

THE WEST

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THE MANAGER.

The West Company, Ltd.,
Regina, Sask.

WEDNESDAY, May 8, 1907.

COAL STRIKE SETTLED

The coal strike is at last settled and a two years' agreement has been entered into between the miners and the operators. This means that with the usual output the mines will produce a supply that will stock the dealers throughout the country and prevent the famine such as existed last winter. A strike commenced in March 1906 and continued till the following December thus reducing the coal supply by 187,300 tons, the dealers will be able to stock this season and the consumers will no doubt profit by last year's experience and get their supply in as early as convenient this fall.

In the negotiations for the settlement of the present strike a great deal of credit is due the Dominion government for the untiring efforts on behalf of industrial peace. If they had gone so far last year there would have been plenty of coal throughout the winter and the famine would not have existed. The people of this country stood at the back of the government in taking the steps they did, and the sending of the police to the vicinity of the trouble guaranteed the sincerity of the government that they would have no interference with the operation of the mines if a settlement failed.

The labor leaders were not unreasonable in their peace negotiations, but the miners themselves were a little headstrong all through the proceedings until at times it became doubtful whether they were under the control of the organization or not. The final vote, however, has shown that by a good majority they are desirous of averting industrial embarrassment and are willing to accept a compromise for the next two years.

BOTHAS, NOT STEAD

Toronto has been criticised because the members of the Canadian Club refused to entertain W. T. Stead, the well known English editor, he being a pro-Boer during the South African war. Notwithstanding that some western newspapers have taken a different view from that obtaining at Toronto, we believe that the club members did the only thing consistent with their principles and the only thing worthy of their institution. It would be a poor example to the children of Canada, for any national organization to stultify itself as the Toronto Canadian Club would have done had it offered the glad hand to Mr. Stead.

There is a wide difference between Gen. Botha's position and that of W. T. Stead, and if the latter had had his way during the war, the former would not be the prime minister of a British Colony today. A Canadian club has just as much right on principle to entertain Col. Lynch as they have to throw open their doors to Mr. Stead. Gen. Botha was fighting for his country which was captured by the enemy and under the peace settlement he became a British subject and now he has accepted the highest responsibility as a good and worthy citizen of the British Empire. There is admiration for him throughout the whole Empire, but what can be said of a man in a position to influence public sentiment who uses his power to assist the enemy and weaken loyalty to the crown.



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The Canadian Club can entertain Gen. Botha, but not Mr. Stead.

WASTED SYMPATHY

Those who know Frank O. Fowler, politician and grain dealer, must admit that the interference of Judge Phippen in his behalf at the recent court scene in the grain trade prosecution, was a waste of sympathy. If R. A. Bonnar had been harsh with a witness who was either a bashful girl or a modest youth, there would be some reason for the interference of the court. Frank Fowler, however, can take care of himself and when he cannot, his usefulness to the grain trade will have ceased.

The people of the west are familiar with the case referred to, and it is well known that evidence exists to prove conspiracy on the part of the grain trade as alleged in the prosecution of the men now before the court. To get the information, however, is the difficult task. The accused cannot be convicted out of their own mouths, and Frank O. Fowler is one of the men who if he answered fairly all the questions put to him would convict or acquit the accused members of the Exchange. He was Mr. Bonnar's own witness and he naturally used him as well as he could to get the best results, but, evidently, his Lordship thought that the lawyer was going too far and Mr. Bonnar was severely rebuked and he then withdrew from the court.

Everyone respects the principle enunciated by the judge, but those who stances of the case, will not acknowledge Frank Fowler and the circumstantial application of that restraint too often ignored. Fowler don't need help very often, and Frank is quite able to take care of himself or he would not hold his job.

SOMETHING WRONG

"New arrivals for the Canadian West." "Crowding Towards the West" and other similar headings adorn eastern papers over news stories respecting the immigration through Canadian sea-ports. This is very strange in view of the published official returns of the immigration department which shows that out of 131,000 immigrants who came via eastern ports only 41,000 came to the western provinces. Surely there must be something wrong somewhere. We have been receiving this immigration for a number of years, and the Government has always made the grand stand play that the western country is receiving the larger share of this influx of population, and we believe that it is. When we observe closely the stream of immigrants coming through this city, alone, it is enough to impress upon us the fact that the people are settling up the country and the land office returns indicate that many of the new comers are after homes, but why do we not get credit for this settlement in the blue books and the census returns, bothers us to some extent and we cannot get away from the fact that there is something crooked about those figures—not with regard to those who come to Canada, but respecting the number credited with coming west. Some day there may be some light thrown upon this manipulation of figures by the Interior department, but for the present we must be satisfied to know that the majority of immigrants who come to Canada, come west of the great lakes, while the published returns of the department show that two-thirds of them settle in the east.

INSPIRING BOTHAS

The following appeared in a recent issue of the London (Eng.) Times: "The Transvaal has started on its political life in a way that must give entire satisfaction to every loyal citizen of the Empire. In saying this we are thinking not so much of the first short session of the Transvaal Parliament, though this has an importance which must not be underrated, as of the generous and statesmanlike utterances delivered outside of parliament by the new ministry. The first was Gen. Bo-

tha's speech at Pretoria three weeks ago, which came as nothing less than a revelation to the great majority of Englishmen. In that speech, as will not be forgotten, General Botha declared that he and his colleagues were as zealous for the honor of the flag as any ministry could be; that the unparalleled generosity with which this country had granted a free constitution to the Transvaal would never be forgotten by the Boers; and that it would be the work of the ministry to create a great united nation in the Colony, as a prelude to a United South Africa. It was an admirable speech in its breadth and courage, and it woke Transvaal throughout South Africa generally, but at home. But it is the impression made on Gen. Botha's own fellow-citizens in the Transvaal which is, no doubt, the most important, and how favorable this was may be gathered from a second and almost more remarkable demonstration which took place on Saturday. The complimentary banquet given by Johannesburg to the new ministers is, as it were, the reply of the British community to Gen. Botha's speech. It completes the harmony, and, we may add, the paradox of the new situation. It was hardly possible that Gen. Botha's Johannesburg speech should make the same profound impression as the speech at Pretoria, but at least it may be said that it was in the key of its predecessor. Once again, he said, Johannesburg had shown that it could play a leading part, and it hoped that it would often lead in the future. We cannot help attaching more meaning to a remark of this kind than to the ordinary exchange of political courtesies, for it shows the new Boer premier, before the whole Boer people, encouraging the community that has always stood for the opposite ideals to work out its destiny. But it is not in isolated or exclusive effort—and this seems to be the key-note of both his speeches—that the new premier foresees a future for the two races in the Transvaal. Once more Johannesburg could be counselled that they should work together socially, and then he did not doubt that they would come to work together politically. Important, however, as have been the new Premier's utterances on Transvaal affairs, a still greater impression has been made on the Empire by his determination to attend the colonial conference, and by the way in which he has referred to that gathering. The Johannesburg Star expresses the hope that General Botha will find himself able to take an active part in the Conference; and it adds with truth that nothing could vindicate the Transvaal's claim to a real self-governing policy. We share that belief, and we trust that Gen. Botha will fulfill these expectations. What he has already said about the conference could not possibly be improved upon. His declaration that he would attend it in a constructive not a critical spirit, his reference to his "colleagues from the other colonies," his evident desire to go there as one of the representatives of a united South Africa—all these utterances are in the true progressive temper of modern Imperialism. We have never concealed our apprehensions as to the rapid grant of full self-governing institutions to the Transvaal, or as to the consequences which might result from the establishment of a Boer ascendancy. But we freely admit that, if Boer ministries interpret their responsibility in the spirit of Gen. Botha's speech, we shall have no reason for alarm. The emphatic pledges of loyalty, the generous appeal for unity, and the broad constructive wisdom of these utterances leave nothing to be desired."

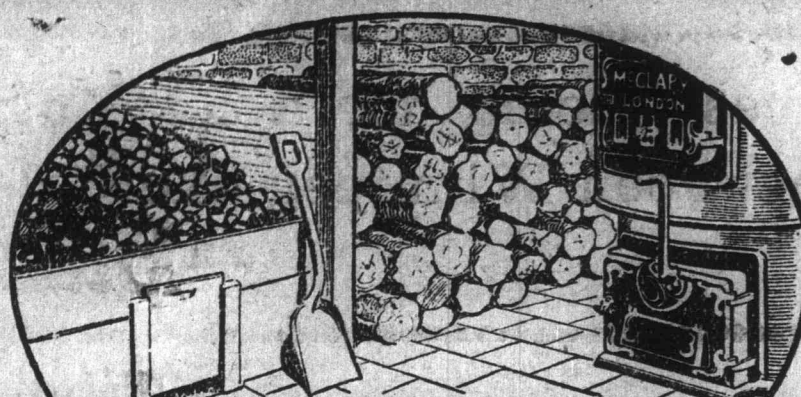
EDITORIAL NOTES

If you wish to say something in favor of a man and cannot, tell the public that the C.P.R. is his enemy. If you wish to attack him and find difficult to do so, describe him as a friend of the C.P.R. These are the two fundamental maxims of a certain school of western politicians.—Edmonton News.

Sir Richard Cartwright says that only a squad of ten men and one officer were sent to Alberta. He has not taken proper precautions to evade the truth, for we are positive that a squad went to Lethbridge and another to McLeod, taking 129 rifles, in all.

SHE LOST HER SOX

St. Thomas, May 3.—During a quarrel over a woman at a dance, an Indian named Thomas Novis stabbed and killed another Indian, Abe Sox. Novis struck Sox over the temple with a knife, the blade breaking off, Sox dying in a few minutes. Novis who is only eighteen was arrested about ten miles from the scene of the crime.



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PRESS COMMENTS

(Butte News.)

International tragedies usually leave scars long after the days of the happening, but rarely is the actual evidence remaining when the catastrophe passes into history. The wreck of the Maine is one of the exceptions to this, for it still protrudes from the waters of Havana harbor, a menace to navigation and a reminder of an event which precipitated the war with Spain.

For nine years it has lain there and though two contracts for its removal have been made, they have fallen through, and the wreck must stay until the United States government removes it. The Cubans cannot and will not raise it.

There has been much controversy about the explosion. Every atom of light that could be thrown upon the mystery has been investigated until these best qualified to express an opinion believe that the tragedy was due not to a torpedo or to any other external cause, but to the explosion of the powder in the forward magazine of the ship, caused by heat from spontaneous combustion in the coal bunkers.

This conclusion is said to have been strongly supported by the survey of the contractors who undertook to raise the wreck and whose divers made a minute examination. Whether the Spanish blew up the vessel or it was sunk by the explosion of its own magazine will probably never be fully determined, though most Americans will continue to believe that Castilian treachery was the cause.

(Toronto News.)

H.M.S. Dominion Parliament, Captain the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, K.C.M.G., the heaviest ship in the Canadian squadron, has arrived in port after ninety-four days of heavy weather. Capt. Laurier was not on board when the ship landed, as a fortnight ago he was summoned hurriedly to the Admiralty. When he left the ship to take passage on a merchant liner the command naturally fell to Lieutenant Commander Pleading, and he brought the vessel safely to her berth. The crew has been paid off and it is said will not be recalled to duty for nearly seven months.

Earl Grey, Rear Admiral in charge of the Canadian Squadron, files his flag from the Dominion Parliament, but he declined to discuss the voyage with the reporter. All the other officers, even to tiny midshipman Conmee, took similar ground. The News owes the following tale there-

fore, to the chatter of the blue-jackets and marines as they sat 'twixt decks packing their kits. Soon after starting on their voyage the ship struck a western Land Typhoon. For a time she lay on her beam ends exposed to the fury of the gale, but the skill of the Captain, aided by the bravery of Midshipman Oliver and Stoker E. M. McDonald, in putting out a sea anchor, got the craft out of the trough, and she ran before the wind. The sea was very high for a time, but there was more discomfort than real danger.

The report of a court-martial adverse to several members of the crew caused some discussion in the ship's company, especially when the men were put on long continued fatigue duty. One of the quartette was foolish enough to say that the Captain had a spite against him, and there were some threatnings of mutiny. The Captain, however, put the ring-leaders in irons, and remained master of the situation.

For some days a famous diplomat was the Captain's guest on board, but he was picked up later by the U.S.S. Washington. Lieutenant Hyman attempted to resign, but, although he was on leave of absence for some months, he remained on the pay roll. Red tape is the curse of the navy.

Very foul weather was encountered in lat. 38.42.5, long. 64.8.2. A wild storm began without warning, and Midshipman Emmerson, a capable and promising officer was swept overboard.

During the Voyage Stoker Laverne

(Continued on page 5.)

QUEBEC SOLID

Assurance made doubly certain is the story told by the following letter from Edward Chatillon, of Nicolet, Que. Mr. Chatillon is organist of Cathedral Nicolet and an accomplished musician of a high order. His statement of the hold the New Scale Williams Piano has on the Province of Quebec is borne out by the facts.

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PARLI

The third session of Parliament of Canada was closed with the usual of the 95th working session although, in actual session lasted for five six days. The speech in dealt with the usual referred to the continuing of the country, to the vance of commerce and legislation just closed. phasis was laid upon the industrial disputes act tariff legislation. The unusual feature, except Wilfrid was absent, however, taken by Sir Wright, who as senior lor, took his place to the throne. There was crowd of ladies on there was a great deal of the public owing to taking place on Saturday when so much of the holiday. As the band played "God Save the His Excellency's departure legislators and all upon parliament said.

They left with a full that the next session my one, and with of they had all done their The declining days of sion were robbed of their interest and spirit the absence of the prefrid Laurier, and two pal ministers, Sir Fred the minister of militia L. P. Brodeur, minister and fisheries. They are den, representing Canada and conference, which place in the interests of empire at large. The time, at least in a good that the first minister sent from the Canadian when the picture was accidental to the prorogation progress.

In their places, however and experienced might be depended upon the occasion should for evidences of their at their merit in that commons there was as W. S. Fielding, the mance, upon whom pe has already cast the premiership, while in the old political war horse Cartwright, who had shed the responsibilities and the general the Liberal party's de the occasion arose to a section of authority.

It had been pretty a however, before the de Wilfrid Laurier, and a subjects had been eith wiped off the slate for ing, and that only suc might be disposed of w strife or combat shoul the final days of the it was much in intere the closing proceedings when compared with sions. Several bills have created somewhat were dropped from the plified matters a great times of the departu over by the minister w ed the premier to the were rushed through be parted so that there trouble in that depart but not least, there man's understanding Wilfrid and Hon. Mr. leader of the Oppositio tical peace would mar proceedings.

Thus it was that cleared for the absence minister and his collea be remembered, howe time there were grave he would be able to represent the Dominion ial conference. The po looked pretty stormy prior to his departure threatening storm clear marked degree with th of the Hon. W. R. E. ister of railways and c The circumstances that event constituted unparalleled dramatic will place the past category of special in history of the Canad was without doubt th ing session since the a er of the present adm Contentious legislati been in plenty since ty came into power in true of every partiam old Conservative reg their scandal sessions ripe in the minds of The past session, h first one in which the al" has been so rife t sent regime. records in Canadian been largely to do wi of the affairs of the c the word then mos termed it, "buddle." The past session a feature turned in the the personal conduct of A great deal has been ted as to whether a ate life is a matter q ern. Some claim the long as his actions d themselves too glari lie eye and do not in administration of the country. Others cont ister has as much rig by his private life as and that his conduct reproach and a good public at large. How