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FOURTEEN PAGES—FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 20, 19 07—FOURTEEN PAGES

27TH YEAR

CARRY THE POWER BYLAW THAT IS THE DUTY WHICH RESTS WITH TORONTO NOW

250 MINERS ARE DEAD FIERCE FIRE FOLLOWING A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION

Pittsburg Coal Co.'s Mine Scene is the Fourth Frightful Calamity Within the Past Three Weeks.

SMOKE AND FLAMES PREVENT RESCUE WORK

AWFUL DEATH TOLL OF COAL MINES FOR DECEMBER.

Fayette City, Pa., Dec. 2..... 47
Monongah, W. Va., Dec. 8..... 450
Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 16..... 60
Jacobs Creek, Pa., Dec. 19..... 250
In the last seventeen years 22,840 men have given up their lives in the mines in the United States. The number of fatalities each year is now double that of the year 1895. In 1906 6861 men were killed or injured in the mines, the dead numbering 2061 and the injured 4800.

JACOBS CREEK, Pa., Dec. 19.—An explosion of gas in the Darr mine of the Pittsburg Coal Company, located here, to-day entombed between 200 and 250 miners and there is scarcely a ray of hope that a single one of them will be taken from the mine alive.

Partially wrecked buildings in the vicinity of the mine and the condition of the few bodies found early in the rescue work indicate an explosion of such terrific force that it seems impossible that anyone could have survived it. All of the 13 bodies taken out up to this time are terribly mutilated and three of them are headless. This is the third mine disaster since the first of the month in the veins of bituminous coal underlying western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, for the Naomi mine near Fayette City and the two mines at Monongahela, W. Va., in which the earlier explosions had taken place in the same belt as the local workings. To-day's catastrophe swells the number of victims of deadly mine gas for the nineteenth days to between 550 and 600.

Church Devotion Saved Many.
That to-day's disaster was not equal or surpass in loss of life and attention horrors the one in West Virginia is due to the devotion to church duties of a considerable number of the miners. In observance of the church festival many of the 400 or more men regularly employed at the mine did not go to work this morning. Those who escaped thru this reason are members of the Greek Catholic Church and they suspended work to celebrate St. Nicholas Day.

Followed Brief Shut Down.
As was the case at Monongahela, the explosion followed a brief shut-down, the Darr mine having been closed Tuesday and Wednesday. It was just 11:30 o'clock when the tenth hole of loaded cars had been brought out to the tipple and there came an awful rumbling sound, followed immediately by a terrific report and a concussion that shook nearby buildings and was felt within a radius of several miles. At the same time there came out of the mouth of the mine an immense cloud of smoke and dust that floated across the Youghiogheny river.

Pitiful Scene at Pit's Mouth.
Within a few minutes after the explosion the mouth of the pit was surrounded by relatives and friends of the entombed men. The scenes were most pitiful. The smoke and flames issuing from the slope made it impossible to enter and the wives and children were frantic.
Every effort is being made to subside the fire, but after several hours, and with no headway could be made.

Lone Survivor's Story.
The ventilating fans were kept in operation almost without interruption, however, the plow plant having withstood the force of the explosion, and up to this time the rescuers have found no fire in the mouth.
As far as known only one man when went to work this morning escaped. Joseph Mapleton, a pumper, emerged from one of the side entries shortly after the explosion. He had left the part of the mines where the most of the men were working and was on his way to the engine room for oil.
"When I heard an awful rumbling, I started towards the entry, but the next moment I was blinded and for a little time I did not know anything. Then I got to the side entry and worked my way out."
Mapleton was somewhat cut and bruised, but after being taken to a hospital, his injuries dressed, he returned to the mines and joined the rescuing parties.

Inspired by Faint Hope.
William Kolvinson, superintendent of the mine, was out in it when the explosion occurred, and he quickly organized rescuing parties, with reliefs at short intervals, in the main entry, and at a side entry. It is hoped to reach the greater part of the victims thru the latter. So far little trouble has been encountered on account of gas or lack of air by the rescuers.
The officials and the rescuers have only the faintest hope that any of the men may be living, all work being carried on on the theory that some may have found places of safety, and every point of the workings will be explored at the earliest possible moment.

WHY THE FARMER NEEDS CHEAP POWER

J. A. Webster, writing from Sparta, Ont., to Hon. Adam Beck, illustrates the interest of the up-to-date farmer in electric power. He says:

"The Southwestern Traction Company will likely secure their power from Niagara, and, as they will serve our section, I trust you will see that farmers may obtain electric power, light, heat, etc., from them at fair rates. I am at present considering the purchase of an automobile truck of about 5-ton capacity, to do my general farm teaming, and have catalogues from different makers of gasoline and electric trucks. I intend that that truck shall carry its load and haul wagons after it, as any steam traction engine would do. I shall also be capable of doing my heavy farm work of plowing and cultivating, seeding and cropping.

"Here is where the coming farmers may use electric power, as well as for stationary work, such as threshing, grinding grist and sawing wood.

"At present, I shall have to purchase gas power, but, in the future, I may want electric power.

"Street railways and traction companies, serving the public, should be required to supply the public with power at fair rates, under government supervision. This rule should also apply to anyone obtaining Niagara power, and in a position to serve the public."

A FIST FIGHT IN CONGRESS MISSOURIAN DRAWS BLOOD

J. Sharp Williams, the Mississippi Firebrand, Gets Worst of Personal Encounter.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Immediately after the house adjourned to-day, Representative John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, and Representative D'Armond of Missouri became engaged in a personal encounter on the floor of the house.

The men closed in and dealt each other several blows. Friends rushed to separate the two men. Mr. Williams' face was streaming with blood.
So startled and so astounded were the members of the house and the officials that for a moment no one offered to interfere, and the leader of the minority and the member from Missouri lunged back and forth between the desks, both swaying wildly, and each in apparent danger of going down.

Blood was flowing freely from a gash in Mr. Williams' cheek when Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Sinnott sprang between them, grasped Dr. D'Armond and held him back while representatives and attendants, following suit, effected a separation.

Deaths in Previous Disasters

Mine accident at Courrières, France, March 10, 1906.....	1,069
General Slocum wreck and fire.....	958
Sa Francisco disaster, estimated.....	600
Troquois Theatre fire, Chicago.....	587
Died in battle in war with Spain.....	461
Mine accident, Hartley, England.....	461
January, 1892.....	202
Mine accident, Schofield, Utah.....	200
Railroad accident at Mexico City, February, 1895.....	140
Charity Bazaar fire, Paris, 1897.....	139
Mine disaster at Fairmount, West Virginia.....	600
Quebec bridge disaster.....	75

C.M.A. MEMBERS EAGER TO ENFORCE BY-LAW

Toronto Members Pass Strong Resolution Third Public Meeting a Great Success.

Whereas, Toronto is essentially an industrial city with 700 manufacturing establishments, utilizing \$3,302 horsepower, with 13 million dollars in capital invested, 70,000 citizens employed earning 20 million dollars a year in wages, and producing goods to the value of \$8 million dollars a year, equal to that of the northwestern coast of the Dominion to add to the growth and prosperity of our city commensurate and financially.
And, whereas, it is essential, if Toronto is to retain her premier position as an industrial centre and continue to give employment to increasing numbers to the vast army of her citizens in her industries that she have the important factors in cheap production of cheap light and power, and be in a position to compete with other Canadian towns and cities, which are offering light and power at attractive rates much lower than those now prevailing in Toronto;
And, whereas, the city corporation may use a large amount of electric light and power for municipal purposes, thus saving annually a considerable sum of money;
And, whereas, the Ontario Government is prepared to deliver electric energy at our borders at very attractive figures to take advantage of which will greatly help to insure the industrial future of our city;
And, whereas, it has been decided to submit a by-law providing \$2,500,000 for a distributing plant suited to the needs of our city; be it
Resolved, That the Toronto branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association urge upon all the interests of our city to unite in carrying this by-law.

Such is the resolution passed at a meeting of the Toronto branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association at McConkey's last night, called especially for the discussion of the power by-law. It was well attended. The discussion was a lengthy one, but the vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the resolution, sixty in favor and eleven against. W. K. McNaught, M.L.A., a member of the hydro-electric commission, was present during part of the evening, and answered a number of questions in regard to the details of the scheme.

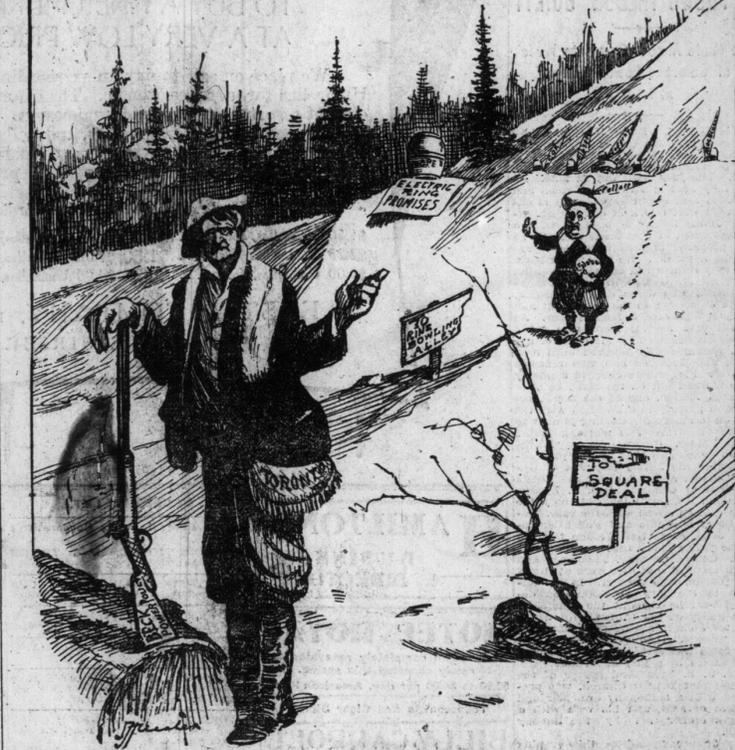
The discussion related chiefly to the question of comparative cost, and what direct opposing there was to the resolution was voiced by George W. West, manager of the Canada Foundry. His reputation was presented to the meeting by J. O. Thelwell, of the Roofing Company, and seconded by Thomas Roden of Roden Bros. E. J. Freytag, chairman of the Toronto branch of the association, presided. Others taking a prominent part in the discussion were: P. W. Ellis, D. T. McIntosh, Walter Beardmore and J. A. Murray.

Interrupters Spotted.
There is no doubt about the interest taken by the citizens (the power by-law) was crowded again last night at the third meeting for the discussion of the power by-law, and except for a few evasive replies, Toronto Electric Light Company there were no opponents. The same half dozen orators who had appeared at the other meetings rose to ask the same irrelevant questions, and Dr. Wallace Secombe identified them. He had been giving some figures showing the large profits made by the company.
"Will you give the same calculations to the figures of the hydro-electric commission?" a young man asked.
"Your name is Mr. Pack, is it not?" asked the doctor.
"I'll find you during the day at the Electric Light Company's office."
"And Mr. Boren is here to help you?" pursued Dr. Secombe.
Mr. Pack stated he was the cashier of the Electric Light Company and was not ashamed of it. The meeting did not encourage him nor his allies—Fraleigh, Logan, Little and others.

W. K. McNaught, M.L.A., was introduced by Chairman W. L. Purvis as a member of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission. Mr. McNaught was willing to deal liberally with the Electric Light Company and would not have the reproach of doing them out of a single dollar. The difficulty was not with the city but with the company itself, which had tied itself up with contracts. He did not want the widow and orphan to be injured in any way, and would buy out the corporation on liberal terms if the company was willing.
His personal attitude was against turning down the Toronto Electric Light Company if they were willing to supply the city and its manufacturers and consumers generally at the rates quoted by the power by-law.

Real Praise This.
Dr. Bryan said he was not a supporter of the government and had tried to keep Mr. McNaught out of the legislature, but he wished to express his appreciation of the splendid speech they had met with in their power. The citizens had a golden opportunity to avail themselves of it.
Dr. Beattie Nesbitt declared the very best citizens of the city were willing to advance the interests of the city was to vote for the by-law. For outlying districts in the city they could erect poles and supply power at a cheap rate as was done in the outside towns like Gravenhurst, where he paid \$12.50 a year per H.P.
Alderman Church reminded the audience of the power by-law.

RIP VAN WINKLE WIDE AWAKE.



Rip Van Toronto: I go me back to play bowls mit dose leetle fellers no more. They put me to sleep vonce before aretly.

SKULL FRACTURED, DIES ASSAILANT IS ARRESTED

Noble Taylor Dead as Result of Injuries in Drunken Fight.

John McConnell, an English immigrant, 32 years of age, living at 797 West Queen-street, was arrested last night by Detective Murray, charged with manslaughter in having caused the death of Noble Taylor.
The latter, who is also an Englishman, was arrested on King-street, near Strachan-avenue, on Wednesday afternoon, he being in a drunken condition. It was discovered that he was suffering from injuries to his head, and examination at the Western Hospital showed that his skull had been fractured. He died yesterday morning and an inquest was opened yesterday at the hospital by Coroner Crawford. Adjudgment was made till 8:15 p.m. on Monday next.

The police have received information that on Wednesday afternoon McConnell and Taylor had both been drinking heavily and that the latter, in seeking to get back 10 McConnell had obtained from him, was struck over the mouth and, in falling, struck the back of the head on the sidewalk. Stephen Johnson, 126 Peter-street, and Charles Roe, 794 West King-street, claim to have witnessed the assault.
After the encounter McConnell went into the office of Dr. A. Eadie, 899 West Queen-street. The doctor was out and the man, who was very much intoxicated, was directed to Dr. Hurd, but did not find his way there.
McConnell admits having struck Taylor, but denies having had any of the latter's money.

MISSIONARIES FOR CHINA. Important Work Which Methodists Are Asked to Assume.

The more advanced policy which has been proposed by the Methodist missionaries in Western China will not be finally approved until some time next autumn. This portion of China, which has been assigned by the other bodies to the Methodist Church in Canada, has a population of some 10,000,000, and the church is being urged to send out fifteen men yearly for a term of at least five years, involving an increase of some \$40,000 per annum in the expenditure, or in all to \$200,000. The married men in this field receive salaries of \$800. They are also provided with houses, built in western fashion, and receive an allowance of \$500 for moving their furniture, etc., to their new home. Altogether, the individual expenses of the first year run up to some \$2200, while afterwards the expense of renting or providing them with residences must be taken into consideration. An extra allowance is also made for children. During the last couple of months, seven married men have been sent to this field by the general mission board, and in addition to two or three single women sent by the Women's Missionary Society, eight or ten more men will in all probability go out next fall.
This whole subject will be discussed by the executive committee of the board of missions early in February.

EXPLOSION IN PALERMO KILLS 25, INJURES 100

Houses Collapsed and a Panic Ensued—A Seaport City in Sicily.

PALERMO, Sicily, Dec. 19.—A powder magazine containing a large supply of dynamite exploded here to-day, causing a terrible conflagration.
A number of houses collapsed amidst frightful detonations, and the whole town was shaken. A panic ensued, followed by a rush to the scene of the disaster by troops and firemen.
It is estimated that 25 persons have been killed and 100 injured.

MOCKERY A FAIR WEAPON.

Else Where Would Be Great Satirists? Asked Harden.

BERLIN, Dec. 19.—In the Harden case to-day the president of the court remarked that the public was incapable of distinguishing between the subtleties in the Die Zukunft articles and the epithet used by the prisoner. The president referred to Harden's statement that he mocked the friends of Bp Fuleburg.
"Yes," replied Harden, "mockery is a fair weapon, else where would be the greatest satirists, be it?"
In the course of his explanations Harden said that he had no desire to call witnesses to prove that Von Moitke was abnormal.
"I have a definite conviction," the prisoner said, "I have said nothing libellous. The articles are there and if the court assumes that they are defamatory I am here to bear my penalty."

Dr. Isenbell asked if Harden meant to express esteem or contempt of Von Moitke. "I have no occasion," Harden retorted, "of expressing esteem; I criticized."
Harden began to show signs of extreme weariness, and the president declared that in consideration of the health of the accused he would adjourn court until to-morrow.

HACKMAN CHARGED \$20.
According to the story told by V. J. Urquhart, 57 Isabella street, Sid Sayward, a hackman employed by Pat. Maher, has an exalted idea of fees. Mr. Urquhart tendered him \$20 and received no rebate. Sayward was arrested last night.

CENTRE YORK.

R. L. Borden will speak in the interest of Captain Tom Wallace in Woodbridge to-night (Friday) and W. H. Bennett, M.P., in Victoria Hall, Unionville. The meetings will start at 8 o'clock sharp, and ladies are especially invited.

HIS FIGHT ALL IN VAIN GOT IN WRONG COMMITTEE

Ald. McBride Walked Right in and Talked Awhile, Then Hurried Out Again.

There were no less than four committee meetings at the city hall yesterday, in a grand effort to wind up all routine business in readiness for the final meeting of council next month. As most of the aldermen were members of at least two of the committees, there was considerable overlapping, which accounts for the pitfall into which Ald. McBride innocently stumbled.
The alderman dropped in at a meeting of council for a vote. Everybody present showed a disposition to support Mr. Harris, save only Ald. McBride. "I want you to record my vote against it," he announced.
"I've been letting you go on," returned the chairman, suavely, "but as a matter of fact you can't vote. This is the property committee."
"I thought this was the island committee," explained the crestfallen alderman as he skidded.

THE TORONTO CLUB.

A special general meeting of the Toronto Club members will be held on Friday, Dec. 27, at 4:30 p.m. for the purpose of reporting to the club upon the defalcations of the late secretary, and of deciding upon the proper course to be followed by the club with reference thereto, and also for the purpose of obtaining the opinion of the members regarding a suggestion for a purchase or lease of a more desirable site for the club.

DID NOT ENDORSE HUGHES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—By an almost unanimous vote the Republican committee of New York County to-night refused to adopt a resolution endorsing Governor Hughes for the Republican presidential nomination.
Thomas W. Morwood, a bank clerk, has brought action against the Church-Hill Manufacturing Company for the return of \$5000 invested in it. He wants the company wound up.

Saved Son From Flames.
J. R. Morrison, 480 Parliament-street, had his hands badly burned in rescuing a young son from a burning room yesterday afternoon. The loss by fire was small.

Several citizens were fined yesterday for not shovelling the snow off their walks.

CIVIC ENQUIRY RESUMED —How a House Was Built—60 Defence Witnesses to Come.

Judge Winchester resumed his investigation into the affairs of the parks department yesterday afternoon. E. H. Carter, superintendent of the Riverdale Park, was the chief witness and explained to his honor what the perquisites of his position were. Before the examination of witnesses was begun, Mr. Robinette, Park Commissioner Chambers' counsel, asked for permission to examine the books and papers which had been put in as exhibits. This was granted. Mr. Robinette then said that he would want to subpoena about 60 witnesses. This will be arranged for. Mr. Robinette next asked that the charges made against Mr. Chambers should be formulated. His honor replied that any charges made against Mr. Chambers would come out in the evidence.

W. Carrell Hall cross-examined Wm. Anderson and pressed the witness for dates of occasions upon which he worked for Carter and was paid by the city. He remembered that he was cutting wood at Carter's place on First-avenue, the day of the late Queen Victoria's funeral. Another date he was able to remember was February, 1902. On both occasions he had been paid by the city.

"Were there other occasions?" "There might be," was as definite an answer as the witness would make. In regard to the killing of a monkey and a camel, Anderson admitted that monkeys often died of consumption, and that the camel, which was killed, was suffering from mange.

The Building of a House.
George Swires during the preliminary examination had been unwilling to answer any questions and yesterday Mr. Raney referred to that reticence. Swires said that he had so acted upon the advice of one Barrett, who had told him that he need not answer any questions until he came into court. Swires remembered having worked on Barrett's house for about three weeks. The first week he worked part of the time at the park and part of the time at the house. At the end of the week he received his regular pay envelope from

Continued on Page 6.

STUCK TO HIS POST —IN DEATH'S SHADOW

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 19.—Engineer Frank Krag, 50 years old, of Buffalo, N.Y., the ill and faint, stayed at the Toledo factory in Leamington, Ont., several years ago, is insane and will be placed in Oak Grove Sanitarium in Flint.

G. T. R. Condemned.

That the Great Trunk Railway was to be condemned for its bad system of protecting its workmen was the verdict of the jury which under Coroner M. Collins last night investigated the death of William Taffage. Taffage was killed while repairing a car which had been struck by a train which collapsed when the frost went out of the ground.

Millionaire Insane.

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 19.—(Special)—Henry Clay Ward, millionaire lumberman of Pontiac, Mich., who erected a tobacco factory in Leamington, Ont., several years ago, is insane and will be placed in Oak Grove Sanitarium in Flint.

MEN'S HATS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

Shipment of the Latest Shapes Arrives at Dineen's.
Dineen's have received a shipment of the newest American shapes in men's holiday felt hats, and as a Christmas special are selling them at \$2.50 and \$3.00. These hats combine style and quality, and the fact that Dineen's name is inside is a guarantee that they are good hats. Don't put off buying your hat until you have spent all your money on Christmas presents. Come in to-day. Dineen's can't help satisfying you, no matter what sort of a good hat you want. Corner Yonge and Temperance-streets.

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