

# UP 2,000 FEET IN AIR IN DISABLED AIRSHIP.

## Horace Wild, Aeronaut, Has Narrow Escape from Death Above Chicago.

### The Ship is Disabled While Smoke and Sleet Make the Earth Invisible.

### Aeronaut Lands on Vacant Lot After a Perilous Trip Along Framework.

Chicago, Jan. 8.—Swooping 2,000 feet above the earth, blinded by sleet and dense clouds of smoke and with only a disabled airship separating him from the earth, Horace B. Wild, the aeronaut, narrowly escaped death yesterday afternoon under conditions among the most terrifying which have ever attended an ascent in Chicago, finally landing in a vacant lot at Robey and Ohio streets.

Balancing on the frail framework, which had tipped so it was with the greatest difficulty that he could maintain his position, the wiry little man battled bravely with the elements. The driving snow and sleet had so blinded him that he lost his bearings and it was only by noting the direction from which the sleet came that he could guess which way he was heading. Sometimes he lost even the sense of the vertical and was unable to tell whether he was approaching or receding from the earth.

Then the supreme misfortune occurred. A sharp crackling sound reached him above the whistling of the wind. He glanced around and saw what he feared. The rudder had snapped and he was at the mercy of the wind.

Pausing only long enough to make sure there was no chance of guiding the great monster above him he worked his way slowly forward. The ropes supporting the staging had become entangled by the buffeting of the wind and he could no longer stand on the braces beneath. With fingers from which the feeling had long since departed he grasped the rope of the framework and worked his way slowly along. Once he lost his grasp and saved himself by desperately clamping the frame with his knees.

With aching muscles he kept at his task and finally succeeded in shifting sufficient weight forward to make the great cigar-shaped bag tip toward the ground.

His machinery was working perfectly and this was the only thing which saved

him. The speed of the propeller had slackened and the great ship descended slowly. Then he was suddenly enveloped by a cloud of smoke and could tell nothing more until about 500 or 600 feet from the earth, when a sudden current swept the smoke away and he perceived the houses below him. Carefully shifting his balance so as to direct the ship toward a vacant lot nearby he slackened speed and the great mass glided gently down and came to rest on the roofs of two adjoining houses.

The next problem was to descend safely the remaining distance, for a fall from this height might result as fatally as if he had fallen half a mile. Then he heard a shout and saw his assistants three in number, who had followed in an automobile, running into the yard. They climbed to the roof of the building, which is on Erie street, near Robey, and the four together succeeded in dislodging the ship and getting it to the vacant lot back of the house, where it was anchored until morning.

"Had it not been for the blinding snow and sleet I would have made the trip all right," said Wild last evening. "I started at about 3.30 o'clock from Lincoln Park boulevard and Chicago avenue and was in the air about fifty minutes. The wind was not bad when I started and I rose to a height of about 2,000 feet. Then I encountered an east wind which began to carry me out of my course. I kept her head pointed toward the city, however, and was getting on nicely when everything broke loose at once.

"I got in the edge of an upper eastward current which carried the bag over to one side, while the framework was blown the other way. Then the ropes got tangled and the staging was tipped to one side and I had all I could do to keep from falling off. I was nearly frozen. It commenced to snow and this, together with the low hanging clouds of smoke, blinded me so I could not see twenty feet ahead. I thought this was bad enough, but the rudder had to go back on me. Then it was useless to attempt to make my destination. I landed about four miles from the starting point, I guess."

## NO FOOD TAXATION.

### CHURCHILL ANNOUNCES OFFICIAL- LY THE LIBERAL INTENTIONS.

### Conference May Be Held—Britain's Rep- resentative, However, Will Be In- structed to Refuse Such Conditions of Union.

London, Jan. 8.—On behalf of the Colonial Office, Winston Churchill, speaking to-night at Manchester, made an important declaration of policy in a statement regarding the proposed colonial conference. He stated that in the event of a Liberal success, the Government would not enter into any arrangement for preferential union with the colonies involving taxation of food.

He said there was no need to get nervous about the Empire, which would not sink to the level of a fifth rate power so soon as Mr. Chamberlain supposed.

Lord Elgin had faced many difficulties, but the question of the colonial conference presented greater difficulties. A periodic assembly of representative men from all parts of the Empire, to discuss questions of imperial interest, would be attended by great advantages. Such a policy would receive all possible assistance and encouragement before the Empire, which would not sink to the level of a fifth rate power so soon as Mr. Chamberlain supposed.

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When the conference met in 1907 it would be free and unfettered, and it would be open to colonial Ministers to bring forward any question, or to advise any proposal which seemed to afford a prospect of more intimate co-ordination and closer union of the various widespread dependencies of the Crown.

No doubt the colonial representatives at the conference would receive from their respective Governments precise instructions as to the proposals they were authorized to put forward or accept. Representatives of the Home Government would also receive precise instructions. The nature of these instructions depended upon the wishes and feelings of the masses of the British people. If the result of the general election should provide Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman with an adequate majority for the conduct of public affairs, it would be the duty of the representatives of the British Government to inform their colonial colleagues that we would not enter into any arrangements for a preferential union with the colonies involving the protective taxation of food.

rica. It would broadly allow the colony to manage its own affairs in its own way, Britain and Boer being equal under the Union Jack.

## KILLED IN BED.

### NEW YORKER RECEIVES MORTAL WOUND FROM PISTOL BALL.

### No Possible Clue to Murderer—Bullet Hole in Left Side of Head Directly Behind the Ear—Went to Bed in Best of Spirits.

New Haven, Conn., Jan. 8.—Charles A. Edwards, of New York, formerly President of the Passaic Chemical Company, of New Jersey, and more recently an officer of the General Chemical Company, with an office in New York city, was mysteriously given a death wound from a pistol ball while lying in bed during the night, the guest of his brother-in-law, Charles A. Hiller, at his home here. So mysterious was the case that Deputy Coroner Pond opened an inquest.

Mr. Edwards was found lying in his chamber by Mr. Hiller. Last night he attended a birthday party in honor of his sister, Mrs. Samuel Harris, a cousin of former President Grover Cleveland, of the Yale University. He retired, apparently in the best of spirits. His failure to appear at breakfast led Mr. Hiller to go upstairs. According to the latter the chamber door was not locked, and, going in, he saw Mr. Edwards apparently unconscious.

A neighbor, Dr. Metcalf, gave restorative under the impression that it was a stroke of apoplexy. A little later Dr. Benjamin H. Cheney reached the house, but Mr. Edwards was then breathing his last. Dr. Cheney found a bullet hole in the left side of the head directly behind the ear. The hemorrhage from it had not been profuse, the missile had gone directly into the brain.

Deputy Coroner Pond said that it would be impossible for Mr. Edwards to have shot himself and get rid of the weapon, and it was equally mystifying he said, as to the point from which the bullet was discharged. Determination of these facts, if it be possible, was left to the autopsy, which will be held to-morrow.

## MADE HER CRAZY.

### SEA SICKNESS MADE HER INSANE, AND SHE IS SENT HOME.

New York, Jan. 8.—The after effects of seasickness was the unusual cause for a sentence of deportation which the immigration authorities imposed to-day. Mrs. Lydia M. Thompson, a woman of means, wife of an English country gentleman, and cabin passenger on the steamer Minneapolis, was deathly seasick in the great Christmas storm during the Minneapolis passage, and this illness left her mind temporarily deranged. Although her friends in this country guarantee that she will not become dependent during her contemplated visit here, Immigration Commissioner Watchorn has ruled that as an insane alien she must be deported. She is now held in her stateroom on the Minneapolis, on which she will start for England to-morrow.

## DEAD IN BASEMENT.

### MONTREAL MAN THOUGHT TO BE VICTIM OF MURDER.

Montreal report: The police are engaged to-day investigating the suspicious circumstances surrounding the death of William Regg, aged sixty-five years, who was found dead in the basement of a building at 217 St. Charles Borromeo street, this morning, and they fear that a murder has been committed. Albert Rignon, a neighbor, who had not seen Regg leave his home for several days, suspected that he was ill, and on visiting the place this morning he made a gruesome discovery. Regg was found lying dead on the floor, which was strewn with every kind of filth. His head presented the appearance of having been badly battered. His skull was fractured. A few feet from the body were several empty bottles, some broken and bearing whiskey labels, and still smelling strongly of alcohol.

Deceased is known to have lived for at least two years in the basement or cellar in which he was found, with a woman, who gives her name as Margaret Burke, fifty years of age. The woman was arrested, Regg was a pensioner of the British Army.

## ABOUT USURY.

### CLAUSE IN ACT THAT NEEDY BOR- ROWERS SHOULD KNOW.

### If Misrepresentation or Concealment Can Be Proven Only Legal Rate of In- terest is Chargeable—Penalties for Violation of Act.

Toronto report: Dr. J. Howard Hunter, Inspector of Insurance Companies and Registrar of Loan Corporations, speaking yesterday in regard to the methods of usurers, as revealed in some recent instances, expressed the opinion that Magistrates should have authority to hear charges arising from such cases in camera. Attention was drawn by Dr. Hunter to a clause of the act of 1905, one of several acts framed with the sole purpose of protecting people who borrow small amounts of money from outrageous interest rates. This clause states that where money not exceeding \$200 is borrowed, and interest over ten per cent. is charged, and the borrower can show that he was induced to enter into the contract by misrepresentation or concealment of the rate of interest to be charged, then the loan may be liquidated by the amount actually borrowed, together with the legal rate of interest—five per cent. This clause can be enforced before any Magistrate or Justice of the Peace.

It is also provided in the same act that "the cost of the loan," a phrase which has often been used in deceptive ways to the financial detriment of the borrower, means the whole cost, but does not include actual disbursements for legal charges, such as those of the Registrar of Deeds, the Master or Local Master of Titles, Clerk of the County Court, the Sheriff or the Treasurer of a municipality where it is necessary to file papers, make searches, or otherwise transact business with the officials mentioned, for which they are allowed a fee.

In some cases, in addition to the legal charges, varying amounts are charged borrowers as "the cost of the loan," oc-

# MAY BE MERCY TO KILL THEM; SUPPORTS MISS HALL'S DOCTRINE.

## Dr. Chas. E. Norton Favors Taking the Lives of the Hopelessly Sick and Insane.

Philadelphia, Jan. 8.—Dr. Chas. Eliot Norton, of Cambridge, has joined forces with Miss Anne S. Hall, of Cincinnati, and Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth in their campaign for the killing off of the hopelessly insane, hopelessly diseased and victims of accidents.

His views are expressed in a letter written to Miss Hall and made public here to-day.

Dr. Norton was formerly professor of literature at Harvard. He was a friend of Longfellow and Lowell, and with them made the famous translation of the Divine Comedy. He heads his letter, "An Appeal to Reason as Well as Compassion," addressed to Miss Hall, and writes:

"The principle that it is a duty to prolong every human life as long as possible at whatever cost has hitherto been generally accepted. Its main support has been the doctrine of the sacredness of human life.

"The doctrine and the practice have both been pressed too far. There is no ground to hold every human life as inviolably sacred, and to be preserved, no matter with what results to the individual, or to others. On the contrary, there are cases in which every reasonable consideration urges that the end should be put.

"Nor should a reasonable man hesitate to hasten death in the case of a mortal disease, such, for example, as cancer when it has reached such a stage of incessant severe pain, and when the patient desires to die. The prolongation of life in such a case, by which whatever means is mere criminal cruelty. Or take another instance, that of an old person whose mind has become a chaos of wild imaginings productive of constant distress not only to the sufferer, but to all who live with and attend him. The plain duty in such a case is not to prolong, but to shorten life.

"It is not to be hoped that a superstitious or deeply rooted tradition, such as that of the duty of prolonging life at any cost will readily yield to the arguments of reason or the pleadings of compassion, but the discussion of the subject in its various phases may lead gradually to a more enlightened public opinion and to the consequent relief of much misery."

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asionally as high as \$25 having been so charged on loans of \$100.

The penalties mentioned in the clause quoted are: A fine of \$200 for a first conviction, and for subsequent convictions imprisonment not exceeding a term of twelve months.

## SHARKS ALL AROUND.

### TRAGIC EXPERIENCE OF THREE FRENCH SAILORS.

### Clinging to the Keel of Their Capsized Boat, Sharks Drew One Under, the Second Went Mad, and the Third Barely Escaped.

Paris, Jan. 8.—A French destroyer has brought into Bizerta the sole survivor of the steamer Albulu, which foundered off Cape Bon. The crew of eighteen left the sinking vessel in a dingy and a lifeboat, but the former was immediately swamped, and the lifeboat soon capsized, only three men escaping by clinging to the upturned keel.

One of the men had been wounded, and was bleeding freely. The blood attracted a number of sharks and he was soon dragged under. The two survivors, Erikson and Liset, clambered on to the lifeboat and during three days subsisted on a single biscuit.

They were surrounded by sharks the whole time, and eventually Erikson went mad and tried to kill Liset, who was obliged to knock him down and drop him into the sea. Liset finally risked the sharks and swam ashore.

## DEATH OF AFRICAN MISSIONARY.

### Rev. Dr. Stewart Was Associated With Livingstone.

Edinburgh, Jan. 8.—A cable message has been received in Edinburgh announcing the death of the Rev. Dr. Stewart, head of the United Free Church Mission at Lovedale, South Africa. Dr. Stewart was associated with Dr. Livingstone, whom he joined on his second journey of exploration in the Lake Nyassa region. He was present with Mrs. Livingstone when she died, and was also at the funeral of Dr. Livingstone. In 1866 he became associated with the Lovedale Mission, and revived the project of founding the Livingstonia Mission in 1875. Having again visited Lake Nyassa, and explored much of the western shore, Dr. Stewart gave an account before the Royal Geographical Society. He helped in the settlement of Blantyre, and was Moderator of the Free Church Assembly in 1899. He was born in 1831.

## TO JOIN THE UNIVERSITY.

### The Macdonald University at Guelph Ex- pected to Affiliate.

Toronto despatch: The Macdonald Institute in connection with the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph will, it is expected, become affiliated with the University of Toronto. Mrs. Hoadless, Provincial Superintendent of Domestic Science, conferred with Hon. Dr. Pyne and Hon. Mr. Monthey yesterday in regard to the question which will be brought to the attention of the University Commission. At present the domestic science course at the institute and similar work at the university overlap in some respects. It is felt that uniformly could be reached in this regard by affiliation. If the plan is carried, degrees would, of course, be given by the university to graduates of the institute.

# MORALES' DEFEAT AT PUERTO PLATA COMPLETE

## A Hundred and Fifty Men Killed and Wounded During the Three Days' Fight.

### Gen. Jimenez Said to be Preparing to Attack the City of Santiago.

Cape Haytien, Hayti, Jan. 8.—Further advice received here to-day from the scene of the hostilities between the troops of the temporary President of Santo Domingo, General Caoceres, and the forces of the fugitive President, General Morales, say that the defeat of the latter before Puerto Plata on Jan. 3, during which Gen. Demetrio Rodriguez, the Morales commander, lost his life, was complete. About 150 men were killed or wounded. The remainder of Morales' followers embarked on board the gunboat Independencia off Puerto Plata, after which the vessel sailed for Monte Cristo. General Guallo, the former Governor of Monte Cristo, who with his troops had declared himself in favor of Morales, on being informed of the death of Gen. Rodriguez, decided to fight in his own behalf, and is preparing to attack Santiago, south of Puerto Plata. Gen. Jimenez, the former President of

Santo Domingo, has left Puerto Plata for Monte Cristo, and it is understood that he and Gen. Morales will complete for the Presidency of the Dominican Republic against the other candidates for that office.

According to reports brought here by messengers, a large part of the population of northern Santo Domingo is in favor of Gen. Jimenez.

New York, Jan. 5.—That the death of Gen. Demetrio Rodriguez, who led the Morales' insurrection in Santo Domingo, will be the death blow to the uprising, was the opinion expressed yesterday by Fabio Fiallo, Consul-General of Santo Domingo in this city.

According to Senor Fiallo President Caoceres can give far more substantial aid to the pending treaty between the United States and Santo Domingo. He further declared that Gen. Morales' defeat of the revolution to defeat the treaty.

The news of the killing of Gen. Rodriguez in the fighting at Puerto Plata was a shock to his friends in this city, where he lived for some time. He was a graduate of Fordham College.

## THE YORK LOAN.

### PLAN TO CONTINUE REALIZATION OF ASSETS FOR SHAREHOLDERS.

### Mr. James Bicknell, K. C., Thinks This Method Would Be Profitable—National Trust Company to be Con- tinued in Management.

A Toronto despatch: Still another and quite new development in York County Loan Co. affairs was made public yesterday, when Messrs. Bicknell & Bain gave notice of an application to be made to the Legislature for an act to reorganize the affairs of the company and to incorporate a new company for the purposes, issuing stock to be exchanged for the shares held by the present members.

Mr. James Bicknell, K. C., told a reporter that reorganization was absolutely necessary. The winding-up would be a long, slow, tedious process unless a purchaser for the assets could be found, and he was inclined to think that such a purchaser would not give a price that would be satisfactory to the shareholders. He thought the assets should be realized carefully, putting the National Trust Co. in charge, but a reorganization was desirable by the shareholders for their own benefit. The winding-up would be solely for the purpose of obtaining restitution from any parties who may have used funds wrongfully or who used funds for unauthorized purposes, and which they would be liable to make good.

Mr. W. T. White, of the National Trust Co., had nothing to say on the matter beyond remarking that the Ontario Legislature could not interfere in a winding-up under the Dominion act. The work of liquidation was going on, 25,000 or 30,000 books having been taken in. The new plan of enlisting the aid of the banks is working splendidly. Until the appointment of a permanent liquidator on the 22nd instant, no further inquiry is likely to be presented. The examination of Mr. Joseph Phillips will not be resumed this morning. The movement for getting a street car line on Boscawen avenue is being pushed. The announcement was made to-day that the Sovereign Bank of Canada had instructed the managers of all their branches to accept the pass-books and stock certificates of shareholders and depositors, and besides forwarding the same to the liquidator to assist the unfortunate depositors of the company in every way possible.

## ALFONSO'S WEDDING.

### PREPARATIONS AT MADRID FOR THIS GALA EVENT.

A Gigantic Floral Garden—Wagonloads of Roses and Pinks Will Be Used, Wine Will Flow Like Water and Grand Things Will Be Done Generally.

Madrid, Jan. 8.—The most scrupulous reserve is maintained in Court circles concerning the arrangements for the marriage of King Alfonso and Princess Ena, of Battenberg, but the following facts are from an authentic source.

As at present arranged, the formal announcement of the betrothal will be made either just before or when King Edward visits Madrid, and the wedding will probably take place during the traditional fetes of Isidore.

A rumor which was circulated that the Pope did not view the alliance with favor is groundless.

During the wedding festivities Madrid will be transformed into a gigantic garden of flowers. Roses and pinks will be brought by hundreds of wagonloads from Seville, Malaga, Valencia, Alicante and Murcia.

Grand processions in character will be organized by the students and women dancers, and the charming national dances will be performed by peasants from the provinces.

Streams of white and red wine will flow from the fountains of Madrid in lieu of water on the day of the wedding.

One of the most popular celebrations will be a monster bull-fight, conducted with all the magnificence and pomp of an ancient use.

Many changes are being made at the palace to prepare the apartments for the King and his bride. At present the Queen mother occupies the rooms she

had during the regency, and the King those he had during his minority, and considerable rearrangements will, of course, be made.

The Princess Ena will have her private apartments on the first floor of the palace, where an army of workmen are engaged in making the necessary transformation.

Don Carlos, the widower of the late Princess of the Asturias, the elder sister of the King, lives with his baby Prince, the heir-presumptive, in the palace, and will continue to do so until the King has a descendant of his own.

A Madrid jeweler is manufacturing a magnificent diamond service of solid silver to be used at the wedding banquet.

## CATS AND INFECTION.

### THE LANCET GIVES SOME CASES IN POINT.

### Two Cats Examined by the Bacteri- ologist of Govan Were Found to Have Diphtheria Germs in Their Throats.

The apparently harmless domestic cat is a source of great danger, according to the Lancet, for two cases of diphtheria have practically been traced to children kissing and petting these animals.

The bacteriologist for the burgh of Govan is responsible for this latest medical case. He has issued an interesting report on the result of his investigations into the possibility of the infection of diphtheria being carried by the lower animals, especially cats.

Two cats were taken to the laboratory, where their throats were examined. Micro-organisms from the throat were cultivated on artificial media away from the body, and were found to correspond in every respect to those of the human subject.

In one case the animal had been in the habit of sleeping in the same bed as the patient; in the other the child had been carrying it in her arms and kissing it, the children frequently do with domestic pets.

As both cats had been ailing before the children became affected, infection is quite likely to have been carried in this way, and it is perfectly reasonable to suppose that similar instances of undetected or unrecognized attacks of diphtheria among the lower animals have materially contributed to the prevalence of diphtheria.

Of five cases of diphtheria recently reported in Govan three patients came from two families living in adjoining properties and two from a house in a tenement area opposite. In the circumstances area enclosing the back courts of these buildings there had been a stray cat which had eventually obtained a home in one of the families affected. The animal, when examined, was found to be suffering from post-diphtheritic paralysis of the legs.

## SETTLE OLD DISPUTE.

### GREAT LAKES FISHERIES QUES- TION MAY END.

### Secretary Root Expects to Reach an Agreement With Great Britain by Which United States Will Buy Out Canadian Sealers.

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 8.—A Washington despatch to The Chicago Tribune says: Secretary Root is about to settle the great lakes fisheries question with Great Britain, and practically all the other controversies existing with Canada, say that of reciprocity. An agreement will be made shortly, it is expected, by which the United States and Great Britain will agree to pay the British Government annually a small per cent. of the value of the seal caught.

With this agreement will terminate the dispute which about fifteen years ago brought the United States and Great Britain to the verge of war. As soon as this matter is disposed of Secretary Root and British Ambassador Durnell will take up the question of the revision of the treaty of 1817, limiting the armament of each power on the great lakes. Then will be discussed the minor questions in connection with the transmission of goods in bond through the territory of the other, and the regulation of immigration.

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