

COAL FAMINE.

How it Pinches the Rich and Poor in Brooklyn.

Speculators Have the Dealers Cornered and Prices are Still Going up.

(Brooklyn Eagle.) "Never worse during the strike," was the brief characterization of the local coal situation today by one of the largest coal dealers in Brooklyn, and his view is generally endorsed by the dealers of the borough. Such is the state of affairs in the local coal market.

From all sections of the city comes the cry for "coal at any price." In the general scramble for any kind of coal, provision for the poor seems to have been lost sight of and commerce in fuel in the borough is rapidly assuming the aspect of a coal auction, the black diamonds going to the highest bidder.

From the retailer's point of view the situation is decidedly hopeless. A combination of circumstances is forcing many of the smaller dealers to sell the coal, which they have, at lower prices than they buy it for and there is a general stringency in the supply. The city's wood supply was all cleared out during the early days of the strike and now the only wood on hand is green oak and hickory, which is very unsatisfactory fuel and is also expensive.

To make matters worse there has been a rise in the market price of many of the substitutes for anthracite. Oil has gone up two cents a gallon, soft coal is hard to get at \$11 a ton, and the borough's supply of gas is entirely inadequate. There seems to be a general desire on the part of the larger dealers in these products to take advantage of the situation and squeeze the public for increased profits. It is no exaggeration to state that the local coal conditions are worse than ever before. If a severe cold snap should happen during this week, there would be untold suffering, it goes without saying.

One of the local coal dealers summarized the situation to an Eagle reporter today. He said:

"Until a little over a week ago it looked as if the situation was well in hand. It seemed that the combination of coal companies, which fixed the price of anthracite at \$5 a ton, would enable the dealers to serve the public at regular, or at least fair prices. Now things have taken a decided turn for the worse, since the agreement of the companies has been broken."

"You see, under the old agreement the railroads and the coal companies fixed the price for the coal market at \$5 and agreed to give to the independent operators, who were in the combination, 65 per cent. of the market price at idewater. Several of the larger independent operators, however, did not go into this combine, but they nevertheless found a market here for their coal at fancy prices. The reason for this was the fact that New York, being the terminus of the coal roads, received only that coal which could not be sold along the railroad lines. The merchants, reasonably enough, desired to save the freightage, where possible."

"The result was that these large operators who were not in the combination brought their coal to New York, and sold it at a profit, and whatever they could get for it. When those independent dealers, who had accepted the railroads' and the coal companies' percentage profit plan saw these men getting fancy prices they said to the companies concerned, 'We agreed to accept 65 per cent. of the market price of our share of the profit, but you have no right to fix the price at \$5, for here are men getting \$12 per ton for all they can forward.'"

"Then, according to the newspapers, the coal combination replied that the independent operators could leave the combination if they were not satisfied. They did so, and the result is that prices are going skyward. Not one of us for a moment believes that this apparent break in the relations between the independents is anything but a sham. The railroads could, have said, 'We won't carry your coal, if you won't stick to us,' but they did not. It is an unnatural thing when they knuckled down to their weaker allies. There is no doubt in my mind but that the railroads are going to get a 'rake off' out of all this and only shrink from a real battle to avoid the publicity of their discriminations."

"This dealer's opinion was confirmed by all of the dealers that the reporter visited. It was learned furthermore, that it is impossible for the ordinary dealers to get the \$5 coal of the railroad companies, for the companies always say that they have none at hand. It has forced the local dealers to buy 75 per cent. of their coal from the individual operators, and hence the gloomy outlook for Brooklyn."

Said Mr. Bacon, of Bacon & Co., this morning: "These speculators have got us just where they want us. We are the public, to use a slang phrase, 'are up against it.' We don't know from day to day what the price of coal is going to be, and we have none except for our customers."

The first cargo of coal for the Brooklyn poor has arrived at Newtown Creek and has been designated for distribution in Greenpoint. A cargo of 200 tons from the Reading Railroad Co. of which George F. Baer is president, arrived yesterday, and borough President Swanson's committee having charge of the coal sent here for sale to the poor ordered that it be turned over to Tuttle & Sons, who will sell it to the poor in Greenpoint at ten cents a bushel or twenty-five cents a bushel of one hundred pounds.

It is not known when the next coal for the poor will arrive.

THE SONG OF THE OPTIMIST.

When clouds are thickest and the world looks dark,
Don't fancy that the rain can never cease.
The sun will shine again, the sky will clear,
The future will bring happiness and peace.
The spring will come with beauty and its charm,
The summer with its holiday delight,
The autumn with its glorious golden days,
And many a frolic on a winter's night.
Look on the side that brightens,
Troubles will fade like smoke,
Keep your face to the rising sun,
Never, never croak.

When things don't look the way you want them to,
Cheer up and wait for them to grow more bright.
Most worries you can straighten out yourself,
So don't complain, but try to set them right.
A smile is ten times better than a frown,
A laugh is ten times better than a frown.
Brace up and put your shoulder to the wheel,
And the time will look up and never down.
Speak well of all and do it all the time,
Seek for the side that brightens,
Worry will make you sick,
Take your medicine like a man,
Never, never croak.

When friends don't do exactly as you'd wish,
Forgive their faults; think only of their best.
And when you talk of them to other men,
Tell all their virtues and forget the rest.
Find the best qualities in every one,
Speak well of all and do it all the time.
Forgive the little foibles of your friends,
Don't let some tiny error seem a crime.
Point out their best sides always,
Stand by them like a rock;
Don't tell their faults to anyone,
Never, never croak.

—By Quincy Kilby, late treasurer Boston Theatre.

WOOD OF WINDSOR.

Got as Far as Toronto and Was There Arrested.

(Toronto World, Friday.) Frederick Wood, a 15-year-old boy of Windsor, N. S., was arrested at the Union Station on Thursday night on a charge of robbing the mails. He was taken east for trial. The offence was committed one day last week, when the baggage master of a branch line of the Intercolonial Railway out of Halifax, allowed Wood to ride in the baggage car, the boy having asked for a ride to his home in New Glasgow.

On the trip the baggage master had occasion to leave the train at a small station for a few minutes, and on his return he found his messenger, consisting of a mail bag cut open. The boy had evidently opened it with a pen knife, and an entrance made along the seams in such a manner that it could only be detected upon a close scrutiny. A number of letters had been opened and money to the value of \$40 stolen. On arriving at Halifax the matter was reported to the police. It was found that a lad answering the description of Wood had taken a train at Oxford Junction for Moncton. He was traced from Moncton to Montreal, and then to the city.

On Thursday morning Detective Cribbs, of Truro, N. S., and the baggage master of the train in which the robbery was committed arrived in Toronto. They visited the Union Station and acquainted "Bob" Harrison of the nature of their trip. Shortly afterwards a lad approached Cribbs and Harrison with a ticket for the west. He answered the description of Wood, and Detective Cribbs was notified. The lad was identified as the missing culprit and locked up at the Court street station. He will be tried at Truro on the charge of robbing His Majesty's mails.

ROOSEVELT AND COLOR LINE.

In the nomination of W. D. Crum, a colored man, for collector of customs at Charleston, S. C., as well as in his action supporting Mrs. Minnie Cox, the negro postmistress of Indianapolis, Miss. the president gives ample notice of his intention to treat the colored people the same as the white population. Mr. Crum is a colored man, but his testimony goes to show that he is well educated and a gentleman. Mrs. Cox is an intelligent and respectable woman, who was appointed by President McKinley. There is no good ground of complaint against either appointment. These people in the south who seek to force the president to ignore the colored people will find that they make a very big mistake.—Philadelphia Press.

Chronic constipation surely cured or money back. LAXA-CARA TABLETS never fail. Small, chocolate coated, easy to take. Price 25 cents. At drugists!

SALOONS AND GAMBLING.

(Millard News.) The citizens of Nashville, Tenn., in mass meeting assembled, have declared that "unenforced law is an unmitigated evil." Aroused by the boldness of the proprietors of gambling-houses and the wide open sale of liquors on Sunday, the respectability of Nashville is asserting itself with emphasis. A committee of one hundred has been, or is about to be appointed, authorized and instructed to "employ such agencies, counsel, and other proper influences as may be required in the vigorous prosecution of the mass meetings' sole purpose, the enforcement of all laws prohibiting gambling, and Sunday tipping." That is a good movement. No city can afford to tolerate public gambling-houses, and a city of the size and character of Nashville should not tolerate the wide open Sunday saloon.

DEATH OF LADY THOMPSON'S SISTER.

HALIFAX, N. S., Jan. 11.—The death occurred today of the wife of Joseph A. Chisholm, sister of Lady Thompson of Toronto. She had been ill for two or three weeks, but for the last week her life had been despaired of. Wm. Chisholm is a member of the law firm of which R. L. Borden, M. P., is the head.

WANTED.—A case of Headache that KUMFORT POWDERS will not cure in from ten to twenty minutes.

MARCONI'S MOVEMENTS.

HALIFAX, N. S., Jan. 11.—Marconi has abandoned his intention of leaving for Cape Cod tomorrow and will remain at Table Hill for a few days to perfect the sending apparatus in Cape Breton.

COAKLEY OUT.

Believes He is out of the Amateur Class

Because He Pitched Three Games

Last Season for the Philadelphia Athletics.

Every one in St. John who is interested in base ball remembers Coakley, the star pitcher who came here two years ago from Holy Cross College. They will therefore be interested in the following from the Worcester Mass. Spy:—

Andrew J. Coakley, last year's famous Holy Cross pitcher, will not join the uniform of the Purple next season, at least, and if things do not turn out as he wishes he will never again be seen in this uniform. Coakley has gotten himself into a serious box through his own carelessness and may be put in the professional ranks forever. During the latter part of last season, when the Philadelphia baseball team was making endeavors to win the pennant, Coakley was asked by Connie Mack, manager of this team and a personal friend of Coakley, if he would be willing to help out the last few games. Mack had been after Coakley at various times during the season to try and have him put his name to a contract, but Coakley persistently refused, stating that he did not wish to play professional ball.

Mack recognized in Coakley the making of a find for his team, but was unable to sign him. As the season was drawing to a close and Mack's team had such remarkable chances for winning the pennant, he wrote to Coakley's home in Providence and asked him to come and help him out, offering to pay all his expenses. Coakley, in return, went to the Philadelphia manager, went to the latter place and pitched three games, winning two of them. At the time Coakley did not know the trouble he had gotten himself into, but has been doing a lot of thinking since he left his college. Yesterday morning laid his case before the athletic authorities at the college. He told them of his participation in the three games and his receiving his expenses for his trouble.

An baseball talk at the college is just becoming one of the main topics of conversation. Coakley, not wishing to have any blot brought against Holy Cross for professionalism, thought it best to make known to those in charge what he had done. He says he will not play baseball for the Purple for this year, but has determined to lay his case before Secretary Sullivan of the National Amateur Athletic Union. If he decides that Coakley has not done anything more than what will cause his suspension, he will have a chance of playing amateur ball again.

Coakley's loss will be a heavy blow to the Holy Cross team, as it was owing to his remarkable pitching that Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, Brown and other New England college teams were forced to succumb to defeat last season. Coakley is only a freshman at Holy Cross and had prospects of a brilliant career. He was a star pitcher in the college three years ago in the preparatory department, and in his first year won a position as pitcher on the team, and worked with varying success. When last year's team was being given its preliminary work in the college, he was the star pitcher, and his name was heralded all through the college world as the greatest pitcher that ever represented Holy Cross, and one of the top-notchers of the season.

With Coakley out of the game for the coming season, the brunt of the work will fall on McGehee's shoulders, but this young man is expected to fill the place made vacant by the former. Many of Coakley's admirers have expressed their sympathy for him, as they expected to see him do marvelous work next season. Coakley will enter twelfth as soon as the squad does, and will do all in his power to help his Cross turn out a winning team. He will pitch to the squad in the college and his aid will be a great benefit in giving the boys batting practice.

ARRESTED IN HALIFAX.

MONCTON, N. B., Jan. 11.—Two young men named Albert Ralfe, of Halifax, and Fred Laing, of St. John, are under arrest here charged with robbing Geo. McKnight, of Oxford, of \$40. McKnight claims to have been relieved of his money a couple of weeks ago at a Moncton hotel. He was in the company of several young men and alleges those in custody went through his pockets.

Wm. Cushing, arrested a week ago on the same charge, was discharged, as the charge against him was withdrawn by McKnight. Ralfe and Laing deny complicity in the alleged robbery. They will likely have a preliminary examination tomorrow.

A BOY HANGED.

(Worcester Spy.) A boy seventeen years old has just been hanged in Camden, N. J. It certainly is only a most frightful crime that can justify the killing of one so young. The crime in the present instance was certainly about as heinous as it could have been. The victims were two boys who were lured to an out-of-the-way place and poisoned, the only motive being, so far as known, the murderer's desire to rob them of a small sum of money.

Bicyclists and all athletes depend on BENTLEY'S Liniment to keep their joints limber and muscles in trim.

SPORTING NEWS.

FOOTBALL.

London Sportsman. The Canadian Football Team.

TORONTO, Jan. 10.—The Telegram's special cable from London says: "The Sportsman today says: 'The Canadian football team has been to learn, especially with regard to tackling and finished play. Who knows but Canada may in due course become the tutor instead of the pupil, as Lord Alverstone once remarked, had been the case with cricket in Australia.'"

THE TURF.

LONDON, Jan. 10.—Ben D'Oor, the famous race horse, which won the Derby in 1880, dropped dead while exercising today.

CURLING.

Thistle Rink Competition.

On Saturday two rinks took part in the Thomson medal competition, with the following result, only names of skips being here given:

Andrew Malcolm.....10 P. W. Robinson.....14
A. D. Malcolm.....15 W. A. Shand.....13

Scottish Players Again Beaten.

MONTREAL, Jan. 10.—The visiting Scotch curlers met three rinks of the Montreal club on Saturday afternoon and three rinks in the evening. The Scotchmen suffered defeat on both occasions. The visitors were fatigued and the ice very hard for them. The afternoon score was 31 for Montreal against 25, the evening 48 to 33 in favor of Montreal. Total, Montreal 99, against 62 for Scotchmen.

HOCKEY.

Ottawa Won in the Championship Series from Montreal.

MONTREAL, Jan. 10.—Ottawa has won everything in the championship series, defeating the Shamrocks in the championship series on Saturday night, the score being 6 to 1 in favor of the visitors. Neither team was in very good form, and the playing was somewhat loose.

SHIPPING NEWS.

LATE SHIP NEWS.

Domestic Ports.

HALIFAX, Jan. 10.—Ards, s.s. E. W. Hooper, for Gloucester via Liverpool, N.S., for St. John, N.B., for New York; Ambler, from do.

Returned, s.s. Schutilla, hence for Boston.

Ards, s.s. Manchester Commerce, from Manchester for St. John; Oraro, for Bermuda, West Indies and Demerara.

Sid, s.s. Silvia, Farrell, for New York; Rosalind, Clarke, for St. John, N.F.

Foreign Ports.

BOSTON, Jan. 10.—Ards, s.s. Caledonia, for Manchester; Halifax, s.s. Caledonia, for Liverpool; BOSTON, Jan. 10.—Ards, s.s. Caledonia, for Liverpool; New England, from Mediterranean ports; Vancouver, from do; Boston, from Yarmouth, N.S.

Sid, s.s. Liverpool, for Glasgow.

VINEYARD, Jan. 10.—Ards, s.s. Caledonia, for New York; Able G Cole, from Boston for do.

Sid, s.s. Demozelle, from Port Grenville for New York; Alaska, from River Hebert, for do; Thos. Jones, N.B., for do; Elwood Burton, from Boston for do; Wm. Jones, from do for do; Marjorie J. Sumner, from St. John, N.B., for do.

HYANNIS, Mass., Jan. 10.—Ards, s.s. Caledonia, from St. John, N.B., for do.

REBORN, Jan. 10.—Ards, s.s. Caledonia, from St. John, N.B., for do.

HYANNIS, Mass., Jan. 10.—Ards, s.s. Caledonia, from St. John, N.B., for do.

CITY ISLAND, Jan. 10.—Bound south, s.s. Abbie Keest, from St. John, N.B.; Sarah Seal, from St. John, N.B.; Annie Bliss, from Hillsboro, N.B.

PORTLAND, Me., Jan. 10.—Ards, s.s. Caledonia, from St. John, N.B., for do.

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MORNING'S NEWS.

LOCAL.

Election and installation of officers in Court Yukon, I. O. F., will take place on Thursday, Jan. 15. A full attendance is requested.

The Outing Club will hold a private assembly in the rooms in the York Theatre, on Wednesday evening, January 28th.

The potatoes on board the damaged schooner Advance, about 1,000 barrels, will be sold for the benefit of all concerned.

Mayor Johnson of Yarmouth is in the field for re-election. Ex-Mayor Jacob Binney has been asked by over 200 citizens to be a candidate.

Rev. Isa Wallace of Wolfville, N. S., is about to publish a book containing an account of his life and work in connection with the Baptist churches in the provinces.

The school of inspection for the Non-Com. officers of the 62nd will begin tomorrow (Tuesday) evening at the Customs House, upstairs. Sergt. Major Fowle will be in charge.

Two men attempted to assume charge of Mrs. Guthrie's shop on Westmorland road Saturday night, but Policeman Greer happened along and they fled.

An alarm was rung in from box 143 about half-past seven o'clock last evening. The fire was in the chimney of a house on Acadia street occupied by Israel Jacobson. No damage was done.

S. J. Thorne has left the employ of the Star Line Steamship Co. to go with the Princess Steamship Co., and will leave in a few days for Quebec to look after that company's steamer Queen, which is to go on the Washademoak route.

Owing to the Bishop of Fredericton requiring the room on Wednesday evening, the Harris Festival Chorus will have their next rehearsal on Thursday evening, Jan. 15th, when the music of the "Banner of St. George" will be taken up, as well as "Hallelujahs" and "Wedding Feast." Copies of the Banner of St. George can now be obtained at Messrs. Flood & Sons.

Thomas Malcolm, the well known railway contractor, came down from Campbellton Saturday and is at the Royal. Mr. Malcolm, who is building the Restigouche and Western railway, which is to extend from Campbellton to St. Leonard's, says 20 miles have been practically completed. Men are still at work in the woods setting out ties and timber. J. M. Shanley, chief engineer, and his staff will continue to labor all winter.

The annual meeting of the committee of management of the Queen square Methodist church was held Friday night. The reports submitted had been of a most encouraging character. The following officers were chosen: R. Duncan Smith, superintendent; C. R. Racine, assistant superintendent; Newton Rogers, secretary; Walter Bailey, assistant secretary; Arthur B. (Climour, treasurer; John Kelly, assistant treasurer; C. M. Lingley, librarian; J. Stephenson and L. Lingley, assistant librarians.

Hannah E. Elliot of William Stanton, died Sunday evening at her residence, Peters' wharf, off Water street, after an illness that dates from the shock she received last spring on the occasion of the Burke fire, opposite her property. Mrs. Stanton was one of the victims of the great fire of June, 1877. She leaves two sons, John, in the employ of the James Heady soda water bottling branch, and William J., in the St. John Iron works; also two daughters, Miss Jessie E. Stanton and Miss Nellie A. living at home. The funeral will take place on Wednesday. Mrs. Stanton was a native of County Donegal, Ireland.

The death occurred on Saturday evening, 10th inst., at his home, 307 Blue Hill avenue, Boston, of William Porter, formerly of Jemseg, Queens Co., N. B. Although enjoying the best of health, he was suddenly stricken down with paralysis of the brain on Thursday, dying Saturday evening at 8.30. Deceased was 70 years of age, and leaves a wife and six children. Mrs. Samuel Willis of this city being one of them. Remains will be brought to Jemseg for interment.

W. B. Taylor and Miss Mary Price, daughter of John Price, were married in the Episcopal church at Havelock last Wednesday evening.

A beautiful memorial window has been placed in the Central Congregational church, Bangor, in memory of Isaac and Phoebe Coburn Burpee. Isaac Burpee was for forty years a deacon in the Congregational church at Sheffield, N. B. He was born in 1793 and died in 1870.

A man named Pello, apparently a lunatic, discharged a pistol while the Spanish king and court were returning from church on Saturday afternoon. It was at first thought he sought the king's life, but when arrested he claimed that he sought to kill the Duke of Sotomayor, grand chamberlain.

After the death of C. R. Richards, a marine engineer at Bridgeport, Conn., his wife found a large amount of money in crevices of furniture and stitched into his garments, and also found bank books showing deposits of \$15,000 of which she had no knowledge.

Rachael B. Crane, of Peekskill, N. Y., has given \$100,000 to the board of foreign and home missions of the Presbyterian church. Three years ago she gave a like sum for the same purpose.