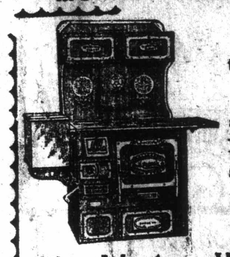
MONARCH MALLEABLE RANGES



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The World's News

As contained in Special Telegraphic Despatches to THE LEADER

SASKATCHEWAN

YORKTON, Sask., Jan. 16—The Yorkton Gas company's mains exploded Monday, wrecking the sidewalk for a block on Main street and Levi Beck's general store. The main had been cracked by the frost, causing a leak. B. W. Lewis, the company's manager, located the leak and tested it with a flame and the explosion promptly followed.

The pipe all along the edge of the sidewalk was torn out and while Beck's establishment was not connected with it the force of the explosion was sufficient to smash three large plate glass windows on the lower story and two of the front windows above. The plaster on the walls and partitions of the building were badly cracked. There was no damage by fire and no person was injured.

This is Yorkton's second acetylene explosion.

ESTERHAZY, Sask., Jan. 16.—In a shack on a homestead several miles from the village of Dubuc the dead body of an old man named Harris was found on Sunday morning. The deceased was 70 years of age, and, though survived by a widow, two daughters and a son, he lived alone.

When found the body was frozen, but an inquest has not been considered necessary. The deceased, though worth some $30,000, could be seen almost daily drawing a load of wood with his team of oxen up to within a week of his end.

QU'APPELLE, Jan. 18.—A fast and exceedingly interesting game of hockey was played here last night between two of the best teams in the Eastern district of the Saskatchewan League—Wolseley and Qu'Appelle. The match resulted in a victory for the home team, the score being 4 to 3 in their favor. At half time the score was 1 all.

A large crowd saw the match, and the most intense enthusiasm was manifested.

The referee was W .M. Van Valkenburg, and judge of play, R. W. Van Valkenburg, both of Regina. The athletic brothers discharged their duties most capably.

ALBERTA

EDMONTON, Jan. 16.—A sad case, indicative of the settlers hardship during this unusually cold winter, was received at the Misericordia Hospital.

A farmer named Oplaf from the Vermillion district, was brought in by the C.N.R., and on arrival at the hospital it was found that the poor fellow's hands and feet were both badly frozen. His anxious care for his horses during the cold weather may cost him his hands and feet.

Oplaf went out on Thursday night to take in his horses, and having difficulty in finding them, stayed too long looking for them. He was brought up from the C.N.R. depot by ambulance to the Misercordia. His case is very serious, but it is not known yet whether or not his hands and feet can be saved. Dr. Harry Smith is in attendance.

MACLEOD, Jan. 17.—Thomas Stockton, a rancher, living a few miles from town, started home late last night, but got separated from his team and wandered about all night. This morning at daylight he managed to crawl to the home of a settler, where it was found that Stockton's feet and legs were frozen, also a hand. When the hand was thawed out it was found that it would be necessary to amputate the member.

LETHBRIDGE, Alta., Jan. 15—The Order of Elks are noted the world over for the grandeur of all their social functions, their motto the biggest and best will be much in evidence in the 1,000 guest Grand Masquerade ball and banquet to be held in this city by the local lodge No. 35. From the money to be spent on banquet, decorations and music it is certain to be perhaps the most gorgeous event ever held in Western Canada and indeed will do honor to this city which is rapidly becoming known as the centre of Sunny Southern Alberta.

EDMONTON, Jan. 18.—Frozen and lying in a pool of his life blood, the body of George A. Robertson, a blacksmith, was found in a feed barn in the rear of Jackson's smithy on Fraser avenue. The open jack-knife, clenched in the icy hand, the two deep gashes in the dead man's throat, told th estory; it was clearly a case of suicide.

No reason for the desperate act

CALGARY, Jan. 18.—At the meet- of the Calgary Citizens' band negotiations were practically closed whereby the band will leave on a three months' trip in May to Ireland to attend the fair which is being held in Dublin this year. Although the officers of the band have not solicited in any way to defray the necessary expenses incurred, they have already been voluntarily offered almost sufficient amount to make the matter of going a certainty. One party alone offered $1,000 and numerous others $100, $200 and so on.

Although very little has been said of the proposed trip, the benefits derived from this mode of advertising are already very apparent. Conductor Bagley has already received many applications from musicians all over the States asking for admission to the organisation, and some offering liberal inducements in order to partake of the trip.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER, Jan. 18.—W. Zimmerman of Penticton, B. C., was found murdered in a back room of his store yesterday. He had been hit on the forehead with a hatchet. It was evident a robber had entered the store and killed the jeweller when the latter caught him red-handed. So far the police have not located the murderer.

VANCOUVER, Jan. 18.—A serious accident befell the Owl train from Vancouver at 2.25 o'clock this morning. Driving over a misplaced switch, the train plunged headlong into the Great Northern round house, killed a wiper, Frank Watts, working on an engine that stood in the way. In the smash Engineer Scott was so badly scalded and injured internally that he will probably die.

VANCOUVER, Jan. 10.—After an exciting encounter Jim Craig, the famous panther hunter, of Englishman's River, has just secured his sixtieth panther. The animal put up a desperate fight and proved about the most troublesome Craig has killed. One of his dogs went into a thicket after the panther and had its side ripped clean open, exposing its lungs. Craig placed the dog in a place of safety and then proceeded to encircle the panther. The latter, however, doubled in its tracks and went after the canine. Craig was just in time to prevent another encounter between the two animals. He carried the dog several yards away, and next succeeded in treeing the panther. Taking good aim, he shot it through the neck, and it came tumbling down. Thinking he had killed it, he carried the dog home and then went back to get the panther. It had disappeared. After a long chase he located it. The brute made a savage spring at the hunter but just missed.

The chase ended long after dark, when the panther crawled into thick brush. Craig followed, and guessing at the beast's location, fired twice. Crawling on his stomach through the underbrush and reaching out a hand, Craig touched the panther's tail. For a moment he did not know whether to fire or not, but as no movement resulted from the touch he hauled the panther out, to find that both shots had taken effect and the animal was stone dead.

MANITOBA

WINNIPEG, Jan. 16—A. Fleming, a resident at the corner of Pine and Wellington, out near the city limits, has asked the police department for their aid in finding Thomas Cooper, an aged man, who has lived in a shack on Fleming's property for nearly nine years, but who disappeared suddenly six weeks ago.

As the family were driving into the city about that date Cooper asked to be driven into the city, and was dropped at the corner of Colony street and Portage avenue. He hobbled away and the family drove on into the city. Since that time nothing has been seen of the old man, at the shack or in Winnipeg, although search in the likeliest places has been made by several members of the Fleming family.

The old man was 85 years of age and has been a resident of the city for over 25 years. He was about five feet in height, stooped, and had grey hair. When last seen he was wearing a cloth overcoat and a cloth cap. His effects are still in the shanty which he formerly occupied.

BRANDON, Man., Jan. 16—A serious accident happened here, caused by the explosion of a spirit lamp in the private apartments of Mrs. Jas. Smith, wife of the proprietor of the Empire hotel. Mrs. Smith had just applied the match to the lamp when it exploded throwing the methylated spirits over her clothes, which were quickly all ablaze. Mrs. Wilson, who was in the room, had the presence of mind to snatch the clothes from the bed and wrap them round Mrs. Smith, thereby extinguishing the fire. Mrs. Smith was badly burned about the face, arms and hands, and there is little doubt but what the accident would have been fatal but for the quick action of Mrs. Wilson.

A year and a half old child of Mrs. Smith's was also burned on the back of the head by the explosion. The waist and skirt worn by Mrs. Smith were burned so that it dropped off her in charred bits. Dr. Matheson was quickly called and relieved the sufferer as much as possible. Mrs. Smith is resting quietly.

BRANDON, Jan. 17—A sharp forger has victimized several local merchants. A number of checks, supposedly made out by McDougall and Ireland have been successfully passed. Amounts vary from $25 to $43.

WINNIPEG, Jan. 17.—The report of the Department of Justice of Manitoba issued shows that the total number of prisoners and insane persons received into the jails of the province during the year 1906 was 891, as compared with 753 during the year 1905. During 1906, 11,470 suits were filed in county courts and $190,754.26 was collected for suitors. The clerks' fees amounted to $15,985.64, bailiffs' fees to $22,276.84. During the year 1906, the total revenue for the law and county court fees was $51,687.65, compared with $30,850.30 received during the year 1905. The total revenues for the seven land titles offices during 1906 was $219,775.50, as compared with $180,890.87 during 1905.

BRANDON, Man., Jan. 17—A wood famine is raging here and the C.N.R. has again been found unable to deal with the situation. There is not a stick of wood to be procured in the city at present, and the coal supply is entirely inadequate. The C.N.R. Carberry line is blocked, and the railway officials have asked the city council to supply a gang of men to shovel the line out, so that the company can bring a supply of wood from outside points. The city has asked for a reduction in the freight rates is they furnish the men.

WINNIPEG, Jan. 18.—James Ryan of the firm of Ryan & Fares has returned from a trip to his cattle and horse ranch in Red Deer county, and his account of weather conditions is especially interesting at this time, in view of the fact that so many disturbing stories have been handed out of late regarding the damage done to cattle by the severe winter weather and snow.

Mr. Ryan says: "The weather has been very bad, beyond a doubt, but the condition of the cattle on the ranges is not as bad as has been stated. We have about 4,000 head of cattle of all ages, and some 2,000 head of horses on our ranch in the Red Deer country, about 60 miles east and 40 miles north of Calgary.

"I travelled along the line where it was reported that 1,000 dead cattle were to be found along the railroad, and I saw just seven, of which four were calves. Except some weak cattle and calves, I did not see anything to alarm me on our range or wherever I traveled about among the cattle. We are feeding about 1,000 calves now, but we have plenty of hay for that. We had about 2,000 tons when we started to feed, and that will last a good while for winter feed.

(Special Despatch to The Leader)

WINNIPEG, Jan. 18.—Ald. Pulford will ask the City Council to consider the advisability of purchasing Elm Park, and the matter will be discussed by the council in the near future.

Ald. Pulford said: "I would like to see the city secure Elm Park. It is a question, though, how much support a proposition of this kind would receive from the members of the council at the present time, when large expenditures are before the council.

"I understand that plans are now being made to have the property subdivided, and I shall make it my business to see that the proposal to buy the park is fully discussed before the present owners place the lots on the market for sale. I have heard that the park could be secured for about $175,000.

ONTARIO

CHAPLEAU, Ont., Jan. 16.—A sensational affair occurred on C. P. R. No. 96, which passed through here today. Among a party of foreigners who occupied a first-class coach was a Russian, who seemed to be acting queer. At midnight he was praying in a loud voice, so that other passengers could not sleep. Refusing to desist, he was carried into a colonist car by the train crew and there continued his devotions.

Shortly after, he ran to the door of of the car and jumped from the moving train into the snow. The train was at once stopped and a search made for him. One of the brakemen tried to capture the man, who struck him and made his escape into the woods. The snow is deep and with a temperature of 40 below, it is believed that the unfortunate has perished. From his baggage, it is learned that the man's name is Irvan Sermew, and that he came from Edmonton.

OTTAWA, Jan. 16.—The Senate met this morning. Two new Senators took their seats. They were Hon. John Costigan, who was introduced by Secretary of State Scott, and Senator Coffey, and Hon. G. W. Ross, who was introduced by Secretary of State Scott and Senator Jaffery.

TORONTO, Jan. 17.—Five cases of smallpox were taken to the Swiss Cottage Hospital today and it is expected that several sore will develop. The outbreak has been traced to a visitor from the West who spent New Years with the afflicted family.

TORONTO, Jan. 17—The snow and frost throughout the Province have made the running of trains very difficult, and word has been received at nearly every point telling of delays in the handling of trains. At Port Credit the wind blew a loaded freight truck onto the track just as a passenger train was passing through, with the result that the truck was completely demolished. Splinters were thrown in every direction but luckily nobody was hurt.

"There is more smallpox in the Province at the present time than for years," said Dr. Hodgett of the Provincial Health Department. Three more cases were reported this morning.

TORONTO, Jan. 17.—The Canadian Northern Railroad has just placed an order with the Canadian Foundry Company for forty new engines to cost $400,000.

OTTAWA, Jan. 17.—In answer to Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Templeman said that the Geological Survey had made certain surveys along the boundary between Canada and the United States.

Replying to Dr. Roche, Mr Emmerson said that the Government never understood that the property of the G. T. P. was exempt from taxtation in any of the provinces, and the Government had no information in regard to any claim for exemption.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier referred to the bill regarding increased representation in the House of Commons for Saskatchewan and Alberta to the following special committee: Turriff, McCraney, McIntyre (Strathcona), Lake and McCarthy (Calgary):

The House went into committee on the bill for the inspection of meats and canned goods. The bill was discussed at length and advanced a stage.

TORONTO, Jan. 17—J. J. O'Donoghue, Dominion fair wage officer, died at his home yesterday morning as a result of illness contracted at Fernie, B. C., while there in connection with the strike.

KENORA, Ont., Jan. 18.—Word has just reached town of a triple fatal dynamite accident at Dutton & McArthur's camp, about 20 miles down the Winnipeg River on the construction work of the Grand Trunk Pacific. The names of the victims cannot be ascertained at present. Three others are seriously injured. Coroner Chapman has gone to the scene of the accident.

PENETANGUISHENE, Jan. 16.—There is little doubt that L. Cook, of Tiny Township, and his two sons, Charles and William, have perished in Georgian Bay. They left Penetanguishene in a sailboat on November 27, and no word has been since heard of them. Yesterday a message was received from the younger son, David, who started out a few days ago to look for them, to the effect that they never reached their destination.

QUEBEC

MONTREAL, Jan. 17—Mrs. Carmichael, wife of Bishop Carmichael, died in Montreal this morning.

MONTREAL, Jan. 17.—Intense cold is reported from many points in the Province of Quebec and Eastern Ontario, the temperature ranging from 33 to 45 below zero.

MONTREAL, Jan. 17—William J. McGee, secretary of the People's Mutual Building Society, is a self-confessed forger and embezzler. Exact figures are not yet available, but it is feared that the shortage will run into many thousands of dollars. It appears that the amount of money went into stock gambling, which McGee has been carrying on for some time with the utmost secrecy. There is a possibility that the society can not recover, as the losses are so heavy. When placed under arrest McGee made a full confession.

MONTREAL, Jan. 18.—At a meeting of the directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway, Second Vice President Whyte submitted his estimate for the extensions to be built in Western Canada during the year 1907.

The situation of the branch lines indicates that the C.P.R. is rushing work into any district that might be tapped by the Grand Trunk Pacific.

It is understood that the question of a further issue of C.P.R. stock later in the year was informally discussed. The time of the issue will depend very largely on the condition of the money market in London.

The building of a line up to Cobalt was also considered.

BRITISH

LONDON, Jan. 15.—The Review of Reviews prints a striking article by Andrew Carnegie, entitled, "My Partners, the People." It expresses the belief that a millionaire ought to share his millions with the poor, but with the limitation that his fortune should not be divided before the millionaire's death. Then the community should exact a large share, graduated in increasing proportion to the extent of the deceased's wealth. After advocating the British graduated death duties as a basis for distribution, Mr. Carnegie says:

"Such contributions from the owners of enormous fortunes at their death would do much to reconcile dissatisfied, but fair-minded, people to the alarmingly unequal distribution of wealth arising from the new industrial conditions of our day. We shall ultimately have to consider the adoption of some such scheme as a progressive tax on all fortunes beyond a certain amount, either given in life or bequeathed at death, so that it will be impossible for the owners of enormous fortunes to hand on more than a certain amount to any individual."

Mr. Carnegie humbly deprecates the claim of the merely wealthy to fame. They have no place with educated men, and they occupy a lower place intellectually. In the coming day brain will stand above dollars, and conduct above both. The making of money as an aim will then be rated as an ignoble ambition.

UNITED STATES

CHARLESTON, Va., Jan. 16.—A landslide along the Elk River has destroyed the natural gas mines, and every industry is paralysed. Street cars and newspapers have suspended and thousands of people are hungry and cold.

FARGO, N. D., Jan. 16.—Damage to the extent of $150,000 was done this morning to the wholesale harness house of Bristol & Sweet. The block, which is one of the most prominent along Broadway, caught fire from the furnace. There was $20,000 worth of goods ready for shipment, but orders had been delayed by blocked roads. A $7,000 order of leather had just been gotten into the warerooms last night. The loss is fairly well covered by insurance.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 16.—Miss Mattie Cotter, not yet out of her teens, ran away from her father's home, near Sheridan, Mont. It has come to light that she eloped to Butte with Abraham Seeley, more than 80 years of age, who had already three wives. Before she promised at the altar to love and obey her aged lover, Miss Cotter required him to sign an agreement that if she should die before he does, he will not marry again. Seeley objected strenuously, but she insisted that if he did not sign she would not marry him and finally he attached his signature to the document. Miss Cotter is well educated and popular. She has many youthful suitors but did not choose to marry any of them.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Upon receiving the report of its special committee on the effect of embalming fluid upon the lungs, sustaining the contention that Lawyer Albert T. Patrick did not cause the death of Millionaire William M. Rice, the Medico-Legal Society last night voted to memorialise Governor Hughes to pardon Patrick.

TANGIER, Jan. 17.—Reports indicate that the Moroccan pretender's followers are becoming lukewarm in their adherence and that he has abandoned his military and religious role. Many tales of his cruelty are told. Those suspeceted of disroyality have been dragged to Zelwan in chains and tortured. A recent suspect was blown to pieces from the canon's mouth.

DULUTH, Minn., Jan. 18.—Chicago and Duluth lumbermen have just closed a deal whereby they acquire from the Rat Portage Lumber Co. a great tract of timber in Canada. Details of the deal have not been obtainable as yet. The consideration and the amount of timber are not yet known, but it is learned that the tract is about 70 square miles. It is situated near the line of the Canadian Northern road, about sixty miles east of International Falls. The timber consists of white and Norway pine, and is said to be one of the most desirable tracts in that part of Canada.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—Prof. Herschel Clifford Parker and Walter G. Clark explained in their Columbia University Laboratory the workings of the incandescent lamp which they have invented. With their helion filament they expect to shave electric lighting down to on-third its present cost.

Prof. Parker, who is professor of physics at Columbia, and Mr. Clark, who is an electrical engineer, have collaborated for several years in an effort to find a better medium than carbon. The substance which they have named helion is the result. The helion filament is composed largly of solieon. The other elements largely deposited from gas on a thread of carbon. If immediate manufacture were attempted the helion lamp would cost ten cents more than the other, but it is hoped to reduce the cost, and meanwhile the lamp is expected to last twice as long as the other, besides operating with so much less current.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—A two-and-one-half-inch nail, which had been concealed for nine months in the bronchial tube of a two-year-old boy, has been discovered by means of X-rays at Beth Israel Hospital, and has been successfully removed. The child, Isidor Berkowitz, was seized with a choking fit nine months ago. Doctors found the throat clear and specialists to whom the child was taken could discover nothing to account for the convulsive choking sensation from which he continually suffered.

The child was almost worn to a shadow, was given up as lost, until, at Beth Israel Hospital, an X-ray picture disclosed the nail in the right bronchial tube. Since the removal of the nail the child's recovery is assured.

W. Mattern has received through the mail a threatening letter, unsigned, but bearing an Oskaloosa postmark, in which he is commanded to write the famous prayer which is alleged to have been formulated by Bishop Williamson of Massachusetts, under penalty of dire disaster should he fail to comply with the command.

The letter, which is almost illegible, contains the famous prayer which is known as the "chain-letter prayer," and following is the threat that unless his honor writes this prayer and sends every member of the city council a copy of it with instructions to them to keep the chain going, he will be the victim of a horrible calamity.

"Heed thou this," the letter reads, "uless you write this prayer and send nine copies out to your city government, you will be despised by men and God and the love of him will forsake you in your dire need. If you do, success and happiness will follow you throughout life."

The Mayor believes the letter is the work of a fanatic and will pay no attention to it, although he hints that perhaps the prayer would do the city fathers good.

BOVEY, Minn., Jan. 18—George Hampden had a thrilling adventure with a band of hungry wolves early Sunday morning and barely escaped with his life. He was walking along a branch road running through the woods when he heard the howls of wolves, though they appeared to be too far away to be troublesome. He proceeded on his way for about a quarter of a mile when he stopped by a tree stump to repair a broken shoelace.

"I was bending over tying the string," said Hampden, "when the first brute jumped out of the brush directly in front of me, and snapping and snarling, came directly towards me. I seized a club and bluffed him off for a few minutes, and I drew back to a point where I could reach the lower branches of a tree.

"Once there I grasped a strong limb and quickly pulled myself up, but not a moment too soon. The wolf, leaping up, succeeded in getting a part of my coat. I had no sooner gotten into the tree than six other big wolves came up. I suppose I would have been up that tree yet had not a party of woodsmen happened along and scared the animals away."

The deep snow and intensely cold weather have made the wolves exceedingly bold. It is not often they will attack a man in broad daylight, as was the case with Hampden.

FOREIGN

PARIS, Jan. 15.—A special dispatch received here from Teheran says that Malik Mansour Mirza, the second son of the late Shah, made an unsuccessful attempt to commit suicide by taking opium. Malik Mansour Mirza, according to recent advices from Teheran created a scene in the death chamber of his father, and was ordered out of the room by his brother, the present Shah. There has been considerable speculation concerning the ultimate fate of Melik. Two other brothers have not been on good terms for a long time past.

ROME, Jan. 16.—Dr. Kinney Melbourne, a papal chamberlain of the highest rank, has returned to Rome, after extensive travels in Russia, India and the Orient, where he studied the non-Catholic religions. Recently he has been frequently received in audience by the Pope, to whom he has reported the results of his studies.

Dr. Melbourne affirms that Mohammedanism is rapidly extending, contrary to the general belief. Its adherents now in fact exceed the number of Catholics. The Pope was deeply impressed by his statements and admitted the only remedy for the conditions set forth was the re-organization of the missionary system throughout Asia.

Such re-organization would imply, incidentally, the solution of the French protectorate over the Catholic missionaries in the Orient, which is likely to be divided in future among the powers of the world including Italy.

SHANGHAI, Jan. 17.—To the horrors of the famine have been added an outbreak of smallpox among the refugee camps. Captain Kirton is investigating the report and states that nearly half a million people are likely to succumb to the double attack.

PARIS, Jan. 17.—Mme. de Thebes, of soothsaying fame, has issued her predictions for the next year. At the end of every twelve months, from the first to the fifteenth of January, the Parisians are looking out for the prophesies of Mme. de Thebes. They are an essential factor in the humor of the season. Her predictions for 1907 are not particularly gruesome. The woes of England will be reduced to a quarrel between the House of Lords and the House of Commons. In France, however, there will be a succession of political changes, plots and counter plots and all the other pyrotechnics of fate to divert people's attention without entirely absorbing it.

Whilst the eye of her fancy was rolling towards Austria, Mme. Thebes saw troubles brewing. Quite naturally, so cynics declare, for the reason that troubles have been brewing there from time immemorial. Germany, she thinks, is on the decline, which is no compliment to that enterprising nation. The United States will be ravaged by fire, she declares. Spain will be bothered by Anarchists, and Italy will bud with a new renaissance. As regards Russia, her future is hidden in an impenetrable fog, and Mme de Thebes could see nothing clear. She is not the only one, unhappily. Belgium approaches an era of social transformation and the Latin nations, it is declared, will lead the world.

DEBAUCH PEOPLE WITH ALCOHOL

Russian Papers' Caustic Comment on the Budget Just Brought Down.

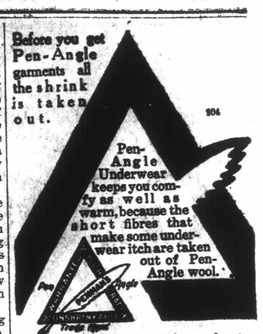
ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 18—The provisional budget for 1907, showing that it will again be necessary to resort to credit operations to balance the deficit of $120,100,000 between the estimated receipts and expenditures, is attacked by the Russian press on all sides. Only the Novoe Vremya is silent. Radical papers devote their attention to the political features. The Bourse Gazette strongly criticizes the budget's figures, declaring that the deficit is almost $250,000,000, adding that reliance on the old system of "debauching the people with alcohol instead of developing the economic resources of the country" is the chief characteristic of the new budget. Continuing, the newspaper points out that the only good showing made is in the increase of the revenue from the vodka monopoly, from which $52,000,000 more than in 1906 is expected, and contrasts this sum with the $2,750,000 appropriated for the institution of universal education, appearing for the first time in a Russian budget. The slight excess of the ordinary income over the expenditure is unsatisfactory because of the always expectable unforeseen expenses.

"Provisions for the payment of the war expenses and famine relief," the newspaper adds, "cannot be avoided, but Parliament must use the pruning shears remorselessly on other items, and cut every possible copeck, in order to reduce the loan.

"The published statements include two disinct sets of figures: First, the yearly calculation of expenditures, based on the preceding budget, in addition to the unavoidable new expenditures, for which temporary monthly credits are assigned, until the convocation of Parliament; second, the preliminary estimates to regulate the budget of 1907, which will be effective after the approval of Parliament, with retroactive effect for the elapsed months. Parliament has the power to modify the various items. The Liberals certainly will attempt to cut the increased sums assigned for the maintenance of the police and other instruments of repression.

The statement regarding the necessity for a new loan caused surprise, on account of the repeated semi-official declarations that a deficit was not contemplated in the new budget, but it is now explained that this referred to the regular, and not to the extraordinary receipts and expenditures. The deficit is almost exactly half that foreseen in 1906, amounting to $240,500,000.

The full estimates of the regular budget are not published, but among credits is $1,500,000 for the construction of the first section of the Amur railroad, from Stretinsk to Pokrovsk, which is considered to be an immediate strategic necessity, in view of the situation in the Far East.



In a variety of fabrics, styles and prices, in all sizes for women, men and children, and guaranteed by your own dealer.

ASTOR TO MARRY BRITISH COUNTESS

Reports Say Wedding Will Take Place When Countess Gets Divorce.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—Circumstantial reports from London announce that William Waldorf Astor, the expatriated New York Croesus, will marry the Countess of Westmoreland as soon as that beautiful aristocrat has severed the marriage ties which bind her to Lord Westmoreland. Details of the separation, it is said, have already been arranged, and the boundless wealth of William Waldorf Astor is depended upon to smooth away any obstacle that may arise. It is understood that the Earl of Westomoreland will consent to allow his wife to divorce him.

There is no hint of scandal. Lord Westmoreland and his wife have been estranged for some time. Several years ago he published an advertisement in the London newspapers that he would not be responsible for her debts. As a matter of fact, it is stated she was a wife in name only when Mr. Astor first met her and succumbed to her charms.

The Countess of Westomreland is 35 years old and has two children. Mr. Astor is close to 60. His two children recently married against his wishes. While the Earl and Countess have been living apart for a long time, they kept up an appearance of friendliness for the sake of their children until last summer. The Countess appeared at a fashionable social function in London wearing diamonds and other jewels worth, at the lowest estimate, $1,250,000. The Earl was furious.

Everybody in society knew he could not afford to buy his wife such ornaments. This occurrence spread what had previously been whispered—that William Waldorf Astor was in love with the Countess and was lavishing gifts upon her.

She makes her calls today in a magnificent automobile, which was sent to her at Christmas time. Her furs are the envy of all the women in London. She appears to be supremely happy. Lord Westmoreland, who is about ten years older than his wife, is keeping in seclusion.

5 or 500 or 5,000,000

—they are all alike.

Each biscuit as light as if made by fairy hands.

Baked to a golden russet brown.

So fresh, and crisp, and tempting, that just opening the box is tessing the appetite.

And you find a new delight in every one you eat.

You get perfection when you get

Mooney's Perfection Cream Sodas