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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1910.

TEN PAGES—ONE CENT

ENGLAND HAS MINING HORROR

Explosion Locks 290 Men in Burning Mine

MANY FATALITIES

Cages Blocked and Rescue Delayed, While Noxious Fumes Are Driven Back Upon the Men—Heartrending Scenes at Mouth of The Pit

Bigton, England, Dec. 21.—An explosion in the Little Hulton colliery this morning jammed the cages in the shaft, releasing noxious fumes and interfering with the ventilation.

Of all the workers who were in the mine when the explosion occurred, a lone boy is the only one who has thus far made his way to the surface.

Bolton is a colliery and manufacturing centre about fifteen miles from Manchester. Its population is about 200,000.

The explosion occurred in the Little Hulton colliery this morning after the 290 miners had gone down below the surface to begin the day's work.

The cause and extent of the disaster was in doubt for several hours. The first rescuing party to reach the scene succeeded in bringing seven men and a boy to safety and later recovered the bodies of five victims who had no chance to escape.

At the moment of the explosion, flames spread through the affected passages and smoke and poisonous gas filled the shaft. The plight of the miners was rendered more desperate by a mishap to the machinery of the shaft, where the cages refused to move for a time, preventing a quick escape and interfering with the ventilation. The rising gases were checked by obstructions and driven back upon the entrapped men.

Meantime, the fire many who were not killed by noxious fumes were burned to death.

The rescuers were unable to go directly to the spot where the miners were entrapped, and there was some delay while they sought access to the place through adjoining levels.

Word of the accident was carried quickly to the homes of the miners and thousands of persons soon surrounded the mouth of the colliery. As always on the occasion of such disasters, the anxious throng included hundreds of well-to-do wives and children, and the pitiable scenes familiar to coal mining districts were enacted.

MARTIN A. KNAPP IS APPOINTED TO BENCH

Was Head of the Interstate Commerce Commission in the United States

Washington, Dec. 21.—Martin A. Knapp has been confirmed by the senate as an additional circuit judge of the United States for the second judicial circuit. Automatically he ceased to be chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission and now is ready to ascend the bench of the court of commerce as presiding judge of the second circuit.

Colonel Samuel Garcia, chief of the presidential staff, gave to the Associated Press the following statement relative to Sunday's encounter:

It is true that Colonel Guzman was wounded in a reconnoitering expedition that he made at the Mal Paso cases to ascertain the number and position of the revolutionists. He had left his train behind. Col. Guzman found the train empty and behind him and in a thick forest on the sides of the canon. Their position was naturally one of great advantage.

The tenth battalion of infantry and a battery of light artillery with one rapid fire gun, left here late yesterday for the zone of activity in Chihuahua. Another train carrying two regiments of infantry is said to have left Guadalupe for the same destination. The tenth battalion contains 600 men and twenty-one officers. The battery is classified as light mountain artillery and has six guns. These troops were said to be intended to reinforce Col. Guzman at Padernales.

According to the official information obtainable here, the government forces are prepared to deliver a crushing blow to the revolutionists.

In high official circles it is believed that the rebels are now trapped and they cannot possibly escape.

King to Hunt in Sudan

Berlin, Dec. 21.—King Frederick Augustus of Saxony will leave Dresden in February for a hunt of several weeks in the Sudan. He will embark at Venice.

Governor Guest of Bishop

Portland, Me., Dec. 21.—Governor Fernald and members of his council were the guests of Right Rev. Louis Walsh, Bishop of Portland, at a dinner given in their honor at the Catholic rectory last evening. A marble bust of the bishop, made while he was in Rome last summer, was shown for the first time.

McFarland is Beaten

St. Joseph, Mo., Dec. 21.—After fifteen rounds of sparring, James Barade of south St. Joseph, last night, got the decision over Tommy McFarland, of San Francisco. This was McFarland's first fight since he lost Ad Wolgast, lightweight champion, last September, Wolgast breaking his arm.

THE WEATHER

Moderate to fresh northeasterly and northerly winds; turning colder with light local squalls today, and on Thursday

MILLIONS LOSS IN FIRE; DEATHS, TOO, ATTEND ON BLAZE IN CINCINNATI

Manufacturing District Swept By Conflagration; Building After Building Goes

SEVEN MILLION MANSION AT LAST IS COMPLETED

Senator Clark to Occupy His New York House of 121 Rooms in January—There Are 31 Baths

New York, Dec. 21.—William A. Clark's big mansion at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Seventy-seventh street has been completed at a cost of \$7,000,000 and the former senator from Montana and his family will move in within the next few weeks.

Mrs. Clark and her two children, Andrew, seven, and Hubert, four, are in Paris, but will sail for New York in the next few days.

Senator Clark's residence has been under construction for eight years, and is said to be the costliest home ever built. The mansion this year is placed on the tax books at a taxable valuation of \$3,000,000. The annual taxes on the house will be \$60,000. The furnishings and decorations on the building have been acquired at the cost of millions of dollars and practically all installed.

In the house are 121 rooms, and, according to no building in the world carries so much bronze as has been worked into this mansion. The grand staircase is bronze and the numerous entrance doors are all bronze cast solid.

Adjoining Senator Clark's bedroom is a library taken from a French chateau. The ceiling and woodwork are of carved mahogany, and the carver's signature bears the date of 1833.

Mrs. Clark's suite is one of the most beautiful in the house. It overlooks Central Park and was designed by Senator Clark himself. Her parlor is in panels, stainedwood, from Ceylon, yellowish white, with lustre, exquisitely carved with flowers in the style made popular by Louis XVI. The boudoir is in birch maple, with stainedwood carved panels.

At a meeting of citizens last night to hear the report of a special electrical engineer employed by the council to consider the future lighting of the town it was unanimously recommended that the council enter into a ten years' contract with the Martineau Coal Railway & Power Co. for the lighting of the streets and public buildings. This company recently acquired the Canada Electric Company, which supplies light for domestic purposes.

LATER.

Miss Effie Petric, who was so terribly burned this morning, died at 2 p. m.

TO TEACH HOUSE KEEPING

Frankfort, Dec. 21.—In the Prussian government's next budget a grant will be asked for to provide travelling housekeeping schools. The idea is that instruction in housekeeping should be given to the daughters of laborers, craftsmen and farm people. The curriculum includes baking, conserving and putting up fruit, vegetables, sewing, repairing and cleaning of clothing.

REWED AT CHRISTMAS

Separated by Mistake, Worcester Couple to be United After 15 Years

Worcester, Dec. 21.—John Henry Foreman and Bertha E. Cook, after a separation of 15 years, decreed by the divorce court, have decided to be reunited. Christmas is the appointed day.

The first time the couple went before a justice of the peace one morning in June and had the knot tied.

Foreman went away to seek his fortune, leaving his wife behind. For a time she waited and then took train for New York in search of her husband, who, she thought, had deserted her.

Foreman returned, but the neighbors told him that his wife had gone. He waited, but no wife came, and then he got a divorce and married a second time. Three years later wife No. 2, died. One day recently he passed along Main street, and met his first wife.

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New York's \$75,000 Blaze

New York, Dec. 21.—Fire early today gutted the building at Hudson and Vestry streets, occupied by Joseph Lohman & Co. paper manufacturers and dealers, causing a loss estimated at \$75,000.

ASQUITH AND KING

Has Three Quarters of An Hour Conference With His Majesty-- Monarch Anxious To Tide Over Conoration With Least Possible Political Trouble

(Associated Press.)

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It is known that the king is very anxious to tide over the coronation period with the least possible political upheaval and that all his influence will be exerted with the parties in the direction of a compromise.

Mr. Asquith saw none of his colleagues while he was in London, and he returned to Edinburgh on an afternoon train.

As the new parliament now stands the Liberal government in coalition with the Nationalists, regular and independent, and the Laborite members, hold 338 seats, as against 272 held by the Unionists, a majority of 126. The ministerial majority, however, will in many cases be much smaller than this figure as the independent Nationalists are hostile to Redmond, and therefore to some of the measures proposed by the government's programme.

FAILS AS A MURDERER; IS SUICIDE

Windsor Tragedy Result of Misunderstanding Between Husband and Wife

CANADIAN IS SLAIN

Hamilton Man Gets Word That Son Was Murdered by Italian in California—Englishman in Toronto Wills Insurance to Landlady and Drinks Carbolic

Windsor, Ont., Dec. 21.—(Special)—Elmer Lepine, aged 45 years, a teamster employed by A. N. McLean & Company, attempted to murder his wife and her sister, Mrs. Donald Stone, here last night by firing four shots from a .22 calibre revolver at the women as they stood at the gate of the Lepine home in Langens avenue.

Three bullets took effect, both women being hit but the wounds are not fatal. Lepine then ran into the house and locking himself in, blew out his brains before the police arrived, a few minutes later.

The shooting was the culmination of a long period of misunderstanding and estrangement between Lepine and his wife, Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 21.—(Special)—Duncan Fitzgerald, of 10 Homewood avenue, has received word of the murder of his son, William, of California, about three weeks ago by an Italian on the Pacific coast. The son was 12 years old, was out shooting.

He had camped out for the night. The Italian, Steve Mori, is now awaiting his trial.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—(Special)—"If God Almighty should not punish I have my insurance policy to my landlady for vengeance," says Joseph Pike, an Englishman, sixty-five years old, who boarded with Mrs. M. Jackson at 14 Broad street, committed suicide last night by drinking carbolic acid.

Pike served time in Nottingham, England. He has been doing odd jobs about restaurants. The policy is for \$70.

LOWER PULLMAN RATES

Two Dollars for a Twelve Hour Run, With 20 Per Cent Off For Upper

Washington, Dec. 21.—Tentative approval of the interstate commerce commission has been given to the fixed charge for upper berths in Pullman cars at 80 per cent of the charges now paid for lower berths. The commission's statement says:

"It is estimated that the reduction which will be made upon all of the lines over which Pullman cars are operated in the United States, which include all the main line railroads of the United States excepting the New Haven road, the Great Northern and the Milwaukee, will amount to a net reduction of nearly \$1,500,000 annually. The new rates for the lower berth appear to be based upon a charge of \$4 for a 12-hour run, excepting on some of the fastest trains, the upper berth rate being 20 per cent lower than the newly-established rate upon lower berths."

SHOT DEAD WHILE DISCUSSING FIGHT

Traveler Killed in Pittsburg Hotel—A Suspect Arrested

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 21.—Joking in the case of Charles Hotel, here last night, R. J. Mitchell, aged 33, a travelling salesman for a Cleveland, Ohio, book firm, was shot and instantly killed by a man with whom he was discussing a prize fight. A few minutes later, Brooks C. Buffington, who for 22 years has been superintendent of a large office building here, and said to several witnesses to have done the shooting, was arrested, as he was about to take a car for his home. Buffington denied any complicity in the shooting.

Both Are Safe

Las Palmas, Canary Islands, Dec. 21.—The Irma Woermann, of the Woermann Steamship Line, which went out on Monday to assist her sister ship, the Ingelbort, helped twelve miles off the coast, returned today with the disabled vessel in tow.

STEAMER WAGHORN

Philadelphia, Dec. 21.—The British steamship Merion, from Liverpool via Queenstown, docked here today after having been grounded in the Delaware river for several hours. In trying to avoid a schooner, she ran into shallow water, where she remained stuck in the mud until high tide.

CAPTAIN LOST; HIS SCHOONER SINKING

Mobile, Ala., Dec. 21.—Damaged by terrific seas after four days buffeting with Captain Gustav Axelsson knocked overboard and drowned and the vessel in a sinking condition, the American schooner Doris was picked up in the Caribbean Sea by the United States cruiser Tacoma on Dec. 13 and towed to Puerto Cortez.

NOT A CASE OF NEGLIGENCE.

The reason that several weeks have elapsed since the Hassan pavement was laid on Water street, before anybody started to dig it up, was that the winter is the best time to do this sort of thing. There was no intention, when the pavement was laid, that it should be permitted to lie there undisturbed for any length of time. The rest of it will be dug up as soon as the gas and water people can get around it.

A CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

Mr. Peter Binks says he hopes to see a time in St. John when justice will be done. "I have observed," said Mr. Binks, "that many who steal property to the value of even a dollar find the law on their trail; but a man can steal a family's happiness for twenty years, or steal and pour down his own throat of a Saturday night his children's winter clothing or Christmas toys, and we all go to church as if nothing had happened. Human nature is a queer mixture."

IMMIGRANT GIRL FATALLY BURNED

Scotch Servant in Amherst House in Flames

SCREAMS BRING HELP

Kitchen Ablaze and Fire Enveloping Her as Family Hurry to Aid—Town Contract for Ten Years Lighting of Amherst Streets

Amherst, N. S., Dec. 21.—(Special)—A serious fire occurred this morning in the home of George T. Douglas, local superintendent of the Canadian Car & Foundry company's plant here. Mr. and Mrs. Douglas were alarmed about 7 o'clock by screams from the kitchen and on rushing down found the maid in the front part of the house, her clothing in flames, and the kitchen fire.

They covered the girl with rugs, extinguishing the flames, and then sent in an alarm. The girl was terribly burned from head to foot, her clothing being completely destroyed and no hopes at all being entertained for her recovery. Both Mr. and Mrs. Douglas were also severely burned about the hands.

The firemen were promptly on hand and soon had the fire under control, but before the kitchen was badly damaged and some portions in the front of the house set afire from the girl's clothing. It is supposed that the undertook to light the fire with oil, causing an explosion. The unfortunate girl is in Highland View hospital. She is a Scotch girl, nineteen years of age, named Effie Petric, and has been in this country only a short time.

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THE TIMES' NEW REPORTER

STRUCK THE WRONG PLACE.

There is reason to believe that the break in the water pipe on Prince William street yesterday, opposite the Bank of New Brunswick, was intended to occur opposite City Hall. The theory of some well informed citizens is that but for some unexpected hitch in the proceedings the stream would have struck the bank with such violence would have smashed in the windows of City Hall and anticipated what is likely to happen next spring. There does not appear to be any other reasonable explanation of the occurrence.

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