

THE RUSSIAN PRISONERS ARE TERRIBLY TREATED

New Governor of Fortress Makes Life Wholly Miserable for the Inmates.

St. Petersburg, May 13.—A letter describing the terrible treatment accorded the Russian prisoners in the fortress of Schlüsselburg has been received here. The prison is situated on a rock in the middle of the Neva, at the point where the river rushes from Lake Ladoga in a mighty flood. Escape is impossible, if the prisoners were disposed to try it. It is one of Russia's worst fortresses, confinement there being considered equivalent to a sentence of death. The letter is from a prisoner, and is in part as follows:

"Until the coming of our present governor the prisoners enjoyed a certain amount of freedom. For instance, beds were left open all day. There was no inspection of prisoners, at which one is forced to shout at the top of one's voice: 'I wish your excellency health.' We had our kitchen gardens, in which the prisoners worked, and we had our walks together and for an unlimited time. When Zimmer came all that was done away with. There were inspections; the beds were closed up during the day. Exercise was taken separately, not together, and only for an hour a day. The benches were taken away from the ground where we walked.

Cells Ablaze.
"In the doors were little windows which, before Zimmer came, were not shut; the prisoners could therefore carry on a conversation with one another through them. In order to put a stop to this, without putting locks on the windows, Zimmer had the doors drenched with kerosene in order that the smell might prevent the conversations. Then somebody threw a lighted match out of a cell, and in an instant the place was in flames. It is impossible to describe the alarm. Some of the prisoners turned on the water taps of the washstands in their cells. The water began quickly to fill all the cells, and, as the windows are high up and barred, you can picture to yourself the position of a prisoner with iron bars on the one hand, and the other a door in flames and water below. Happily they succeeded in putting out the fire quickly. Then they opened the cells and proceeded to haul out the water. The prisoners suffered seriously, but the prisoners had a fright.

"After this the governor took away the more prominent inmates, Abramovitch, the two Kalishnikovs, Kaloun, Smetannikov, Tenzansky, and a ninth whose name I have forgotten. He died from consumption on the morning of the 10th of June from here—and put them in a dungeon for thirty days.

In the Stone Hole.
"I will now describe this dungeon in which the governor keeps the prisoners for months when he likes. It is a stone hole in one of the outer towers, less than nine feet in length, breadth and height. It is terribly damp, water literally pours down the walls, and the arrangement for ventilating lets the wind blow in so that it pierces one to the bone. The temperature is such a cell, even in July, is not more than two degrees above freezing point; when you are suffering from the heat those in the dungeons are freezing with cold. The clothes given are only a blouse and trousers; belts are not allowed, so that, besides the cold, the chains which weigh on the legs when one has no belt, cause one to fall against the wall or on the floor. Straps are allowed for the legs, but without rings. The food consists of two pounds of bread and three flasks—not more—of water; salt is never given. Besides all this, there is pitch darkness.

"Now, imagine what it is to sit in such a tomb. We sit for twenty or thirty days, and even for six or seven months, without going out. Our fathers, mothers, and wives saw us afterwards they would hardly recognize their relatives in the half-mad creatures.

"After the comrades had been there thirty days they were transferred to the first division of the prison (they were in the third), and all night were put in one cell. As this division is not quite finished there were no beds, and there was no stove in the cell—nothing but the bare walls. For heating the whole of this great division the governor only allowed half a dozen ordinary logs. Now, imagine what was the temperature in the cell, remembering that it was the month of December, when there are more than sixty degrees of frost."

WHEAT FIELDS UNDER WATER

McWilliams Farmers Have Had Rain Enough—W. M. S. Anniversary.

McWilliams, May 14.—The farmers in this vicinity are well pleased to see the sunshine again after so much rainy weather, as almost half the grain in the fields is submerged in water; and we especially need a prosperous summer on account of adding territory to some of our farms. Mr. D. Monks, our most enterprising farmer, has purchased 50 acres from his neighbor, Mr. Abbott, and is also building, and will soon have a home second to none on the line. And then his nine-months-old twin boys are enough to make any sonless father green with envy.

Mr. Judge, our postmaster, has bought an adjoining hundred acres, and thus added to his responsibility.

In Bailey's church the W. M. S. anniversary services will be held on Sunday next, May 16, at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. The ladies desire to see the building packed to its capacity.

ALBERTA ELECTIONS.

Edmonton, Alta., May 14.—In the elections which are to take place in the two northern constituencies, Peace River and Athabasca, both the former members will be again in the field, and will be opposed by Mr. R. C. R. and Mr. D. Monks, our most enterprising farmer, has purchased 50 acres from his neighbor, Mr. Abbott, and is also building, and will soon have a home second to none on the line. And then his nine-months-old twin boys are enough to make any sonless father green with envy.

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AUSTRIANS CHEER KAISER

German Royal Party Given a Magnificent Reception at Vienna.

Vienna, May 14.—The German Emperor, accompanied by the empress, reached Vienna this morning from Pola, where they arrived on the imperial yacht Hohenzollern yesterday, and were given a hearty and elaborate public welcome.

Emperor Francis Joseph and all the Austrian archdukes and archduchesses met their majesties at the Southern Railway station. The greetings between the two monarchs were exceptionally cordial, as was also the ovation accorded them by the immense crowds that had gathered on the streets through which the visitors drove in an open carriage. Rain somewhat marred the spectacular effect of the lavish decorations along the route, but there was no mistaking the warmth of the demonstration, gratitude to the German sovereign being deep for the unfailing support which enabled the dual monarchy to score such a notable success in the late Balkan crisis.

POINTERS FROM PETROLEA

Brick and Tile Yard to Resume—A Quiet Wedding—Back From Persia.

Petrolea, May 13.—Lancey's Folly, one of Petrolea's oldest and best business blocks, has undergone a rapid change of ownership during the past few months. At the beginning of the year it was sold by the Lancey estate to Messrs. Keenleyside & Hole, of London, who in turn sold it to Mr. A. England, of Toronto, and this week it has passed into the hands of Mr. F. E. Leshner, of the same city. The last purchaser intends making a number of improvements, probably making the living apartments on the second floor much more up-to-date.

The oil producers here are rather gloomy this week over the second drop of 3 cents per barrel in the price of crude, which leaves that article at only \$1 34 per barrel, not including the bounty.

The Brick and Tile Yard Company which shut down some months ago, has leased its property to W. W. Shuttlesworth & Co., of Woodstock, and operations will be resumed right away. The company will probably employ some fifteen men.

Mr. D. Dawson, our customs officer, has returned home from Edmonton, where he spent the past six months, on leave of absence.

A quiet wedding took place at the Presbyterian Church yesterday morning, when Miss Elizabeth J. Foster was united in marriage to Mr. James McNeil, both of Enniskillen Township. The ceremony was performed by Dr. McNair.

Mr. Jack Craile and bride returned from their honeymoon trip Monday evening, and were met at the depot by the K. of P. Band, of which Mr. Craile is an active member.

Mr. Duncan McNaughton has returned from Persia, where he has been drilling for the past three years.

RUSSIA'S NEW FORTS

A Second Chain of Defence in Eastern Part of Poland.

St. Petersburg, May 13.—The unexpected display of military vigor by Austria-Hungary in the Balkan crisis and the realization of her own weakness since the Russo-Japanese war have led to a far-reaching readjustment of Russia's military policy, which is now engrossing the attention of the members of the general staff.

The position of the Russian troops in Poland, which is surrounded on three sides by Austrian and German territory, has been found to be too precarious under the new conditions, and it has practically been decided to abandon the extended lines of defence and adopt a new line further to the east.

In case of war, the most westerly parts of Poland would be abandoned without serious defence and mobilization would be carried on behind the new chain of fortresses. The change involves the abandonment of many advanced fortified positions, which will be dismantled, several of them being destroyed.

The news of the evacuation has started a fantastic rumor that Russia is about to sell Poland to Germany, and the matter will be cleared up by the publication of the official statement.

The presence of a powerful enemy within striking distance of Berlin was counted on to relieve the pressure in the direction of France in time of war.

ANGLO-CHINESE PAPER

Li Sum Ling Gets Official Support in Publishing Pekin Daily News.

Pekin, May 14.—The issue of the Pekin Daily News, in English, signed by Li Sum Ling's formal entry into the national journalistic field, Li will occupy a unique place in Chinese journalism, and will be enabled to exert the greatest influence on the native press throughout the empire.

In view of the large number of Chinese papers subsidized by the Japanese government, and in view of the unfriendly relations existing between the Chinese and the English-owned papers in the treaty ports, the highest Government officials have long been desirous of having a strong paper under Chinese editorship to present China's side.

The Chinese Public Opinion, a small tri-weekly sheet was started last year, but was weak and inconsequential, edited by foreigners, because of the impossibility of finding Chinese capable of conducting a newspaper in English.

Shortly after Li Sum Ling's arrival the officials interested urged him to undertake the desired publication. The News' policy as announced by Li Sum Ling's salutary, is that it "will be distinctly pro-Chinese."

EGG-STEALER SHOT.

Philadelphia, May 14.—Caught in the act of stealing eggs from a car in the Adams Express Warehouse here today Aleck Zimmerman, a yard brakeman, in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad for twenty years, was shot and killed by detectives as he was trying to escape. The detectives claim that they did not try to injure the man but shot only to scare him and make him halt, but that the bullet the brakeman had caught in the stomach, glanced up and entered the brain, causing instantaneous death.

BOAT PARTY DROWNED.

Hackensack, N. J., May 14.—Five persons, four girls and a young man, members of a party of eight, were drowned tonight, when a boat in which they were attempting to cross the Hackensack River, during a storm, capsized. The remaining three swam to the shore. Those drowned were: Catherine Hoffman, 20 years old; Mary Shaels, 17 years old; Lizzie Shanski, 18 years old; Mary Moranzo, 15 years old, and Peter Hollowny, 19 years old.

STANDARD STANDARD STANDARD STANDARD STANDARD STANDARD

Come to Our First Annual Spring Bargain Sale

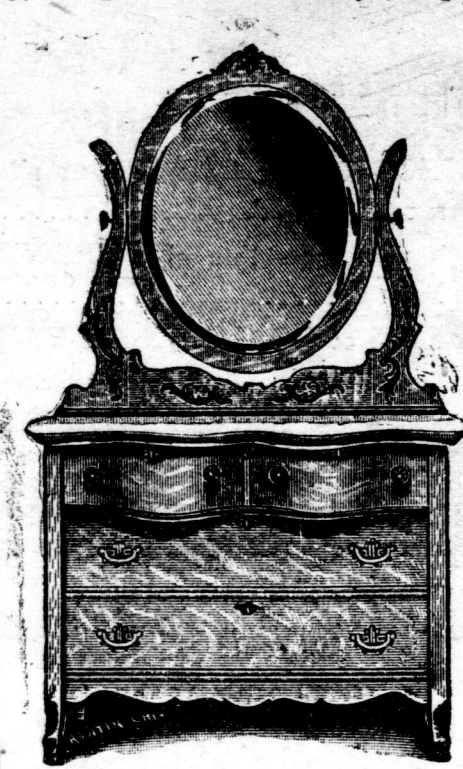
Which Begins Today--May 15--and Will Last for One Week Only

If you need anything in House Furnishings at all you cannot afford to ignore this great sale, for it means a saving to you of twenty-five to fifty per cent on every dollar's worth you buy. This is not a rebuilding sale, and we cannot have it run for more than one week, remember, for if any store would attempt to mark goods at such prices as we did and keep on selling for a longer period it would soon be up in the air. You must hurry if you want a share of these offerings. This is the time in the year when you need the goods and when you will most appreciate every dollar you save, because you need so many things. Note carefully the prices we quote below and then see our window display.



Furniture At Still Greater Bargains

Our \$14.50 Sideboards for .. \$10.00
Our \$18.00 Sideboards for .. \$13.75
Our \$25.00 Sideboards for .. \$18.00
Our \$30.00 Sideboards for .. \$22.50
Our \$40.00 Sideboards for .. \$28.00
Our \$60.00 Sideboards for .. \$43.00



Our \$10.00 Dressers for .. \$6.75
Our \$12.00 Dressers for .. \$8.50
Our \$15.00 Dressers for .. \$10.50
Our \$20.00 Dressers for .. \$14.75
Our \$25.00 Dressers for .. \$18.00
Our \$30.00 Dressers for .. \$22.50
Our \$50.00 Dressers for .. \$35.00

SPRINGS AND MATTRESSES

Our \$2.50 Springs for .. \$1.75
Our \$3.50 Springs for .. \$2.50
Our \$5.00 Mattresses for .. \$3.50
Our \$7.00 Mattresses for .. \$5.00
Our \$10.00 Mattresses for .. \$7.50

Lace Curtains

3 yards long, regular price 60c, for .. 45c
3 1/2 yards long, regular price 75c, for .. 55c
3 3/4 yards long, regular price 95c, for .. 75c
3 1/2 yards long, regular price \$1.25, for .. 95c
3 3/4 yards long, regular price \$2.00, for .. \$1.50
3 1/2 yards long, regular price \$3.00, for .. \$2.25
3 3/4 yards long, regular price \$4.00, for .. \$3.00

Tapestry Carpet

55c values for .. 45c
65c values for .. 50c
75c values for .. 60c
\$1.00 values for .. 75c



Extension Tables

Our \$7.50 Tables for .. \$5.75
Our \$9.00 Tables for .. \$6.50
Our \$11.00 Tables for .. \$7.50
Our \$15.00 Tables for .. \$11.00
Our \$20.00 Tables for .. \$14.00
Our \$30.00 Tables for .. \$22.50

PARLOR SUITES, odd pieces, COUCHES, MORRIS CHAIRS AND ROCKERS at one-quarter to one-half off the regular prices.

WALL PICTURES in beautiful oak frames, glazed; size 21x26 inch, Worth \$2.00, for .. \$1.00

Tapestry Art Squares

2 1/4 yards by 3 yards, regular \$7.50, for .. \$5.75
3x3 yards, regular \$9.50, for .. \$7.75
3x3 1/2 yards, regular \$11.00, for .. \$8.75
3x4 yards, regular \$12.50, for .. \$9.75
3x4 1/2 yards, regular \$15.00, for .. \$11.75

Smyrna Rugs

Size 30x50 inch, regular \$2.50, for .. \$1.75
Size 36x72 inch, regular \$3.50, for .. \$2.95
Size 27x54 inch, regular \$3.00, for .. \$2.15
Size 36x72 inch, regular \$4.00, for .. \$2.95

Axminster Rugs

Size 27x54 inch, regular \$3.00, for .. \$2.15
Size 36x72 inch, regular \$4.00, for .. \$2.95



Go-Carts and Baby Carriages

Our \$2.75 Folding Carts for .. \$1.95
Our \$6.50 Folding Carts for .. \$4.75
Our \$13.50 Folding Carts, with Hoods, for .. \$9.25
Our \$18.00 Carriages for .. \$13.50
Our \$21.00 Cabs for .. \$14.75
Our \$30.00 Cabs for .. \$22.50

Scotch Linoleum

Our 45c Linoleum for .. 35c
Our 55c Linoleum for .. 45c
In two and four yards wide.
Oilcloth in 1, 1 1/4, 1 1/2 and 2 yards wide, at 23c per square yard.

White Enameled and Brass Beds

Our \$2.75 Beds for .. \$2.25
Our \$3.50 Beds for .. \$2.75
Our \$5.00 Beds for .. \$3.50
Our \$7.50 Beds for .. \$5.50
Our \$10.00 Beds for .. \$7.50
Our \$12.00 Beds for .. \$9.00
Our \$15.00 Beds for .. \$11.00
Our \$20.00 Beds for .. \$14.00
Our \$30.00 Beds for .. \$23.00
Our \$40.00 Beds for .. \$29.00
Our \$50.00 Beds for .. \$35.00

STANDARD HOUSE FURNISHING COMPANY

656 DUNDAS ST. Complete House Furnishers. PHONE 1838

STRATHROY'S MINSTRELS

Closing Event of Their Successful Season—Timely Donation.

Strathroy, May 14.—The Knights of Pythias will run an excursion to Niagara Falls on Wednesday, June 16, and the low rate of \$2.00, will no doubt draw a large crowd.

The closing event of the Strathroy Amateur Minstrels was a very successful banquet held on Tuesday evening at Mr. James Woods' cafe parlors, accompanied by the orchestra, where a pleasant time was spent. After a tempting repast, Mr. D. C. Ross, M. P., honorary president of the company, introduced an enjoyable programme of songs, speeches, etc. Miss Woods, who acted as pianist, and assisted very materially, was presented with a generous sum of money, and E. E. Sexsmith, manager and musical director, was the recipient of a gold watch. F. L. E. Evans, who had charge of the drills, got a gold-headed cane, and H. E. Jay and C. E. Weekes each received a \$25.00 piece.

\$29 was forwarded to the Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto, being the portion set aside from the receipts at the last show. The company were all pleased at the happy termination, and the public enjoyed the performances this year better than ever before, as was evidenced by their very large attendance.

Mr. A. H. Kittredge, who has been ill in London for some time, returned home this week looking fairly well again.

The annual meeting of the local branch of the Lord Day Alliance was held in the basement of St. Andrew's Church on Thursday evening, with Mr. L. W. Cuddy in the chair. The officers for this year were all re-elected. Mr. Stirrett, of Petrolea, gave a very interesting talk on the work, and prospects of the alliance.

A public meeting to organize for carrying the funeral of the late Mr. L. W. Cuddy was held on Friday evening. Division court was held on Thursday morning. His Honor Judge Elliott presiding. The Imperial Life Insurance Company sued H. E. Hansford on a promissory note for \$27.80, being the last year's premium of \$27.80 for \$1,000. The defendant claimed that the agent advised him the profits were guaranteed in addition to the reserve amount. This was denied by the agent. Judgment was given for the plaintiff. Several petty cases were settled out of court, while in a horse case judgment was reserved.

Mr. Geo. A. Stewart has decided to remain in the west, and his family expect to join him in the near future.

BIGGER SHOPS.

Chicago, May 14.—Richmond Dean, general manager of the Pullman Company, announced here today that \$3,000,000 would be spent in the improvement of the car shops at Pullman. This means the employment of 12,000 men. The capacity of the plant is to be largely increased, the increase being almost entirely in the line of steel car construction.

One of the first orders which will be turned out of the new shops, according to the announcement, will be 300 all-steel passenger cars for the Pennsylvania road.

BOAT PARTY DROWNED.

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NO HOUSES FOR THOSE WHO WOULD BE WED

So Proposed Tax on Bachelors Is Likely to Lose Out in Ireland.

Dublin, May 14.—A number of the Irish local governing bodies have been discussing in a semi-humorous vein recently a proposal to put a tax on bachelors on the ground that they do not now contribute their fair share to the public income, but a really serious state of affairs has been discovered at an inquiry held at the Loughlinstown workhouse in connection with a proposal for the compulsory acquisition of land for laborers' cottages.

It was stated that in the Greystones, Enniskerry and Delany districts there are not enough houses for the population and that there are fully a dozen young couples who were anxious to get married, but could not because there are no houses for them to live in. Another result of the scarcity of houses was that rents had gone up so that a man who earns only \$3.50 a week has to pay \$1.50 a week for the rent of a two-roomed cottage.

A number of the existing cottages have been condemned by the medical officers as unfit for habitation, and the people have been allowed to continue to live in them simply because there was nowhere for them to go if the houses are pulled down.

A CHANGE IN NAME

Rossin House, Toronto, Will Hereafter Be Known as Prince George.

Toronto, May 15.—After lunch has been served at noon today the Rossin House will be closed to the public, and practically speaking the regime of the Nelsons, Adam and Abner, in the historic hotel, which housed the present King when as a boy he visited Canada in the sixties, will be at an end.

Mr. S. H. Thomson, who is to assume control, will at once change the name of the hostelry to the Prince George. He plans a complete remodeling of the place, and has already let the contracts for the furnishings and for the various improvements, and expects to spend between one and two hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Thomson hopes to be in charge, and have at least two floors of the hotel in readiness to look after some of the race week crowds.

TILLSONBURG.

Tillsonburg, May 14.—Mr. A. M. Hargy left today on a business trip to Montreal.

Miss Ethel Rice visited friends at Curries this week.

Mrs. W. C. Brown was the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grant, in London, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Langley, of London, were the guests of friends here on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Hogarth left today to spend a week at their cottage, Port Kewarby, Muskoka.

Mr. Rene Weston left on Monday for Toronto where he will write on the Ontario medical council examination.

Mrs. Joseph Aubin, of Detroit, is the guest of her parents here.

Miss Carrie Fields is spending a two months' vacation in Detroit.

Mrs. L. Lindsay is visiting her daughters at Toronto, and will return to Tillsonburg on Monday to spend the summer vacation.

Ross Workman, of Toronto, is the guest of his parents here.

Mrs. A. M. Hare is spending a few days with friends in St. Thomas.

The many friends of J. J. Bradburn are glad to know he is now able to be

SIX GIFTS

That Are New and Beautiful Enough to Attract the Attention of Those About to Purchase Wedding Gifts

\$5.00

Oval Fern Dish, silver-plated frame decorated with the latest perforated pattern. This design will please the most exacting taste.

\$7.50

Entree Dish. Fine Sheffield silver plate on hard metal, bead edge, removable handle, allowing use of cover as second dish.

\$11.00

Set of six Ramequin Dishes, silver-plated mountings, perforated designs on the handles. Brown china, with white lining. All in satin-lined case.

\$15.00

Gold Necklet and Pendant Set, with fine amethysts and pearls, very dainty, up-to-date pattern, in velvet case.

\$20.00

Solid 14k Gold Watch, engraved or plain polished for monogram. Our special nickel lever works. Excellent timekeeper.

\$30.00

Diamond Brooch, rosette pattern, set with pearls and good-sized diamond in the centre. Exceptionally good value.

WEDDING RINGS

Bearing our stamp [J. S. B. 18k] are perfect in

FORM, COLOR AND QUALITY

John S. Barnard

170 DUNDAS STREET. LONDON, CANADA.

out after his recent illness at the hospital here.

BELMONT.