

TERRIBLE DISASTER IN MINE AT EXTENSION

MORE TROUBLE WITH LATERALS

WATER COMMISSIONER ASKS FOR INSTRUCTIONS

City Barrister Says Owners of Vacant Land Can't Be Made to Pay.

At Monday's meeting of the city council a letter was read from Water Commissioner Raymur referring to the application of the owners of property on Belmont avenue for lateral connections for water supply at the same time that the street was being improved. He had written the property owners asking them to agree to pay for the cost of the same and had only received answers from four of them. In regard to Linden avenue he asked was it the wish of the council that the city should compel the owners to pay four-fifths of the cost, as this would certainly result under the by-laws governing the matter at present.

In this connection a report was received from the city barrister to the effect that the city had no power to compel the owner of property to make connection for and purchase city property.

Ald. McKeown thought the situation was becoming complicated. The people on Linden avenue didn't anticipate that they would be charged with the expense of putting down the water and sewerage connections any differently from any other street in the city. But apparently the way it was now being handled was to pay.

The city solicitor pointed out that there was no by-law before the council fixing the payment at the figures mentioned by the water commissioner.

Ald. Henderson remarked that the council had, however, passed a resolution to go ahead with the work, and now in view of the opinion from Mr.

ALL CANADA IS BOOMING

WHOLE DOMINION EXTREMELY PROSPEROUS

So Declares R. L. Richards of Toronto, Now Visiting City.

(From Tuesday's Daily.) "Canada is throbbing with activity from one end to the other. I never saw in all my travels across the Dominion such evidence of abundant prosperity. The whole country seems to have awakened to renewed life. We are on the eve of great development."

So spoke to the Times this morning R. L. Patterson, of Toronto, late of the firm of Miller & Richards, type foundry, who is touring the west for the first time in five years. He is a guest at the Empress hotel and will remain in the city for a day or two.

Mr. Patterson said that all accounts of the magnitude of the wheat crop in the prairie provinces could not exaggerate the situation in the slightest. The crop was one of the greatest in the history of Canada. "And that money obtained by the farmers from the sale of their wheat is so much true wealth added to the country," continued Mr. Richardson. "It's better to have money made this way than in juggling with real estate. In the wheat crops we have so much new money absolutely created, whereas in real estate transactions the money merely passes from hand to hand."

Mr. Richards referred in glowing terms to the excellence of the Empress hotel. It was, he said, one of the finest hosteleries he had seen either in Europe or this continent. He spoke of the rotunda of the hotel as being easily the finest he had ever seen in all his travels.

Mr. Patterson retired from the active management of the firm of which he had for forty-five years been the guiding mind only the other day, his son Harry succeeding him in the active management of the Toronto office.

From here Mr. Patterson goes to Seattle, to take in the A-Y-P, before it closes. From Seattle he will go to San Francisco, and then on to Los Angeles, to see his old-time friend, E. A. Shepherd, the "Don" of Saturday Night fame, who is in a sanatorium just outside of Los Angeles. Mr. Patterson is well known in all printing offices on the coast.

RAILWAY ROUTE TO HUDSON BAY

ENGINEERS ARE NOW PREPARING REPORT

It is Probable Nelson Will Be Recommended as Terminus.

Winnipeg, Oct. 5.—Engineers who have been out surveying the line for the Hudson Bay railway are preparing their report here for presentation to the government at the coming session of the Commons. Indications all point to the recommending of Nelson as the terminus instead of Churchill. At the latter point Premier Roblin has had a man squatting on a townsite for the last four years and he stands to lose heavily.

Nelson offers better harbor facilities, is open for a longer period, has a much greater flow of water and is not subject to blockade from floating ice from the bay or river. The railway line to Nelson would be easier and cheaper in construction, is seventy miles shorter, runs through timbered country, offering better protection from drifting snow, and avoids a climb over the Height of Land, separating two rivers. An engineer is now out making an examination of Hudson's straits, preparing data as to the movement of ice, fogs, winds and tides, affecting navigation.

JEWELS STOLEN. Pittsburg, Oct. 5.—Jewels to the value of \$4,000 were stolen from the residence of Henry R. Ross in this city, being taken from a dressing table in Mrs. Ross's bedroom. Although the robbery occurred several days ago, it has just been made public by the offer of a large reward and the efforts of a private detective agency to recover the jewels.

STAMPS AND CASH STOLEN. Ottawa, Oct. 5.—The post office at Peckanok, Que., was robbed of some cash and postage stamps yesterday.

BURNED TO DEATH IN APARTMENT HOUSE

Man Loses His Life and 20 Families Have Narrow Escape.

(Special to the Times.) San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 5.—More than twenty families were forced to flee for their lives and Morris Lindsay, a drug clerk, was burned to death in a fire which broke out early to-day and destroyed the four apartment houses on Eddy street, between Franklin and Gough. The property loss is estimated at \$75,000.

Lindsay was employed as a drug clerk by Wm. T. Kibbler, of 473 Larkin street and his body was found this morning in the ruins at 871 Eddy street, where he lived. There were a number of narrow escapes.

BRITAIN MAY ASSIST SPAIN

HOLY WAR HAS BEEN PROCLAIMED IN MOROCCO

Thousands of Fanatics Are Flocking to Side of Tribesmen.

(Times Leased Wire.) London, Oct. 5.—International difficulties are likely to be precipitated by the announcement that Great Britain proposes to take a hand in quelling the rebellion of the Riff tribesmen in Morocco.

It was learned to-day that yesterday's cabinet meeting was called for the purpose of considering the situation. The British nation is alarmed by the alleged discovery that Spain was forced into the Riff war by France for the protection of French interests. Convinced that Spain is defeated, it is now believed that France will take up the fight. It is generally believed here that Germany is attempting to extend its domain in Africa by assisting Mulai Hafid, who is reported to be assisting the tribesmen in their fight against Spain. It now seems probable that Great Britain will go to the assistance of Spain in suppressing the rebellion. Declare Holy War. Gibraltar, Oct. 5.—A holy war of extermination was declared by the Mohammedan priests of Morocco, together with the Riff tribesmen to-day, and thousands of fanatics from the interior are pouring into the native camps. The Spanish troops at Melilla are being hedged in, according to dispatches received to-day.

CHOLERA SEIZES HOLD ON RUSSIA

SIX THOUSAND DEATHS HAVE BEEN REPORTED

Threats of European Nations to Quarantine Empire Stir Officials to Action.

(Times Leased Wire.) St. Petersburg, Oct. 5.—Russian authorities, becoming alarmed at the threat of other European nations to quarantine the czar's domain, to-day are considering measures for combating Asiatic cholera, which is increasing in the Russian capital and the larger cities of European Russia. Six thousand deaths from more than 15,000 cases of cholera failed to stir Russian officials into action until threats were made by other nations to take upon themselves the task of imposing necessary sanitation on Russia from without. The plague has been spreading rapidly with the approach of winter and now threatens the wealthier portions of the capital.

HANDLING GRAIN. G. T. P. Will Move Ten Million Bushels Between Edmonton and Winnipeg This Year. Edmonton, Oct. 5.—E. J. Chamberlin, general manager of the G. T. P., arrived yesterday and took a look over the railway situation in the city. In company with Mr. Mann, division engineer, he inspected the work on the G. T. P. shops. In answer to an inquiry as to what assistance the G. T. P. would give toward the moving of this year's grain crop, Mr. Chamberlin said the new line would move ten million bushels of grain this year between Edmonton and Winnipeg.

ENDS HIS LIFE. Toronto, Oct. 5.—Adm. Kerr, aged 70 and out of work, committed suicide and left a pathetic letter saying he could not get work and would not live to be a charge on his friends.

GOLDWIN SMITH STATUE. Toronto, Oct. 5.—A movement to erect a statue to Prof. Goldwin Smith is meeting with influential support.

Twenty-Eight Men Are Entombed in the Workings of Wellington Colliery Company This Morning

IT IS FEARED IMPRISONED MEN HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES

Effect of Explosion Confined to Slope In Which It Occurred—Work of Rescue Is Now in Progress at Colliery.

(From Tuesday's Daily.) Another disaster has overtaken the mines at Extension, where the extensive workings of the Wellington Colliery company are situated.

Twenty men are entombed, with the chances for their rescue very slight indeed. The catastrophe is due to an explosion which took place early this forenoon and which has thrown the trinity of mining towns of the coal districts—Ladysmith, Extension and Nanaimo, into a ferment of excitement.

The first intelligence of the disaster came over the phone to the Times office and to the head offices of the Wellington Colliery company in this city shortly before noon. The two reports coincided very closely as to the number of men who had been overtaken in the explosion, placing the number at about twenty, although a report from Nanaimo put it as high as sixty men.

Extension, the scene of the explosion, is situated about ten miles from Ladysmith, which is the shipping port for its ores, and is connected with it by a line of railway which carries the majority of the miners, who prefer to live at Ladysmith, to and from their work.

The report received by the colliery company in this city was very brief. "All we know," said Mr. A. Lindsay, treasurer of the company, "is that an explosion has taken place and that the men then working in No. 2 mine have been entombed."

"We have been unable to get communication with any of the officials of our company, doubtless because they are busy superintending the work of rescue. There were twenty men on shift this morning and the remainder of the force are now engaged trying to effect their rescue. The superintendent of the mine is Mr. Andrew Bryden."

One of the officials of the company or possibly more, will go up this afternoon to take part in the work of attempting the rescue of the men.

FEARED ALL HAVE PERISHED. Nanaimo, B. C., Oct. 5.—A terrific explosion occurred at the Extension mines of the Wellington Colliery company this morning about 9 o'clock. Twenty men are entombed and it is feared have perished. The news reached town about 11 o'clock and about 11:30 a miner arrived from the scene of the accident.

His story is that the explosion occurred at 9 o'clock. He and his father were quitting the mine and were bringing out their gear. They had reached the main tunnel when the explosion occurred, which, so far as he could learn, was right where they had left.

The shock was terrific, the stoppings being blown out and doors unhinged. The effects of the explosion were confined to the slope on which it occurred. All the other men in the mine got out unhurt.

There are three levels, however, which at 11 o'clock had not been heard from. In these levels are about twenty men, and only a driver and trapper have come out. It is impossible to get at these levels and it is feared that all the men have perished. Rescue work is now being attempted.

The Scene of the Accident. The location of the explosion and the spot where a score of men are to-day entombed is in No. 2 mine, which starts at the inner end of the big No. 1 tunnel—a tunnel which was driven a mile through solid rock.

All the coal from No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 mines is now brought out through this tunnel by electric motor haulage. The three slopes formerly used as haulage ways before connections were made with the tunnel are still kept open, and are used as travelling ways and return air courses for their respective mines.

The report of the inspector of mines for the last year thus describes the workings: "In No. 2 mine all the working places are to the dip of the inner end of the big tunnel. About 240 yards to the east of the tunnel are two slopes, known as No. 2 east slope and the diagonal slope. This latter was driven down into and across a basin, but now that the motor road has been extended, a road has been made around the eastern end of the basin and the slope done away with, except that there is a travelling way and ladder therefrom out of the mine. The coal in this part of the mine is very thick; about 50 per cent. of it is left as pillars, to be removed at some future time."

"In No. 2 west slope most of the mining done is the extraction of pillars, although some pillar and stall work is carried on. The coal from here is of excellent quality; but the seam is thinner than it usually is; there is, however, a very solid conglomerate roof requiring little timber, and adding to the safety of working. The prospects for a supply of coal from here for some years to come seems good."

"I have frequently examined the mine in all its accessible places, and I have always found the mine well timbered and a plentiful supply of timber on hand; while, although I have always tested the air with a Wolf safety lamp, it was very seldom that I could obtain even a trace of explosive gas."

"The amount of air supplied for ventilation is as follows: New travelling road, east split, 19,000 cubic feet a minute; new travelling road, west split, 17,600 cubic feet a minute; slant slope, 10,250 cubic feet a minute; No. 1 tunnel, 24,300 cubic feet a minute. Total, 71,210 cubic feet a minute for 80 men and 10 mules."

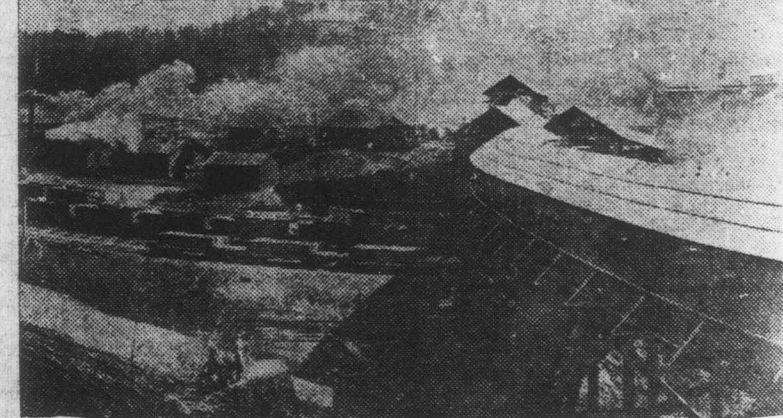
"In addition to the manager and overman, there is a staff of nine firemen continually on the move throughout the mine."

The Owners. The Extension mines is the property of the Wellington Colliery Company with head offices in this city and with a capitalization of two million dollars. The president of the company is Hon. Jas. Dunsmuir, the Lieut.-Governor of the province. The vice-president is F. D. Little; the secretary, H. M. Mills, and the treasurer, J. A. Lindsay, all of Victoria.

Mr. F. D. Little, M. E., is the general manager of the mines at Extension and at Comox, while the local manager of the Extension mines is Andrew Bryden.

Rescue Party at Work. Ladysmith, Oct. 5.—As a result of the explosion in the mines at Extension this morning there is little hope that any of the 20 men employed in slope No. 4 beyond the point where the explosion occurred will escape with their lives. The explosion took place about 9 o'clock this morning. It occurred about half way up No. 4 slope in No. 2 mine. Exact information concerning the accident is hard to obtain, but it is feared that all the men imprisoned will lose their lives. The locality where the explosion occurred is one which is free from gas and work is carried on with the ordinary pit lamps. In the ordinary displacing of the coal to-day a "pocket" of gas is supposed to have been struck. With its liberation an explosion followed.

Following this the dreaded after-damp of miners followed, completely (Concluded on page 7.)



EXTENSION MINE



LAYING CORNER STONE OF NEW SCHOOL ON MOSS STREET ON MONDAY AFTERNOON

Taylor the city can't compel the people to pay after the work has been completed. The council would be making a mistake if it proceeded very far under a policy of that kind.

The city solicitor pointed out that the water by-law compels the commissioner to offer to put down pipes in anticipation that the connection will be demanded by the property owner. There was a charge of \$10 for this work. And under the system it is proposed to adopt this city would simply advance that sum of money until such time as the connection was needed.

Ald. McKeown thought the only proper way to proceed would be to get an agreement from all the property owners. The city could easily finance it for the people who can't pay.

Ald. Henderson thought that the council would be only complicating matters by any such procedure if they did not go very cautiously.

Ald. Fullerton thought it would be a great pity to have Linden avenue torn up after being improved in order to put down lateral connections. One difficulty that ought not to be forgotten, however, was that when the property on a portion of that thoroughfare came to be subdivided it might be found that the water connections would be in the wrong place.

Ald. Ross was of the opinion that the city had a perfect right to do the work—was, in fact, doing it now. There was no reason in getting frightened at little difficulties as they arise.

Ald. Raymond agreed with Ald. Ross. He cited the case of Belleville street where the city had put in all lateral connections. Why not do the same on other streets?

After some further debate it was decided to take the whole question up again at Friday evening's meeting of the streets' committee.

THOUSANDS FACING STARVATION IN MEXICO

Suffering Acute Among People Left Homeless by the Recent Flood.

Monterey, Mexico, Oct. 5.—Thousands of people, homeless and without the necessities of life as the result of the recent floods, will starve unless relief is extended to them quickly. The suffering is acute.

There is great need of corn, rice and beans for food, and blankets and clothing to prevent death from exposure. Second-hand clothing from the United States would be most acceptable.

PROF. STRINGHAM DEAD. Acting Head of University of California Passes Away. Berkeley, Cal., Oct. 5.—Prof. Irving Stringham, acting head of the University of California, who was to have presided at the Traft meeting in the Greek theatre this morning, died just two hours before the president arrived at the University grounds.

Prof. Stringham took charge of the affairs of the University three months ago, when President Wheeler started on a trip to Europe. He accompanied Wheeler to the train, but immediately afterward became ill of uremic poisoning, and this morning succumbed at Alta Bates sanitarium.

DEGREE FOR WHITELAW REID. London, Oct. 5.—Whitelaw Reid, the American ambassador to Great Britain, received the honorary degree of LL.D. from the University of Manchester, at the hands of Viscount Morley, chancellor of the institution, yesterday.

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