

BLOCKADE IN WEST

Farmers Said to be Unable to Meet Their Current Obligations.

A despatch from Winnipeg, says: Voicing the demand of western Canada for relief from the burden of unjust railway rates, the Winnipeg Board of Trade declares the necessity of Parliament affirming an act on the Dominion statute books the principle that the rates shall be no greater in the prairie provinces than in Ontario and Quebec, unless it is proved that the cost of operation are greater in the west. The board expressed its opinion that the cost of operation in the west are "no greater, if as great."

Searching investigation is demanded, with counsel "free from all railway corporation control," to be engaged by the Dominion Government to act with the board and other western interests. This formal action was taken at a representative meeting of the board and is the first gun of a determined campaign, for which Winnipeg business men have been quietly preparing for months.

The Railway Commission of Canada has been formally requested to take cognizance of and to take such action as may be necessary in connection with the car shortage in the western provinces, which during the past two months has reached proportions resulting in a practical paralysis of business in some districts, and has meant a severe

THE NEWS IN A PARAGRAPH

HAPPENINGS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE IN A NUTSHELL.

Canada, the Empire and the World in General Before Your Eyes.

CANADA.
A publicity board has been formed for Norfolk county.
Plans are under way to place the Ontario Government farms under one head.
The absorption of the Quebec Steamship Company by the R. & O. Company is being discussed.
Niagara fruit-growers ask for the appointment of a Provincial inspector to help fight the peach pests.
The C.P.R. proposes to have its agricultural demonstration trains tour Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.
Kenneth Kingston, an Ottawa civil engineer, was found dead on a trail in Saskatchewan. Foul play is suspected.
Jules Ploudeur was sentenced to be hanged at Riviere du Loup, Quebec, on March 8th for the murder of Louis Dion.
The Canadian Northern extension to be built into the Peace River country is now within a few miles of Athabasca Landing.
J. D. Chilton and Joseph Acheson were committed for trial at Hamilton on the charge of robbing the Canadian Express Company of \$8,578.
The plans of the C.N.R. at Montreal are said to include a tunnel under the mountain and a garden city between Outremont and Back River.

HOW ROYAL RESIDENCES ARE KEPT IN ORDER.

The Inspector's Duty is to See That They Are Cleaned at End of the Season.

A little-heard-of personage is King George's Inspector of Royal Palaces, yet he is a most important official, although he is not actually on the Royal staff, says London Answers.
The inspector's duty lies in seeing that, say, Buckingham Palace is put into perfect order after Royal duty has left London at the end of the season. This official has to go over every single department in the Palace, and he must see that papering and painting are carried out, if required.
He must inspect all windows and blinds to see if new cords are wanted or any repairs needed. All the water-taps have to be carefully examined, and, if flaws are discovered, they must be set to rights forthwith. And, as to cleaning, it is the inspector's duty to make sure that every room of the Palace is cleaned out in the most thorough manner possible; no slipshod work will pass the inspector's eagle eye.
Of course, the inspector does not simply order this and that to be done. After making up his mind what repairs, paperings, painting, etc., have to be done he makes out a full list, and forwards it to the Private Secretary of the King, who places it before his Majesty, and he "approves" of the recommendations of the inspector, and thereafter the actual work can be tackled, but not before the Royal approval is secured.
Take any apartment used regularly by the King and Queen. Now, it stands to reason that in such a room many very valuable articles will be found. All things of value must be packed away in boxes; the boxes must be officially sealed and locked by the inspector, who retains the keys.
After that is done, the boxes are removed to one of the strong-rooms in Buckingham Palace until such time as the particular room is ready for them again.
All carpets are carefully cleaned. First of all, they undergo the vacuum process; then they are lifted, and all floorings are well washed and dried ere the carpets are again laid down. All mats and rugs are treated in a similar manner, and every sort of oddment attended to. Method is most important; a certain number of rooms are set aside for each day, and these rooms must be finished with when the day comes to an end. Of course, some rooms are not carpeted; State apartments, ball-rooms, etc., are polished.
At cleaning-time each of these rooms must be repolished, and this takes a very long time—in fact, it is skilled labor.
So the work goes on from day to day until every apartment has been overhauled. The inspector is always on duty; he must personally attend to the cleaning, so he takes up residence in the Palace whilst the work is going on. At this period no higher servants are about the place, only servants of lower grade; they are the workers proper, and all are under the direction of the inspector, whose word is law unto them.
Naturally, the inspector is only on duty for a certain period each year; he is never on duty when the Court is in residence, but no sooner has the Court removed to Balmoral or other palace than the inspector makes his appearance, and he remains on the premises till the palace is like a new pin. The work has to be very specially done, in view of the rank of those who occupy rooms, etc., and that is just why the inspector is there—to see that every apartment is made as perfect as possible ere the King and Queen take up residence.



TRIP INTO UNGAVA WILDS

Gold-Seekers Will Attempt To Cross Territory Untrodden By Whites.

A despatch from Ottawa, says: News was received in Ottawa, from Frank W. Porter, one of the members of the Ungava gold expedition which left Dane, in the Nipissing mining district, on the overland trail about a month ago. The letter was posted at the last Hudson Bay post from which mail could be sent on the route of the gold-seekers. The party have with them provisions sufficient to last a year, and expect to augment their supplies with what wild game they may be able to kill on the trail. The party is made up of eight experienced prospectors and explorers, several of whom have had experience in the Klondike, and who went into that country over the old Edmonton and White Pass trails. The party is headed by Will Donaldson of Cobalt, also a Klondike miner, and former manager of the City of Cobalt and Wyando mines at Cobalt.
Among old bushmen the trip is looked upon as an extremely hazardous one. The party will go over and into territory unexplored and supposedly untraced by white men. This particular territory is almost totally uninhabited, except by a few roving tribes of Eskimos who give the white man a wide berth.
The letter was brought to the nearest postoffice by a party of Indian fur traders, and was written on December 2. All were well, the letter stated, and the party was to leave the post that afternoon to continue its way into the wilderness. With the Indians at the post the coming of the party was a big event. The members of the expedition are each equipped with furs, sealskin boots and leggings, etc., and are fully prepared for the hardships they will have to endure.
It transpires that the party, which is headed for the northeastern shores of Hudson Bay, is making the desperate trip to head off two American boats, which it is reported are outfitting at Boston and New York to proceed to the placer grounds said to have been located by the Roy brothers, French-Canadian trappers, three years ago. One of the Roy's is a member of the Donaldson party.

SINGLE TAX IN ALBERTA.

Premier Introduces Bill to Provide Municipal Constitution.
A despatch from Edmonton, says: Premier Sifton has introduced a bill in the Alberta Legislature which stipulates that within seven years the single tax principle shall be observed by all established municipalities, and that it shall be observed from the outset by municipalities hereafter established in Alberta. The bill, in its entirety, will provide a model constitution for municipalities now in existence and that will be created in the future in this Province. It contains 377 sections, and it is the aim of the Government to include in this report consideration that enters into the administration of a municipality.

HAS STRONG GRIP YET.

Governor of Halifax Prison at 82 Refuses to Retire.
A despatch from Halifax, N.S., says: The governor of the city prison in Halifax is 82 years of age. He has held the position for 32 years, but still refuses to retire, and the City Council is wrestling with the question of his removal. A committee has been holding an investigation into alleged ill-treatment of a prisoner, but they have reached no conclusion reflecting on him. They recommend that a change be made in the governorship of the institution on account of his age. It is considered unlikely that this report will be adopted, and the probability is that the octogenarian governor will hold on for some time yet.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Twenty thousand workers are affected by the strike in Dundee.
John Bigelow, author and diplomat, died in his 95th year.
The United States Senate ratified President Taft's notice of the abrogation of the treaty of 1832 with Russia.

GENERAL.

The Imperial delegate at the peace conference at Shanghai confesses it is too late to save the Manchu dynasty.
The great powers are lending their moral support towards an early termination of the war of revolution in China.

INDIAN AS MOOSE HUNTER.

He Has the White Man Beaten in This Sport.
While the Indian is not considered the equal of the expert white man as a rifle shot, he is the best moose shot in the woods. This sinewy, fleet-footed woodsman is fond of picking up a moose trail just after a light snow has fallen. Then, in light marching order, he will follow the animal across the country until he tires him out or kills him. The process frequently takes from three to four days, and it is possible only to the hardiest of pursuers.
When first started a moose will make off through the woods with the speed of an express train. If it is early in the season and there has been but a light fall of snow, the travelling is good and it is a simple matter to follow the trail. At length the animal, confident of having thrown off its pursuers, will gradually slacken its pace and stop. But it is off again immediately upon hearing the first sound or upon the presence of those who are following.
It is a fact that a vigorous man can tire out a moose in the long run, and the Indian will at length approach near enough to get a shot. He can burden himself with but little in the way of camp equipment, however, and a scanty supply of food and a blanket are all that he carries besides his rifle. This method of killing moose is regarded by many as being far the most sportsmanlike.
No white man, no matter how expert, can ever quite equal an Indian in following a trail or in a canoe. The Indians seem to possess an aptitude in the handling of these frail craft which has come down to them through a long line of forebears.

EPIDEMIC IN LUMBER CAMP.

Disease Believed to be Spinal Meningitis.
A despatch from St. John, N.B., says: A special despatch from Chatham says there is an epidemic of spinal meningitis feared in that section. In one of the lumber camps in the vicinity there were three deaths, and two other cases have been reported. The nature of the disease has not yet been definitely determined, but spinal meningitis is suspected. The Provincial Board of Health are taking action.

TRAGEDY AT RIVERS.

Innocent Bystander Shot by Toronto Strike-breaker.
A despatch from Winnipeg, says: Alfred Thomas, a Toronto strike-breaker in the G.T.R. shops at Rivers, Man., on Wednesday shot and fatally wounded Arthur Elford and seriously injured John Gibbons, strikers, in a melee in a hotel. Some of the strikers got into an argument, and Thomas was struck on the back of the head with a club. He pulled his revolver and fired until it was empty. Thomas had been working at Rivers for about two months, having gone there from Toronto to help break the strike. Police Magistrate Bates took an ante-mortem statement from Elford, who was porter in the hotel and an innocent bystander.

ATTACKED BY COW.

Farmer's Daughter was Probably Fatally Injured.
A despatch from Kingston, says: Attacked by a cow, in a stable on her father's farm, Mary Sills, aged 14, daughter of Geo. Sills, Michigan Post-office, Hinchinbrooke, was brought to the General Hospital on Wednesday suffering from internal injuries and her recovery is at present time doubtful.

SIX LIVES FOR ONE.

Men Will be Executed in January for Murdering Woman.
A despatch from White Plains, N.Y., says: To the company of five men in the death house at Sing Sing prison awaiting electrocution in January for the murder and robbery of Mrs. Mary Hall, at Croton Lake last month a sixth has been added. This man is Salvatore Di Marco, who was found guilty by a jury here on Tuesday of having participated in the killing of the woman.

STORIES OF TWO FAMOUS MEN

Justice Sir William Grantham and "Lord" George Sanger.

Justice Sir William Grantham of the King's Bench Division, who has just died in London, was a good deal of a character. He was noted for what was regarded as too great freedom of speech in his judicial opinions—his "blazing indiscretions" these comments have been trampled and had frequent differences with people, but withal he was a genial kindly man with his friends and neighbors and did not hesitate to tell a joke at his own expense.
One of his stories was that his appointment to the bench was due to a misunderstood remark. A distinguished jurist with whom Sir William was on close terms of friendship in the latter's younger days said once that whatever Sir William knew of the law he was a good judge of horse-flesh. This remark came to the ears of the Lord Chancellor, who understood it to mean that Sir William would make a good judge, not of horseflesh, but of the law. That misunderstanding, according to the story attributed to the late Justice, brought him a high regard in the Lord Chancellor's estimation and caused his appointment to the bench.
Another story about Sir William was that after protesting vainly to a man who was smoking in a non-smoking railway carriage, he sought to impress the offender by handing him his card with a threat to have the man arrested at the next station. But the man left the compartment quickly when the train stopped and took a seat in another compartment. Justice Grantham sent the guard to get the man's name and address so that he could be prosecuted. When the guard returned he said: "I wouldn't have him arrested, sir. I asked his name and he gave me this card. You see, he is Mr. Justice Grantham, sir."
George Sanger, the old circus man, once associated with Barnum, who was murdered at his country place near London, regarded as his most valuable possession a silver cigar box containing the inscription: "Mr. George Sanger, from V. R., Windsor Castle, July 17th, 1899."
"Lord" George as he was called, was fond of telling how he came to receive this mark of Queen Victoria's appreciation. "It was seven and a half minutes in her Majesty's beloved presence," he used to say. Sir Arthur Bigge presented him to the Queen one day in July, 1899, in the grounds of Windsor Castle while she was in her carriage. Here is the story as told by Mr. Sanger to a friend a few years ago:—"So," said the Queen, in her deep, kind tones—"So you are Mr. Sanger! Dear me, you seem very young," she went on quizzically, as I stood, hat in hand, at the wheel of her shining carriage. "Yes, your Majesty," says I, "but it may surprise you to know that it was on the day of your gracious Majesty's Coronation that I first put on my performing dress—at the great three days' fair and festival in Hyde Park!" "Dear me, dear me, how interesting," said the Queen. "Then we talked and talked, and at the end of it all, when the seven and a half minutes had expired, her Majesty called across to Sir Arthur Bigge: 'Arthur, remember that Mr. Sanger must have a little present before he goes.' "So I followed Sir Arthur into a wonderful room. He pulled out a drawer and produced a cheque book and started to write. My heart throbbled. I stayed his hand. "I would rather eat a crust and smile," said I, with a shake of the head. Sir Arthur laughed and closed the book with a snap. "I beg your pardon, Lord George," he said. "A few days later 'Lord' George received the cigar box.

THE WORLD OVER.

Although only fifty are in general use, there are nearly two hundred alphabets known, and practically every one of them owes its origin to the picture writing originated by the Greeks. The Roman alphabet was based on that of the Greeks. In fact, the very words come, from the first two Greek letters, "alpha" and "beta." Some alphabets have more letters than our own; others fewer. In Italian and Latin there are 22 letters; in Chinese, 214. Sanskrit has 44; Spanish, 27; French, 25; German, 26; Turkish, 28; Persian, 32; Arabic, 28, and Russian 35.

"A B C" THE WORLD OVER.

Although only fifty are in general use, there are nearly two hundred alphabets known, and practically every one of them owes its origin to the picture writing originated by the Greeks. The Roman alphabet was based on that of the Greeks. In fact, the very words come, from the first two Greek letters, "alpha" and "beta." Some alphabets have more letters than our own; others fewer. In Italian and Latin there are 22 letters; in Chinese, 214. Sanskrit has 44; Spanish, 27; French, 25; German, 26; Turkish, 28; Persian, 32; Arabic, 28, and Russian 35.

"WRONG" DAY.

"It's not a bit of good my attempting it to-day. Everything goes wrong." So exclaims a despondent business man, and thereby misses his chance. From early morn till dewy eve things go wrong. It has happened before. It will happen again. You wake late, and somehow your clothes won't fit. You snatch a hurried breakfast. Arriving late at business, you start the day with a creeping presentiment of evil happenings, and sure enough they come thick and fast. By this time you are sullen and morose, and feebly exclaim at every failure, "Oh, I can't help it! Everything goes wrong to-day!" Instead of knocking under to the pestilent plague, why not grip it by the throat and choke it? And, even should it catch you fairly and squarely at the beginning of the day's work, show some fight. Do not sit down and groan out the weary excuse for a little slowness.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Much of the good advice handed you won't hold water. Being willing helps some, but it is getting busy that counts. No doubt there are sheerful givers—but did you ever see one? A woman's love letter is two-thirds imagination and one-third hysteria. In order to live a man must work—even if he only works somebody else. Necessity is the mother of invention and matrimony is the mother of contention. You can please almost any mother by praising her children and denigrating those of her neighbors.

POPULATION OF COUNTIES

21 In Ontario Show Increases And 27 Have Smaller Population

A despatch from Ottawa, says: Analysis of the census figures shows that 21 counties have increased their population to the following extent:—
Algoma, 30,234; Carlton, 4,005; Elgin, 730; Essex, 8,802; Haldimand, 333; Halton, 2,670; Lincoln, 4,913; Muskoka, 262; Nipissing, 45,832; Ontario, 598; Parry Sound, 1,901; Peel, 622; Peterborough, 4,659; Russell, 4,252; Simcoe, 2,747; Thunder Bay and Rainy River, 32,844; Waterloo, 10,011; Wellington, 10,757; Wentworth, 7,816; York, including parts of the city of Toronto, 51,857.
There are 27 counties which show decreases, as follows:—
Brant, 988; Bruce, 8,805; Dufferin, 3,296; Dundas, 1,591; Durham, 1,155; Frontenac, 2,862; Glengarry, 882; Grenville, 3,476; Grey, 3,745; Hastings, 3,463; Huron, 8,808; Kent, 1,173; Lambton, 5,208; Lanark, 2,850; Leeds, 1,050; Lennox and Addington, 2,003; Middlesex,

3,311; Norfolk, 2,037; Northumberland, 632; Oxford, 1,042; Perth, 70; Prescott, 67; Prince Edward, 69; Renfrew, 863; Stormont, 2,264; Victoria, 2,003; Wellington, 1,154.	
GROWTH OF PROVINCES.	
The following shows the percentage increase of the various provinces, as revealed in the census figures:	
Canada	33.92
Alberta	412.35
British Columbia	88.28
Manitoba	78.62
New Brunswick	6.27
Nova Scotia	7.13
Ontario	15.54
Quebec	21.62
Saskatchewan	434.52
The following divisions show percentage decreases:	
Prince Edward Island	10.16
North-west Territory	21.85
Yukon Territory	171.00

THE BEST SECURITY FOR YOUR MONEY IS BONDS

There are, broadly speaking, two classes of investments: speculative investments, which may or may not pay interest and may appreciate or depreciate in value. And there are Bonds—Bonds are mortgages split up into denominations of \$100 or upwards. We continually have Bonds, the security of which is beyond question, which pay as high as 6 per cent. interest. They are the standard form of investment. They are purchased by Banks, Insurance Companies and chartered institutions, because the Government recognizes that they offer the maximum of safety with a profitable rate of interest.
Send us your name and address and we will send you literature from time to time giving particulars of new and old issues.

ROYAL SECURITIES CORPORATION LIMITED
BANK OF MONTREAL BUILDING YONGE AND QUEEN STREETS
TORONTO
R. M. WHITE
Manager
MONTREAL-QUEBEC-HALIFAX-OTTAWA
LONDON (ENG.)