving home to-day Angus McLean, a miner at No. 3 pit, narrowly escaped losing his life. He was sitting in a wagon with two other men when a shot was fired from the side of the road, which struck McLean in the side of the head, inflicting a serious wound.

There was a disturbance at Dominion Colliery this morning, when a crowd of about 300 strikers assembled at the gates and with sticks in their hands threatened the men as they went in to work. The coal company and the town police were there in force and there is little doubt that had it not been for their presence there might have been blood shed.

Government's Changed Views. E. L. Borden said that the most important measure ever passed in the interests of labor in Canada was passed by Sir John A. Macdonald; but for his law, men who went on strike would be criminals in the eyes of the law. He said that the government to-day was acting exactly reverse from that which it did in 1897. He had asked at what time that all matters touching disputes between employers and employees should be referred to a committee, for it was only fair that both sides should have been heard before legislation should have been dealt with by the parliament. However, the government at that time replied that it had all

Women's Historical Society. At the monthly meeting of the Women's Historical Society a paper was read by Lady Edgar on "Western Women Writers," while Mrs. Gordon Mackenzie spoke on "Christmas Recollections of Newcomers in Our Country." Mrs. Forsyth Grant, the president, presided.