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DECISIONS IN COMMERCIAL LAW

GOOD V. TORONTO, HAMILTON AND BUFFALO R. Co.—The rule that a contractor is bound by a condition in his contract making the employer's engineer the interpreter of and arbiter of disputes under a contract does not extend to a case where the named engineer, while in fact the engineer of the employer, is described in the contract, and is supposed by the contractor to be the engineer of a third party.

STRATFORD GAS CO. V. STRATFORD.-No action lies for the non-performance of a term of a contract which term is on its face impossible of performance. contract was made by a company for the electric lighting of a city for a named number of nights before a fixed date. There were not as many nights as were named before the date, and the company did not supply lights on all the nights there were, and were not prevented from doing so by the city. It was held that the company were not entitled to recover for more than the nights actually lighted.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION. ACT

The Workmen's Compensation Act of Great Britain is a radical piece of legislation. Those who attended the meetings of the British Association in Toronto two years ago will remember the enthusiastic terms in which the socialist members of the association spoke of the Act, which then had been passed by Parliament, but had not come into force. It was suggested that the Act should be applied to Canada. Experience in Britain proves, however, that the Act has many serious drawbacks. In giving judgment for the defendant, at the City of London Court on Friday last, in which a laborer, of Whitwell Road, Plaistow, claimed compensation for personal iniuries suffered while in the service of the defendants, the London and Indian Docks Joint Committee, Leadenhall Street .-Deputy Judge Pitt-Lewis said the Workmen's Compensation Act was an extraordinary tangle of legislation. It was like solving a conundrum. The statute seemed to have been drawn by a person who had strayed into the land of topsy-turveydom and there acted upon his recollection of the great composition, "The House that Jack Built," but also with the disadvantage of not knowing what he meant. The draftsman had left the judges to guess at what he meant. The case was a very important one to all employers of labor and workmen, and he hoped it would go to appeal. Even the Court of Appeal hesitated at deciding anything under the Act, and there was no wonder at it, for it was the most wonderful piece of legislation which had ever been enacted

THE Kingston locomotive works have just received an order from the C.P.R. for six locomotives.

JOHN MACKAY

Public Accountant, Auditor, Receiver and Trustee

Bank of Commerce Bldg., Toronto Cable Address: CAPITAL. Tel. No. 2732.

THE INSOLVENCY AND LIQUIDATION DEPARTMENT OF THE

Western Loan and Trust Company, Limited. IS OPERATED BY

W. Barclay Stephens

Manager of the Company.

Under the laws of the Province of Quebec the Company cannot be appointed directly to trusts, such as assignees, etc. Therefore, Mr. Stephens will act on behalf of the Company in all such cases, the Company assuming all responsibility and reliability in regard to any trusts which may be placed in his hands.

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