STATISTICS REGARDING METHODIST CHURCH

INCREASED MEMBERSHIP DURING FOUR YEARS

Sugar Refinery to Be Operated by Spreckles in the East — Dominion News Notes.

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 27.—Major H. J. Woodside, of Dawson, was married to Miss Josephine Huestis, second daughter of M. B. Huestis, manager of the Federal Life branch. After the ceremony Major and Mrs. Woodside left for the West. They will take up their residence in Dawson.

Sugar Industry.

Montreal, Aug. 27.—Claus A. Spreckels, of New York, president of the Federal Sugar Manufacturers, accompanied by his counsel, W. W. Cook, of New York, arrived here to-day. It is understood they contemplate the organization of a Canadian company with a capital of six million dollars, to exploit the new process of sugar refining invented by the Spreckels, now in operation in the United States. Messrs. Spreckels and Cook were in consultation with Mr. McGibbon, K. C., during the day, but beyond the fact that the papers for the incorporation of a Canadian company were signed and forwarded to Ottawa, no further details could be learned.

Steel Company's Profits.

James Ross, president of the Dominion Steel Company, returned to-day from Sydney. He reported net earnings of the Dominion Coal Company in July were $239,000, as compared with $192,000 for the same month last year. The earnings of five months of the present year, beginning in March, were $53,000 as compared with $497,700 for the same period last year.

Farmer's Death.

Belleville, Ont., Aug. 27.—Robt. Darling, a farmer of Ameliasburg, while driving a binder yesterday afternoon, was thrown on the knives and so badly cut that he died shortly after being rescued. He was 30 years old and leaves a widow.

Fatal Mistake.

Brussels, Ont., Aug. 27.—Alex. Hunter, a resident of this place, last night took a mixture of carbolic acid and other poisons in mistake for medicine. Realizing the mistake he ran to a doctor's, but died soon after reaching there. He was 53 years old and was clerk of the Division court.

Drowned.

Winnipeg, Aug. 27.—Henry Hall, a young man 19 years of age, was drowned off Coney Island, Rat Portage. He resided at Rainy River, Ont.

Dynamite House Blown Up.

The dynamite house of Dinorwic, east of Rat Portage, containing three tons of dynamite, was blown up this morning. The explosion was terrific. Doors were blown off their hinges, the plaster badly damaged and almost all the windows in the town were shattered. Two men were near the magazine when they noticed it was on fire. They escaped by jumping into the river.

Injured By Binder.

The four-year-old son of Thomas Bryson, of Routledge district, near Virden, fell into the knives of the binder driven by his father to-day, and had his leg cut off before the father could stop the horses.

Elevator Fatality.

George A. Mabee, clerk in James Robertson's wholesale hardware store, James street, was killed this afternoon. He shouted to men from an upper flat to send up an elevator, and while at the shaft the elevator weight caught him, killing him instantly.

The Manitoba Harvest.

The weather was very warm and bright to-day and the grain ripened fast. By Saturday night half of the Manitoba wheat crop will be cut. Wheat threshing commenced on the farm of Peter Herbert, in Gretna district, to-day. The yield was 27 bushels to the acre of fine quality. A dozen machines will start in Manitoba district to-morrow, where cutting has finished. A special train of harvesters arrived from Quebec to-day with 600 on board, making 12,000 who have arrived to date.

A Test Case.

Toronto, Aug. 27.—A test case to determine the right of trade unions to fight capital by means of a boycott was begun at Osgoode hall this morning, when the Metallic Roofing Company obtained an interim injunction to prevent the local branch of the International Metallic Workers' Association from promoting a boycott on its goods.

Increase in Membership.

Rev. Geo. H. Cornish, D. D., Methodist general conference statistician, has prepared his report for the meeting in Winnipeg next month. It indicates that there has been a total increase in membership in four years of 11,358, the most marked increase being 4,700 in the Northwest conference. The number of churches built during the quadrennial was 2,170. The revenue, $704,024; new parsonages, 122; their value, $172,069; value of college and school property, $2,168,164. Value of book and publishing houses, $443,361; total value all church property, $16,802,438; showing an increase of $1,372,484.

Rescuer Dead.

Strathcona, N. W. T., Aug. 27.—Thos. Rooney went into a well to rescue a hired man who was overcome by gas. He saved the life of the man, but succumbed to the fumes himself.

Mill Burned.

Dunnville, Ont., Aug. 27.—George Reid's flour mill with all its contents was totally destroyed by fire this morning. Two adjoining mills, Chambers's flour mill and Slingsby & Walthor's woollen mills, were saved with difficulty. The total loss amounts to about $8,000, partially insured.

LARNED LEADING.

He Has Won Two Sets Against One Taken by English Player.

Newport, R. I., Aug. 27.—One of the largest crowds that ever witnessed a tennis match gathered about the championship court at the Casino to-day to see W. A. Larned, of Summit, N. J., defend his title of American champion against the English challenger, R. F. Doherty. The comparative ease with which Doherty defeated Whitman in the finals yesterday caused much anxiety for the safety of the title.

Doherty won the first set, 6-4; Larned won the second set, 6-2, and also the third set, 6-4. The score is two to one in favor of the American. The Englishman seemed badly heated and winded.

The Play.

The players were late in appearing. The crowd received them cordially and watched the warming up strokes eagerly. Doherty wore a belt of light blue, the colors of Cambridge, his university. Just before the match started the bets became 2½ to 1 on Doherty. Doherty won the toss and took the west end of the court, giving Larned the service.

Larned won the first game and applause swept along the lines of spectators. Larned seemed nervous in the first games, while Doherty was as cool as ever. Outs and errors, however, predominated, the American making more than the Englishman. Soon Doherty was ahead three to one, but Larned resumed his net game in the fifth and won it on fine play. Doherty began sending slow balls back to the American with the idea of tiring him out as he did with Whitman. To the joy of the crowd by fine placing Larned won the eighth game on Doherty's service, and the score was four games all. Doherty was within a point of the next game when Larned made it deuce, but the Englishman won it and the games were 5 to 4. Larned fell off in the next game and Doherty took the set 6-4.

Although Doherty was within a point of the first game in the second set Larned made it deuce and won it. He followed it up by taking the next to the renewed delight of the crowd. Larned seemed to increase his pace both on the base line and at the net, while Doherty fell off. He won the third, making the score 3 to 0. Doherty took the fourth game. He seemed badly afflicted by the sun. Twice his racket slipped in his hand, and he did not seem to go after the balls with his accustomed vim. Larned, on the other hand, was right in his old playing form. He judged some of the Doherty shots to perfection. He won the fifth game, making the score four to one.

LARNED BEAT DOHERTY.

Newport, R. I., Aug. 27.—To-day Wm. A. Larned, of Summit, N. J., successfully defended his title of champion, defeating Reginald F. Doherty, of England, three sets to one. The scores were: 4-6, 6-2, 6-4, 8-6. It was a grand game on both sides, but it sapped the vitality of each player until it became a question of endurance, and the American proved to be in the best condition.

ASK FOR WARSHIP.

British Subjects at Ciudad, Bolivar, Which Was Bombarded by Venezuelans, Want Protection.

Caracas, Venezuela, Aug. 26.—Ciudad Bolivar, capital of the state of Bolivar, has been bombarded by government warships, and many persons were killed or wounded. The place has a large British population, and the British subjects have requested that a British warship be sent for their protection. It is alleged that atrocities have been committed at Ciudad Bolivar by both the government troops and the revolutionists.

Ciudad Bolivar is still in the power of the revolutionists. The town was fired upon day and night by the gunboats Bolivar and Restaudor, which attempted to land forces to reoccupy the place. About 600 shells were fired into the city. When the ammunition of the Restaudor was exhausted she left for La Guaira to obtain additional supplies, after which the bombardment will be resumed. There are no foreign warships in the Orinoco river to protect the interests of the powers, and the British government is being blamed in certain quarters for abandoning the 3,000 subjects of Great Britain who reside in the district of Ciudad Bolivar.

Reports Denied.

Washington, Aug. 26.—Cable reports from Europe indicating that a movement is on foot to have the United States join Germany, France and other powers with a view to suppressing the disorder in Venezuela, are denied. It is learned at the state department that no such move as the one suggested has taken official form. It is the belief of officials that the report grows out of the request made by some of the foreign powers about a month ago, that the United States join in a declaration that the blockade established by the Venezuelan government was ineffective. At that time the United States government declined to enter into a concert for this declaration on the theory that if the Venezuelan blockade was ineffective it was quite needless to make an international declaration of this fact, as the ineffectiveness of the blockade would serve all of the practical needs of commerce. Since then there have been no steps taken by the foreign powers towards a concert of action with the United States relative to Venezuela.

STEAMERS COLLIDE.

One of Vessels Compelled to Return to Port.

New York, Aug. 27.—The Italian line steamer Liguria, from Genoa and Naples, while steaming up the narrows this afternoon, collided with the outward-bound British steamer Peconic, from New York for Mediterranean ports. The Peconic struck the Liguria glancing on the port bow aft the foremast, smashing and cutting the steamer's plating down almost to the water's edge. The Peconic's bow stove in and she was compelled to put about and return to the city for repairs. Fortunately no lives were lost on board the Liguria, although the steamer had on board a large number of passengers. They were on deck, however, at the time of the accident.

Aberdeen, S. D., Aug. 25.—The First National Bank was robbed of $3,800 in silver on Sunday night. The robbers entered the basement, thence going upstairs. They cut a hole in the vault through the steel side.

MITCHELL HAS NO STATEMENT TO MAKE

REGARDING CONFERENCE WITH COAL OPERATORS

Number of Men Applying for Work in the Lehigh Valley — A Washery Burned.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Aug. 27.—President Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers, said to-day that he had no comment to make about the meeting of coal operators at the office of J. P. Morgan yesterday.

A large number of men, it is reported have gone to work to-day in the Dorrance colliery of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. At the office of the company it was said that an increased number of applications for work are being received daily.

Washery Burned.

Hazelton, Pa., Aug. 27.—The Klondike washery at Tresckow, owned and operated by Jos. S. Eager, of this place, was destroyed by fire of unknown origin today, causing a loss of $7,000, partly covered by insurance. The washery suspended operations when the strike began, but resumed two weeks ago. Strikers raided the plant and closed it on Tuesday of last week, and two attempts to resume work this week were frustrated by them.

In Chicago.

Chicago, Aug. 27.—"A little tighter every day," summarizes the anthracite coal situation in Chicago. A few local dealers are parting with a few tons at $9 and $10, one dealer being reported yesterday as demanding $11 and not wanting to sell at that. Many persons who have been using hard coal in furnaces are now putting in natural gas.

HARVESTER MURDERED.

Placed in Box Car and Shot and Robbed By a Thug.

Pasco, Wash., Aug. 26.—Peter Nelson, shot by a thug in a box car in the Pasco yards early yesterday morning, died this morning in a Walla Walla hospital. In jail at Walla Walla is Wm. Kettle, an employee of the Northern Pacific round house at Pasco, charged with the crime.

Nelson was a Swede harvester, aged 50, and was making his way from the Walla Walla valley harvest fields to the Palouse. He reached Pasco early yesterday morning, and while waiting for the north-bound train was accosted by two men with lanterns, who asked his destination. Nelson replied "Spokane." The man asked if he had bought a ticket, and on receiving a negative answer, offered for $1 to put the harvester in a Spokane freight car, thus saving fare. Nelson accepted, and walked with the leader of the two men to his death. Nelson was fastened in the car and spread his blankets on the floor to sleep. A few minutes later a man crawled through a high end door, covered Nelson with a gun and ordered "Hands up." The harvester declined and a 38-caliber bullet pierced his intestines, cutting them in two in fifteen places. As he lay writhing the thug coolly took $15 and a watch from his pockets and crawled out. Nelson, despite his awful wound, crawled out the door, too, and fell beside the track. In his dying statement in Walla Walla, Nelson said his assailant was the man who put him in the car.

CONVICT'S LETTER.

O'Brien Says His Object in Escaping From Jail is to Kill Under Sheriff Morgan.

Butte, Mont., Aug. 27.—With officers of the state penitentiary upon his track, assisted by bloodhounds, Tom O'Brien, a convict who made a daring escape from the state prison last Friday, has sent a communication to the Miner pleading for a public statement of his alleged crime and vowing the death of Under Sheriff Dave Morgan, whose alleged perjured testimony, the convict declares, sent him to prison and wrecked his home. The document received by the Miner bears the postmark of Anaconda. The writer dates his communication from a mountain in the hills surrounding Anaconda, and says that he wrote his story behind a rock, dividing his time between his Winchester and his pen. The communication is a literary freak, and there is no question as to its authenticity, because the handwriting has been fully identified by the warden of the penitentiary and others acquainted with the criminal. O'Brien declares his sole object in escaping from the prison is to kill Morgan. O'Brien was sent up for robbery in 1901.

GENERAL MILES'S MISSION.

Goes to the Philippines to Inquire Into Matters of Army Administration.

Washington, Aug. 26.—President Roosevelt's order to General Miles to visit the Philippines reached the war department in the mail to-day. General Miles is instructed to "proceed about September 17th to the Philippines to inspect the army there with reference to instruction, discipline and supplies."

It is the understanding that in that capacity, though of superior rank, General Miles will not interfere in any way with General Chaffee or his successor, General Davis, in the direction of the army in the Philippines. He will critically examine the conditions as he finds them, devoting his attention entirely to matters of army administration and not to political affairs, and the results of his work will be embodied in a set of reports.

It is believed here that he will be accompanied by at least two members of his staff, namely, Lieut.-Colonel Whitney and Colonel Reber, the latter his son-in-law. Colonel Maus, who is the inspecting officer of the staff, also may accompany General Miles, if his health, which is somewhat impaired at present, permits

STRIKE MAY FOLLOW.

Chicago Street Railway Employees Refuse to Accept Proposal Made By President.

Chicago, Ills., Aug. 26.—Grave possibilities of a strike that may tie up all the street railway lines of the West and North sides of this city are on foot. To-day, by an overwhelming vote, the local union of the Amalgamated Association of Street Car employees refused to accept the proposition made by President Roach, several days ago. The overtures of the company, which included an increase of 1 cent an hour in wages, the dissolution of a rival employees association and the employment of none but union men were balloted on by the men early yesterday. The votes were counted this morning, and although no public statement was made of the vote, it was estimated that the radical wing carried the referendum against the company by nearly 10 to 1. An agreement between the union and the railway company exists, whereby disagreements shall be settled by arbitration. Wm. Mahon, International president of the street car men, tried to exert his influence to avert any strike action, and to urge that the union live up to its laws. A rupture, however, occurred between the local officials and President Mahon, and he left their meeting with a statement that if the men struck without trying arbitration the general union would not support them.

WILL NOT PAY PRIESTS.

The Rospigliosi Controversy Assumes a New Aspect.

Rome, Aug. 27.—The Rospigliosi controversy is increasing in bitterness and nearly all the members of the Sacred college here have become participants. Prince Rospigliosi, under advice of one of the cardinals, has formally protested to the congregation of the Holy Office against the order forbidding the assistance of a nun during the recent confinement of the Princess, his wife. The Prince is withholding the salaries of the priests on his estates, who are all allied to the prelates who oppose him, and is turning over these salaries for the benefit of the clergymen who are under authority of the cardinals who sympathize with him.

The Princess Rospigliosi, who was Miss Marie Reid of Washington, D. C., was married to the Prince after a divorce from Frederick Parkhurst, of Bangor, Maine. The Roman Catholic church did not recognize this divorce, and refused to give permission to a nun to nurse the Princess at her confinement, holding that the marriage to the Prince was non-existent.

AUTOMOBILE FATALITY.

Machine Fell Over Bridge—Two Persons Dead and Another Dying.

Long Branch, N. J., Aug. 26.—Two were killed and two injured in an automobile accident at the Park avenue bridge over the New York & Long Branch railway tracks to-day. In trying to avoid running down a man, Frank M. Mathew, president of the Reality Trust Company, of Jersey City, lost control of his machine, and it plunged against the railing, broke through and dropped to the rails, 35 feet below. Mr. Mathews was instantly killed, the heavy machine falling on him. Mrs. J. H. Cobb, of Richmond, Va., one of his guests, died later at the Monmouth Memorial hospital, and Mrs. Louis Pizzen, his sister-in-law, is dying. The chauffeur, Rudolph Meyer, escaped with slight injuries, as he leaped to the bridge just as the machine went over the side.

CHINESE SAILORS.

Crew Intended For Steamer Korea Must Be Kept on Board the Gaelic.

San Francisco, Aug. 27.—The 250 Chinese intended for the crew of the Pacific mail steamer Korea arrived here on the steamer Gaelic. Collector of Customs Stratton has again notified the steamship company that the Chinese must be detained on the Gaelic, and not even be allowed to enter the detention shed, pending a decision by the treasury department and the commissioner general of immigration. The Sailors' Union of the Pacific has entered a strong protest against the transfer of these Chinese to the Korea. The union contends that the Chinese cannot be transferred to the Korea without bringing them ashore, to be signed before the States shipping commissioner, and that the act of bringing them ashore would constitute a violation of the Chinese Exclusion Act.

DRIVEN OUT.

Provincial Government Troops of Hayti Forced to Evacuate Town They Took Yesterday.

Paris, Aug. 27.—A dispatch received here from Cape Haytien, Hayti, says the troops of General Nord, the minister of war of the provisional government, have been defeated and forced to evacuate Limbe, and adds that the fighting continues.

It is further reported that the inhabitants of Aux Cayes and Aguins have risen against the provisional government, and that General Simon, commander of the department of the south, who has declared himself in favor of M. Firmin, the presidential candidate who is at the head of the revolutionary movement, is marching on Niragoane.

MANY MEN KILLED.

Village in Hayti Captured by Troops of Provincial Government.

Cape Haytien, Aug. 26.—The village of Limbe, 82 miles north of Port au Prince, has been attacked and recaptured by troops of the provisional government. Limbe was in the possession of the Firminist soldiers from the Artobinite district. The fighting was severe and lasted from midnight last night to midday to-day. The town was completely destroyed by fire.

The defenders of Limbe were reinforced by marines landed from the gunboat Crete-a-Peirrot, which is in the Firminist service. Gen. Alexis Nord has gone forward to take command of the troops of the provisional government. A battle also took place to-day at Marmelade, but details of this engagement are lacking. Cape Haytien is calm.

Crows have seven cries, each referable to a different action.

Over Six Hundred Thousand Miners in

THE DEMAND FOR HARVEST LABORERS

TWENTY THOUSAND MAY NOT BE SUFFICIENT

Weather in Manitoba Continues Fine and Warm—Dominion Steel Company's Claim for Bounties.

Winnipeg, Aug. 27.—The weather continues fine and warm, and as the work of cutting the wheat proceeds it becomes more and more apparent that 20,000 farm laborers will be required to harvest the crop. The present demand for help is so great that it is now felt that the requirements were under rather than over estimated when the number of men was placed at 20,000. J. Obed Smith, immigration commissioner, stated yesterday that he continues to receive the most favorable crop reports from his agents throughout the country. He is now anxious to hear from anyone who may have an exceptionally good yield or an exceptionally good sample of grain. Wheat cutting on "Prairie home farm, the farm of ex-Premier Greenway, is being finished to-day. It is a grand crop. Over 500 acres of the entire crop are cut and there are still over 400 acres yet to cut.

An Interesting Point.

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 27.—The suit of the Dominion Iron & Steel Co. vs. the Dominion government, for the sum of $196,967.15, alleged to be due the company for bounties, commenced in the Exchequer court here before Justice Burbidge yesterday. Mr. Chrysler, counsel for plaintiff, stated that the claim was based on the statutes which provided for the payment of bounties on steel ingots manufactured in Canada from ingredients, not less than fifty per cent. of which consisted of pig iron. Mr. Aylesworth counsel for the government, claimed that the plaintiffs had refrained from solidifying the molten lead into pigs. Molten lead is not, according to statutes, pig iron and consequently does not come in for bounty.

Stock Sold.

London, Ont., Aug. 27.—The entire stock in trade of the Runions, Carson, McKee Co., amounting to $66,327, was sold at auction yesterday afternoon for 55 cents on the dollar.

On With a Rush.

Toronto, Aug. 27.—Hugh McKellar, deputy minister of agriculture of Manitoba, has telegraphed Mr. Hartney, the Manitoba government agent here, that the harvest is on with a rush; that men all picked on arrival, and a full complement of twenty thousand men is wanted. Mr. Hartney is hopeful of obtaining the required number. Eleven thousand have already gone.

Found Dead.

Montreal, Aug. 27.—James M. Slessor, resident director of W. R. Brock & Co., formerly Jas. Johnstone & Co., wholesale dry goods, in this city, and one of the best known dry goods men of the Dominion, was found dead in bed this morning. He was sixty years of age. A widow and four children survive him.

COAST-KOOTENAY LINE.

Messrs. Greenshields, Maclean and Macdonell Visit Ottawa in Connection With the Road.

Ottawa, Aug. 27.—J. N. Greenshields, Montreal, with Norman Maclean, and D. G. Macdonell, barristers, Vancouver, are here to-day arranging about the Coast-Kootenay railway. It is said that Mackenzie & Mann, who hold the charter over the same route, have withdrawn their opposition to Maclean Bros. This is said to be due to some misunderstanding between Jim Hill and Mackenzie & Mann.

"I wrote to Doctor Pierce, who sent me a very kind letter and advised me."

Thousands of weak and sick women can trace the beginning of a new life of perfect health to that letter written to Dr. Pierce.

Sick and ailing women are invited to consult Dr. Pierce, by letter, *free*. All correspondence held as strictly private and sacredly confidential. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures weak and aching backs, headaches, nervousness and other womanly ailments by curing the womanly diseases which cause them.

"In the spring of 1900 I became very ill," writes Mrs. Alviena Scholtz, of Lake Washington, Lesueur Co., Minn., "my back was very weak and ached so that I could do no work at all, so I was obliged to take to my bed. I felt a constant desire to urinate and the pains in abdomen were almost unbearable. I wrote to Dr. Pierce, who sent me a very kind letter, and advised me to take his 'Favorite Prescription' and 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I took six bottles of each and am a well woman now. I cannot say enough in favor of Dr. Pierce's medicines."

"Favorite Prescription" makes weak women strong, sick women well. Accept no substitute for the medicine which works wonders for weak women.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are the most desirable laxative for delicate women.

EDITORS ENTHUSIASTIC.

Visitors From Old Country Leave Winnipeg After Four Days in the Wheat Field.

Winnipeg, Aug. 26.—The British editors, after four days spent in the wheat fields of Manitoba, left to-day for the Territories in the private car Bombay, en route for British Columbia. The trip was a revelation to the visitors, and all are enthusiastic over the great possibilities of the West. Three of the members, James Lumsden, Leeds Mercury; Hugh Spender, Westminster Gazette, and W. Wetherwell, Liverpool Post, were spokesmen before leaving.

Mr. Spender said, in brief: "We three went out to Crystal City to get a glimpse of the wheat plains about which, if truth must be confessed, we were rather sceptical. At Crystal City (which I presume gets its name from the fact that you can see right through it) we were met by Hon. Thos. Greenway, and driven 22 miles toward the United States border, pitching and rolling over the prairie in a way that was rather novel to us, but the beauty of the scenery quite made up for the absence of good roads. About three miles from the boundary line we fell in with a young farmer from Somersetshire, England, driving a binder round a 100-acre field of wheat. In conversation I found that he came from within 25 miles of my own home. Here was the very man we wanted. He had come to Manitoba 10 years ago with a capital of $12 on landing. In England he had been employed on a dairy farm and earned 18 shillings a week. He now owns 320 acres of land, his horses, buildings and cattle, and expects to have 4,000 bushels of wheat this season. We had heard of such things in the old land, but they did not seem credible until we came to this living example of the strides that it is possible to make in Manitoba. Had this man remained in England, it is pretty safe to say he would still be earning no more than 18 shillings a week, while in the same period in Manitoba he has become a substantial and prosperous farmer. On Sunday Mr. Greenway drove us out to Rock Lake, which strongly reminded us of Windermere. We also went to see his famous herd of cattle, but Mr. Lumsden will tell you about them, as he has practical experience in that line."

At this juncture Mr. Lumsden interposed: "The shorthorns were especially fine specimens, the 3-year-old cows being marvels of their class. What struck us most was their fine development and perfect finish from a feeder's point of view. The animals have for some time been entirely fed on the natural pasturage of the prairie. We were also greatly struck with the ease with which the pasture land of the prairie can be converted into arable land. The opinion generally held in the Old Country with regard to prairie land is that it is covered with dense vegetation, which makes the breaking up of the soil a task of the very greatest difficulty. A misconception of this kind is a serious matter, and we will endeavor to instruct those who are minded to seek homes in the West that the prairie of this country has nothing in common with the brush of New Zealand. No language can adequately describe our delight in beholding the beauty of the prairie flowers and the great variety of the species in all my travels, and I have travelled not a little. I have never seen such magnificent expanses of yellow corn and flowery mead, nor had any of us ever driven beneath skies of such intense blue, glorious with fine weather clouds. A more delicious climate could not be conceived, and from morning until evening we were charmed with the wonderful cloudland effects, but more particularly with the crimson of the sunsets. Have I been too flowery? I think not; it is simply the truth. The conviction has come home to us all that Canada's boast that she is the granary of the Empire is indeed no idle vaunt."

Mr. Spencer and Mr. Wetherwell chimed in, saying that they all thought the beauty and fertility of the country was only equalled by the hospitality of the people.

The party are sending home descriptive articles from each point visited, but really hope to do their best work when they get home, and keep the ball rolling for many months to come. One of the party has shown his faith in the country by purchasing a half-section at Quill Lake, Assiniboia.

HAS NEW EVIDENCE.

General Molineux Says He Knows His Son Is Innocent.

New York, Aug. 25.—General Edward L. Molineux, whose son, Roland, is in the Tombs awaiting his second trial on the charge of causing Mrs. Kate J. Adams's death, declares he has secured new evidence which will be presented when the trial is called in October.

"I know positively that my son is innocent of the crime of murder," he said. "I have the absolute proof in my possession."

It is more than ten months since the Court of Appeals granted Molineux a new trial. During that time the general has worked up the evidence through which he says he will establish the innocence of his son beyond the shadow of a doubt.

TROOPS FOR LANSFORD.

An Outbreak Among the Strikers Is Feared.

Tamaqua, Pa., Aug. 27.—Major Gearhart, commanding the First battalion of the 12th regiment, stationed here, has wired Governor Stone to send the government troops from Shenandoah to Lansford. The streets of Lansford and Summit Hill are crowded with strikers. They are in an ugly mood and an outbreak is feared at any time. Preparations are now being made to move troops to Lansford.

SCORES OF VICTORIANS

In the Ontario Rifle Association Matches at Toronto.

Long Branch Rifle Range, Toronto, Aug. 27.—The Ontario Rifle Association matches commenced this morning. In the Canadian Club match, 600 yards, 10 shots, the following are the scores of British Columbia shots: Richardson, 44, $5; Moscrop, 44, $5. Brayshaw, 43, $4; Caven, 40, $4; Stuart, 40, $3.

Miles City, Mont., Aug. 25.—Sergeant Coon, of Troop H, 13th cavalry, has been drowned while attempting to swim the Yellowstone river. Detachments of soldiers from Fort Keough are actively engaged in a search for his body.

RALPH SMITH BACK AT THE COAL CITY

Regards Action of Miners in Severing Connection With Trades Congress as Fatal Mistake.

Nanaimo, Aug. 27.—Ralph Smith, M. P., arrived last evening from Vancouver. He was called home by the action of the Miners' Union in cutting off its affiliation with the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, and is prepared to at once go to work to-night on what he regards as a fatal mistake, which the union has made.

To the extreme Socialists he ascribes the present trouble. If they are to rule the Miners' Union he is prepared to resign his position of secretary. He hopes, however, by presenting the situation in its true light before the members of the union to have the support of the substantial element and thus bring about a solution of the difficulty.

A misunderstanding of the situation seems to have prevailed, and to have actuated some in taking the position which they did. An attempt has been made to detract from it by showing that in case of money assistance being wanted in the event of a strike it would not be available, and that hence the union should affiliate with the American Federation of Labor or some such organization. Mr. Smith holds that if such assistance is needed that affiliation with an organization affording such assistance would not interfere with connection with the Trades and Labor Congress. The latter organization is not a benevolent one at all, nor is it so intended. It is a legislative body. Other organizations offering the required assistance make a levy perhaps ten times as high as that of the congress, their object being one of providing help in case of strikes, etc.

Mr. Smith is prepared to take a determined stand against extreme socialism. It is not the first time he has declared against it, claiming that he is the first labor leader in Canada to take such a stand.

While a member of the Dominion House of Commons Mr. Smith says he cannot give all his attention to legislation. He represents the laboring classes, but not them alone. He has a wide constituency to serve, and all their interests must be watched by him. He possesses the confidence of the Laurier government, and has used his influence to further the interests of his constituency. By pursuing such a course he believes he can best serve the workingmen also.

The outlook now is for a sharp conflict in labor circles for a time. The Miners' Union meets on Saturday evening when the questions will be brought forward.

FAMILY PERISHED.

Explosion Followed Attempt to Light Fire With Kersone—Six Lives Lost.

Denver, Col., Aug. 26.—A special to the Times from Cheyenne, Wyo., says: "Lee Sage, a rancheman, has arrived here, bringing news of a fire at Gehring, Neb., in which six people lost their lives. A. Tecumseh, a mechanic, lighted a fire with kerosene. The can exploded, igniting the clothes of Mrs. Tecumseh, his wife, two children, aged one year and four days respectively, and two other little girls. The mother and father remained in the house, trying to save the children, and all perished."

TOBACCO TRADE.

Meeting To Be Held in London to End the Rate War.

London, Aug. 26.—An important conference of the tobacco interests has been called for September 17th in London, in an effort to curb the fierce rate war which followed the formation of the rival combines. The meeting will include representatives of the American combine, the Imperial tobacco manufacturers, importers, and wholesalers, and it is hoped that it will result in a community of interest arrangement, whereby the trade will be placed on a more satisfactory footing.

BRITISH TROOPS

Sent to Western Border of Transvaal—Rumors of Disturbances Among Natives.

Johannesburg, Aug. 26.—A strong force of British troops has been despatched to the western borders of the Transvaal, ostensibly to relieve troops ordered to India, but it is currently reported that this step is taken owing to disturbances among the natives. Rumors are also current here of an intention to annex or establish a protectorate in Swaziland, where a strong force of constabulary is now posted.

AGAIN ACTIVE.

It Is Believed Another Eruption Is Taking Place at Mount Pelee.

St. Thomas, D. W. I., Aug. 27.—A dispatch received here from the Island of Dominica, dated yesterday, August 26th, at 6 p.m., says:

"Since 2 p.m. to-day prolonged rumbling noises in quick succession have been heard from the southward. There is every indication that Mount Pelee, Martinique, is violently erupting."

Efforts to communicate by cable with the Island of Martinique have proved unsuccessful. The French cable company has no cable working to that point, and the company officials are unable to say when communication with Martinique will be resumed.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Clouds of dust were seen in the direction of Mont Pelee, Island of Martinique, on Monday, and detonations at long intervals were heard.

A special dispatch to the Democrat and Chronicle from Watkins says that ex-Governor G. S. Hoadley, of Ohio, died at that place last evening, aged 76 years.

In a dispatch from Geneva the correspondent of the London Daily Mail reports the arrest of 23 Italians supposed to be anarchists, in connection with an alleged plot to derail the train bearing King Victor Emmanuel to Berlin.