

SUFFERING IN FRENCH CAPITAL

FLOOD SITUATION IS GROWING WORSE

Number of Factories Have Been Closed—Food Supply Cut Off

Paris, Jan. 25.—Almost one-third of France is under water to-day according to reports received from provincial towns that have not been isolated by the floods. The rains that have been falling steadily for more than a week continued to-day and the Seine, red by its swollen tributaries, is rising more than half an inch an hour.

Hundreds of men and boys are working on the banks in barges on the river in an effort to keep the tons of drift and wreckage from accumulating. Should an obstruction be formed in the river, the city would be inundated by the diverted waters.

Early to-day the flood invaded the lower Champs Elysee, where are located many of the handsomest homes in France, including that of President Fallieres. Throughout the district hundreds of vans are moving furniture and other property out of reach of its rapid advance.

Several refugees were rescued from almost certain death to-day when they were surrounded on three sides by rapidly rising water and cut off on the fourth by a burning chemical factory. They were taken away in boats less than half an hour before the neck of land on which they were huddled was entirely covered by the flood.

In the city suffering is acute. The usual sources of food supply from the country districts cut off the city and it is subsisting on quarter rations. The price of meat has advanced 30 per cent. in the last two days. Vegetables are 25 per cent more expensive than they were yesterday, while butter and other commodities that are low classed as luxuries command prohibitive prices.

Factories are shutting down because of the lack of power due to the electric plants being flooded. Half of the telephones in the city are out of commission and telegraphic railroad communication is demoralized.

The scene on the river front is majestic but appalling. The stream has broken its barriers at several points and is pouring its currents into the surrounding streets. A tremendous explosion which awakened the strikers at 6 o'clock led to the report that the Pont Alma had been blown up, but the explosion proved to have occurred in a chemical factory at Ivry Sur Seine, eight miles above, where the heavens were lit by the bursting flames. It is presumed that the works surrounding the factory came into contact with chemicals, causing the explosion.

The situation at between 20 and 30 suburban towns above this city is worse than in the capital itself. At Charenton-le-Pont, where the swollen river Marne enters the Seine, an area of 200 square miles has been flooded. The submerged district includes Afortville and Ivry Sur Seine, with the most favorable conditions have the specification requirements been met. Not only does the plant lack capacity but other objectionable features present themselves, all of which lead me to conclude that the plant is incapable of producing the desired results. Experiments in the ways of altering vanes, etc., have been resorted to, indicating that the design had not previously been proved by the builders. The working out of the detail of the design should in my opinion be carried out at the point of manufacture.

PUMPING PLANT IS A FAILURE

SENSATIONAL REPORT BY CITY ELECTRICIAN

Machinery Supplied by D'Olier Engineering Works to Be Rejected

A somewhat startling disclosure affecting the high pressure salt water fire protection system which has recently been installed by the city was made at Monday's meeting of the city council in a communication from M. Hutcheson, city electrician. He presented a report as to the condition of the pumping machinery for the system which had been supplied by the D'Olier Engineering Works of Philadelphia, in which he stated that the machinery, despite repeated tests, had failed to come up to the required specifications and would therefore have to be rejected. Because of this situation the plant would not be in shape to be put in operation before May next. The report was as follows:

Gentlemen: I beg to submit the following report having reference to pumping plant installed for fire protection purposes. Tenders for the supply of the above were received during December, 1908, and referred to a special committee, resulting in the contract being awarded to the D'Olier Engineering Company of Philadelphia. Under the terms of the said contract the plant was to be capable of doing certain specified work under guarantee of efficiency, etc., and was to be complete and ready for service before May 15, 1909. The pumps, however, were under test at Wellsville, N. Y., on May 24th, and reached here in the latter part of June. Making due allowance for delays beyond the control of the contractors the plant should certainly have been completed in August. It was not, however, until October 1st that tests of the equipment could be made, difficulties of the most unexpected nature were encountered, and taking into consideration the fact that the bearings heated seriously and prevented any run under load being made, I am unable to understand the manner by which the contractors succeeded in making the tests referred to as having been made at Wellsville.

On April 16, 1909, I requested the contractors to furnish certified copies of the results of tests made. This I received on September 29th, and by return mail the contractors were notified that the results shown on test sheet being made, I am unable to understand the manner by which the contractors succeeded in making the tests referred to as having been made at Wellsville.

The contractors have, in my opinion, defaulted both as to time of delivery and capacity of plant, and I respectfully suggest that no further acceptance be allowed. I have no doubt the council is anxious to have the plant put into successful operation not later than May of the present year. In order to accomplish this arrangement will have to be made immediately for the replacement of the pumps. The electric motor and turbine could probably be used in this portion of the contract price of pumping equipment is \$17,500, fifty per cent of which has been paid as per terms of contract. The corporation has a certified cheque for the sum of \$3,750, being contractors' deposit with tender. I am of the opinion that the total amount unpaid would easily prove sufficient to put the plant in very satisfactory condition. The contractors so far have not asked acceptance of the plant nor could I recommend it.

I had intended making a report of the existing conditions earlier, but preferred to await the arrival in the city of Mr. Maxfield, the chief engineer of the D'Olier Company, who it was reported would arrive about January 10th. I learn now that the proposed visit is cancelled.

I remain, gentlemen, yours obediently. M. HUTCHESON, City Electrician.



INCORRIGIBLE.

The ex-City Solicitor—"Look here, Mr. Mayor I won't go back unless you give me more pay."

ACCOUNTS OF LATE FALL FAIR

COUNCIL TROUBLED TO KNOW WHAT TO DO

Decision Has Been Reached to Pay All Legitimate Accounts

Much of the time of the city council at its meeting Monday was taken up with the discussion of the affairs of the B. C. Agricultural Society and the late fall fair under its auspices. The finance committee presented a report in which a recommendation was made that all the accounts be paid, and this gave rise to an animated debate. It was finally decided that while the city will defray the amounts due for civic legislation, they will not pay until the city is better advised as to just what its liability is in such cases.

A communication was to hand at Monday night's meeting from J. E. Smart, secretary of the society, in which he points out that there are some 400 vouchers, and while he would be only too pleased to produce them for inspection, and to render all assistance in his power to any one who has, or to whom may be delegated, the proper authority to inspect them, he considers that in the proper performance of his duty he should not allow these vouchers to leave his possession. The books and vouchers of the association have already been thoroughly scrutinized by the auditor of the city, and one of the best chartered accountants in the city, who have certified that they are correct, but still the books, vouchers and minutes of the association are perfectly open to inspection for any person properly authorized, and may be scrutinized in Mr. Smart's office at any time.

The Mayor—The matter of the books and accounts over to the city, that fact ought not to bar an investigation. The vouchers can be examined at Mr. Smart's office. Aid. Bannerman pointed out that Mr. Smart had been in attendance at the meeting of the finance committee held in the afternoon, and had expressed every willingness to show his books at his office. He saw no reason why the accounts should not be examined, as was the original intention.

Aid. Bishop remarked that they were under the impression that the special auditor who had been engaged by the mayor would go through the accounts of the society. Aid. Fullerton said no one disputed that the city was responsible for the payment of all legitimate accounts. But the point was that there should be an examination to see what accounts were legitimate and what were not. There was, in his opinion, a number of expenditures which were indefensible. Take for instance the horse racing account. Aid. Bannerman said that last year's

REVISING LIST OF WRECK VICTIMS

FIFTY-EIGHT PERSONS LOST THEIR LIVES

One of Injured Dies in the Hospital on Learning of His Wife's Death

Sudbury, Ont., Jan. 25.—Latest reports regarding the loss of life in the wreck of the Montreal-Minneapolis train on Friday, show that 58 persons were killed when three coaches fell down an embankment into Spanish river. Accounts given of the disaster yesterday placed the number of dead at 35, but revised lists of victims prove one that this number fell short of the actual death toll, and that the first estimate was approximately correct.

Conductor Reynolds' count shows 79 passengers were on the ill-fated train. Fifty-eight bodies have been recovered or known dead reported to the authorities. C. Houde, of Soo, died in the hospital on hearing of his wife's death. The body of Chas. Carey, airplane inspector, has been recovered. Attorney-General Foy has declared the inquest held on Saturday night by Dr. Jones, medical officer of the C. F. R., null and void. A verdict had been rendered: "Death from unknown cause." Another inquest will be held to-night.

Divers state they saw more bodies lying in the river and several have floated away. Many articles of missing people have been found but no bodies. The bodies of the following victims were found yesterday: Herman Hanson, a Norwegian, going to Christina, N. D.; Miss Agnes Milroy, lately in charge of the post office at Webwood, resident Cache Bay; Mrs. Joseph Kelly and daughter Florence, aged eleven, of Whitecliffe, B. C., brother and mother coming from Toronto to fully identify the bodies; Miss Lottie Therien, Massey, Ont.; C. S. Martin, furniture traveller, Waterloo, Ont.; Dr. McLellan, Sudbury. Jos. Kelly's body was found on Saturday.

LAND IS MAN'S NECESSARY PARTNER

Mother Earth Repays for Care Bestowed, Declares Dr. J. W. Robertson

Toronto, Jan. 25.—Dr. J. W. Robertson, of St. Anne Bellevue, until a few weeks ago principal of Macdonald College, McGill University, won a most appreciative hearing before the Canadian Club yesterday afternoon when he spoke on "the call of our land."

PROTECTION IMPOSSIBLE AT PRESENT TIME

London Times Admits Triumph of Free Trade—John Redmond Outlines Conditions Upon Which He Will Support Liberals.

London, Jan. 25.—Already the eyes of the nation are turned towards Westminster, where the final struggle will take place. The Unionist press seems to take it for granted that if the Lords now pass the budget, as they have promised to do, all will be forgotten. This is not the attitude of the Liberals. The Lords must give them some guarantee that they will not reject all important Liberal measures, otherwise Premier Asquith will refuse to remain in office.

If this position is firmly held, there are troublous times ahead, and it is probable that the King will have to try his hand as a peacemaker at home as well as abroad. Tariff reform has once more receded into the background. The Times yesterday admitted that protection is impossible just now, in face of the verdict of the great industrial communities. This, the Times says, does not mean the abandonment of the attack on free trade, but that snapping and sniping must take the place of direct assault. Standing of Parties.

The Unionists gained another seat in the Southport division of Lancashire yesterday. Otherwise the few results announced last night do not change the party strength. The newly-elected members of parliament now stand: Unionists, 231; Liberals, 202; Labor, 34; Nationalists, 69.

Redmond's Statement. John Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalists, to-day practically announced that he would have the legislative "balance of power" in his own hands during the coming session of parliament, and if he can substantiate his claims, Ireland will get her Home Rule law after all. The Nationalist leader declares to the Liberal leaders that he can "answer" for all but ten of the 83 prospective Nationalist members. The uneven division of the Conservatives and Liberals resulting from the elections now being held without doubt places the Nationalists in an enviable position, and Redmond's assertion, in the opinion of those conversant with the situation, is based almost upon certainty.

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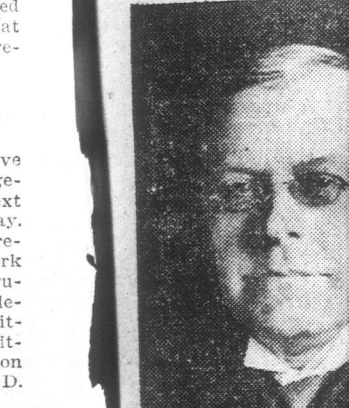
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UNIONISTS

Liberals Not Liked More Than They

London, Jan. 26.—The parliament of 18 Liberals, 2 Nationalists and 1 Labor seat for Sutherlandshire heard from, make up the elections held yesterday, seats the Unionists gain 5 seats 2. With but 7 members to complete the meeting House of Commons the thus:

Unionists ..... 18  
Liberals ..... 2  
Nationalists ..... 1  
Deducting the eight seats will be returned, the Libs will be 30 divided. Liberal and Labor parties majority any where from the Unionists.  
The Unionist gains to the Liberal 18 and the Right Hon. Austen Chamberlain east, and Sir



AUGUSTINE B. Chief Secretary

Hood, the chief Unionist retained his seat for the House of Commons, the prominent members of the House of Commons, the eastern division of Canada, F. H. Newnes, the new member, who previously held the Basselaw division of the House of Commons, and the Liberal share for the House of Commons.

The King will open full state ceremony of Queen Alexandra will be according to rumor source last night. The present idea is only the House of Lords be power of vetoing bills.

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Sydney Buxton, admitted that the point in the House of Commons, he said, had last man.  
Chancellor Lloyd George at 6 o'clock has big Gladstone had in was sufficient to deal with the  
Following is a list of the elections which