

GRADRON GOSSIP

The chances are that Hugh Hayes, of Hamilton, will referee, and Jack McDonald, of Varsity, umpire the final game in the Canadian Rugby championship between St. Miquels, champions of the junior O. R. F. U., and Alerts, of Hamilton, the Big Four junior medalists, and conquerors of Montreal III., the Quebec Union junior champions. The game will be played in Toronto on Saturday afternoon at Rosedale.

Walter Howell has arranged for a special train to carry the Hamilton contingent, and a special rate of \$1.65 has been secured. The train will leave the King street G. T. R. station at 1 o'clock and the Stuart street depot ten minutes later. The Alerts will hold a practice to-night at the Cricket Grounds at 7.30 o'clock, and all the players are requested to turn out.

The Washington Post says editorially: "The two teams from Canada comprise the best players in the Dominion and are capable of giving an impressive demonstration of the best features of their game, which is fast and vigorous, less dangerous and more scientific than the American game. Canada is devoted to football, and its teams play a much longer season than the American teams without suffering anything approaching the number of broken bones that mark the progress of the game here."

A New York paper suggests the following changes in the rules of the American game, in order to do away with the great number of casualties in connection with it:

First, to compel the three backs to stand in a line parallel to the line of the scrimmage.

Second, to abolish the forward pass.

Third, to increase the distance to be

gained in the present number of downs to fifteen yards.

Fourth, to have a field judge in every contest who is a physician.

There should be a revision of the football rules to minimize the chances of serious accident, says Walter Camp, Yale's graduate advisory coach. "I do not know that I am sufficiently prepared to say what these changes should be," said Mr. Camp, "but I am collecting such facts as I can, that would lead to the knowledge of how to effect the best results."

In the last twenty-five years, 1884 to 1909, Yale has scored 8,963 points to her opponents' 425. Yale has played 300 games and has lost only 12—four to Harvard, six to Princeton, one to Columbia and one to West Point.

Cambridge, Mass., where Harvard is located, is also the home of Fred Daly, the newly elected Yale football captain.

Edward H. Coy, captain of the Yale football team the past season, has been chosen as head coach of the team for next year.

"New blood," is the cry that will go up in the Interprovincial at the commencement of next season.

The University of Mississippi attributes its victory over the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College to the efficiency of prayer. Prof. J. E. Holmes, of the university faculty, prayed that the enemy might be routed. "Tears were streaming down the cheeks of the lefty warriors as the prayers were concluded. Entering the fight with the determination of the Round Heads of old and feeling that the Lord of all battles was on their side, the university men wiped up the colleges by the score of 9 to 6.

THE SOVEREIGN FIRE

Assets \$761,529.90

ELFORD G. PAYNE, Agent, Bank of Hamilton Building.

LET MEN DIE, SAVED COAL.

Widow Tells Cherry Coroner of Indifference of Mine Officials.

False Cage Was a Death Trap and Never Used.

Carpenter Says Hemmed in Victims Had No Chance to Escape Alive.

Cherry, Ill., Dec. 6.—Testimony confirming the announcement that the Cherry mine was a veritable death trap and that more than 500 miners were left without notification of their danger for more than two hours after the discovery of the fire of Nov. 13, was introduced at today's session of the coroner's inquest.

Witnesses testified that the mine bosses continued to hoist coal from the mine for a long time after the entire population of Cherry had been alarmed by the smoke and flames that were pouring out of the mouth of the air shaft and that frantic wives and mothers were told that the men were not being brought to the surface because there was no danger.

The appealing women were advised to return to their homes even after the smoke in the main shaft of the mine had become so dense that no human being possibly could live in it for more than a few minutes.

Mrs. Jemima Miller, whose husband perished in the mine, was one of the witnesses who testified that the mine managers paid more attention to their coal than to their men after the fire from the mine of hay, ignited by a lamp dripping burning kerosene oil, had been communicated to the timbers of the air shaft.

"I went to the shaft at 1.45 o'clock, more than two hours after the mine of hay was set afire," stated Mrs. Miller, "and they still were hoisting coal. Smoke was coming out of the air shaft and I asked Mr. Buck, the chief clerk, why they did not hoist the men out of the mine instead of hoisting the coal. He said he guessed they would, but he told me to go on home, for there was no danger. The fire, he said, would soon be out—that it only was some hay that was afire."

"How much coal did you see hoisted?" the woman was asked.

"They kept hoisting coal for some time that I noticed," she replied. "I could say they hoisted three cars and I think more."

George Jones, employed as a carpenter at the mine, testified that in the whole range of tunnels there was only one sign to point the way to the air shaft, which was meant to be a means of escape for the miners in the case of fire or explosion.

It was shown further by the carpenter's testimony that the "dummy" cage that was supposed to be attached to the bottom of the main shaft cage to lift the miners in cases of emergency, was a deceptive thing that never had been used to lift or lower the men working in the third vein and that miners who sought that means of escape on the day of the fire ran into certain death rather than the escape promised by the mine management at the time the "dummy" cage was installed.

"With this 'dummy' cage at the bottom of the third vein and its cable not attached to the bottom of the main cage," stated Jones, "no miner could reach the second level of the main shaft without climbing straight up the wall of the shaft for nearly 200 feet by means of bracing timbers that were set three feet apart, and after that climb he would have to displace a heavy sheet of perforated iron that closed the main shaft at the second level to catch the mine coal and dripping that fell from the main cage while coal was being hoisted."

"It would take the combined strength of two men to move this iron plate. To my knowledge the plate never had been removed nor the 'dummy' cage attached to the main cage, except a long time ago when they were placing a set of pipes in the main shaft from the second to the third vein."

Other testimony showed that at least 170 men in the vein who found the air shaft stairway swept by flames when they fled to that supposed means of escape, died like penned up rats on the third level because the "dummy" cage was not in working order.

COURT ORIENTAL, A. O. F.

The above court of the Ancient Order of Foresters had a large attendance at its regular meeting, the election of officers being the principal feature.

Organizer Harry Henderson, after outlining the proposed work in connection with the intended increase of members during 1910, conducted the election of officers which resulted as follows:

Past Chief Ranger—T. Collins. Sub-Chief Ranger—J. Milne. Treasurer—Wm. Murray. Secretary—Edward Service.

Senior Woodward—John Bartlett. Junior Woodward—Thos. Crooks. Senior Beadle—A. Maston. Junior Beadle—S. Rowan.

Medical Officer—Dr. Peters. Trustees—W. Jaggard, J. Ewing, B. Ford. Auditors—A. Durley, J. Barclay, E. Buchanan.

Suspension and Sick Committee—Bros. Milne, Service, Murray, Rosie, Crooks. Barlett Committee—Bros. Smith, Bartlett, Buchanan. Juvenile Auditor—Geo. Milne.

Hasty climbers have sudden falls. A wise man is strong—Bible.

Alfike, fancy, bushel, 6.50 6.75
Do, No. 1, 6.00 6.25
Do, No. 2, 5.50 5.75
Do, No. 3, 5.00 5.25
Red clover, No. 1, bush, 7.50 8.25
Timothy, 1.40 1.60
Dressed hogs, 10.50 11.00
Butter, dairy, 0.26 0.30
Do, inferior, 0.22 0.24
Eggs, new laid, dozen, 0.45 0.50
Do, fresh, 0.35 0.40
Chickens, lb., 0.12 0.14
Ducks, lb., 0.12 0.14
Turkeys, lb., 0.15 0.17
Geese, lb., 0.10 0.11
Fowl, lb., 0.08 0.10
Apples, bbl., 2.00 3.50
Potatoes, bag, by load, 0.55 0.60
Celery, dozen, 0.50 0.55
Onions, bag, 1.00 1.10
Cabbage, dozen, 0.05 0.60
Beef, hindquarters, 8.00 9.00
Do, forequarters, 5.00 6.50
Do, choice, carcass, 7.50 8.00
Do, medium, carcass, 6.50 7.00
Mutton, per cwt., 7.00 8.00
Veal, prime, per cwt., 9.50 10.50
Lamb, per cwt., 9.50 10.00

St. Lawrence sugars are quoted as follows: Granulated, \$4.85 per cwt. in barrels; No. 1 golden, \$4.45 per cwt. in barrels; Beaver, \$4.55 per cwt. in bales. These prices are for delivery here. Car lots 5c less. In 100-lb. bags, prices are 5c less.

WINNIPEG WHEAT MARKET. Wheat—December 96c, May, 99 1-2c. Oats—December 32 3-8c, May 35 3-4c.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS. London—London cables for cattle are steady at 12c to 14c per lb. for live cattle, dressed weight; Liverpool, 11 3-4c to 13 3-4c; refrigerator beef, firmer, at 10 1-2c to 10 3-4c per lb.

CORAL STOCKS. The mining market in Toronto was without a feature yesterday. Nipissing held strong at 10.85, but little stock coming out. Rumors of a reduction of the dividend were referred to by Lorsch and Gagey last night, they stating on good authority that the usual dividend would be paid. La Ross was somewhat easier, going back to 4.00 on the Standard and being offered at 4.55 on the Toronto. Rochester was the most active stock and was also easier, closing at 16 3-4. There was some buying of Trethewey on the Toronto Exchange and it held strong around 1.45. Scotia made an advance of three points, going to 46. There were some enquiries reported for Beaver for future delivery, which were

SUN FIRE

The oldest Insurance Office in the world
FOUNDED 1710
HOME OFFICE: LONDON, ENGLAND
Canadian Branch, Sun Building, Toronto, H. M. Blackburn, Manager.
Thos. Cochran, E. M. Faulkner, Jno. Harvey,
R. A. Milne, T. H. P. Carpenter (Hamilton Agents).

MARKETS AND FINANCE

Toronto Markets

LIVE STOCK.

Receipts of live stock as reported by the railways, were 105 carloads, consisting of 1863 cattle, 937 hogs, 874 sheep and lambs and 59 calves.

There were several lots and loads of the best cattle seen on the market in many months.

Trade was good, with everything sold early in the day at as high prices as have recently been quoted in all the different classes.

Exporters—There were some export steers on the market, but they were all bought for butcher prices, one choice load selling at \$6.50 per cwt. to the Harris Abattoir Company. About a load of export bulls sold at \$4 to \$5 per cwt.

Butchers—Geo. Rowntree bought for the Harris Abattoir Company 540 cattle—steers and heifers at \$4.70 to \$5.75, and one extra quality bull at \$6.50; cows, \$1.75 to \$4.65; bulls, \$2.75 to \$4.75 per cwt.

Stockers and Feeders—Several loads of feeders and stockers were quickly bought, as the demand was good, several dealers and many farmers being on the market, and more would have found ready sale. Best steers, 900 to 1000 lbs. each, at \$4 to \$4.60; best steers, 800 to 900 lbs. each, at \$3.75 to \$4.15; best stockers, 600 to 700 lbs. each, at \$3.40 to \$3.80.

Milkers and Springers—The extra demand for choice cows shows no abatement, and prices still rule high, at a range of \$35 to \$65, with an extra quality cow now and again reaching \$70, and even \$75. The best cow on the market was sold by McDonald & Halligan today at \$85.

Veal Calves—Receipts light and prices firm, at \$3 to \$4 per cwt.

Sheep and Lambs—A moderate supply sold at firmer quotations than at the end of last week. Export steers, \$3.90 to \$4.15; culls and rams sold at \$3 per cwt.; lambs sold at \$6.85 to \$6.10 for the best lots; common lambs, \$5.50 per cwt.

Hogs—Mr. Harris quoted selects at \$7.85, fed and watered at the market, and \$7.60 for b.c. cars at country points.

FARMERS' MARKET. The offerings of grain on the street today were 1,000 bushels, with little change in prices. Wheat, steady, 100 bushels of fall selling at \$1.06 to \$1.07, 100 bushels of spring at \$1.02 to \$1.04.

Barley firm, 500 bushels selling at 65c to 66c. Oats steady, with sales of 200 bushels at 41 to 42c. Buckwheat sold at 53c for 100 bushels.

Hay quiet, with prices unchanged; 25 loads sold at \$17 to \$21 a ton for timothy, and at \$12 for clover. Straw is quoted at \$17 a ton for one load of unbleached.

Dressed hogs are steady, with prices ruling at \$10.50 to \$11.

Wheat, white, new, \$1.05 1/2 1/2
Do, red, new, 1.06 0 00
Do, goose, 1.03 1 04
Oats, bushel, 0.41 0 42
Peas, bushel, 0.88 0 90
Barley, bushel, 0.65 0 68
Rye, bushel, 0.74 0 75
Hay, timothy, ton, 17 00 21 00
Do, mixed, ton, 12 00 16 00
Straw, per ton, 16 00 17 00

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Bank of Commerce, 192
Dominion, 240 1/2
Hamilton, 227
Imperial, 226
Merchants, 163
Molson's, 200 1/2
Montreal, 250
Nova Scotia, 279
Standard, 228
Toronto, 217
Traders, 148 1/2
Bell Telephone, 145 1/2
Can. Gen. Electric, 114
C. P. R., 182
Consumers' Gas, 205
Dom. Coal, com., 91
Dom. Steel, com., 68 1/2
Dom. Steel, pref., 136
Duluth, 69
Mackay, com., 77 1/2
Mackay, pref., 77 1/2
Mex. L. & P., 69
Nova Scotia Steel, 82
Ogilvie Milling, 139
Penman common, 59
Penman pref., 87
Porto Rico Ry., 35 1/2
Rio de Janeiro, 91 1/2

Reported by Morris & Wright, stock brokers, Landed Banking & Loan building.

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Our advice--
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The Gift Problem

We are ready right now to help you solve the gift problem, and we pay particular attention to those who do not know what to select for their Christmas gifts. Our stock is new and complete, including Toys, Stamps, Brooches, Lockets, Cuff Links, Necklaces, Pendants, Sport Pins, Sherry Glasses, Silver, Cut Glass, Cakes and Umbrellas. Your selections will be reserved till Christmas, if necessary.

Quality is the first thing we consider in everything we sell and our guarantee is backed by a record of 50 years in Hamilton.

THOMAS LEES
Reliable Jeweler
Diamond Rings Our Specialty. 6 James St. E.

Rich. & Ont.	87 1/2
Rogers common	131
Rogers pref.	110
Sao Paulo	150 1/2
Toronto Electric Light	120
Twin City	112
Canada Landed	153
Can. Permanent	181
Central Canada	160
Huron & Erie	198 1/2
Hamilton Provident	131
Landed Banking & Loan	130
MINES.	
Crown Reserve	505
La Rose	47 1/2
Nipissing	107 1/2
Trethewey	147 1/2

COURT MADE IF AF.

This court of the A. O. F. held its regular meeting last night for the election of officers and other important business, when the court was honored by a visit from the High Chief Ranger, John Young. The District Chief Ranger, assisted in the initiation of several candidates. The High Chief Ranger conducted the election, which resulted as follows:

P. C. R. H. Smith.
C. R. F. Smith.
S. C. R. G. Workman.
Secretary, W. R. Davis.
Treas., J. Sprague.
J. W. W. Ward.
S. W. C. F. Howitt.
Assistant Wks. T. Peckham and C. Westbury.

S. B. J. Savage.
J. B. J. Howitt.
Sub. Sec., J. W. Sinclair.
Physician, Dr. Cockburn.
Organist, W. Ward.
Trustees, T. Partridge, W. Jutten, W. Ellis.

Hall Board, J. Phillips, W. Jutten, H. Smith.
Laws Committee, J. W. Sinclair, T. Partridge, J. Phillips.
Auditors, W. Wooley, W. Ellis, J. Phillips.

Juvenile Committee, F. Smith, J. Savage, T. Peckham, J. Sprague, W. Jutten, H. Smith, C. Westbury, G. Wooley, H. Ham, G. Burwell, T. Coleman, J. Phillips.

SONS OF ENGLAND.
There was a rousing meeting of Britannia Lodge members last night for the election of officers, much interest being taken in the District Deputy John King, of Roseberry Lodge, and other prominent members of the district were present. The officers elect for 1910 are:

President—Gilbert Wear.
Vice-President—Bert Bowring.
W. Chaplain—E. C. Camps.
Secretary—James Fisher.
Recording Secretary—E. J. Booth.
Treasurer—Past Pres. Frank H. Revell.

First Guide—John White.
Second Guide—Arthur Metcalf, sen.
Third Guide—John Hart.
Fourth Guide—T. Willis.
Fifth Guide—John Kenyon.
Sixth Guide—W. J. Bennett.
Inner Guard—T. Godsal.
Outer Guard—C. W. Lighthouse.
Supreme Lodge Delegate—Frank H. Revell.

Supreme Lodge Alternates—C. H. Holtham, C. D. Blachford.
Lodge Trustees—John T. Laing, Edwin Layland, G. T. Dunn.
Auditors—Maurice Patton, A. Goodenough, M. Hutton.
Hall Trustees—C. H. Holtham, A. Goodenough.

Juvenile Committee—Gilbert Wear, C. H. Holtham.
Church Committee—Gilbert Wear, E. C. Camps.
Cemetery Plot Committee—A. Goodenough.

FLIERS FOR CANADA.
Montreal, Que., Dec. 8.—Gustave Husson, a Belgian resident of Montreal, who is said to be backed by some local capital, has gone to France for the purpose of having two aeroplanes of the Bleriot type constructed for him to bring back to Canada.

STOVINE NOT NEW.
Montreal, Dec. 8.—A medical officer of the Montreal General Hospital is authority for the statement that stovine, which has been hailed as a new anesthetic for surgical cases, and with which Prof. Jannosco is now performing operations in New York, has been in use at the Montreal General Hospital for the past four years.

Street Railway Fares Abroad.
In the cities of Great Britain the population of which is 200,000 or more the average rate of fare for street railway travel is 1.1 cents a passenger mile. In the cities of Continental Europe the average rate of fare paid for urban transportation is one cent a passenger mile.

On the overhead and underground railway in the city of Berlin, Germany, the average rate of fare paid is 1.25 cents a passenger mile. It is quite apparent that the people of Europe—in spite of the general impression here to the contrary—are paying a higher price for a poorer service than are the people of the United States.—From the Railway and Engineering Review.

FROM THE FOUL LINE TO HEAD PIN

The T. H. & B. won three from the XIII Sergeants last night at the H. B. & A. C. G. W. Holmes hitting the maple for the good score of 583 in three strings. W. Davidson was next high man with 567. R. Ferguson and A. H. Stone were high men for the Sergeants.

T. H. & B. (Won three)—
G. C. Martin 142 123 138-414
H. T. Melcomson 138 157 148-429
G. W. Holmes 180 143 158-471
C. M. Sinclair 165 113 149-427
W. Davidson 152 175 158-497
758 747 836-2770

XIII Sergeants—
R. J. Ferguson 128 174 142-446
J. Mahoney 136 184 134-452
H. N. Smith 134 111 148-429
A. H. Stone 127 154 144-446
L. R. Woodcroft 162 165 135-457
716 676 748-2146

In the City Ten Pin League at the Brunswick alleys last night the Internationals took two from the Brendas. Irwin was high with 571.

Brendas (Won one)—
Parks 200 182 168-550
Barclay 181 161 202-550
Gray 189 163 184-536
Irwin 180 143 158-471
McQuillan 154 140 190-484
807 755 871-329

Internationals (Won two)—
Moon 159 196 201-556
Irwin 159 196 201-556
Lord 168 180 181-529
Belton 172 182 156-488
Green 152 182 156-486
830 879 905-2614