

## BUILD HOMES BY THE HUNDRED

THERE HAS BEEN LOCAL  
ACTIVITY DURING YEAR

Permits Cover Million Dollars'  
Worth of New  
Property.

This has been a year of building of homes in Victoria. No more striking proof can be furnished of the growth of the capital's population than is found in the records of the building inspector. These show that the bulk of the construction work for which permits have been issued has been residential.

Of 510 permits issued since the year began, some 370 were for dwelling-houses. As some were for two or more houses, the actual number of new homes represented is about four hundred. These range from the modest workman's home to the residence costing \$5,000 to \$10,000. The general run of them cost on an average about \$1,500 or \$2,000 each.

The value of the year's building operations is close to the million-dollar mark now, and will reach it before the end of the month. This is a big figure for the year's figures, but nevertheless is considered an excellent showing. The fact that so much of it is for residential property is looked upon as a good sign, as on the increase of population naturally depends the progress of building of other kinds.

The largest outlay on a public institution during the year has been that on the addition to St. Joseph's hospital. There has been expended on the building alone about \$120,000. The nurses' home at the Royal Jubilee hospital, now nearing completion, is costing \$15,000. The new home for aged and infirm women, on Colliery street, and McClure streets, has cost \$20,000. An institution of a religious and philanthropic character is the Chinese Girls' Rescue Home on Cormorant street, the new building for which is costing \$13,000. St. John's church Sunday school room represents an outlay of \$3,800, and the Tabernacle Baptist church, Port and Cook streets, dedicated a couple of weeks ago, \$1,600. In the way of business premises the Victoria Machinery Depot Co. has spent \$25,000 on a foundry. The Victoria Transfer Co., which spent \$22,000 on stables last year, expended \$14,000 on an addition to the same. The Victoria T. & D. Co. laid out \$10,000 for the same purpose. The rebuilding of the Mahon block involved an outlay of about \$20,000. Two carriage factories have had to be enlarged, both, by a coincidence, belonging to members of the city council. Aid. Mable added new buildings to his works of a total value of \$12,000, and Aid. Weston is putting up an addition to his factory at \$7,000. Each of these this year the Bakeries Company, Ltd., erected bakeries, estimated to have cost \$9,500. In a few days a permit will be issued to the B. Wilson Co. for a cold storage building on a lot on the street, which it is estimated will cost all of \$30,000. About twenty-five new stores, modern in every way, have been built and several stores modernized.

The school board has a good deal of building on hand this year. Early in the year the Victoria West school was completed, representing some \$35,000. The enlarging of the Kingston street school cost \$2,000, and two small buildings on the Central school grounds were put up at an expenditure of \$2,000. A contract for a building on the High school grounds to give much-needed accommodation in the commercial department, was awarded the other day, and this will probably add another \$2,000 to the total value of school property. The Sisters of St. Ann put an addition on their school costing \$1,500.

The city has two fine halls under construction, one to replace the Kingston street fire hall and on the same site, and the other at the corner of Douglas and Dunsmuir streets. Each of these will probably cost about \$20,000. In repairs and alterations to existing premises about \$100,000 was spent this year, in addition to the million dollars' worth of new buildings.

### JOINS ASSOCIATED BOARD.

Action Is Taken By Vernon Board of Trade.

Vernon, Nov. 20.—At the regular monthly meeting of the board of trade it was decided to affiliate with the isolated Boards of Trade of the Okanagan, and the secretary was instructed to forward the necessary fee of \$25.

The resolutions passed a week ago by the Associated Boards were endorsed as follows:

1. A resolution asking the Dominion government to establish an experimental farm in the Okanagan Valley.
2. A resolution asking the provincial government to send a lecturer to different parts of the United States to interest prospective immigrants in the fruit growing possibilities of this country.
3. A resolution asking the C. P. R. to alter the name Scimous to Okanagan Junction.

It was also suggested that the Associated Boards should communicate with the post office authorities regarding the above proposal to change the name of Scimous.

W. R. McGowan and W. C. Ricardo were appointed to represent the board upon the transportation committee of the Associated Boards.

P. Dickson, as vice-president of the Agricultural Society, made a suggestion that the board should furnish part of the deficit of \$135 incurred by the society in connection with the exhibit at the Calgary fair last summer. The matter was referred to the finance committee.

### SIR WILFRID'S BIRTHDAY.

Ottawa, Ont., Nov. 20.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier is to-day receiving a host of telegrams congratulating him upon the occasion of his 67th birthday. He left this afternoon with Lady Laurier for the southern states for two weeks' rest.

## DEAD NUMBER TWENTY-FIVE

HORRORS OF BROOKLYN  
GAS MAIN DISASTER

School Children Among Victims—Difficult Task of Recovering Bodies.

New York, Nov. 21.—When dawn broke to-day the big force of workmen who had been struggling almost constantly since yesterday forenoon to reach the bodies of the score or more of persons who were entombed by the explosion and cave-in of the great sewer trench in Gold street, Brooklyn, saw many hours of labor ahead of them. It will be hours before even the emergency shoring which would make it safe for the workers to begin digging at the hundreds of tons of debris in the trench can be completed. And many more hours will be necessary to cut through the tangled mass of wreckage which fills the trench.

While it may be possible that some of the bodies may be found before nightfall, the men in charge of the work estimate that at least two days would pass before all the bodies are recovered. Until that time there will be no way of definitely knowing the exact number of lives lost in the catastrophe.

The more conservative estimates to-day place the number of dead at about twenty-five. This number of persons were reported missing late last night and not one of the missing ones had been found to-day.

Gold street was crowded with school children when the explosion occurred, and that scores of children were not killed or injured was remarkable. A woman and three children were almost opposite the excavation when the earth crumbled under their feet, and they were swept down into the hole under tons of wreckage. Two other children were on the opposite side of the street when the sidewalk caved in and they lost their lives.

Samuel Trout, foreman of the gang of laborers who were laying the water main, was near the women and children who lost their lives. He rushed forward as he felt the street tremble from the explosion, in an endeavor to save them, but he was dragged into the death hole. His body was the first to be recovered. Trout had been roasted to a cinder.

Only four of the men working in the excavation escaped. They were Strand, Frank Sohenwood, John Crain and an Italian laborer known as John. These men were digging near the opening of a four-foot sewer, and the force of the explosion blew them to the entrance of the sewer. Strand was hurled ther down, and he pulled the other three men after him. Water from the broken main began to pour into the sewer, and the four men were in danger of being smothered. They began to crawl toward the river, where there was an outlet.

Strand described their experience as follows: "Our only chance was in reaching the outlet to the sewer, and we ran down towards the river. It was all dark, and we stumbled and fell over the things that had been left behind by the workmen. The river was three blocks away. By the time we reached the river the water was up to our waists. We found a bulwark there that had been built to keep the water from coming in while the sewer was being dug. We climbed to the top of this, and from there we reached the pier. The water was up to our chins before we got out. Another minute and we would have been drowned."

The explosion shook houses for blocks around. Thousands of persons were attracted to the scene, and the police had difficulty in keeping them from crowding close to the smoking pit of wreckage. Police lines were formed and the work of recovering bodies was begun within half an hour of the accident. Women living in the neighborhood whose children had been on the street when the gas main blew up rushed to the place and ran about the excavation wringing their hands and calling for their little ones. In many instances they found their children after a brief search, but a number of boys and girls had been taken to a school near by, and their parents were frantic by the time they were found.

The gas and water supply was turned off shortly after the explosion. A force of a hundred firemen were put to work digging for bodies, but the task was necessarily slow, because of the wreckage which had to be removed. When darkness fell last night half a dozen searchlights were brought into use. Two large suction pumps were used to remove the water-soaked dirt, and a derrick was brought up to haul out timber and machinery.

The known dead are: Samuel Trout, foreman; Fred Schaffmeyer, inspector of sewers; Chas. Parr, foreman of concrete workers.

The police arrested seven men who were attached to the city departments in charge of the work being done.

### SAMUEL CARSELEY DEAD.

Montreal, Nov. 21.—Samuel Carseley, head of the S. Carseley Company departmental stores, died last evening as the result of a shock received from a fall from his carriage on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Carseley was in his 73rd year, and had been engaged in business all his life. In Montreal, building up from a small beginning one of the largest departmental stores in Canada.

### J. GREGORY NOT ILL.

Quebec, Nov. 21.—Careful inquiry proves there is no truth in the report that J. Gregory, purchasing agent of the marine department, who was a prominent witness in the recent inquiry, is dangerously ill and may not recover. Mr. Gregory is in his accustomed health.



### DORY DASHED TO PIECES

ON ROCKS, TWO DROWN

Members of Waddah Island Lifeboat Crew Are Victims In Wreck.

Port Townsend, Wash., Nov. 21.—A report from Neah Bay has just arrived here by the steamer Bellingham, which says "that two members of the lifeboat crew at Waddah Island lost their lives in a wreck while two others reached shore in an exhausted condition. The drowned are John Bergstrom and John Jacobson. "The crew of four which went over to Beheda Point in a dory landed a passenger and encountered a heavy sea upon their return. When they reached the landing at Waddah Island a heavy swell threw their boat on the rocks, smashing it to kindling. The two drowned members received severe injuries and were unable to swim. The other two reached shore safely, with the assistance of Capt. McAfee and his men, in a completely exhausted condition."

### BIELOW HANDS KAISER A WRITTEN SPEECH

First Overt Act of Emperor's Concession to Constitutionalism.

Berlin, Nov. 21.—Emperor William made a public speech in this city this morning on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the formation of the city council of Berlin. Instead of speaking extemporaneously, as is his usual custom, he read his address from a printed form that was handed to him by Chancellor Von Buelow. His Majesty said:

"The municipality of Berlin was created in the midst of the fires of the Wars of Liberation, but since that time it has been built up by the devotion of the citizens of the capital. This gives me the hope that the municipality of the future also will retain the spirit of true citizenship."

### SMALLPOX IN ONTARIO.

London, Ont., Nov. 21.—Eight cases of smallpox are reported in Dorchester township, two of the cases being of a very malignant type. Two of the cases are on the outskirts of the city. It is believed that in Middlesex county there are not less than a score of cases.

### M. F. P. UNSEATED.

Montreal, Que., Nov. 20.—J. W. Levesque, who defeated Hon. Mr. Levesque, Conservative leader in the legislature in Laval, was unseated to-day. Great Britain spends on tobacco and pipes about \$70,000,000 every year.

### CAR SHORTAGE TAKING TRADE FROM CANADA

Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 21.—The car shortage is so critical along the Soo Line in Saskatchewan that Canadian farmers living near the border are shipping grain in bond to America, N. D. As many as six cars a day of Canadian wheat are receiving an outlet through United States shipping points.

### STRAUS HAS PLAN TO HELP UNEMPLOYED

Bureau of Information for Out of Works in U. S. A.

Washington, Nov. 21.—All of the members of the cabinet attended the regular meeting yesterday except Postmaster-General Meyer, Secretary of the Interior Gifford and Secretary of Agriculture Wilson.

Secretary Straus, of the department of commerce and labor, has developed a comprehensive plan for aiding the unemployed of the country. This plan he will announce and explain in his annual report, to be made public in a few days. It partakes of the principles underlying the organization of the bureau of information in the immigration service. This bureau gathers information from those who seek to engage labor, and furnishes that information to immigrants coming to this country to seek work.

The scope of the bureau is limited to immigrants only, while the plan Secretary Straus has just evolved will be applicable to all seeking employment. Whether President Roosevelt will give his approval to the idea in his annual message has not been determined, but Secretary Straus is confident of the success of the plan in any event.

### YOUNG LIBERALS ORGANIZE.

Form Association at New Westminster and Elect Officers.

New Westminster, Nov. 20.—In spite of strong counter attractions, the organization meeting of the Young Liberals was well attended yesterday evening, a number of interesting speeches being delivered by local and outside residents. The election of officers, which was by a ballot except in the case of honorary president and secretary, resulted in the following being selected:

Honorary president, Robert Jardine; president, Sid. Malcolmson; vice-president, K. C. Brown; secretary, P. W. Laing; treasurer, C. B. Deans; executive, Ed. Savage, D. Walker, E. Bridges, Ed. Hughes and Frank Reichensbach.

### FUNERAL OF ROMANOFF IN ST. PETERSBURG

Emperor Follows Cortege of Grand Duke Alexis—Imposing Ceremony.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 21.—The body of Grand Duke Alexis, an uncle of the Emperor of Russia, who died recently in Paris, was interred to-day in the new mausoleum of the Romanoffs within the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul and Nicholas. The Russian Emperor, followed the coffin on foot through the crowded and silent streets of the capital.

His Majesty walked thus from the railroad station to the fortress, a distance of three miles. In spite of the apprehensions for the safety of the Emperor there was no untoward incident. His Majesty was accompanied by a suite of thirteen Grand Dukes and one hundred generals and admirals. The metropolitans of St. Petersburg and Moscow, and the most prominent bishops of the Orthodox church participated in the services. The two empresses and a number of grand duchesses met the body at the railroad station, where it arrived from Paris, and followed it in carriages behind the other mourners.

The police and military authorities have taken extreme precautions to prevent any terrorist event. The route of march was lined for the entire distance on either side by living walls of troops, which made any attempt on the life of His Majesty practically impossible.

### TWO FISHERMEN DROWN IN LAKE WINNIPEG

Setting Nets When Ice Breaks and They Fall Through Fall.

Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 21.—Another double drowning is reported to-day from Lake Winnipeg. While H. Vidal and John Stephenson, fishermen, were setting their nets on the ice at Fisher bay the ice broke, they fell through and were drowned. The bodies were recovered. Stephenson was the captain of a steamer.

### "WILD CAT" PROSPECTURES.

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 20.—The provincial secretary's department here has issued warning against "Wild Cat" mining companies. Complaints have been made to the department that the companies are violating the companies act in the most flagrant manner by ignoring on prospectuses the information the law requires. Action will likely be taken by the department against several companies.

## BIG INCREASE IN GERMAN NAVY

ESTIMATES AMOUNT TO  
A HUNDRED MILLIONS

Country's World Policy Has  
Driven Her to Financial  
Misery, Says Socialist.

Berlin, Nov. 21.—The debate in the Reichstag yesterday brought out the fact that naval estimates for next year reach a total of \$100,111,865, which is \$15,250,000 more than in 1907.

Speaking in the Reichstag yesterday, Herr Crier, Socialist, endeavored to call attention to the recent interview between Chancellor Von Buelow and the Emperor, but he was prevented by the president.

"The chancellor desires the stability of the imperial finances," said Herr Crier, "but he ought first to tell us what were the results of his interview with the Emperor and what guarantees he sought and obtained. Our world policy has driven us to our present financial misery because of our senseless burdens for the army and the navy and the colonies. The people ask for guarantees against the continuance of these burdens, as they do against the continuance of personal rule. The publication of that paragraph in the Reichs Anzeiger has given us nothing."

Herr Crier was here interrupted by Count Von Stolberg, who called him to order and directed him to confine his discussion to the paragraph in the Reichs Anzeiger which he had read before the House. This the speaker did, but as he went on he from time to time inserted sentences regarding the deplorable situation caused by "borrowings to pay current obligations due to personal aims and ambitions."

### LABOR MEN DISCUSS COST OF "RED SPECIAL"

Will Ascertain Where Socialists Got Funds for Recent Campaign.

Denver, Colo., Nov. 21.—Before the president's report was taken up yesterday at the convention of the American Federation of Labor, Mrs. Harriet G. R. Wright, president of the Colorado Equal Suffrage Association, was elected delegate to represent the National American Woman's Equal Suffrage Association.

Consideration of the committee's report on the president's report was then resumed. The recommendation on the subject of "Legislation and Political Action," which caused a long debate on Wednesday, carrying with it the recommendation that any member of the executive council who does not agree with any action of the executive council should resign, was adopted without debate. The only remarks made, were by Delegate John Mitchell, of the Mine Workers, who wanted it understood that the recommendation of the committee did not refer to religious opinions.

When the point in the committee's report endorsing the American Federationist, the official organ, was reached, Delegate J. M. Barnes, of the cigarmakers, protested against an editorial which had appeared during the political campaign, asking: "Who is financing the Red Special, with which Presidential Candidate Debs made his campaign?" The editorial also charged that forces opposed to labor were financing the "red special." Mr. Barnes offered a resolution calling upon the convention to appoint a committee to go over the books of the Socialist party and ascertain where the funds were obtained. The resolution was signed by all the Socialist members who are delegates, and they spoke in its favor. A motion by T. K. Duff, of the pottery workers, that before the amendment to the report be considered the Socialists present be asked if they endorsed editorials appearing in Socialist organs attacking the Federation and its officers, was carried.

President Gompers defended the editorial. He asked why the only editorial in which he had expressed an opinion was taken up, and every charge in the editorial was ignored—for he did make a number of charges. Mr. Gompers charged that the Socialists were trying to disrupt the trade union movement. He said that there had appeared a more severe arraignment of the officers of the Federation in the hostile press than appeared in the Cleveland Citizen, edited by Max H. Auer, a representative of the Typographical union in the convention. Mr. Gompers stated that he had no ill-will against any man personally and that he fought principally for the trade union movement. He had no ill-will towards even Debs, or Daniel De Leon, although both were trying to destroy the trade union movement. He said they must be true or the Socialist delegates would have repudiated them. These charges dealt with the political history of Mr. Debs.

A. B. Grant, of the metal polishes, was called upon as one of the fifteen men taken up in the convention, to speak on the subject. He said he was not responsible for the editorials, but that he believed that there had been cases where labor leaders had sold out, although he made no charges against the Federation officers. At this point recess was taken.

### LOVER'S MIDNIGHT CRIME.

Oregon City, Ore., Nov. 20.—Math Jancigaj was the morning sentenced to be hanged for the murder of 16-year-old Mary Sorokar on July 11th. The murderer listened calmly while Judge McBride advised him to make preparations in the short time between now and January. Jancigaj, a jealous lover, climbed into the girl's upstairs bedroom at midnight and shot her.

## TROUBLE BREAKS OUT IN CHINA

CONSUL SENDS REPORT  
OF RIOT AT HANKOW

Situation at Peking Remains  
Unchanged, All Being Quiet  
There.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 21.—The report of an outbreak under the new regime in China came to the state department to-day from United States Consul-General Martin at Hankow, who reported that a riot had occurred on the Yangtze river in that vicinity. The cause of the trouble was not stated.

Hankow is about four hundred miles inland, and is on the railway line from Peking to Canton. It is one of the largest interior places in China.

Just two hours before Consul Martin's dispatch came there was a cablegram from Minister Rockhill at Peking reporting all quiet there, and adding that none of his diplomatic colleagues had received any dispatches from the consular representatives of their respective countries in China indicating any disturbances.

### REV. FATHER DRUMMOND.

Winnipeg's Most Eloquent Preacher to Be Transferred to Guelph.

Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 21.—Surprise was expressed to-day when an announcement was made by the Rev. Father Drummond of Saint Boniface college that he would surely be transferred to the Church of the Holy Name at Guelph, Ontario. Father Drummond is the most eloquent preacher in the city, and a member of the Jesuits.

### FOG CAUSES COLLISION.

Fire Follows Crash on Illinois Central—One Dead; Two Missing.

Chicago, Ill., Nov. 21.—One man was killed, two are missing and several injured in a collision between two Illinois Central railroad freight trains at Berwin, near Chicago, early to-day. A dense fog is believed to have caused the accident. Immediately after the wreck both trains caught fire.

## CATTLE DISEASE BEING QUELLED

NO NEW OUTBREAKS  
IN NEW YORK STATE

Restrictions of Drastic Character Are Being Adopted by Officials.

Albany, N. Y., Nov. 21.—The outbreak of the foot and mouth disease in this state is well in hand, according to Commissioner Pearson, of the state department of agriculture, who returned to Albany from Buffalo, where he has been supervising the efforts to stamp out the disease. Commissioner Pearson will return to Buffalo to-day.

"No new outbreaks were reported yesterday," said Commissioner Pearson to-day, "and the situation in this state is well in hand. No human is infected in this state. The livestock commission, the men in the railroad offices, the sheriff of Erie county, and the national and state veterinarians, are all in full agreement and are co-operating with a view to enforcing strict quarantine regulations so that the outbreak may be brought to an end at the earliest possible moment. Letters have been sent to the 1,500 registered veterinarians throughout the state notifying them to telegraph to the department at once the existence of the disease or any symptoms that might be indicative of it, that come within their knowledge. We have urged them to give the matter close attention."

Letters have also been sent to the steam railroads of the state notifying them to disinfect all cars, vessels, premises, buildings, alleys, chutes, pens and other places open to control by the railroads in which cattle, sheep, swine or other animals susceptible to the disease have been shipped or kept since October 15th. The railroads will be required to disinfect until further notice.

Instructions for disinfecting cars, etc., have been issued by Chief Veterinary W. H. Kelly.

### POLITICS IN MANITOBA.

Liberals Will Not Contest By-Elections in Portage La Prairie.

Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 21.—The Liberals have decided not to oppose the Hon. Hugh Armstrong, the new provincial treasurer, in Portage, The local government has sufficient men engaged on new public buildings and public works to swing an election. They will make a fight in the Virden seat, where Mr. Rattray will be their candidate. The Liberals lost Gilbert Plains, which went by acclamation at the general elections, by only 38 votes, last Tuesday.

### DUNDAS GIRL KILLED.

Hamilton, Ont., Nov. 21.—Viola Norton, 14 years old, who lived in Dundas, was run over and killed yesterday by a car while crossing the track of the Hamilton and Dundas railway. Her foot was caught in a frog.

### SUNSHINE IN CALGARY.

Calgary, Nov. 21.—This has been a most exceptionally fine day, with bright sunshine and warm wind.