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VOL. 9, NO. 12

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1903.

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The Star

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CHOLERA EPIDEMIC GROWS WORSE IN ST. PETERSBURG

Sixteen Hundred Cases Have Been Reported, and Many Hundred Deaths—Suspects Held on German Frontier

Precautions are Now Being Taken

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 22.—The cholera epidemic, which continues to assume more appalling proportions every day, has concentrated the attention of the St. Petersburg authorities on the long neglected task of improving the water supply and sewer facilities of the capital. The sewers now empty into the river Neva or the open canals traversing the city and the water supply is taken from this river. This in spite of the fact that Lake Ladoga, twenty miles away, offers an abundance of fresh water obtainable at small expense. The minister of St. Petersburg at the instigation of Premier Stolypin has appointed a commission to arrange for the immediate action in these directions.

There is a total of 1,587 patients in the various hospitals. The municipal statistics are most incomplete, a fact which is shown conclusively by the number of interments. At one cemetery these aggregated 424 for the week.

BERLIN, Sept. 22.—Four cholera suspects, two of them Russians, who recently arrived from Russia were taken to the Virchow hospital this afternoon, but an examination indicated that the disease was not cholera. In one case the patient was suffering from typhus and in the other cases dysentery.

The authorities are most optimistic and declare that there is absolutely no ground for fear. Every precaution has been taken to prevent the epidemic, and it is expected that the epidemic will continue until the fact is confirmed that there is no infection. Bacteriological experts, who have made the examination, have, up to the present, found nothing to indicate the presence of Asiatic cholera.

The chief of the imperial health office declares that there is no cause for anxiety as all trains from Russia are being closely watched and the sanitary authorities are on the alert. Professor Klemperer who attended the Russian woman who was taken to the Virchow hospital said that it was not yet certain whether or not she was suffering from cholera, but that the result of a thorough examination must be waited.

STETTIN, Prussia, Sept. 22.—One suspected case of cholera is being watched here in the isolation ward of the public hospital.

BERLIN, Sept. 23.—Up to noon today none of the seven cholera suspects in the Virchow Hospital, who were taken to the hospital, nor had bacteriological examination demonstrated the presence of the disease among the persons detained along the Russian frontier.

DEVELOPING WIRELESS ACROSS THE PACIFIC

Honolulu Picks up Messages for San Francisco—Now Sending Station to Be Built.

HONOLULU, Sept. 22.—The prospect of early wireless communication between the western coast of the United States and the local stations recently equipped for service is made probable by the announcement yesterday that the operator in this city overheard several messages between San Francisco and vessels at sea or other coast stations. Early last evening a message from some undetermined coast point for San Francisco, intended for delivery at the Fairmont Hotel, was heard in transit and later in the day there was recorded a message sent from San Francisco to Captain Matson aboard the steamer Lurline off the coast. A powerful sending apparatus is now being installed here, and it is hoped that a more effective communication will soon be established.

SMUGGLING CHINESE.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Sept. 22.—After weeks of careful communication of an alleged plot to smuggle Chinese across the Mexican border, the local federal officers have succeeded in obtaining indictments against three Los Angeles men and three Mexicans, who formerly lived near Long Beach. All six have been arrested. It is asserted that other indictments will follow.

A lady's belt found on Prince William street yesterday, awaits an owner at the central police station.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Lake, left for Sussex on the noon train.

A defective stop cock in a Main street water main caused a flow of water across the sidewalk. The matter has been reported by the police.

John Sparkles has been reported by the police for permitting Spross Zolares, a minor in his bowling alley last night.

The police report finding a coil of rope under a Main street store last night and placing it in the North End station to await an owner.

BRUTALITY IS NOT WHOLLY NECESSARY

Even in the Enforcement of the Scott Act

Daily Mail Service Hereafter for all Points Along the St. John River—Burglars Plead Guilty

FREDERICTON, N. B., Sept. 22.—Judge Wilson, in the County Court Chambers this morning, made an order discharging from the county jail, Raymond Brewer, the Douglas man incarcerated while in a physically unfit condition for a Scott Act offense.

The judge in giving his decision spoke very strongly against the inhumanity that had been shown to the prisoner.

He said he had personally visited Brewer and found his physical condition just as he had described in the affidavits of Sheriff Sterling, and the certificate of Dr. Crockett. It was he declared, a shame and an outrage to keep the man in jail suffering as he was from an incurable and painful disease, and if such rigorous and inhumane action was necessary to enforce the Scott Act, the object in view would not be helped.

Peter Hughes appeared for Brewer who will be released this afternoon.

Morrell and Hazelwood, the men who burglarized P. S. Williams' store at Marystown Monday night, pleaded guilty in the police court here this morning, and were remanded by the police magistrate until tomorrow morning for sentence.

Colonel March has dismissed the Scott Act charge against H. E. Dewar, Chief of the Waverly Hotel, for want of evidence.

In addition to the proposal to run postal cars on the Fredericton and Lopperville branches of the Intercolonial railway, a service that will be inaugurated early next month, it is proposed to substitute for the present tri-weekly service in the parishes on both sides of the St. John river between here and Woodstock, a daily mail service and it is also likely that a postal car will shortly be attached to the Canadian Pacific train on the Gibson branch between this city and Woodstock.

Post Office Inspector Colter, who is grossly superintendent of the railway mail service were here last night in consultation with the police and the fire department this morning to look over the ground and arrange for the improved services.

TEN CARS OF A TRAIN FELL THROUGH A BRIDGE

Accident in Maryland This Morning—Report Says Engineer and Fireman Were Killed

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 22.—A long distance telephone from Perryville, Md., 40 miles from Baltimore, says that one span of the Baltimore and Ohio railway bridge over the Susquehanna river fell shortly before 7 o'clock this morning, as a freight train was passing over it.

No cars were carried down with the bridge. Perryville reports that no one was killed, but a report from Williams, Del., says the engineer and fireman of the freight were killed. The train was bound north and the fall work of the bridge which was being reconstructed gave way as the train passed over it. The train was several hundred feet long and carried hundreds of telegraph wires.

NEW POST OFFICE TO BE ERECTED IN FAIRVILLE

Site Has Been Secured Opposite Present Building—Building and Lot Will Cost About \$20,000.

A new post office building will shortly be erected in Fairville. In the estimates for last session an appropriation was included for the site. The lot secured is situated opposite the present post office and has been purchased from Mrs. Avery.

It is expected that the new building, which will be of commodious and handsome appointments and outside appearance, will cost in the vicinity of \$25,000.

Reference to this building was made yesterday in his speech at Musquash by Hon. William Fugleby as an instance of the liberality of the administration towards this constituency.

FUNERALS.

The funeral of Mrs. Richey took place at 2:30 o'clock from her late residence, Richey street, and was largely attended. Rev. David Lang conducted the services and interment was in Fernhill cemetery.

The funeral of Mrs. Moses Cowan took place this afternoon from his late residence, 15 Cedar street. Rev. D. Hutchinson conducted the services and interment was in Fernhill cemetery.

The funeral of Miss Mary Ann Paterson took place this afternoon from her late residence, Shefford street. Rev. J. Hand conducted the funeral services, and interment was in Cedar Hill cemetery.

A HUNDRED AND TEN LIVES LOST ON THE PACIFIC COAST

TERRIBLE FOREST FIRES OF THE PAST CENTURY

Great Miramichi Fire Leads the List—Interesting Facts From Forest Department.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—The terrible work of the flames which have burned over and destroyed hundreds of thousands of acres of timber and property to the value of millions in the Lake States, recalls to memory other great forest fires which have attained historic importance.

One of the earliest of these was the great Miramichi fire of 1855. It began its greatest destruction about one o'clock in the afternoon of October 7, at a place about 60 miles above the town of Newcastle, on the Miramichi river, in New Brunswick.

Before ten o'clock in the morning it had destroyed a belt of forest 20 miles long and 25 miles wide. Over more than two and one-half million acres, almost every living thing was killed. Even the ash were afterwards found dead in heaps on the river banks. Five hundred and ninety buildings were burned, and a number of towns, including Newcastle, Chatham, and Douglastown, were destroyed. One hundred and sixty persons perished and nearly a thousand head of stock. The loss from the Miramichi fire is estimated at \$90,000, not including the value of the timber.

In the majority of such forest fires as this the destruction of the timber is a more serious loss, by far, than that of the cattle and buildings, for it carries with it the impoverishment of a whole region for tens or even hundreds of years afterwards. The loss of the stumpage value of the timber at the time of the fire is but a small part of the damage to the neighborhood. The wages that would have been earned in lumbering, added to the value of the produce that would have been purchased to supply the lumber camps, and the taxes that would have been devoted to roads and other public improvements, furnish a much truer measure of how much, sooner or later, it costs a region when its forests are destroyed by fire.

The Peshtigo fire of October, 1871, was still more severe than the Miramichi. It covered an area of more than 2,000 square miles in Wisconsin, and involved a loss in timber and other property, of many millions of dollars. Between 1,200 and 1,500 persons perished, including half the population of Peshtigo, at that time a town of 2,000 inhabitants. Other fires of about the same time were most destructive in Michigan. A strip about 40 miles wide and 180 miles long, extending across the central part of the state, from Lake Michigan to Lake Huron, was devastated. The estimated loss in timber was about 4,000,000,000 feet board measure, and in money over \$10,000,000. Several hundred persons perished.

In the early part of September, 1881, great fires covered more than 1,800 square miles in various parts of Michigan. The estimated loss, in property, in addition to many hundred thousand acres of valuable timber, was more than \$2,500,000. Over 5,000 persons were made destitute and the number of lives lost is variously estimated at from 150 to 500.

The most destructive fire of more recent years was that which started near Hincley, Minn., Sept. 1, 1894. While the area burned over was less than in some other great fires, the loss of life and property was very heavy. Hincley and six other towns were destroyed, about 50 lives were lost, more than 2,000 persons were left destitute, and the estimated loss in property of various kinds was \$5,000,000. Except for the heroic conduct of locomotive engineers and other railroad men the loss of life would have been much greater. This fire was all the more deplorable, because it was wholly unnecessary. For many days before the high wind came and drove it into uncontrollable fury, it was burning slowly close to the town of Hincley and could have been put out.

THE PURSE CAME BACK

Stolen at the Exhibition, It Was Returned Through the Mail, Minus Cash It Had Contained.

G. Pearl Black was pleasantly surprised yesterday by a package which he received through the mails, which, unbuttoned, he found contained a pocket-book which was stolen from him at the exhibition. One evening while going through the crowd with his coat unbuttoned he felt the pocket-book being taken, but owing to the crowd and the darkness he could not locate the thief. Fortunately he had a short time before put the most of his money in another pocket, but the wallet still held eight dollars and some papers which were of value to him.

When the package arrived through the mail it bore no marks by which the sender could be identified. The papers were intact, but the sender had retained the cash—probably as a reward for his own honesty in returning the wallet.

STREET MUSICIANS COULD NOT AFFORD THE TAX

Owing to the recent changes in the license regulation, St. John will have to try to struggle along with a little less street music than the quantity usually available.

A party of three Italian musicians applied at City Hall this morning for a license to perform on the streets. When they were informed that it would cost them a dollar a piece per day for the privilege they decided they could afford it.

THE COMPANNA IS THE ONLY ONE THAT HAS COME OUT SINCE THE LID WAS CLOSED DOWN.

BY ST. LAWRENCE FOG

MONTEREAL, Sept. 22.—The vessels held up in the river on account of the fog are—Montreal, Quebec, and Prefontaine. Imperial River steamers held at Quebec: Hesperian, Manchester, Exchange, Englishman, Coling, Lake Manitoba, ocean liners, anchored at Quebec or above. The Montserrat and several colliers are unable to leave the port. The Campanna is the only boat which has sailed in the fog. She left yesterday for Gulf ports.

McSWEENEY-McINNIS

MONCTON, N. B., Sept. 22.—The marriage of Eugene Owen McSweeney, of the Moncton Furniture Co., to Miss Eva Margaret McInnis, daughter of John McInnis, was solemnized at 8:30 this morning in the Chapel of St. Mary's Home, which stands on the site of the McSweeney homestead where the groom was born. The wedding was a quiet one, only immediate friends being present. Rev. Father Savage, pastor of St. Bernard's, officiated. After the ceremony luncheon was partaken of at the bride's home, and the couple left by the morning train for St. John. This afternoon they leave on a wedding trip to New York.

The Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen are celebrating their twenty-fifth anniversary here this afternoon. Extensive preparations have been made. At 2:30 a procession started from the I. C. R. depot, members of the union marching through the city and returning to the I. C. R. depot where addresses were delivered by Mayor Purdy and others. Tonight different organizations will attend a public meeting in the Hippodrome Theatre. Representatives of different brotherhoods will speak, among whom will be William King, St. John, and H. B. Gordon, Moncton.

LATEST WEATHER REPORT

FINE and WARM