

THREE KILLED IN WEST VIRGINIA FIRE—THREE INJURED

LAST EDITION

51st YEAR. No 21174

Tomorrow's Weather—Fair and Cold.

LONDON, ONTARIO, MONDAY, MARCH 9, 1914.

TWELVE PAGES

Sun Rises 6:41—Sun Sets 6:18.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

Asquith's Home Rule—Ulster Votes to Decide Home Rule Question for Themselves—City Salaries Jump \$47,000 in Five Years—Three Breach of Promise Suits for April Assizes—Krafchenko Trial Begins Tuesday.

HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE WHEN ST. LOUIS BUILDING BURNS

Estimate of the Dead in Premises of Club and Bank Ranges From Fifteen to a Hundred—Many More Injured.

[Canadian Press.] St. Louis, March 9.—Three men are known to be dead, dozens of others are believed to have been burned to death, and two were seriously injured in a fire which early today destroyed the seven-story building housing the Missouri Athletic Club and the Boatmen's Bank at Fourth street and Washington avenue.

At 6 o'clock this morning 32 men had been accounted for, and three of the dead had been recovered. The number of persons missing and supposed to have been trapped in the building is variously estimated between fifteen and one hundred. The manager of the club declared there were 135 persons registered last night, while the clerk declared only 50 persons were in the building.

The exact number of dead within the building probably will not be known for several days, as the ruins of the building, in the opinion of fire chiefs, will smolder for that length of time.

At 6 o'clock the fire was brought under control. The property damage at that time was estimated at \$1,000,000. The fire is believed to have originated in the dining-room on the third floor of the building, although the police are giving some credence to the theory that safe-blowers may be responsible for the explosion.

Three of the dead were killed in head-on dashes to the street. One man, Theodore Levi, Jackson, Tenn., clung to the sill of a sixth-story window until both his hands were charred black. Just as he was about to let go his hold he was rescued by firemen. When he had been treated at the dispensary, Levi said two of the men who were killed had jumped from the window to which he hung.

The dead whose bodies have been recovered are:

John Martin Ryker, of St. Paul,

Miner, James Riley and an unidentified man.

Over a Million in Vaults.

In the vaults of the Bank covered by the ruins are more than \$1,000,000 in currency and \$27,000 in coin. At daylight only part of the front and rear walls remained. The roof had fallen in, carrying several floors with it, and the side walls had collapsed from the roof to the ground floor, which is occupied by the bank.

Heroinism bordering on the superhuman was exhibited both by firemen and guests at the club. The fire-fighters time and again dodged one falling wall, only to find themselves under another tottering mass of granite and brick.

General Blaze Threatened.

As the walls and floors caved in, they sent showers of huge burning embers on to the roofs of the neighboring buildings, and for a time threatened to cause a general conflagration in the heart of the retail district. To prevent this, all the fire-fighting apparatus of the city was brought to the scene.

Waked the Guests.

Robert C. Magill, manager of the club, and his wife were aroused by the smoke. They discovered the fire in the dining-room on the third floor, and before seeking their own safety rushed up and down the halls, knocking on doors and waking guests. Both were badly burned about the face, hands and feet. All the municipal ambulances and patrol wagons and automobiles were pressed into service to carry the wounded to hospitals.

Among those who escaped was Walter Frisch, financial agent of the St. Louis Federal League Baseball Club.

Fifteen Missing.

At 8 o'clock this morning, besides the three known to be dead, officers of the club had the names of fifteen unaccounted for.

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THREE KILLED AND THREE FATALLY HURT

In West Virginia Fire—Attempt to Escape by Rope Foiled by Ice Forming—Men Dropped Five Stories.

[Canadian Press.] Clarksburg, W. Va., March 9.—Three men were believed to have been killed and three fatally injured in a fire here early today. It destroyed the Low building, and seriously damaged the ten-story building of the United National Bank of Clarksburg. The cause of the fire has not yet been determined.

Marsh Cannon and Robert Hughill were trapped on the sixth floor of the bank building, while endeavoring to save important papers for house company. They dropped a rope out of the window, and had reached the fifth story when water, thrown by one of the engine companies, froze on the rope and they slipped off, dropping to the sidewalk. They will probably die.

Another man jumped from the top story of the Low building and was crushed.

The dead are believed to have been buried with the Low building.

THE WEATHER.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London for the 24 hours preceding 8 a.m. today: Highest, 27 above; lowest, 18 above.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today: Highest, 20 above; lowest, 18 above.

TOMORROW—FAIR AND COLD.

Forecast.

Moderate to fresh northwest to north winds; generally fair and moderately cold today and on Tuesday.

Temperatures.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

Stations. High. Low. Weather.

Victoria..... 52 40 Cloudy

Winnipeg..... 28 16 Cloudy

Port Arthur..... 26 14 Clear

Parry Sound..... 18 2 Cloudy

Toronto..... 20 14 Snow

Ottawa..... 20 8 Cloudy

Montreal..... 30 16 Cloudy

Quebec..... 34 18 Snow

C. VERGARA'S BODY SHOWS CRUELITIES

INFLICTED ON HIM

Body Brought to Texas by Unknown Persons Who Notified Officials.

FINGERS ARE CHARRED

United States Officials Declared to Have No Part in Getting the Corpse.

[Canadian Press.]

Laredo, Texas, March 9.—A shovel sticking in the soft earth of the open grave, and around the handle of the implement a card with the word "Remember" (remembrance), was the single trace today of the mysterious night visit of a party of unidentified men to the Hidalgo (Mexico) cemetery, who disinterred the body of Clemente Vergara, and returned it to Texas for burial by his family.

Vergara's body was secretly placed at a lonely spot on the Rio Grande, 45 miles above Laredo, in the early dawn of Sunday morning, to be found by a United States official, a state officer and a county deputy sheriff, but who was responsible for its removal from Mexico was a question still unanswered. The body was here today awaiting an examination, which state authorities hope may disclose something to aid them in placing blame for the ranchman's violent death after he was taken prisoner by Mexican Federalists.

Fingers Charred.

A superficial examination of the body disclosed two gunshot wounds in the head, one in the neck, a blow as if from a fist, and a crushed skull, and the mutilated left hand, twisted and charred by a fire, suggested that torture had been inflicted before Vergara was executed.

Texas Rangers, of the troop of Capt. J. J. Sanders were first declared responsible for the return of Vergara's body from Mexico, but later this was denied. Capt. Sanders was one of the men who were informed that the body could be found at a designated place. The other two were United States Consul Garrett, of Nuevo Laredo, and Deputy Sheriff Petty. They went to the scene ostensibly to secure further information on the Vergara case, but admitted later that they had been told that the body had been returned.

Who Are Informants?

Who were their informants was one of the numerous questions each of the officials in turn refused to answer. They

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STREET CAR DELAYS

Yesterday's Records of "Hold-ups" at Level Crossings.

G.T.R.—Rectory..... 12:50-12:59 p.m. 9 min.

G.T.R.—Rectory..... 1:14-1:23 p.m. 12 min.

G.T.R.—Rectory..... 1:15-1:22 p.m. 7 min.

G.T.R.—Rectory..... 1:23-1:32 p.m. 12 min.

G.T.R.—Richmond..... 1:28-1:36 p.m. 7 min.

WANTS GOVERNMENT TO GUARANTEE C. N. R. LATEST BOND ISSUE



SIR WILLIAM MACKENZIE.

COMPETITIVE PLANS FOR NEW CITY HALL

Controller Coles Will Ask That They Be Called For—City Architects Only to Compete.

Controller W. G. Coles will introduce a motion at the meeting of the board of control Tuesday night, to call for competitive plans for the new city hall to be erected on the Federal Square.

"We wish to get the plans under way," said Controller Coles to The Advertiser, "and I think that we shall decide to confine the competition to city architects. If they choose they may associate outside experts with them in the work."

Controller Coles expects that the McCormick building will be entirely cleared away within the next four months, so that the work may be proceeded with as soon as the Government comes across with its portion of the expenditure. The new city hall is to be kept within the \$250,000 mark.

SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC IS ONLY OF MILD TYPE OF DISEASE

Merely Outcropping of "Wave" That Has Circled Globe, Says Dr. H. W. Hill—Students Pre-ent From Familiarizing Themselves With Cases.

According to Dr. H. W. Hill, director of the Institute of Public Health, the mild epidemic of smallpox that has made itself felt in London during the past few months, is but an outcropping of the wave of mild smallpox that has been circling the globe for the past eight years.

"These outbreaks are but the result of the mild smallpox wave that has been going over the world for the past eight years," said Dr. Hill to The Advertiser. "There is nothing dangerous about it. It has appeared in all parts of the world, and is just a case of history repeating itself. It does, however, arouse the interest of the public health men, because they are aware that medical history always repeats itself, and they are expecting a repetition of virulent type of smallpox that will have its 25 per cent death rate and so on."

Know It's Coming.

"They knew that it's coming. It's got to come. History will repeat itself again. Just when it's coming is more than anyone knows. That's the reason that so much interest is being taken in the mild outbreaks that have been occurring all over the world for the past eight years."

Dr. Hill declared that it was unfortunate that medical students were not allowed to study smallpox cases in order that they might become familiar with the peculiarities of the disease.

"How is a medical man to know chick-

CITY SALARY LIST JUMPS \$47,000 IN LAST FIVE YEARS

Officials Now Draw Close to \$80,000 Per Year From London Coffers.

HYDRO MEANS BIG BOOST

Addition of That Department Has Helped to Shoot Pay-roll Upwards.

CONTROLLERS ALSO HELP

Staffs in All Departments Increased With Resulting Additional Pay Checks.

An increase of practically \$47,000 per annum in the 1914 city hall salary list, as compared with that of five years ago, is the somewhat startling condition of affairs. City hall officials will this year receive salaries aggregating approximately \$80,000, as against \$32,468 in 1909. And this year's salaries which make up the \$78,444, to be exact, do not include many men who are employed by the city in connection with the actual operation of the hydro, waterworks, public works, garbage and parks departments.

Of course, five years ago, there was no hydro department, nor was there the same number of clerks and stenographers employed in the city hall. The waterworks department at that time was run with a staff of six, whose total salaries were \$4,175. Today the combined salaries of waterworks and hydro employees at the city hall, both departments being under one management, are in the neighborhood of \$18,000, and as previously stated this amount does not include the salaries of such officials as Chief Operator C. H. Colby, who draws \$1,920 per year, his assistant operators, draughtsmen, caretakers, inspectors, line superintendent, construction foreman, meter superintendent, members of sales department and many others, who, while not city officials, are in the service of the city.

100 Cases a Year.

In Minnesota, where Dr. Hill was connected with the state health department prior to coming to London to take charge of the Institute of Public Health, smallpox cases average about 10,000 a year. This is an exceptionally high number, but does not represent by any means the total number of cases that occur in that state. Faulty diagnosis, improper registration of cases, and absence of physicians from the scenes of many of the outbreaks make it impossible to accurately compute the number of smallpox cases there.

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For the truth is, this particular chicken had been long dead, and in cold storage it was wielded as a weapon by Robert Cohen, when two youths entered his shop and stuck revolvers under his nose. He swiped one of them over the ear with the frozen chicken, and both boy bandits fled in dismay.

CITY TO DEMAND BETTER SERVICE

Controllers Authorize Clerk to Prepare Bylaw Calling For More Adequate Car Service In London—Want More Cars and Lines.

The city will force the London Street Railway Company to provide a more adequate service. At a meeting of the board of control this morning the city clerk was authorized to prepare a bylaw calling for a number of changes in the operating schedule, necessitating seven additional cars. The council will be asked to pass upon the bylaw next Monday night.

The controllers on Friday had the proposed schedule changes before them, but delayed action in order to confer with the street railway officials this morning. However, today a letter was received from Manager C. B. King, stating that the time given was not sufficient to consider the matter, and he wished the conference postponed.

"The only point of difference is on splitting the Ottawa avenue route," said the mayor, "and they've considered that since the first of February."

However, the officials will have a chance to present their side of the question next Friday morning.

The new schedule as drawn up by City Engineer W. N. Asplund calls for the operation of 54.83 miles of road and 43 cars, as against 53.90 miles and 36 cars, as at present. The present Ottawa route is to be sent along Dundas street instead of over the north end of the city, while a new belt on Dundas, Richmond, Cheapside and Adelaide streets is to be inaugurated. The old route instead of running east, on Dundas to the barns, will turn south at Richmond, the service on Dundas having been provided for by the new north end belt and running the Ottawa cars on that thoroughfare.

It is proper to allow a small of 15 miles an hour on all streets except on Richmond from the G. T. R. to Fullarton street, on Dundas street from Ridout to Wellington, and from Adelaide to Rectory, which shall be six miles per hour.

Three Slated to Come Up for Trial at April Assizes.

TWO SHOOTING CASES

Thomas Riley, Accused of Murder and Roco Meli Will Be Tried—Long Civil List.

Present indications point to a prolonged sitting of the supreme court when it sits in this city at the spring assizes, beginning April 14. Although six weeks still remain in which to enter cases, a number have already been set down, and the list of both jury and non-jury civil cases will likely be a long one.

While the majority will be of the ordinary variety damage suits, more than usual interest attaches to three breach of promise suits which will be aired, provided they are not previously settled out of court. Three suits at one sitting of the court is an extremely rare occurrence, and will probably constitute a record for this district, should all three come to trial. None of the suits have yet been set down, but writs have been issued, setting forth the cause of action and also the damages claimed.

In the criminal division, two shooting affairs in some respects very similar, will be investigated. Thomas Riley will be placed on trial for his life for the shooting of George Blackburn in the Cecil Hotel in October last, while Rocco Meli will face a charge of shooting with intent to kill, as a result of a fracas in the Harrison House last week. It is likely that several other criminal cases will come up, but the list has not yet been prepared. The name of the judge who is to preside at the assizes has not yet been announced.

THE MURDER OF ARNOLD WILL COST CROWN \$50,000—REWARD NOT YET PAID.

[Canadian Press.]

Winnipeg, March 9.—The town of Morden, Man., is excited over the opening of the trial there of Jack Krafchenko, charged with the murder of Bank Manager Arnold, and the robbery of the Bank of Montreal at Plum Coulee. If the jury returns a true bill, the trial itself will probably proceed Wednesday afternoon before Chief Justice Mather. The crown has over sixty witnesses, and the proceedings will be lengthy.

Krafchenko will be guarded day and night by relays of two men in a steel cell in Morden court house. In order to mete out justice to the murderer of Manager Arnold, it is estimated the crown will spend upwards of \$50,000 on this case. This is irrespective of the \$13,000 reward offered for the capture of Krafchenko. It is not as yet known what disposition will be made of this latter money, or whether it will be paid at all.

LEAMINGTON MAN APPOINTED A JUDGE

Arthur T. Boles to Preside in Norfolk County—Other Districts Supplied.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, March 9.—Seven judges have been appointed for Ontario within the last few days, and the Government has still nine vacant places on the bench of Ontario.

The judges who have just been named are: Emmerson Coatsworth, Toronto, to be judge of York County; C. R. Hanning, of Preston, to be judge of Waterloo; H. R. Lavell, of Smiths Falls, to be judge of Frontenac County; Frank R. Howell, of Parry Sound, to be judge of the Parry Sound district; Arthur T. Boles, of Leamington, to be judge of Norfolk; J. W. Elliott, of Milton, to be judge of Halton; Col. John Scott, of Walkerton, to be judge of Lanark.

MISS ZELIE EMERSON NOT UNDER ARREST

Report Erroneous—Militants Get Off With Small Fines.

[Canadian Press.]

London, March 9.—Ten of the militant suffragettes arrested during the demonstration yesterday in Trafalgar Square, when Miss Sylvia Pankhurst was captured by the police, were arraigned at Bow street police court today. Small fines were inflicted by the magistrate, who gave the prisoners the option of serving a short term of imprisonment.

Miss Zelle Emerson was not among the prisoners, the report of her arrest having been erroneous.

Whether the uniforms will be used only while the constables are doing duty, or when they are on ordinary service, has not yet been decided. There is also a

difference of opinion among the constabulary as to the advisability of adopting a uniform. Some do not favor the idea, while others think that the innovation would be a good one, especially in the case of constables on duty during an assizes, where it frequently falls to their lot to handle large crowds. A uniform and helmet would serve to distinguish the constables from the ordinary citizens, and would of great service in preserving order.

Handcuffs Will Help.

Whether the county council will view the idea in a favorable light when it is laid before it is, of course, problematical, but should the members decide to adopt the suggestion, it is probable that the county force will blossom forth in the full glory of helmet and brass buttons about July 1, and with the new handcuffs voted to the constabulary at the last session of the council, it will be

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EVERY ULSTER COUNTY VOTES ON HOME RULE

Each May Decide for Itself as to Exclusion, Is Government's Offer.

MAJORITY IS TO DECIDE

Home Rule Within-Home Rule Not Considered a Practicable Idea.

BRITISH HOUSE CROWDED

Intense Interest Shown in the Premier's Announcement by Throng in Attendance.

[Canadian Press.]

London, March 9.—Premier Asquith today laid before the House of Commons his proposed concessions to Ulster in regard to its position under the Irish home rule bill. The announcement which had been so long and anxiously awaited was to the effect that before the bill became operative, a poll should be taken of the parliamentary electors of each county to decide whether there should be an exclusion of the Ulster counties from the provisions of the bill for a period of six years from the first election of the Irish Parliament. If the majority of the voters was in favor of this scheme, the county would automatically be excluded for the prescribed period.

Before an attendance even bigger than that which listened to the introduction of the Irish home rule bill, Premier Asquith began his statement as to the concessions the Government was prepared to offer to Ulster shortly before 4 o'clock. He prefaced his speech with the declaration that the Government made these suggestions in the hope that it was running away from the original bill, but merely to allow the bill to start with the greatest prospect of success.

While there was a possibility of a dissatisfaction and civil strife in Ulster, said the Premier, yet if the bill should be shipwrecked or postponed, the outlook was equally formidable.

Supporters of the bill were so convinced today as ever they had been of the soundness of its principles and machinery, continued the Premier. He regarded it as a sincere and considerable attempt to place the Irish Government on a solid foundation without injustice or hardship to any class.

He informed the House that the negotiations for a compromise last autumn had failed to result even in an approach to an agreement, but had made all real sense out of the difficulties of the situation. To meet Ulster's difficulties they had tried to devise home rule, but that proposition did not commend itself either to the Nationalists or the Unionists in Ireland.

By such a scheme Ulster again has been exempted from the administrative and executive authority of Dublin government, and legislation to which Ulster objected could not come into force until it had been sanctioned by the British Parliament.

Another suggestion considered was the inclusion of the whole of Ireland in the bill for legislative and executive purposes, but giving to the Ulster counties the option of removing themselves for a time. Any sort of exclusion, said the Premier, would tend to keep the controversy alive, and would involve serious administrative and financial difficulties. He said, however, he believed the Unionists themselves would find in some form of provisional exclusion a medium between the surrender of their principles and the applications of force.

[Canadian Press.]

London, March 9.—For many years no such rush of members of the House of Commons to secure seats for a debate had been seen as was witnessed today, when from an early hour a steady stream of legislators poured into the chamber to take their places, to listen to Premier Asquith's announced important statement on the Irish home rule controversy. Only on those occasions when the King himself has opened Parliament have such throngs gathered in the vicinity of Parliament.

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BRASS BUTTONS AND HELMETS FOR MIDDLESEX SLEUTHS

Force To Blossom Forth In Shiny Raiment If Its Chief Has Wishes Gratified By Council.

Helmet and coats with brass buttons are to be an innovation on the county police force in the near future, if High Constable James Gumb succeeds in bringing present plans to a successful issue.

He will lay the matter before the county council at its next session in June, and it is understood that it is the intention that he will adopt a uniform himself to "break the ice" for the men of the force.

Difference of Opinion.

Whether the uniforms will be used only while the constables are doing duty, or when they are on ordinary service, has not yet been decided. There is also a

difference of opinion among the constabulary as to the advisability of adopting a uniform. Some do not favor the idea, while others think that the innovation would be a good one, especially in the case of constables on duty during an assizes, where it frequently falls to their lot to handle large crowds. A uniform and helmet would serve to distinguish the constables from the ordinary citizens, and would of great service in preserving order.

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