

## THE GLOOMIEST WEEK-END IN THE HISTORY OF ENGLAND

Because of the Great Coal Mine Strike Many Thousands Are Hungry—Mills All Over United Kingdom Are Closing by the Score, and All But Mail Trains Are Cancelled.

[Canadian Press.] London, March 23.—England is spending one of the gloomiest week-ends in her history. In every town, village and hamlet throughout the country where skilled workmen are usually engaged in the great industries unemployment is on the increase and the families of the workers, who have been rendered idle by the strike of the million coal miners, who quit work on March 1, are suffering want and in many cases facing starvation.

Only the utmost efforts of charitable societies and private individuals are able to relieve some of the terrible distress, and idea of which may be gathered from the figure of the unemployed alone, which besides the miners reaches almost 2,000,000.

**Trains Cancelled.** Residents of the cities who usually spend the Saturday afternoons and Sundays in the country are unable today to leave town, as the railways, pleading a shortage of coal, have cancelled trains by the hundred. One of the biggest lines, the Great Eastern, for example, is running only five trains during the whole of tomorrow, and it is only doing this because it is under contract to carry the mails. The railroads have also decided not to run special race trains for the opening of the flat racing season next week, and it is now doubtful whether they will even be able to run holiday special trains at Easter. All this means further reductions in the working staffs of the railways, and the result is that 50,000 skilled men already, every one of whom is drawing out-of-work benefit from the Railwaymen's Trade Unions.

**Cotton Mills Closing.** The cotton mills at Nelson, Bolton, and other centres in Lancashire are closing down rapidly, while most of the factories in Leeds have either stopped entirely or are running on half-time. Foundries everywhere have drawn their fires and this week-end a large number of factories and workshops in the southern counties of England, which heretofore have not been affected, have paid off their men. The cement workers on the Mersey have joined the long list today and will resume until supplies of coal are assured.

**LATE EDWARD BLAKE LEFT AN ESTATE OF \$281,758.61**

Goes to Children and Grandchildren at Widow's Death.

[Canadian Press.] Toronto, March 23.—The will of the late Edward Blake was filed for probate this morning with the clerk of the surrogate court. It disposes of an estate valued at \$281,758.61, with the exception of small annuities bequeathed to five persons described as strangers, is divided among the children and grandchildren of the testator.

**GIVE CITY REASONABLE TIME TO TALK BUSINESS TO G. T. R.**

City Hopeful That an Agreement May Be Reached With Company.

The impression prevails at the city hall that the Dominion railway commission will give the city council a reasonable time to open negotiations with the Grand Trunk Railway regarding track elevation before they take a hand in the discussion.

The commission have the power to compel the two parties to the dispute to come together, but it is thought that some time will be allowed for negotiation in order to determine whether or not it is not possible to reach an amicable arrangement.

If that is not at all possible, then the commission will step in, name a time to hear both sides of the question, bring in a finding, and then set a date for the completion of the work.

It is also suspected that the improvements will cost the city some money. There is no doubt among the aldermen that the city will have to pay a portion of the cost, and this portion will be no light morsel, either.

"We shall take the matter up at the council meeting on Monday," said Mayor Graham. "We shall negotiate first with the Grand Trunk, and if that is not successful, we shall have to abide by the decision of the Dominion railway commission. We will take immediate action."

**Rather Pessimistic.** Ald. Richter, however, is pessimistic of any good coming through negotiations.

"The Grand Trunk a few years ago practically agreed to do this work, on condition that the city took care of

the land damages, and gave them a fixed assessment," he stated. "That was a reasonable proposition, and the city could have got out of it fairly well. However, negotiations were broken off, and nothing has been done since. My idea is that the company have nothing to lose and everything to gain by going to the commission. They will get better by a ruling from that body than from a city council. It has been the practice to assess the municipalities a portion of the cost, and I fancy London will have to pay a right good share of the cost of the improvements, whatever they may be. I do not know that there is any necessity of immediate action, the commission is desiring to keep this matter before us as a live subject."

**Up to Railway Commission.** "Everything is in the hands of the Dominion railway commission," said Ald. Spittal. "If they say the matter must be settled at once, it will have to be settled, that's all. Whatever price they decide we will have to pay. I have come to the conclusion that it will be something. In other places the proportion has been about 25 per cent against the municipality and 75 per cent against the company. It depends upon the kind of work done here what it will cost us. It will amount to something."

**An Estimate.** The consensus of opinion among the aldermen was that the improvements would cost the city about \$300,000.

in discussing the question today.

"If the commission is set upon doing away with level crossings in one portion of the city, it is not at all probable that the members would grant us permission to put in another, and a dangerous one, too. It seems as if a subway is the only solution of the problem. Perhaps it is just as well to do the work right at the start than endanger a person's life."

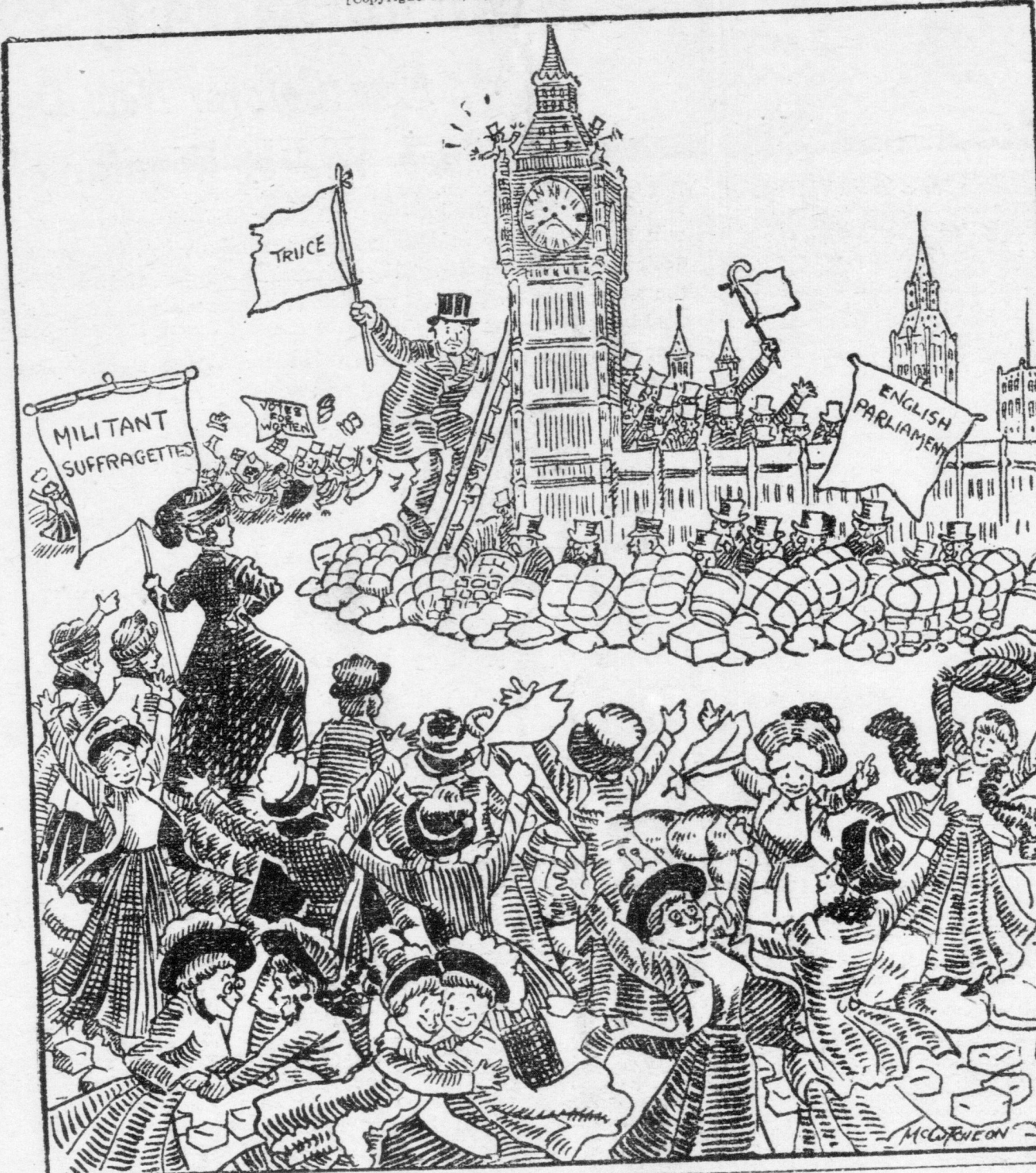
**CALL TO TORONTO.** Montreal, March 23.—Rev. F. K. Day, pastor of Zion Congregational Church here, who has received a call to Northern Congregational Church, Toronto, announced this morning that he would hold a conference with the officials of his present church over the matter and announce his decision in a few days.

## THE SIEGE OF THE SUFFRAGETS.

WILL MR. ASQUITH SURRENDER?

By John T. McCutcheon.

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## CRUSHED TO DEATH UNDER SAWDUST PILE

Young Wilmet Township Farmer Accidentally Killed While Teaming.

[Special to The Advertiser.] New Hamburg, March 23.—Gordon Schweitzer, aged 24 years, son of Samuel Schweitzer, a farmer near St. Agatha, in Wilmet Township, was accidentally killed yesterday. The young man, who had been engaged in teaming sawdust for his father's ice house, was loading from a pile which was top-crosted with ice and snow, when it caved in on him. Life was extinct before the body was recovered.

## PRESIDENT LYNCH IS COMING TO LONDON

Head of Typographical Union Will Be the Guest of No. 133.

The members of London Typographical Union, No. 133, who are this year celebrating the forty-third anniversary, have invited President James M. Lynch, of the international body, to visit this city in connection with the affair this summer, and his promise has been obtained to be present.

President Lynch, whose headquarters are in Indianapolis, Ind., has arranged for a Canadian tour, and will spend a day or so in the Forest City. The local branch is one of the oldest in the union, and has been productive of a great many influential men. Senator Thomas Coffey was the first president. The printers have always had a great many former members among the old boys at the periodical reunions, and the branch on such occasions have contributed to the pleasure of the celebrations.

**A Horse Deal.** It is understood that an information has been laid with the city police by Ernest Griffith, of this city, charging George Granger with attempting to defraud the plaintiff of \$50 in a horse deal.

## THE WEATHER.

TOMORROW—RAIN OR SNOW.

Toronto, March 23—8 a.m. Forecasts.

Today—Southeasterly winds; fair to day.

Tomorrow—Easterly winds, with rain or snow.

Temperatures.

The following are the highest and lowest temperatures for the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock this morning.

Stations. High. Low. Weather.

LONDON ..... 27.5 ..... 8 ..... Clear.

Victoria ..... 56 ..... 40 ..... Cloudy.

Calgary ..... 46 ..... 20 ..... Clear.

Winnipeg ..... 39 ..... 8 ..... Clear.

Port Arthur ..... 24 ..... 16 ..... Cloudy.

Parry Sound ..... 22 ..... 6 ..... Clear.

Toronto ..... 39 ..... 12 ..... Fair.

Ottawa ..... 28 ..... 2 ..... Clear.

Montreal ..... 26 ..... 14 ..... Clear.

Quebec ..... 24 ..... 8 ..... Clear.

Father Point ..... 26 ..... 8 ..... Clear.

Weather Notes.

The barometer is now highest over the Middle Atlantic States, and an area of pressure is moving towards the Great Lakes from the Southwest States.

The temperature has risen somewhat in the Western Provinces, but the weather continues cold from Ontario to the Maritime Provinces.

## A NEW STORY ON MONDAY

A romantic sea-story of love, adventure and peril will have its first installment in The Advertiser of Monday. The title is "The Last Cruise of the Donna Isabel," and the author is Ronald Parrish. There is not an uninteresting chapter in the book, which concerns the strange experiences of an American adventurer and an English duchess. One critic described the story as being fit to grace the same shelf with the sea stories of Stevenson, Conrad or Louis Tracy.

## MR. BROWNLEE TO MEET MEN TO TALK BRANCH SCHEDULES

Representatives of Union From Entire System To Be There.

[Canadian Press.] Montreal, March 23.—W. G. Brownlee, general transportation manager of the Grand Trunk, has agreed to meet the

representatives of the Trainmen's Union here next week to discuss a number of matters, notably the new reduction in the schedule of pay for conductors, brakemen and baggage men on branch lines in Canada. The union men have been here for a week, and comprise representatives of the company's employees from Portland, Me., to Durand, Mich.

## LIBERAL LEADER MOVES FOR CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Mr. Rowell Wants a Non-Partisan Board Appointed for Ontario.

Toronto, March 23.—N. W. Rowell is carrying out another of his pre-election pledges in a notice that he will move on Wednesday next: "That in the judgment of this House the spoils

and patronage systems are inimical to the highest efficiency of the public service, and to the best interests of the country; that the public interests demand the immediate creation of a non-partisan civil service commission with ample powers, and that all appointments and promotions in the public service shall be by merit after competitive examination, except in those cases where the conditions of the public service render this impracticable."

## TALBOT ST. AND EMPRESS AVE. SCHOOLS TO BE TORN DOWN

Modern Structures Will Be Erected in Their Place Next Year.

The board of education, in addition to the programme outlined for this year, are planning for the future, and in 1913, there may be some drastic changes in school conditions in the city.

The proposal is to tear down the Talbot street and Empress avenue schools and construct a new and modern structure at a more convenient site.

The present Richmond street school will also be destroyed, and in its stead a very fine building constructed.

This will mean two large buildings in place of the three now utilized by the board.

Work For Next Year.

"This proposition is being consid-

ered, but nothing probably will be done this year," said Trustee W. W. Gammage. "The Talbot street and the Princess avenue schools are out-of-date, and it is claimed insanitary, and it will not be long until they will have to be replaced. The idea is to have two big schools, modern in every sense, to replace the two mentioned, and Richmond street. The boundaries could be so arranged that the buildings will accommodate all the pupils from these sections. It is not expected that any thing definite will be done this year towards the reconstruction of the schools, but the programme will be adhered to next year, it is thought."

"Hamilton has followed a policy for some years of erecting modern schools to replace their old out-of-date structures," said Rev. Mr. Inkster in discussing the matter. "The result is that there are very few schools that are not up-to-date in every particular. The board here should, and I think, will follow out this principle."

## HEAD OFFICE WILL REMAIN IN LONDON

Woodmen of the World Decide to Not Move Their Headquarters.

## LONDONERS HONORED

Ex-Ald. J. H. Saunders is Head Banker, and Claire Jarvis, Head Clerk—Local Delegates Home From Toronto.

The head offices of the Woodmen of the World will not be moved from the city of London. Ex-Ald. J. H. Saunders, head banker, Claire Jarvis, head clerk, W. A. Hall, and the other delegates returned on Friday night from the meeting in Toronto, and state that the offices will remain here for two years at least. There was an attempt made to transfer them to Toronto, but the Western Ontario delegation was too strong for all opposition.

Mr. Saunders and Mr. Jarvis were elected head banker and head clerk again without opposition. Mr. Jarvis was also selected as editor of the Woodman paper, to succeed Mr. W. C. Fitzgerald.

Dr. W. S. Harrison, of Toronto, was chosen head counsel commander and head physician, no candidate appearing against him for either office.

"It was a very large convention, one of the largest ever held by the Woodmen," said Mr. Saunders. "The affairs of the order were found to be in good condition, and everything seemed prosperous. The head offices will remain in London."

## NORMAL SCHOOL WINS FROM WESTERN ARTS

Winners Were Behind at Half-Time, But Won Out.

The Normal School basketball team defeated the Western Arts in a close game played at the Normal School last evening. At half time the score was 8 to 7 in the Arts' favor, but in the second period the Normalites outclassed their opponents and won out by 18 to 32. Poisson, of the Meds., refereed.

The teams were: Normal, forwards; Mitchell, centre; Cain and McLaughlin, defence.

Normal School—McDonald and Honey, forwards; Gillan, centre; J. Campbell and E. Campbell, defence.

## STRIKE BREAKER FREE OF MURDER CHARGE

Killed One and Shot Two Who Attacked Him in West.

[Canadian Press.] Brandon, Man., March 23.—Thomas Smith, a G. T. P. strike-breaker, of Rivers, Man., who killed Arthur Abford and shot two other men who attacked him, Dec. 29, was acquitted of the charge of murder.

## THREE MILLION CHINESE FACING STARVATION

Last Summer's Floods Destroyed the Crops of 50,000 Square Miles.

London, March 23.—Three millions of people in Central China are on the verge of starvation. Last summer the worst floods in forty years destroyed the crops in an area of 50,000 square miles. Many have already died of hunger and unless prompt relief is given, multitudes of men, women and children must perish.

During the last few weeks the political and military news from China has absorbed the attention and interest of the world to the exclusion of the needs of the hungry Chinese. Until then the famine will be growing daily more acute. The people to be relieved are chiefly hard-working and honest farmers.

This is one of the greatest famines of modern times. Six hundred thousand families are without food or means of support. Fifteen dollars will save a whole family from starvation. Fifteen hundred dollars will have one hundred families. Fifteen thousand dollars will provide for one thousand families. Hundreds of thousands of lives in the end have been saved by prompt and generous contributions are made.

## SIX ASPHYXIATED

Inmates of Ohio Infirmary Killed By Escaping Gas.

[Canadian Press.] Norwalk, Ohio, March 23.—Six inmates of the Huron County Infirmary are dead as a result of asphyxiation last night. Seven others were overcome but are recovering.

It is supposed that fires in gas stoves went out as a result of gas failure and that later the supply came on again.

## WEEKLY HIGH COURT

Made for Payment Out of Court in McLean Case.

Sir Glenholme Falconbridge, chief justice of the king's bench, presided at this morning's session of the weekly high court. Two cases were disposed of, the petition of the Knickerbocker Trust Company of New York, in the matter of the Brockville Radial Railway bonds, which was put over from last Saturday, and again laid over. In the case of the estate of Mary McLean, the consent of all parties was gained, confirming the master's report. An order was made for payment out of court. Mr. W. R. Meredith for the motion, and Ivey & Dronough representing the guardian and all other parties.

## TILLSONBURG DEATH.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Tillsonburg, March 23.—After an illness extending over some time, Mrs. R. T. Moulton, wife of the proprietor of the Royal Hotel, died last evening from what physicians diagnose as a LaGrange of the heart. She was 25 years old, and besides her husband, leaves two small children.

## WARRANT ISSUED FOR ARRISON'S ARREST

Young Man Broke a Window and Failed to Pay for It.

Mike Arrison, a young fellow who poked his fist through a plate glass window at the Duke of York Hotel a week ago, and who was released for a few days on promising Police Magistrate Judd that he would pay up, failed to carry out his end of the agreement. Neither did he appear today, as was required, so a warrant was issued for his arrest.

The only other business of the court today was the dismissal of two men who were charged with drunkenness. One of them was a large fellow who was unable to handle himself about the corner of Dundas and Richmond streets last night and who was gathered in by P. C. Midgah.

**"DECISION DAY"**

Will Be Held Sunday in First Metho-

dist Church.

At the First Methodist church Friday

night there was a large meeting. The

Sunday school was well represented, and

the influence pervading the whole assembly

was very marked. Many expressed a

wish to become Christians. Many

Whitings' preaching was most powerful,

and the deep interest of the service was

greatly increased by the singing of the

church choir, and the sympathetic play-

ing of the organ. On Sunday the Sunday

school will be looked forward to as one

that should be a climax in these services.

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