

THE FLOOD CHAPTER.

Relief for the Distressed Settlers Applied for in the House of Commons.

Latest Reports From the Desolated Region Contain But Little Encouragement.

Eastern Mails Now Forwarded via San Francisco—The Oregon Venice.

OTTAWA, via Seattle, June 5.—(Special)—In the House of Commons this afternoon Mr. Corbould called attention to the disaster that had overtaken the settlers along the Fraser river. He felt quite sure, he said, that every member had read the accounts of the flood with sorrow. The district in question was one of the most flourishing farming sections—perhaps the garden of British Columbia—where 2,000 families had happy homes, and now everything that they possessed had been swept away by this vast sheet of water. Many lives had been lost—it was impossible at present to tell how many. A trail 70 miles long and 12 miles wide had been swept by the great flood.

If he was not mistaken, after the great fire that took place at St. John, N. B., a few years ago, the Government had granted a considerable sum of money for the relief of those who had lost their property. The same thing had been done after the flood at Cornwall, and he hoped, therefore, that the Government would now come to the relief of the settlers on the Fraser river and grant a sufficient sum of money to provide for their immediate wants at any rate. He was not in a position to give a definite answer to the request for particulars as to the amount of the disaster. He presumed that such information would be forthcoming in a few days, when the Government would be in a position to take some action.

Hon. Mr. Laurier said he would like at the same time to have the Government consider the claims of the sufferers from a similar disaster in Portland County, P. Q.

The Flood is Stayed.

WESTMINSTER, June 5.—(Special)—The water rose one and a half inches above yesterday's mark at high tide this morning, and most people thought the river was still on the rise. At 9 o'clock the steamer Rithet arrived down from Katz landing, bringing the very welcome news that the water there had fallen six inches during the twenty-four hours and was still falling. The impression prevails among old timers that the worst of the flood is over, and that by Saturday night the water will have fallen several feet.

A special from Yale at 3:20 this afternoon says the water has fallen eighteen inches since yesterday noon and is still falling.

At this afternoon 200 feet of the South Arm bridge, between Richmond and Vancouver, was carried away.

Brodie's cannery, on Desa Island, is likely to be completely wrecked. The dyke surrounding the island has given way and the water has washed out a low wall, leaving about fifty feet of one of the buildings along the river. Nothing can be done to stop the damage.

The flooded condition of the streets in the West and last night proved a great inconvenience. The electric power house was visited by the flood at 9 o'clock and the light had to be turned off.

Last night Government Agent Warwick received a dispatch asking that another steamer and soon be sent to Mission at once to save cattle. The steamer Blonnie was engaged and left for Mission at daylight this morning. The government now has three steamers up river, giving relief.

The C. P. R. have cancelled the sale of tickets east and there is no expectation of trains arriving or departing for several days and perhaps longer. The road bed between Yale and Kamloops is reported to be in worse condition than ever, and serious washouts are said to have occurred at various points yesterday, stalling the two trains which left Katz landing on Saturday and Sunday.

There will be a special meeting of the City Council to-morrow evening to consider the advisability of forming a relief committee for the sufferers by the flood.

The Helping Hand.

WELLINGTON, June 5.—(Special)—A meeting was held in the Wellington hall this evening for the purpose of considering the best manner of raising a relief fund in aid of the sufferers on the Fraser. Mr. Alexander Sharp was elected chairman. Mr. John Matthews secretary, and Mr. William Russell treasurer. A large and influential committee was appointed to canvass the town and the miners for subscriptions.

At Kaslo.

KASLO, June 5.—(Special)—The lower portion of the town is flooded out and a number of houses had to be vacated. The small steamer Idaho steamed quite a distance up on Second street from the water.

The Water Falling.

VANCOUVER, June 5.—(Special)—The water has fallen at Yale 18 inches, and 12 inches at Raby creek, at Mission junction two inches.

Misery loving company, the C.P.R. have to comfort them the knowledge that their competitors to the south of the boarders are meeting with reverse exactly similar to those which have paralyzed traffic on the Canadian line during the past fortnight. Passengers who left here for the East via the Northern Pacific and Great Northern several days ago, have returned home, and will either continue their journeys by way of San Francisco or remain in Victoria until more direct communication with the East is re-established, the railway authorities in Washington state having assured them that there is no hope of getting through over any of the northern lines for some time. Missions for eastern points from Victoria and Vancouver are now being forwarded by way of California, the post office authorities having adopted this circuitous route as the only one upon which reliance can be placed until the present difficulties have been overcome. This action may be traced to the Board of Trade's recommendation and the prompt action taken thereon by Victoria's representatives in the House of Commons. On May 30, the position of affairs was explained to Messrs. Prior and Earle in the following

telegram, forwarded via the American wires:

VICTORIA, May 30, 1894. Messrs. Prior and Earle, House of Commons.

No mail from east since 23rd. Please arrange department to forward by whatever American lines are open.

A. C. FLUMMERFELT, President Board of Trade.

To this the following reply was received:

OTTAWA, June 4, 1894. A. C. Flummerfelt, President Board of Trade, Victoria.

Post Office Inspector Fletcher has been instructed to send mails by any route available. Messrs. mails going forward.

THOMAS EARLE.

Relief projects and offers of practical assistance are now heard of on every hand, private as well as public aid being generously extended. The following telegram evidences that British Columbia's disaster has not been heard of with cold indifference in the Eastern portion of the Dominion:

WINNIPEG (via Seattle), June 6. G. M. Leishman, Victoria.

You will please offer chairman relief committee for distribution among sufferers in the flooded district five tons Hungarian flour, making immediate delivery and getting the flour from any one of the customers for my account; and extend our deepest sympathy.

O. H. MILLER, Ottawa.

W. W. Thompson, Mgr.

Rt. Rev. Bishop Lemmens, who returned from Portland last night, was the only delegate who arrived in the Oregon city in response to the call of His Grace Archbishop Coak, and as all the other delegates were prevented by floods from reaching Portland no meeting could be held. The meeting had been called to consider the advisability of dividing the diocese of Vancouver and Alaska, over which Bishop Lemmens presides. His Lordship expressed his views to the Archbishop on the important subject, and they will be communicated by him to the other Bishops, a meeting being held to be unnecessary.

Speaking generally on the Oregon floods, Bishop Lemmens says Portland is now submerged up to Sixth street, the water in the river standing 22 feet above low water mark, and still rising. The highest mark of the past has been 29 feet. Prospects of a considerable increase are reported, as the snow lies very deep upon the mountains, and unless the recent storm has sufficiently cooled the atmosphere to prevent warm weather for the time, business of all kinds will this year suffer to an extent never before throughout Oregon through inundation.

On Portland's main streets at present the sidewalks are held stationary by means of scoundrels nailed to the buildings, while awnings are dripping and dipping into the swimming streets. The wharves are now beginning to loosen, and fear is expressed that some will drift away. Rowboats and enterprising gondollers are reaping the vest, and the average fare of five cents for ferriage across a business street has been adopted. The great Oregonian building has suffered severely, being one of the first to feel the effects of the flood, and a large wharf loaded with lumber is being carried off by the water.

When His Lordship started for home a boat was sent from the steamer to the palace, and he stepped from the verandah into it, almost imagining himself in Venice. All along the river houses are showing their roofs above the flood, and debris is being whirled toward the sea. Instead of entering Portland by rail passengers are now carried the last twenty-six miles of their journey by steamer.

A Cloud-Burst up the Line.

VANCOUVER, June 6.—(Special)—Your special correspondent reached Katz landing, on the temporary terminus of the Canadian Pacific railway, last night, travelling on a special relief and work steamer over a hundred miles of flooded country. Only those who have seen the results of the great calamity which has overtaken the province can conceive the magnitude of the appalling disaster or describe the destruction wrought by the destroying element. The few hurriedly dispatched over the feeble flood-racked wires had but faintly conveyed an impression of the awful grandeur of the scene and the widespread ruin for a hundred miles along the fair valley of the Fraser. Even now but a bird's-eye view can be presented of the awful majesty of the scene. The first glimpse of the floods from the car window of the work train was obtained at Pitt Meadows prairie, as fine land as any in the Province, shown with pride to American and British tourists when their broad green pastures stretched unbroken by a single knoll for sixteen miles. Now they are but a muddy sea, with whirlpools fifty feet deep and a picture of peculiar patches, a scene of striking beauty. The waters were half way up tall trees; a dozen acres of straight trunks with luxuriant branches looked like a forest floating beneath the green-dyed mountains, down whose stone-land and sides the raging torrents leapt and sprang from rock to rock.

At Sumas, the remarkable postmaster gurgled out his distress from the space between high tide and the top of the post office door. Not much more than his shoulders was visible above the floods, and the tall boys were hoisted on his head. The river had risen eight inches from the night before and the water was up to the roofs of the houses in the town.

At numerous other settlements exciting scenes were witnessed. Passing Agassiz woods a dusky Indian or a breathless Yankee yelled the steamer at every hundred yards.

"For God's sake stop, captain, my cattle are starving," or "Come in quick, my family are in distress," were the appeals all along the valley.

Scores of times the steamer ran into the woods and temporarily helped these human sufferers, but she could not wait on the up for the dumb brutes, who took their chances to starve or survive in the mountains.

No one can compute the loss sustained by the hardy settlers of the Fraser valley, but it must be enormous.

Along the railroad track disasters have followed in quick succession. An official of the road writes your correspondent that it would be six weeks before there was a through train from Winnipeg to Vancouver, but traffic would be resumed in three or four days, enabling passengers and mails to get across the continent. It was not the floods that put a final stop to traffic Victoria's way of Sunday swept over Vancouver, barely touching the river, but the Fraser valley over the mountains, gathering snow clouds as it advanced, until with a roar

it struck the mountains at Lytton, and the bed. Earth ran like wet sugar, and many miles of track between Lytton and Kamloops was undermined. The hurricane blowing in a few minutes damaged the track, destroying floods had taken two weeks to do. When the clouds broke the noise among the mountains was awfully impressive and came from every direction at once, vibrating for ten minutes through the valleys.

Reconstruction work is being pushed with marvellous vigor, an army of men being at work for 500 miles. The present crisis of the Canadian Pacific railway has developed three Napoleons, whose names are in everybody's mouth. In pursuing the work of unslugging the awful tangle they have not eaten one minute's rest a day. In the telegraph service Chief Fletcher and Fraser should be noticed, and in the railway department General Superintendent Abbott himself; but the three Napoleons of the struggle are Assistant Superintendent Dowrie, Superintendent Marpole, and Telegraph Superintendent Wilson. They worked like mad and worked incessantly day and night until he got a line through. When the water subsided every man in British Columbia who wants to work can get it on the road. There are no more breaks this side of Katz Landing than there were a week ago.

The business day is a matter of the mayor, council and prominent citizens. It included the formation of a committee to communicate with similar committees in Victoria and New Westminster, and appoint an executive to deal directly with the reeves and prominent citizens of the flooded districts in relieving distress. Mr. Sweeney, manager of the Bank of Montreal, said he had received the following telegram from the East:

"Are your family safe? Do you need assistance?"

The impression seemed to be that Vancouver and Victoria were flooded out. Another telegram from a prominent Easterner said: "Put down my name as a contributor to the flood sufferers."

The General Manager of the Bank of Montreal wired, "Contribute \$1,000 to the flood sufferers." President Van Horn's telegram contributing \$1,000 was also read. It was decided not to cancel the Dominion Day celebration, and on the first of July Vancouver will resume festivities at the old stand.

At a meeting of the market hall, also held last evening, a plan was arranged for supplying necessities to those afflicted by the flood.

Eastbound Passengers Disappointed.

WESTMINSTER, June 6.—(Special)—The steamer Transfer came down from Katz landing to-day with the passengers who went East on Sunday by the C.P.R. They got to their bend and could get no farther. The uncertainty of when the train would get through now being in the hands of Premier and Mrs. Davis, Hon. A. N. Richards and Deputy Attorney-General Smith was among the Transfer's passengers, the up country assizes having been adjourned for six weeks.

Meetings of the City Council and Board of Trade were held this evening to organize relief for the flood sufferers. The Board of Trade will ask the Dominion Government to undertake extensive improvements on the river immediately.

The water has been falling half-an-inch per hour at Yale for the last forty-eight hours, and is still receding. The effect has been the highest yet, the tide this morning being the highest on record, beating yesterday's by one inch. At Kamloops the water and other points higher up the fall is from one to six inches. Another 24 hours is expected to bring a big change in the situation. No further losses have been reported and the relief work goes on steadily.

Nanaimo's Welcoming Hand.

NANAIMO, June 6.—(Special)—Subscriptions in aid of the sufferers by the Fraser river floods are being taken up in the city. A committee of ladies will endeavor to increase this fund by the sale of refreshments, etc., at the sports in connection with the opening of the new Caledonian grounds on June 30.

Up River Reports.

ASHcroft, June 6.—The river has raised seven inches since yesterday.

LYTTON, June 6.—The Thompson is twenty inches lower than high water mark; the Fraser, twenty-six inches.

SPEER'S BRIDGE, June 6.—Water about the same—still high. Bridge O. K. again.

Grave Approaches at Portland.

PORTLAND, Ore., June 6.—Since yesterday the general situation at Portland remains practically unchanged. The water has continued to crawl slowly upwards. Last evening at 9 o'clock it stood at just 32 feet. At 5 o'clock this morning the gauge read 32 feet, showing a rise of 3 feet. Another report, the gauge read 32 feet. When the water stood just at the fraction off 32 feet. Since then the river has been almost at a standstill. From up the Columbia and Snake the news affords some stray crumbs of comfort. Like drawing up every body grasps at even a straw. At Umasilla, Columbia has fallen 2 of a twenty-four hours at Riparian, the river has fallen twenty inches. News from up the valley is to the effect that the Willamette is at a stand. Mr. Page, of the weather bureau, makes the following river forecast. The water will reach its maximum height before midnight on Wednesday. The height will not rise over four inches, and it is hardly possible that it will rise over two-thirds more. The river will remain stationary on Thursday with a tendency to fall. The fall in the water will be very slow, not over four inches a day for at least the next few days. News from down the Columbia river shows a most deplorable condition of affairs. Fishing has been suspended and the great stream has flooded the whole country on both sides. Houses have been carried away, farms inundated and crops destroyed. There has been great loss of stock. Approximating an estimate of the damage is utterly impossible under existing circumstances. A gentleman stated to-day to the United Press representative that the situation of affairs along the Columbia slough and between the Columbia and Willamette rivers is simply dreadful. The whole country is submerged and people have been driven from their houses. Their stock has perished. Swainsen island is entirely submerged and the crops destroyed. The loss is very heavy and will leave a great pall over the families of many ranchers.

Up the Columbia the fish wheels have destroyed the prospects of the season's salmon fishing. The fish wheels have either been carried away or destroyed. At Portland the condition of both the Madison and Morrison street bridges is serious. The terrific pressure from underneath has broken up the approaches on either side. The draw

of the Morrison street bridge is now being swung around by hand, while the lower part of the draw is several inches under water. Men are up a sharp look out for drift from the bridges and occasionally the draw must be turned to let some logs or brushwork pass. Traffic is still going over the Madison street bridge, and since the other thoroughfares to the east side of the river have been closed the traffic is terrific. The structure is subjected to a more severe strain than it has ever been, as two unbroken lines of teams are passing over every foot of the morning. At police headquarters this morning the chief of police detailed several officers to visit the northern part of the city in boats to seek out families in need or in distress. Later in the day they reported that they were unable to find any such cases. The poor and unfortunate who lived there are now being cared for in various parts of the city by friends and other charitable disposed people. The locality which the officers visited is, however, in a most deplorable condition. Many of the smaller dwellings are out of plumb, and not a few of them are keeled over at a very dangerous angle. Most of the other houses which are holding their own as regards position, are so thoroughly soaked that it will be unsafe for any one to occupy them during this summer without risk of serious illness.

The floods threaten to do vast damage to the Cascade locks. The bulkhead which holds the Columbia out of the upper end of the lock has been in danger of going out for several days. Officers visited the fight has been made and is being made to save it. The water at very late accounts was well up to the bulkhead, and those who were protesting it stated that six inches higher water would destroy it. Should it go out it will very probably destroy the rip-rap work, and possibly destroy the entire works, entailing a loss of over \$1,000,000.

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Y. M. C. A. CONVENTION.

The Mayor and Corporation of London Give the Delegates a Grand Reception.

Public Thanksgiving Service in St. Paul's Cathedral—The Great Jubilee Day.

LONDON, June 5.—At yesterday's session of the international temperance and jubilee celebration of the Y.M.C.A., R. C. Morse, of New York, reviewed the association in America, and dilated on the immense influence it had upon working youth. Mr. Morse referred to the extension of the work to colleges and universities as the grandest feature of the work. A reception was given the delegates in the afternoon by the mayor and corporation. The lord mayor extended a hearty welcome to the delegates. Among those present were all the members of Sir George Williams' family, Prince Oscar of Sweden, Count Benzon, and the Countess of the power of Jesus name, inaugurated the day's session of the international convention of the Y.M.C.A. Both morning and afternoon were devoted to business sessions in which matters relating to the government of the organization, its financial management, and the development of their use were exhaustively discussed. An early adjournment was taken in order that the delegates might prepare for the great public thanksgiving service which took place in St. Paul's cathedral this evening. To-morrow will be the great jubilee day of the conference.

The singing of old Coronation "All hail thee, O Jesus name," inaugurated the day's session of the international convention of the Y.M.C.A. Both morning and afternoon were devoted to business sessions in which matters relating to the government of the organization, its financial management, and the development of their use were exhaustively discussed. An early adjournment was taken in order that the delegates might prepare for the great public thanksgiving service which took place in St. Paul's cathedral this evening. To-morrow will be the great jubilee day of the conference.

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CAPITAL NOTES.

Canada's Representation at the Inter-colonial Conference—Governor-General's Address of Welcome.

Charlton's Sunday Bill Prohibits Sale of Sunday Newspapers and Closes Canals.

B. C. Board of Trade's Resolution Regarding Chinese Labor Forwarded to London.

(From our own Correspondent.) OTTAWA, June 5.—Sir John Thompson, Hon. Mr. Bowell, Sir Adolphe Caron and Hon. Mr. Foster have been appointed Canadian delegates to the Inter-colonial Conference, which are to be held in private, except the first, which will convene in the Senate chamber. The Governor-General will deliver an address of welcome. Mr. Charlton's Sabbath observance bill was reached to-night. The promoters out it down to two clauses, one prohibiting the sale of Sunday newspapers, the other closing the canals. These were carried. The British Columbia members made a determined fight. Sir John Thompson told Colonel Prior that the Government had no control over the Equatorial works. The resolution of the British Columbia Board of Trade against Chinese labor has been forwarded to the British Government.

VIENNA, June 5.—The Federated Union of Wood Workers of Austria, through its executive committee, to-day mailed to the Federation of Labor, the Knights of Labor, and other trades organizations in the United States, an earnest appeal for aid to maintain their strike, which is now on its third week. The appeal says that from the 10th of April all the carpenters, joiners and woodworkers generally of the country, went out on strike. Up to May 21, 113 employers had conceded all the demands of the men, but the employers of 15,000 more refused to do so, and this number will continue the strike indefinitely. The strike fund of the Federation (\$80,000) has been exhausted, and hence the committee is compelled to appeal to the unionists of the world, including the United States, for a helping hand, and for moral and material support. At the same time the committee desires it to be understood that it is willing to refund any sums that may be advanced just as soon as possible after the strike is over. The letter concludes "We have to fight a strong coalition of employers and our movement is just on the eve of defeat unless we get the support so urgently needed. We therefore appeal to you to support us in our struggle for bettering the condition of labor for wood workers and to show our employers that the international organization of workers is not an empty phrase. Our demands are: First, an eight-hour day in all shops; second, the abolition of piecework; third, the weekly wages of \$4 16 (American money) without a deduction for holidays; fourth, a general holiday on the first of each month."

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POPULAR POLITICIANS.

BUDA PESTH, June 5.—Dr. Wekerle and the other members of the retiring ministry returned from Vienna at 9 o'clock to-night and were received by the people with an enthusiasm resembling that during the recent ceremonies in honor of the late Louis Kosuth. Fully seventy thousand persons were gathered in the vicinity of the railway station. Carriages were in waiting, and the party started towards the Liberal club. The carriage proceeded amid continuous shouts of approval. On arriving at the club a fresh ovation awaited Dr. Wekerle. A number of ladies stood at the entrance of the building and showered flowers upon him as he entered and a crowd of students carrying flags greeted him with songs. In the house of magnates to-day it was decided to adjourn the debate on the demand of the lower house in regard to the introduction of the civil marriage bill until the cabinet crisis shall have been settled. Count Heersary made his acceptance of office conditional upon the programme of his predecessor, Dr. Wekerle, being maintained in entirety, insisting that the proposed ecclesiastical reforms are to be carried out immediately.

When the Emperor's train arrived at Buda-Pesth Count Apponyi, Count Szegedy-Herr Ugron, the Radical leader, and other members of the Hungarian diet were in waiting. The Emperor entirely ignored them, although he addressed a few words to the burgomaster and municipal authorities. In well-informed quarters the situation is considered serious. A struggle against encroachment of clericalism in politics and the tendency of the court at Vienna to influence Hungarian affairs will not be finally disposed of even by the return of Dr. Wekerle to office. It is believed he will be charged to form a cabinet.

The Panama Star-Herald has received the following dispatch from San Salvador: In a battle at Santa Ana on May 24, the Government troops under Gen. Angelo Escoto were defeated. Gen. Escoto and 600 soldiers were killed, and Gen. Beland was wounded. President Escoto has resigned in favor of Carlos Bonilla. A counter-revolution is sure to break out, as Bonilla is not generally acceptable. Possibly Gen. Manuel Rivas may become president.

The revolution in Salvador has been successful. The president has escaped and gone on board a German warship, all ready to leave Liberia. The brother of the president has been dead three weeks, a fact which has kept secret.

The revolution in the Province of Mandarín, China, is greatly extending. Mounted bandits, armed with repeating rifles, have defeated the imperial troops in every engagement and occupied several important positions, including the Saring arsenal, in which 100,000 rifles are stored. The situation is so alarming that Victoria Li Hsun Chang is gathering a large force to suppress the rebellion.

Private advices from Costa Rica announce that Rafael Iglesias has finally been elected president of the country, and that he has appointed his cabinet and pardoned all the revolutionists except two who he has banished from the country.

The U.S. steamer San Francisco has arrived at Colon from Bluefields. The Nicaraguan troops in charge there will retire if England demands that they do so. Much dissatisfaction prevails. The San Francisco is coaling there, preparatory to returning to Bluefields.

Lady Victoria Blackwood, youngest daughter of Lord Dufferin, was married in Paris yesterday to Hon. William Leo Plunket, eldest son of Lord Plunket, archbishop of Dublin, the latter officiating. The silver communion at Berlin has concluded its labors without arriving at any decision.

The Prince of Wales held a levee on Monday at St. James for the Queen. The officers of the United States cruiser Chicago were presented.

The warship Baltimore has sailed from Nagasaki, Japan, for Chemulpo, Korea, to look after American interests there, which have been reported as imperiled.

According to the best scientific authorities, the terrible disaster at St. Alban was due to the undermining and battering action of the swollen waters of the river St. Anne. But a recent extraordinary discovery in that region seems well calculated to modify this opinion to some extent. A farmer from St. Alban, who was in town to-day, stated that at some distance from the scene of the catastrophe, in the midst of the bush, it has been within the last two days discovered that the ground has sunk over a surface of several hundred yards, leaving a yawning chasm, at the bottom of which rears a raging torrent, and the question is raised whether a great subterranean lake has been formed and does not exist at or near this spot, the overflow from which may have permeated between the beds of clay and been the principal cause of the great landslide.