

EXPLOSION OF NATURAL GAS WRECKS A HIGHGATE HOUSE

Young Man Lights a Match and Home of the Halls, on King Street, Is Badly Wrecked—Leak of Gas From Main Is Held Responsible.

ce of north side of the house was completely
badly blown out, the chimneys crumbled, and
everything that was breakable was

With the building creaking as though it was about to fall in the instant it rushed out, while people who had heard the explosion ran to the scene from all directions. The damages will amount to several hundred dollars.

Natural gas is not used in the Hall home, but a main runs about 25 feet from the cellar, and it is thought there was a leak. There was no smell of gas in the home previous to the explosion.

THE INTERCOLONIAL
MAKES BETTER CHOICES

BILL MAKES BETTER SHOWING
Government Able to Report a
Vast Improvement Under
the New Management

Ottawa, Jan. 31.—On Tuesday Hon. Mr. Graham will make his annual statement in the Commons as to the year's management of the Intercolonial under the new board. He will be able to report a vast improvement both in regard to

iciency and greater economy in the operation of the road, and in respect to the financial results. It is understood that the road is now on a paying basis, and it is hoped that the long period of deficits is finally ended.

JANUARY BANK CLEARINGS SHOW BIG INCREASE

**Bankers Are Well Pleased and
Look for Expansion of
Business.**

The returns at the London Clearing House shows that a most satisfactory

Bankers state that conditions everywhere are most encouraging, and look forward to a continued growth.

forward to a continued period of prosperity.

All paper, they state, is being sold satisfactorily, and there is every indication of a general expansion throughout the spring and summer.

PARISIANS ARE URBILANT

AS GREAT FLOOD RECEDES

IRON The Seine Dropping Steadily, But Great Suffering Still Prevails

Amongst Poor.
Paris, Jan. 31.—From midnight until noon today the subsidence of the River

The recession of the waters in some of the streets was noticeably during

Homes Swept Away.

A pitiable feature of the flood in Gennevilliers is the plight of the colony of 6,000 rag-pickers, the fourth of whom are children. They are the poorest of all the Paris poor, and

each morning they pass the Seine to sort the refuse barrels of the great city. Their village was a cluster of miserable hovels of plaster. On the bursting of the dam the torrents of the Seine swept away everything. Those of the rag-pickers who had remained in the village and their families

children and fled for their lives, most of them scantily clad. They suffered bitterly from the cold, but after a few hours of this the authorities were able to find shelter for them in the

But, in spite of the misery elsewhere, Central Paris on Sunday had the appearance rather of celebrating a joyous national holiday than of mourning an incalculable disaster.

Continued on Page Three.

WOODSTOCK COUNCIL TO SETTLE WITH COUNTY

Decides to Hand Over the \$12,000

as Per Agreement Made
in 1902.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Woodstock, Jan. 31.—At a special meeting of the city council held at 10 o'clock this morning, it was decided to at once pay the county the amount

due them as per agreement of February, 1902. This amount has been kept back by the city for three years, pending a settlement of their claim to part of the surplus county funds, and it was decided by the county council

do not
Govern-
Mayor
more
is in-
is time
ed. The
th this

few days ago to issue a writ for the
amount, but this will not now be
necessary; the amount will be alto-
gether between \$11,000 and \$12,000,
being the city's share of debtors' de-
due and their share after of the ad-
ministration to justice and
of the House of Refuge.