

Blames Cooper for Fall Of the Quebec Bridge

Peter Lszapka, the Phoenixville Bridge Co. Engineer, Says That He Drew the Attention of Cooper, to the Weakness of the Defective Chords but Was Told to Go Ahead as They Were All Right.

Phoenixville, Pa., March 12.—After reading the official report of the Canadian Government commission of investigation, Peter Lszapka, who with Theodore Cooper, the eminent bridge builder of New York, is blamed for the defective design which caused the Quebec bridge to fall, consented for the first time to be interviewed. One statement he made is remarkable for the manner in which it holds Mr. Cooper, the consulting engineer, responsible for the bridge's failure, and vindicates himself.

According to the statement made by the Phoenixville engineer, which appears in his sworn testimony taken by the commission of investigation, Lszapka said when asked to comment upon the report: "The findings of the commission are about what we thought they would be, and we are not surprised at any portion of the report. We have no criticism to make of the

commission, who we believe did their work faithfully and well. "You must understand," Lszapka continued, "that every plan or design worked out in the drawing rooms of the Phoenix Bridge Company was made according to specifications furnished us by the Quebec Bridge & Railway Company or by Mr. Cooper. Every plan that was drawn was sent to Mr. Cooper in New York and there either approved or discarded by him as consulting engineer. Each blue print had to bear his signature before work was begun in the shops."

Lszapka then stated that when drawings of the chord sections, the failure of one of which caused the bridge to collapse, were made under his direction in the local drawing rooms, he did not have entire faith in them. The designs of these chord sections were made according to specifications furnished by Mr. Cooper and when they were completed they were sent to him for approval.

They came back with the consulting engineer's "O. K." for them, but still Lszapka was not satisfied and returned them with a criticism of what he called attention to what he thought was an element of weakness. Cooper's reply was: "They are all right; don't alter."

Illustrating his position Lszapka said: "There is a patient seriously ill, the family physician is instructed to call in an eminent specialist. This specialist sees the patient once or twice and gives the family physician orders which he is to carry out. These instructions are carefully followed and the patient dies. Who is to blame? The position of Cooper and myself I consider exactly similar. He is an eminent specialist. I am the family physician."

Lszapka is firm in his belief that a bridge of the design of the one that fell can be built across the St. Lawrence river at Quebec and that his company can do it.

CELEBRATION AT STANLEY TONIGHT

Monster Banquet by Ladies in Honor of Messrs. McLeod, Pinder, Robinson and Young.

A banquet is to be given at Stanley tonight in honor of Messrs. Harry P. McLeod, James K. Pinder, Thomas Robinson and John A. Young, the members elect of York county in the new Provincial Legislature.

The banquet has been planned by and will be carried out by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Liberal Conservative Association of Stanley. The organization which is unsurpassed in any part of this province, or probably the Dominion, and in their grand work at the time of the elections they are giving able assistance by the ladies who were associated with them, and who take practically as much interest in politics and who worked just as hard for the cause of good government for this province as did the men.

This evening's function at Stanley promises to be a happy event and a number of people from this city will attend.

At the polls on the 3rd of March the people of Stanley stood valiantly by the ticket which carried the winners in the contest, and with all the resources of civilization at their command the representatives of the Government ticket were unable to meet with any success.

China to Escape Jap Aggression

Intervention of Great Britain Has Had Effect and a More Conservative Spirit is Now Displayed by Jap Ministers and People Generally.

Tokio, March 12.—The demand of the press and the public of Japan is not for aggressive action against China in connection with the Tatsu Mare. The Asahi, one of the most influential newspapers, urges the Government to consider seriously the moral side of the case and not to press China to extremes. It thinks that Japan should exercise greater vigilance concerning the export of arms destined for the use of insurgents against a friendly government. This view is

gaining ground, and it is understood that the Minister of War, and Vice Admiral Saito, Minister of Marine, are opposed to aggressive tactics. The foreign office asserts that no ultimatum has been issued in the matter, but the belief is expressed that the negotiations may be protracted. It is asserted that China will eventually agree to the demand of Japan in consideration of a pledge upon the part of Japan that a closer watch will be kept upon the exportation of arms.

THE PRESERVATION OF OUR FORESTS

Great Convention of Those Interested in Canadian Forests Being Held at Montreal.

Montreal, March 12.—International in character, and graced by the presence of representatives of the Quebec hierarchy of the Roman Catholic church, as well as a group of ladies, the ninth annual meeting of the Canadian Forestry Association began this morning. The convention is being held in the big hall of the Board of Trade building, which today proved hardly adequate to accommodate all interested in the conservation of Canadian forests and desired to attend the interesting sessions of the Association.

Archbishop Bruchet, in an address, upheld the work as national and patriotic, and said the clergy were doing their best to facilitate forestry in the minds of countrymen.

The president, commenting on the Archbishop's address, expressed pleasure that the Roman Catholic Church could have been able to give such a practical lesson in scientific forestry. Hon. Sydney Fisher gave an interesting review of Governmental Forestry and touched on the subject of pulp wood and said that everything that had been said favorable towards the imposition of an import duty on pulp wood was also applicable to the imposition of a duty on pulp. Mr. Fisher said that by scientific attention to Canadian forests Canada could become the great paper manufacturing country of the world. Mr. Fisher also expressed a warm interest in the work done by the church, observing that the Missionary Agricultural was about to be succeeded by the Missionary Forest.

After the Minister of Agriculture had spoken the meeting was addressed by Mr. W. M. Price, assistant forester of the Forestry Bureau of the United States, who said that in his country there is a growing public sentiment favorable towards the work of forest preservation.

PERSONAL.

Mr. W. W. Hubbard of St. John was at the Barker House yesterday.

Mr. Robert Low, of Sydney, is at the Queen Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Kitchen left last evening for New York, where they will spend some days.

Mr. Michael Welch, of Bristol, is among the guests at the Barker House.

Dr. Murray of Fredericton Junction is in the city to-day and is a guest at the Barker House.

THE BRANCH RAILWAYS.

Mr. T. M. Burns, of Bathurst, is at the Queen Hotel. Mr. Burns is here to consult with Hon. C. W. Robinson as to the work of the commission appointed to enquire into the matter of transferring the branch railways of the province to the federal government system. Mr. Burns said to-day that a number of options had been obtained and he now would have to see Mr. Robinson before proceeding further. But Mr. Burns is taking many things for granted.

THE POLICE HAVE A CLUE.

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(Montreal Gazette.)

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FRENCH PRESIDENT TO VISIT LONDON

Another Demonstration of the Friendly Feeling Which Exists Between Britain and France.

London, March 12.—The visit of President Fallieres of France will be a notable demonstration of the Anglo-French entente. King Edward has promised to open the new Franco-British Exhibition in London, and has invited the French President to accompany him on that occasion, which this will become a significant state ceremony, most of the members of the Government, the prominent peers and many notable French visitors attending.

BOILER EXPLODED THE CASUALTIES

Sarnia, Ont., March 12.—James Mackinnon, aged 15 years, was killed and Joseph Kemsley and Charles Kemsley were injured, as the result of a boiler explosion in Sarnia township yesterday. The boiler was connected with a portable saw mill. Hawkins was blown 200 feet away and horribly mutilated.

ACTIVE LIBERALS.

Hamilton, Ont., March 12.—The Liberal executive has nominated W. H. Wardrop, K. C., for membership on the Dominion Railway Commission.

Looking for a Reward.

Dr. Pearce of Oranmore, one of the Robinson government's tested candidates in Sarnia, is registered at the Queen. The doctor's presence here at this time is said to be for the purpose of urging upon Mr. Robinson the necessity of re-appointing him chairman of the Board of Health in Sarnia before retiring from office. The doctor thinks he should have some reward.

Funeral To-day.

The funeral of the late Dr. Campbell, the travelling dentist, took place this afternoon from the undertaking rooms of John G. Adams, where the funeral services were conducted. Interment was made at the Rural cemetery.

STOCK MARKET IS AGAIN BRISK

Traders Buying in Increased Volume and Prices Have Been Generally Maintained.

Montreal, March 12.—The tone of the stock market was strong again today and stocks are being absorbed in fair volume at the advanced level. Trading was pretty generally scattered and special attention was paid to no particular stock on the list. The most active features were Lake of Woods Milling, 77½; 1-2; Halifax Trans, 96½; Soo Com., 103; Pacific, 145 to 1; Power, 90; Mexican Bonds, 75 1-2; Dominion Coal, 117; 1-2; Oshville Mills, 117; 1-2; Mexican, 52½; Dominion Steel Bonds, 76.

On Wall Street.

New York, March 12.—The majority of stocks opened at fractionally higher prices than last night, but a number of speculative leaders were lower. The dealings were quite active.

P. E. I. HOCKEYISTS DOWNED SYDNEY

Charlottetown, P. E. I., March 12.—Last night the Sydney hockeyists were defeated by the Victorias, winners of the Island league trophy, with a score of two to one. The game was clean, fast and scientific. Sydney's combination was continually broken up by the fast work of the Victorias' forwards. There was only one penalty and that for three minutes.

Tonight the visitors play a team made up of Victorias and Alberkites. There is a strong agitation throughout the country for the running of amateur hockey. Meetings are being held and petitions forwarded to the legislature in session. It is highly probable that regulatory legislation will be passed.

TICKETS WERE STOLEN.

Serious Charge Against Youthful Offenders—Police Recapture Stolen Tickets.

A daring plan was taken by some young boys to gain admittance to the hockey match at the Arctic Rink last night. While the office staff at the rink were away at tea time at least one young boy is said to have forced an entrance to the rink office and there taken one hundred or more tickets good for admission to the rink last night.

The policemen and constables on duty at the rink last night looked into the matter and finally placed the blame upon a young boy living in the West end, who was in trouble some time ago for stealing a fountain pen and other articles from a book store on Queen Street.

In the course of their investigation the officers found that tickets bearing the numbers of those extracted from the office were being used by a number of small boys for admission to the rink, and at least three of the tickets got into the hands of the police. One was presented by a boy named Barton, a boy named Hand presented another, and a boy named Stairn presented the third. These boys said that they got the tickets from the boy suspected.

It is expected that a warrant will be issued for the guilty boy's arrest some time to-day.

The woman who hesitates usually has an impediment in her speech.

FIRE IN RAILWAY SHOPS AT MONCTON

Extinguished Before Much Damage Was Done—Stanley and Minto Caught in Ice.

Moncton, March 12.—The big I. C. R. shops at Moncton were this morning threatened with fire, which broke out in the car shop and was extinguished by the railway brigade after much difficulty. The fire caught beneath the floor, waste matter having ignited through heat from the hot air conductor. The floor had to be torn up before the blaze was extinguished.

The steamers Stanley and Minto both were stuck in the ice in Northumberland Straits yesterday. The Stanley was caught seven miles from Pictou and the Minto became blocked off the east end of Pictou Island. The report this morning is that the Stanley is moving slowly. This is the second time this winter the steamers have been held up.

WEDDED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Vancouver, March 4.—A wedding which will prove of interest to the residents of Tay Creek and vicinity took place at Vancouver, B. C., on March 3rd, when Lena May, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McNutt, formerly of Tay Creek was united in marriage to Steven M. Thompson.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. B. H. Jackson, pastor of the Jackson Avenue Baptist Church. Both of these young people having for the past few years been energetic and earnest Christian workers in this church and was witnessed by the immediate friends and relatives of the contracting parties.

The bride, who wore a handsome travelling suit of navy blue broadcloth with silk hat and gloves and carried a bouquet of white carnations and maid hair fern, was attended by her sister, Miss Abbie V. McNutt, who wore a very becoming suit of navy blue cloth, with white hat and tan gloves, while the groom was supported by his brother, Joseph Thompson.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson will take residence on 12th Avenue, Grand View.

WHAT ABOUT NORTHUMBERLAND YORK AND KENT?

(Chatham Commercial.)

Papers supporting ex-Premier Robinson are making a great ado over the size of the majority that Mr. Robinson received in Westmorland. What about Mr. Morrissey's majority of 1326 in this county; Mr. McLeod's 1300 over E. H. Allen and the majority of 700 in Kent for Mr. Hazen's supporters?

Choral Society Executive.

The executive of the Choral Society are asked to meet at the Conservatory of Music this evening at 9.15 p. m., for important business. The secretary will be at the conservatory from 8 to 9.15 to receive the returns of members' tickets.

Died at Upper Kingsclear.

The death occurred at Upper Kingsclear last night of Miss Irene McLeod, daughter of Mr. Moses Kitchen. Deceased, who was 19 years of age, had suffered from tubercular trouble for some time. Besides her parents she is survived by four brothers and four sisters.

The funeral will take place on Saturday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock. Rev. Mr. Wetmore will conduct the service and Mr. John G. Adams will be funeral director.

MACHINE GUNS USED ON STRIKERS

Chile Troops Fire on Crowd of Disaffected Workmen and Kill Nearly 2,500.

San Francisco, Calif., March 12.—Machine guns, operated by the Government forces of Chile in a great conflict with strikers at the Nitrabeds and in the city of Iquique laid 2,500 men low, most of whom were killed, according to advices received yesterday by Norwegian steamer Christian Bors, direct from Chile. Business at Iquique which never had been disturbed before by any conflicts was paralyzed when the great army of workers went on strike. One fracas after another occurred, until soldiers and strikers met in the streets of the town and on the outskirts, and openly fought each other. Being ordered to disperse the army of men, the soldiers opened fire and they had little opportunity to fight back, even though they had been armed, the assault was so sudden.

This took place on January 1st, and a week later, by common agreement, the strikers went back to work with out the expected advance in wages. It is reported that the mine owners will voluntarily increase the pay of many of their employees.

The story coming from San Francisco of a great conflict between the Government forces and strikers at Iquique, saying that 2,500 men were laid low, evidently is an exaggerated report and incorrect as to the date.

A despatch received from Valparaiso said that according to an official statement the recent encounter at Iquique between Nitrate strikers and the police resulted in the killing of 210 men and the wounding of 50. This undoubtedly is the same occurrence mentioned in the advices brought into San Francisco by the Norwegian steamer Christian Bors.

OBITUARY.

William Agnew.

On the evening of March 7th, Mr. Wm. Agnew, of Centerville, Carleton Co., N. B., passed away to his home beyond in the 78th year of his age, after a lingering illness, extending over several months, his last illness being a pneumonia. He was born at Kingsclear, York county, May 10th, 1830.

In 1857 he married Miss Emily Hawkins, and thirty-five years ago they moved to Centerville. They had eleven children, seven of whom predeceased them. The ones who survive are, Frank H., of Battle City, Montana, Dr. C. S., of Antigonish, N. S., and Herbert and Mrs. F. E. Linn of Centerville. He is also survived by one sister, Mrs. Daniel Good, of Millville, N. B.

The funeral was held from the residence of his son Herbert on Monday morning at 10.30. The service was conducted by Rev. G. Ayers, assisted by Rev. B. S. Freeman. Interment was made in Centerville Baptist Cemetery alongside the remains of his wife who predeceased him ten months ago.

Mr. Agnew was a member of the Methodist church, having united with that body Feb. 8th, 1885, during the ministry of Rev. J. K. King. He passed away trusting in the merits of Christ his Saviour (and we believe our loss is his gain).

Professional.

Dr. A. Pierce Crockett, eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, will be at the Queen Hotel, Fredericton, Saturday of this week, where he may be consulted professionally.

WEEKLY CHANGES BANK OF ENGLAND

London, March 12.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes: Total reserve increased £972,000. Circulation decreased 254,000. Bullion increased 173,000. Other securities increased 1,040,000. Public deposits increased 865,000. Government securities decreased 550,000. The proportion of the bank's reserve to liability this week, is 40.1 per cent; last week it was 39.59 per cent.

GREEK PLAY AT U.N.B. TO-NIGHT

A dress rehearsal of Pnygmalion and Galatea was held last evening. Competent critics pronounced it as being highly satisfactory and had no hesitation in saying the play would please and delight the most critical audience. The practices have been conducted under the supervision of Prof. Harold Geoghegan, himself an amateur actor of high standing, and if one may judge by last evening's rehearsal he is deserving of much praise. The young ladies show themselves to be players of the first order and all who are fortunate enough to see them appear in Pnygmalion and Galatea this evening will not go away disappointed. Much care has been taken with the costumes, which are thoroughly Greek in pattern and gorgeous in appearance.

The play will be presented in the College Library this evening, the curtain to rise promptly at 8.30 o'clock. No reserved seats; general admission 25 cents. Make it a point to be present.

To Swear in Mayor and Aldermen.

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor is to arrive here this evening, from St. John, and soon after his arrival Mayor-elect C. Fred Chestnut will be sworn in. His Worship will be sworn in by Aldermen-elect W. E. Farrell and J. J. Fraser Winslow. The city clerk will be in attendance with the certificates of the election and the city records, and the city marshal will act as escort. The aldermen-elect have been summoned to meet at the City Council chamber at 9 o'clock this evening, when the oath of office will be administered to them.

The Branch Railways.

Mr. T. M. Burns, of Bathurst, is at the Queen Hotel. Mr. Burns is here to consult with Hon. C. W. Robinson as to the work of the commission appointed to enquire into the matter of transferring the branch railways of the province to the federal government system. Mr. Burns said to-day that a number of options had been obtained and he now would have to see Mr. Robinson before proceeding further. But Mr. Burns is taking many things for granted.

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AN ARDENT PROHIBITIONIST.

Mrs. Mary Harris Armour, foe to rum and leader of the movement that drove the liquor traffic from Georgia, has gone to Philadelphia to conduct a campaign for prohibition, and predicts the liquor traffic will be driven out of the United States in ten years.