THE EDMONTON BULLETIN

(SEMI-WEEKLY.)

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DUNCAN MARSHALL,
Manager

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1908.

THE BETTERING OUTLOOK.

For the past eight months the Dominion revenue is 11 millions less than for the corresponding period last year. This represents a falling off of one-sixth, or of only 16 2-3 per cent, a decrease we fancy by no means greater than the merchant and the manufacturer have experienced in their respective lines of business. Considering the wide range of the depression and its consequences to the most advanced powers of the world, Canada has room for congratulation that the national exchequer came off so well.

Equally satisfactory is it to note that month by month the decrease is lessening, with every prospect of speedily disappearing and again giving away to growing receipts. Or, every hand conditions are admitted to have passed the crux and to be now tending steadily to a resumption of the normal.

In this is proof of the sound judgment of Canada's finance minister. While admitting the necessity of tempering enterprise with caution he declined to believe the adverse conditions more than a temporary setback, bound to pass quickly and leave the country with undiminished and unshaken credit. Instead of curtailing expenditure on national undertakings and thus increasing the army of the unemployed, he courageously faced Parliament with the largest estimates in our history and fought them through in the face of strenuous and persistent opposition, opposition made the more formidable that misgiving as to early betterment had found lodgment in the minds of many of our foremost business men. It was a time of testing both of Mr. Fielding's faith in Canada and of his judgment in financial matters. The largest estimates in our history settled the question of his faith; and the steadily bettering conditions bear witness to the correctness of his judgment.

In a time of stress, the attitude of the Government is a tremendous factor in reassuring or unsettling the country's confidence, and hence in determining whether the course is forward or backward. Had the minister of finance curtailed his estimates the country would have interpreted this as a sign that he saw little hope of an early dawn. Had he been over-cautious or timid in proposing and supporting them it would have been taken as evidence of serious doubt touching the future. Mr. Fielding, both increased the expenditure and justified the increase by unflinching declaration of its advisability. In doing so he did more than assure the industry of the country of the additional benefit. He threw the weight of his judgment and experience into the scale to convince the business men of Canada that the situation was only temporarily adverse; and stake his political life and his financial reputation on a practical effort to meet it with unshaking courage and confidence. To the influence of his example we owe more than can be computed, the fact that Canadians met the situation optimistically and made the best of it. Had the Government been panic-stricken or even timorous, their attitude must have communicated itself largely to the business interests of the country and instead of a temporary depression we should probably have had to face a financial panic, with its long-drawn consequences of small investment, lack of employment and general business stagnation.

THE MURRAIN.

Critics of the United States may find opportunity for uncomplimentary comparisons of the Republic to "the land of Pharoah" in the "very grievous murrain" which has fallen on the cattle of that country. Four States have been already quarantined and more may be shut off, though the agricultural department now seems to have the malady under control.

It is thirty-two years since the "hoof and mouth disease" came down upon the Canadian herds. Stringent measures were taken at that time to stamp it out and nothing like a general or serious outbreak has occurred since. Stock raisers across the line have not been so fortunate, however, and the Canadian growers no doubt owe their immunity largely to the strict regulations governing the importation of American cattle. In the present instance these measures afford assurance that the disease will not get across the boundary.

The malady is by no means confined to cattle. Horses, swine, sheep, dogs and even cats are liable, but cattle and swine are the most susceptible. The disease first manifests itself in a high temperature. Shortly vesicles form in the mouth, about the udder, and between the toes. These fill with a colorless liquid and when they burst the skin is left hanging. As the animals run themselves to relieve the pain these soon become raw. Sometimes large pieces of skin are shed, leaving wounds that will not heal and making it necessary to destroy the animal to end its sufferings.

Contrary to ordinary supposition the mortality from the disease is not on the whole, great, amounting to only from two to five per cent. It varies greatly, however, and while few deaths may result in one locality in another few victims survive.

The real damage is in the destruction of the health of a herd, and in the after effects the paralysis, lameness and running sores. The cattle fail rapidly and in a week a well-conditioned animal is reduced to a skeleton so low in vitality that destruction is often cheaper than to cure and feed up to marketable condition. Two weeks is about the average period of the disease to run after which convalescence may be looked for.

Fortunately the diary herd is decisively affected in an early stage of sickness. The cattle cease giving milk and do not begin again until recovery is complete. Were it otherwise unscrupulous dealers would doubtless be found willing to deliver the milk to customers.

The germs are very virulent and will live for months in stables where diseased cattle have been formerly kept, falling on the first animal that comes along with unabated vigor. Human beings, though not in great danger from them, may be the agents for communicating them to animals afterward handled.

Fatalities among human beings from the disease are very rare, and one runs little personal danger unless nursing a herd of affected animals. Cases of human beings contracting the disease by eating the flesh of a diseased animal are practically unknown.

ONE FOR MR. HAZEN.

For a man who was supposed to have "swept" New Brunswick last March Premier Hazen seems to be having a peculiarly unpleasant time of it. A fortnight ago two constituencies which went Conservative in March went the other way in by-elections. Stranger yet from the "party sweep" standpoint, John Morissey, commissioner of public works in Mr. Hazen's cabinet, campaigned for one of the winning candidates against a straight Hazen supporter. Now Mr. Morissey's paper, the North Shore Leader, pointedly reminds Mr. Hazen that the won power on coalition lines and promises, assures him that he can only hope to retain public confidence "so long as he adheres to the principles for which he was elected—coalition and honest government," and remarks suggestively that as yet there is only one Liberal in his government, Mr. Morossey. From this distance it looks as if Mr. Hazen held office by grace of his opponents and as though the opponents were getting weary of seeing him return evil for good.

CANDOR.

The shade of Washington must look to his laurels. Boston has produced a candid man. He is a manufacturer and bears the name of Charles Francis Adams. In common with other gentlemen "interested" he received a request recently to attend the tariff inquiry and present his views. This he declined to do, but intimated the drift of his ideas in a letter of reply. Of those pecuniarily interested in the tariff he says:—

"Speaking after the fashion of men, they are either thieves or hogs. I myself belong to the former class. I am a tariff thief, and I have a license to steal. It bears the broad seal of the United States and is what is known as the 'Dingley tariff.' I stole under it yesterday; I am stealing under it today; I propose to steal under it tomorrow. The government has forced me into this position, and I both do and shall take full advantage of it. I am therefore a tariff thief with a license to steal. And—what are you going to do about it? The other class come under the hog category; that is, they rush, squealing and struggling, to the great Washington protection trough, and with all four feet in it they proceed to gobble the swill."

Critics who have joked at the great Republic's boasting of the candor of its founder, are put out of court. George Washington is not the only honest man in American history. Charles Francis Adams shares the honor. He even goes the father of his country one better. Washington could not lie: Adams could, but he won't. Now for a Canadian Adams!

CURRENT COMMENT.

The Great Northern trio have held up another train. President Hill might as well put them on the directorate.

The people of the United States do business with a currency of $35.72 per head, to say nothing of the bogus cart wheels.

Canadian business failures in November numbered 127, sixteen per cent. fewer than last year, and with 02 per cent. smaller liabilities.

Taft has selected a professed Democrat and ex-Confederate soldier for Secretary of War. This looks like an unfair invasion of the "Solid South."

Recent events are said to have impelled the German authorities to request Yale to return a phonographic record which once interviewed the Kaiser.

John L. Sullivan is suing for a divorce. John was once a great fighter, but increasing age and consistent dissipation break down the best of them.

Personalities seem to be getting as unpopular as Mr. Rockefeller. Municipal candidates are mutually crediting the other fellow with their exclusive use and benefit.

Bryan is charged with killing more ducks than the law allows in one day. Which leads to the surmise that if he had campaigned with a shotgun he might have made a killing.

Taft and Cannon are reconciled. Now let the Montreal Gazette make friends with the Halifax platform and peace and plum pudding be the motto of the Christmas-tide.

Mr. Rochester says Canadians should perpetuate the Sabbath. To put it in another way, if Canadians respect the Sabbath as they ought to the weekly recuperation will perpetuate them.

A British official declares the idea of a widespread native uprising in India "is absurd." That is precisely what a few hundred officials said fifty years ago. A few months later their skulls were grinning from the walls of Delhi.

The Ontario Railway Commission has decided that the Toronto Street Railway company may lay tracks on whatever streets it pleases. Toronto has been called Hog-town, but the franchise given the Street Railway Co. does not seem to display the appropriate qualities.

The Moral and Social Reform Council class British Columbia, New Ontario and Nova Scotia with the Yukon as needing stricter enforcement of laws against immorality. The Council will now become the recipient of sweet-scented bouquets from such stalwart purists as the Toronto News and the Vancouver Province.

Britain, France, Russia and Italy are said to be exchanging notes about Austria's excessive armament, while Von Buelow has hinted that a conference is better than a conflict. Once again the war clouds seem likely to disperse after dropping nothing more damaging than a few buckets-ful of printer's ink.

UNANIMOUS.

Toronto Telegram—Conservative journals affirm that R. L. Borden as leader of the Opposition is the right man.

Liberal journals agree that R. L. Borden as leader of the Opposition is in the right place.

THE LESSON OF THE "GLOBE."

Regina Leader:—

The Fernie District Ledger says that "The Globe Fire Assurance Company seems to have born in insolvency and to have remained in that state."

In view of the deplorable state of affairs disclosed by the collapse of this counterfeit insurance company of Armstrong Dean, it may well be asked whether there are not possibly other companies patterned after the Globe which are at the present time entering into contracts and assuming liabilities which in the case of certain eventualities they could not possibly meet.

The Leader is creditably informed of one such doing business in Saskatchewan today, which on a paid-up cash capital of $3,000 has assumed liabilities of $3,000,000. It needs no great business acumen to figure out the position of a company so situated in the event of a large conflagration affecting property in which it was interested. With practically no reserve fund, with no deposit lodged with the government, the company would collapse just as the Globe has done.

To properly protect policy holders no company should be permitted to go into the insurance business that is not prepared to deposit a substantial sum with the government, which deposit might well be automatically increased as the liabilities assumed increase. Only by some such system of guarantee can mushroom companies of the Globe type be prevented by pursuing the confidence game which was characteristic of the operations of that ill-fated concern.

SOMETHING ROTTEN SOMEWHERE.

Regina Leader:—The collapse of the Globe Fire Assurance Company with liabilities of over $39,787.50 and assets less than $10,000, would seem to show the urgent necessity for the passing of some stringent insurance legislation in Saskatchewan.

The insolvent company, for the winding up of which an application is now before the Supreme Court, was incorporated under a provincial charter some two years ago. On the $19,500 of stock said to have been subscribed, some $3,000 has been paid up. To meet the losses incurred by the company in the Fernie fire, $39,787.50, there is no cash whatever, the total assets of the company apparently consisting of $7,500 re-insurance and the amount due from outstanding premiums and office furniture, probably between $300 and $500.

It should not be possible for such companies as the Globe to exist and tout for business, and the fact that it is possible for such a company as the Globe to go after business with the sanction of a charter granted by the Provincial Legislature shows very forcibly the need for radical legislation.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

I'll be home at Christmas, mother,
Quite a man you'll see;
To stand by you then, mother,
Through adversity.
I'll be home at Christmas, mother,
Home with lots of gold;
Then you'll have your Christmas, mother,
As it was of old.
It was not kind of me, mother,
Deserting you so long;
But I'll be home again, mother,
Looking well and strong.
When I come home again, mother,
You'll greet me with a cheer,
For I've seen none like you, mother,
Throughout the waning year.

24 YEARS AGO TODAY

Taken From the Files of the Edmonton Bulletin, Saturday, December 13, 1884.

White fish eight cents a piece in town.

Threshing is not finished yet.

Red Deer and Bow River still open.

Prairie fires running between here and Bow River.

Voting on the Edmonton school district on Saturday next.

Steps are being taken to have a school district erected at Fort Saskatchewan.

No logs will be taken out this year for either of the Edmonton saw mills.

A second skating rink is to be cleared on the river near the lower mill.

An assistant agent for the land office here is expected by next mail.

School, which has been closed for the past two weeks, will re-open on Monday.

Timber is on the ground for a new bridge across the Sturgeon at Kelly Brothers' farm.

It is said there are eighty timber limits taken in the Saskatchewan and above Edmonton.

J. A. McDougall & Co. have purchased 400 sacks of native flour from the St. Albert Mission authorities, ground in the Sturgeon River mill.

Stewart & Bannerman, this week sold a lot on Fraser avenue, Pritchard estate, to Thomas Stewart for $100.

W. Wilson, dental surgeon, who arrived on Monday last with D. MacLeod, will practise during the ensuing month in Dr. Munro's residence.

The average cost of the oxen purchased for the I.D. in this settlement was $190 a yoke. Two hundred dollars a yoke was the highest price paid.

Reported that two school districts are to be erected on the St. Albert settlement and one on the St. Albert road, where there is a school already established.

Telegraph line went down on Thursday about thirty miles this side of Battleford and work began again on Friday afternoon. It was cut by Indians.

W. Latimer and K. Powell have taken the contract to bring in the boiler for the gold mining company as soon as sufficient snow comes for sleighing.

Two four-horse and two six-horse teams belonging to Ad. Macpherson are expected to arrive shortly with loads of green apples, fresh oysters, whisky and other Christmas groceries.

Owing to the slippery condition of the hills on each side of the river, the freight arriving by Macpherson's carts had to be brought across in bob sleighs, as the cattle were unable to ascend the hill on the south side with the carts safely. The freight was chiefly for Brown and Curry, Ross Brothers and the St. Albert telephone line.

The town is now fully supplied with a winter stock of goods of all kinds. Although our population has increased, it does not take so much to stock the place as when money was more plentiful.

Only one train a week each way between Winnipeg and Calgary this winter and two between Winnipeg and Moose Jaw. The Calgary trains arrives from the east on Thursday evening and leaves on Saturday afternoon.

While going to skate on Thursday night, James Ross, of Ross Brothers, lost his pocket book containing several hundred dollars in cash and cheques. He missed it shortly after reaching the ice and immediately began a search. Luckily he recovered it.

Just at present an oatmeal mill would be a great benefit to this district. The crop of oats is excellent, while that of wheat and barley is below the average. As no horse work of any kind is going on and money is scarce, probably the amount fed to horses will not be large and the price consequently will be low. If there was an oatmeal mill, the oats, not only horse food, could be converted into human food and made to replace to a great extent the shortage of the wheat crop.

Canal From Lakes to Gulf.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Gov. Johnson of Minnesota, in an address here today said: "I believe the greatest investment this nation can make today is to construct a canal from Lake Superior to the Gulf of Mexico. It will solve the problem of rate regulation in the interior, and will make unnecessary further discussion between sections or political parties as to whether federal control, absolutely, or state control be best, because competition itself would solve the problem."

Dr. Workman's Appeal Dismissed.

Toronto, Dec. 10.—Rev. Dr. Workman's appeal against his dismissal from Wesleyan College, Montreal, on the ground of heretical teaching was dismissed by the Methodist Court of Appeals late tonight. Dr. Workman says he is the victim of a great injustice.

CHICAGO REFORMERS RESORT TO BOMBS

Attempt Made To Blow Up Coliseum Building in Which Demi-Monde Orgie is Held—Two Men in Adjoining Junk Store May Have Been Killed.

Chicago, Dec. 13.—Two lives are thought to have been lost at the Coliseum, and the building in which the first ward ball, the annual orgie of the demi-monde, is to take place, was partly wrecked tonight by a terrific bomb explosion which shocked the neighborhood of Sixteenth street and Wabash avenue for blocks.

A bomb thought to have been loaded with nitro-glycerine was set off at the southeast corner of the Coliseum. The powerful bomb was placed under the "Property" store room of the Coliseum company, and it tore out the entire south wall of the building and destroyed that end of the roof. Leaning almost up against the destroyed building was a little two-story frame shack in which two junk men resided. One side of the shack was driven inward and the entire hovel was filled with debris and junk. It is thought that the junk men were inside their hovel when the explosion occurred. If they were they could not have escaped. One of the junk men is said to have been a Swede named Ira Petrasky. The name of the other is unknown.

Work of Reform League.

Inspector John J. Wheeler tonight directly charged the Chicago Law and Order League with causing the explosion after he had looked over the scene and received the reports from the score of detectives he had working on the case. He declared that there was no doubt in his mind that the Law and Order League had dynamited the Coliseum, and that he had circumstantial evidence which pointed directly to agents of the reform organization. Furthermore, the police chief says that he was convinced that the Chicago Law and Order League had been a wolf in sheep's clothing for months past, and that a band of dynamiters in the pay of certain reformers had been dynamiting gambling houses in Chicago for months past.

Tonight's bomb was No. 27 in the series of bomb explosions which have taken place in Chicago, although this bomb was not directed towards a gambling house, as the previous 26 were.

Building Withstood Explosion.

If the two men were killed, they are the first fatalities in the series, and this was the most powerful of the many bombs which have preceded it. While the property room, which is a two-story frame building nestling close to the Coliseum annex and running from Wabash avenue back to the alley, was wrecked beyond repair, the Coliseum proper was uninjured. A few windows were broken in the Coliseum and the big building shook until the steel girders vibrated for several minutes, but the building proved strong enough to withstand the strain.

GOOD PROGRESS MADE.

In National Transcontinental Railway Construction.

Ottawa, Dec. 9.—The National Transcontinental Railway Commission reports that excellent progress is being made with the construction of the new National Railway between Moncton and Winnipeg. The whole of the line is under contract, and on the eastern and western ends, where the contractors were able to reach the scene of operations with their men and supplies without great difficulty, work is well advanced. Considerably over 150 miles of steel has been laid, and there is a great deal more of the grading completed, while much progress has been made in grading, rock cutting and bridging other portions of the line. Most of the actual work done has been from Moncton to the St. Lawrence and from the St. Lawrence to Weymontachene, two hundred miles west, so far as the eastern end is concerned, and from Winnipeg to Superior Junction, so far as the western end is concerned. There has also been considerable construction work in the centre of the line in the vicinity of Lake Abitibi. The total expenditure on the road is now over forty million dollars.

A statement of the condition of the various contracts follows:—From Moncton fifty miles west, under contract to the Grand Trunk Pacific, much grading done and some rails down; next section west, John McManus, eight miles, good progress; next section, Grand Trunk Pacific, two contracts, one of forty and the other of sixty-seven miles, much grading done; next section, Williard Kitchen Company, 31½ miles, well advanced toward completion; next section, Lyons & White, 62 miles to New Brunswick-Quebec bridge, work well advanced over the whole contract; M.P. & T. J. Davis, from the St. Lawrence 50 miles west, good progress and some rails laid; Macdonald & O'Brien, 100 miles, good progress and some rails laid; Grand Trunk Pacific, 45 miles, to Weymontachene, good progress; Macdonald & O'Brien, 221 miles, roads being cut and supplies taken in; Grand Trunk Pacific, 150 miles, to a point eight miles west of the Abitibi River, preliminary and some grading work done; E. F. & G. E. Fauquier, 100 miles, preliminary and some grading work done; M. P. & J. T. Davis, 204 miles, contract just awarded and supplies being taken in; E. F. & G. E. Fauquier, 275 miles, contract let last spring and preliminary construction work commenced; O'Brien & McDougal, 150 miles to Superior Junction, contract just awarded; J. D. McArthur, 245 miles, from Superior Junction to Winnipeg, 80 per cent. of the work completed.

Abandon Quarterly Interest.

Toronto, Dec. 13—Following the decision of the General Bankers' association the chartered banks of Canada will abandon after December 31, the custom of computing interest quarterly. Henceforth they will compute interest half yearly on both current and savings accounts.

BUSINESS OF THE SESSION.

The Railway Policy of Government and Redistribution Big Features.

Calgary, Dec. 14—Hon. W. H. Cushing leaves today for Edmonton. He stated when asked as to what would most likely be the principal business of the session, that while of course there would be the usual amount of minor legislation such as the amendments of existing ordinances and the passing of some new ones, the big question would be the government's railway policy. The redistribution bill had also been talked of but Mr. Cushing was not in a position to outline what form the proposed legislation would take.

Early in January there will be held in Regina a two days' conference of all the officers of the C. P. R. comprising the western division under General Supt. Price, of Calgary. The object of the conference is to discuss matters pertaining to the varied phases of the work of the road as affecting the western division.

The eagerness of settlers to secure land in the Calgary district shows no sign of abating and as soon as a new lot of townships is thrown open there is a fresh rush to secure an early choice. On Saturday last four new townships were opened northeast of the Red Deer, and in the anxiety to be ready on the scene men braved the cold and remained on the laid office steps all night waiting for the doors to open. Four more townships in the same locality will be opened on Dec. 18 and there are a number of parties out looking over land with a view to making selections.

THIS LAWYER OBSTREPEROUS.

Disgraceful Scene in Kenora Police Court—Defense Counsel Ejected.

Kenora, Ont., Dec. 13.—One of the most sensational and disgraceful scenes that ever occurred in a Canadian court of justice took place yesterday afternoon during the preliminary trial of some poker players for conspiracy, Martin Schweig, Samuel Farquhor and Geo. Archambault.

N. Hagal, K. C., arrived on Friday night to defend the prisoners, and this morning was suffering an indisposition. After an adjournment for luncheon he delayed the court some little time by late appearance, and during the examination of the witnesses he had numerous disagreements with Crown Attorney MocKenzie and Presiding Magistrates Vereker and Belvea. Subsequently he was ordered out of court, and, refusing to go, was roughly handled by Chief of Police Gordon amidst great excitement. When detained in the anteroom, he kicked panes of glass out of the window, and for a time pandemonium reigned supreme. After words the court adjourned until Monday.

Mortin Schweig meantime was committed for trial, and Archambault and Farquhar remanded till Monday.

NEW YORK'S DEBT A BILLION.

City's Borrowing Power Has Almost Reached the Limit.

New York, Dec. 14.—Placing the city's debt limit at $672,000,000, which is one per cent of the taxable deal estate, Comptroller Herman W. Metz, in a statement to the legislative committee now investigating this city's finances, declared today that the margin remaining for further borrowing is only $38,000,000.

Edgar J. Levy, a former deputy comptroller, who was called as an expert, followed Mr. Metz and said he believed New York's gross indebtedness was $800,000,000. He added that contract liabilities would bring it up to a billion bollars. Mr. Metz testifying as to various items of unnecessary expense enforced upon the city laid stress upon the system of acquiring sites for municipal parks and buildings. He had frequently refused to authorize the purchase of sites which he declared had been "salted."

CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.

Shocking Tragedy on Farm in Hawthorne Township, Ont.

Ottawa, Dec. 13—Four young children of W. J. Scharfe, a farmer of Hawthorne, a small place on the Russell road, ten miles from the city, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the Scharfe house this morning. Scharfe goes out at six o'clock, and having lit the fire proceeded to the barn, where he was joined by his wife shortly after. While they were engaged in milking the cows the house caught fire, probably from the stovepipe. When they discovered it, a portion of the building was in flames. Scharfe made frantic efforts to rescue the children, who were sleeping upstairs, but was driven back by the flames and smoke. For a time he could hear Ruby, the eldest of the four children, aged four and a half years, calling "Daddy, daddy," but could not get to her.

ROCKEFELLER GIVES $50,0000,000.

Oil King Offers Vast Sum to Promote Education in Oriental Countries.

Chicago, Dec. 14—The Record-Herald tomorrow will say that according to a professor of the University of Chicago, John D. Rockefeller will, as reported several months ago, devote $50,000,000 to the promotion of education in Oriental nations.

According to the story, Mr. Rockefeller will first await the reports of Prof. Ernest Burton and Prof. Thos. C. Chamberlain, who have been commissioned to investigate conditions in the Orient. Prof. Burton is now in India and Prof. Chamberlain and his son, Rollin, will start for China next month. President Judson, of the university, refused to confirm the report.

The Birdsongs in Trouble Again.

Hazelhurst, Miss., Dec. 4—Dr. A. S. Pitts, a prominent physician, was shot and killed today at his office here by Dr. Thomas Birdsong, a dentist. Nothing definite can be ascertained as to the motive. Angie Birdsong was convicted here two years ago for the killing of Dr. Butler, at Monticello, and was later pardoned by Governor Vardaman before entering on her prison sentence.

AUSTRIA OFFERS TEN MILLION COMPENSATION

Conference Between Austrian Ambassador and Turkish Officials—Offer is Refused as Inadequate for Annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Constantinople, Dec. 14—Following Austria's decision to re-open negotiations with Turkey regarding the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina the Austrian ambassador to the Porte visiting Grand Vizier Kaimal Pasha and Foreign Minister Tewik Pasha today, and proposed certain terms as a basis for settlement. The nature of these terms cannot be learned with certainty, but it is believed, in well informed quarters, that they embrace an offer by Austria to contribute to the Ottoman national debt on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina. There are rumors that the amount proposed is $10,000,000. This, it is reported, the council of ministers decided this evening was inadequate.

DRUNKENNESS IN TORONTO.

More Than in Any Other City in America, Mr. Wright Says.

Toronto, Dec. 11.—"There is more drunkenness in Toronto than in any other city in America," was the statement made by Mr. A. W. Wright, secretary of the citizens' committee, formed to fight license reduction, to the Globe yesterday. He claimed that this was due to the reduction of hotel licenses. His contention was that by cutting off one hotel the business of the others was increased. Instead of a few men being in the bars, the rooms ewre crowded, and this, he claimed, encouraged the treating system.

Over 600 men, Mr. Wright said, had voluntarily come forward and offered their services in the fight against license reduction, as against 168 three years ago. These men, Mr. Wright stated, were in no way connected with the liquor traffic. Some of them were in favor of local option, others had prohibition views, but they all were agreed that license reduction was not the right step in the direction of temperance.

Mr. Wright was not certain whether public meetings would be held by the antis or not, but in his opinion they should be held.

TO COMBINE AGAINST SWIFT.

Gigantic Packers' War Imminent for Control of Canadian Business.

Chicago, Dec. 13—A struggle between Swift & Co., the Chicago packers, and a combination of all the big packing interests of Central and Western Canada for the control of the Canadian field is said to be involved in the outcome of a mysterious conference of eastern bankers and western United States and Canadian capitalists and public officials, which is now in progress at the Auditorium annex.

The conference was begun this morning and continued until late in the evening, and will be resumed tomorrow.

The strictest sort of secrecy is being maintained by all the conferees, who refuse to give out the least information concerning the nature or extent of the deal they have in hand. The men who are participating in the conference are Samuel and Daniel Untermeyer, the New York bankers; R. M. MacLeod, a meat packer of Winnipeg; A. W. Anderson, of New York; J. Herbert Anderson, of Spokane, Wash.; E. C. McDonald, assistant attorney general of Washington; O. W. McConnell, attorney general of Montana; and Albert Galon, of Helena, Mont.

These men were closeted in their apartments from early morning until late in the evening. All their meals were served to them in their rooms. They had the constant attendance of four waiters and several private stenographers, who are said to have been brought to Chicago with the party, were kept busy throughout the day in the preparation of various papers.

EMMA GOLDMAN ARRESTED.

She is in Seattle Lock-up For Preaching Anarchy.

Settle, Wash., Dec. 14.—Emma Goldman, the anarchist, is in jail here. She was billed to lecture on "How to remedy matters by force." Only twelve "Comrades" turned out to hear her and because of the lack of hearers, she refused to explain the process.

After Miss Goldman left the hall her few followers tried to disperse, but the owner of the place barred the doors because no one had paid the rent. He telephoned for the police and held them until the amount agreed upon was forthcoming.

A second attempt was made by Miss Goldman to lecture on the same subject, but the police appeared and arrested her.

MORE LETTERS OF QUEEN.

King Has Consented to the Publication of Further Letters of Queen Victoria.

London, Dec. 14.—The statement that more letters of Queen Victoria are to be issued has aroused much interest and curiosity in the book world. It is understood the King is willing to allow a further selection to be issued to include the correspondence for 25 years after the death of the Prince Consort. The letters deal with matters near to events and it is realized that the utmost care has to be exercised in their selection, and they are not likely to be ready for publication until 1910.

No Women to be Admitted.

Montreal, Dec. 13—At the annual meeting of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' association, held on Saturday night, the question of admitting women to membership was discussed, and unanimously rejected. The chairman explained that ladies had asked to join the association, and that the railways would accept such contracts, as would also the Toronto association, London, Ontario and the Maritime provinces.

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two thousand representativ
of commissioners, and pr
equal number of clergymen
ally all from Canada. In
there will be representati
Great Britain, the United S
the Orient. The delegates
attend at their own expens
The object of the gatheri
will be interdenominationa
adoption of a national
policy and the reception a
sion of reports from all co
have adopted a missionary
strong local committee is be
ed to take charge of all d
paratory to the meeting, an
tions are already under wa
presence of some of the great
ers in the world. The atte
Mr. Robert E. Speer, the w
secretary of the Student V
and Sir Robert Hart, Britis
sador to China, is already
Interest in the great gathe
be added to by the meetin
time in Toronto of the Inte
Laymen's committee, cons
Mr. John Wanamaker and o
ing laymen of the United St

CONSTITUTION PROMI

**Edict Confirms Pledge of Late
of China.**

Pekin, Dec. 10.—An impor
cree was issued today reaffir
promise made by the late
Empress regarding the conve
a parliament and the proclai
a constitution. The decree
the following: "Everyone i
Emperor downwards must
decree. The date of the cig
of Hsuan Tung fixed for
vocation of Parliament is una
Let no vacillation or indiffer
shown, but let everybody qu
energies so that the constitu
become a fact and tranquilit
universally. Thereby the
their late Majesties shall be
and good government secu
countless ages."
The first year of Hsuan
reign officially begins on Jan

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In the purcha
feature that must
is the oven. The
Its utility in this
success of the "G
hesitancy in givin
supplied with wat
coal and wood.

If a Range h
The Range to pro
The "Good Cheer
body—heavy fire
greatest strain is,
Utility—is well co

Auto Pho