

ECHOES OF THE WEEK

Canadian.

A man named Deltaire, a roofer, on St. John street, Quebec, while working on the roof of the Beauport asylum fell to the ground from a height of about 40 feet, and was very badly injured.

The body of a man was found in the river at Quebec on Tuesday and taken to the morgue. It is that of a heavy set, stoutly built man of about 50 years of age. The body has apparently been in the water for some time as decomposition has set in.

An Esquimaux village is to be a feature of the World's fair, the families going thither from Labrador.

Subscription lists have been opened in St. John, N. B., for the sufferers by the recent fire in Fairville, a suburb of that city.

Victor Chaine, a young man, was killed near Stoney Point, Ont., Tuesday night, by being struck by a train while he was walking on the track.

Hamilton is revelling in a social scandal involving the good name of the wife of the well known architect, James Balfour. The case will likely be ventilated in the court, the wife suing for \$100 a month alimony.

Lord and Lady Stanley will be in Toronto on Queen's birthday, where, with the viceregal suite, they will review the new Highland regiment and the Thirteenth of Hamilton.

In the bye-election in East York on Wednesday Mr. McLean, the Conservative candidate, was elected by a majority of 227 over Mr. Leslie, the Liberal.

American.

A Seattle despatch says: This afternoon a terrible gas explosion occurred in the slope of Mine No. 2, of the Northern Pacific Coal company, in which the loss of life has exceeded in number that of any other disaster that has ever been chronicled in the Northwest. The exact nature of the explosion or the circumstances that led to it will probably never be known. The mine has a capacity of 2,000 tons a day. The explosion occurred just as two gangs were shifting at 1.30 o'clock. Two boys who were in the tunnel escaped but they are the only ones from either gangs so far recovered. Reports so far received indicate that the explosion has closed up the shaft, that the mine is on fire and that it is impossible to recover the bodies.

Shortly after midnight on Tuesday three burglars were found in the Bishop's residence at the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Hartford, Conn. About \$40,000 worth of silver articles had been received from New York that day for dedication on Sunday, and it is presumed that the thieves came up after this. Father Andrew Hartly pursued the men through the hall, and cornered one in a passageway where he held him at the muzzle of a pistol till the police came. The man called himself Frank Harris, and in the Police Court he pleaded guilty to the charge of burglary, and was bound over to the Superior Court.

Traffic Manager Leeds, of the Missouri Pacific railway, has been dismissed for countenancing irregularities in rates.

The Pacos Valley railway, a valuable line controlling the trade of southeast New Mexico, has past into Jay Gould's hands.

In Anderson county, S. C., Wednesday, William Wilson cut his wife's throat, killing her instantly. He then cut his own throat and will die. Cause, jealousy.

European.

The execution of Deeming has been fixed for May 23.

Four waiters were burned to death in a fire in Scott's oyster house, Coventry street, London, Saturday night.

In consequence of the receipt of threatening letters by a prominent Paris financier the Bourse is strictly guarded by police.

M. Gressor, prefect of St. Petersburg, is dying from the effects of poison administered by unknown persons. The police are actively engaged on the case.

The military students at Shun King, China, have taken measures to expel the British missionaries from that city. It is claimed their action is taken with the connivance of the viceroy.

Colonel Wendrich, overseer of the grain transportation to and in the distressed Russian provinces, has been appointed inspector of the whole system of Russian railways. The appointment of a military officer to this position has caused a sensation.

The French steamer Chili, homeward bound, was totally wrecked Sunday night at the entrance to Talcahuano Bay, Chili. No lives lost.

A force of Venezuelan rebels has been defeated near Los Tehues by Government troops. The rebels left two-thirds of their force on the field dead or dying.

The Federation League committee having the matter in charge have selected the design of George Wade from three submitted for the Sir John Macdonald memorial in St. Paul's.

The two men, Merdjan and Christo, who were charged with the murder at Constantinople of Dr. Vulkovitch, the Bulgarian diplomatic agent to Turkey, have been found guilty and condemned to death.

The London grand jury has returned a true bill against Hon. Patrick Greville Nugent, who is charged with having assaulted Marion Cymetta Price in the compartment of a carriage on the London, Brighton & South Coast railway on the night of April 18th. At a sitting of the Police Court he pleaded guilty to simple assault, and was sentenced to imprisonment for six months with hard labor.

Deeming has confessed that he made four attempts to murder Emily Mather. The first attempt was made in London shortly after their marriage. The second attempt was made in a coffee-house in Melbourne. Two other attempts were made in Andrew street, Windsor. Three weeks after taking the house in Windsor he tried to cut his wife's throat while she slept, but she awoke and thwarted him. At 2 o'clock the following morning he awoke and found his wife peeling an apple with a large clasp-knife. He seized that weapon and with it cut her throat. He then fled from the house terrified at what he had done in obedience to his mother's spirit.

The Osservator Romano publishes a letter addressed to the American bishops by the Propaganda relating to the development of Archbishop Ireland's plan in regard to parochial schools.

The French Cabinet has voted 300,000 francs to pay indemnities for losses resulting from the recent dynamite outrages, including a provision for the widow and daughter of the restaurant keeper, Very, whose restaurant was blown up by Anarchists.

Lord Salisbury, Colonel Saunderson and Lord Halsbury were among those present at the House dinner at St. Stephen's club on Wednesday evening. Colonel Saunderson waved the bloody shirt for the Ulster men. There would be no obedience in Ulster, he said, for an Irish Parliament. "If it should be established," he said, "the men of Ulster would simply demolish it." He added that it was time for everybody to understand that British subjects in Ulster intended to remain British subjects with all the privileges which they enjoyed to-day. The rest of Ireland might as well understand at once that Ulster men would never bow their necks to the hated yoke of a Dublin Parliament. The British Parliament had no right to hand them over to another law making power to which they never would nor could give their allegiance.

Marriage and Working Women.

In London one fifth of all the women between the ages of thirty-five and forty-five are single. In all England one-sixth of such women are single. This being so necessarily, apparently, since there are not men in Great Britain to go around to provide husbands and a maintenance for them. Clara E. Collet, writing in The Nineteenth Century, urges that some systematic provision should be made whereby they may earn their own living and be independent. After the age of thirty-five the chances are almost certain that they will never marry.

Miss Collet finds a rather curious fact in the course of her investigation. It is that the expectation of marriage really works against girls industrially. If they look forward to getting husbands to support them, they may perhaps work indifferently a few years, merely for enough money to buy clothes and furnish pocket money. They do not take pains to learn anything well, because they expect soon not to be obliged to earn money at all. Many of them never marry. They have not trained themselves to any occupation, consequently their lot in after life is a pitiable one. The remedy, Miss Collet says, will be in carefully training all women of the poorer and middle classes to some occupation. She writes: If any one objects that women who are intensely interested in work which also enables them to be self supporting are less attractive than they would otherwise be, I can make no reply except that to expect a hundred women to devote their energies to attracting fifty men seems slightly ridiculous.

What a Bright Little Girl Said.

"Last Summer," said a Harlem woman. "I sent my children to Maine to see their grandmother. Ethel, you know, is seven and Mary is five.

"They are original children and mother had a great time answering their questions. One of the odd queries was about God's being everywhere. Mother had told them about it, and, of course, that was sufficient for them. Imagine her horror one morning on overhearing the following conversation:

"Ethel," said May, 'grandma says God is everywhere, but I don't think so, for I never see Him, and if He was everywhere I must see Him somewhere.'

"This was rather a poser for Ethel, when a bright thought struck her, and she answered: "Well, May, I guess you don't get up early enough in the morning, for you know He says, 'They that seek me early shall find me.'"

THE SOCIALIST CATECHISM.

SURPLUS VALUE.

Q. In whose interest is present production carried on?

A. In that of the employing classes.

Q. Explain this.

A. The laborers produce the machinery, which the employers take away from them as soon as it is made. The laborers are then employed to work it, in order to produce profit for their masters at a faster rate.

Q. What interest have the laborers in the continuance of capitalism, that is, the capitalist system?

A. Manifestly none.

Q. Is capital, therefore, useless?

A. Certainly not. The way in which it is used is attacked by Socialists, not the thing itself.

Q. How is it possible that it should be used in the laborer's interest?

A. Only by means of a democratic State, acting in the interest of the producers.

Q. In what way would the State effect this?

A. By taking into its own hands all the land and capital, or "means of production," which are now used as monopolies for the benefit of the possessing class.

Q. Is there any precedent for this?

A. As the State has already taken over the Post Office and the Telegraphs, so it might take over the Railways, Shipping, Mines, Factories, and all other industries.

Q. Is the Post Office worked on Socialist principles?

A. Certainly not. There is no pretence that the interests of its laborers, the postmen, are considered at all.

Q. What principle regulates their employment?

A. That which regulates the employment of all other laborers, competition, reducing their wages to the lowest possible point, except in the case of the higher officials, who are paid much more than would willingly be accepted by equally capable men.

Q. Cannot the workers combine together by co-operation to defeat this principle of competition?

A. Co-operative societies cannot defeat this principle, unless the whole body of workers are included in one society, and that is simply Socialism.

Q. Why cannot different societies defeat competition?

A. Because they are compelled to compete against each other, to exploit those laborers who are not members of their body, and to be exploited by others in their turn.

Q. What do you mean by the word "exploit"?

A. To exploit is to get more than one gives in a bargain.

Q. To what extent is the exploitation of the laborers commonly carried?

A. The employers give them a bare subsistence, and take from them all the rest of the fruits of their labor.

Q. What is the difference between the two called?

A. A surplus value.

Q. What proportion expresses its amount?

A. The proportion between the two or three hours of necessary labor, and the ordinary ten, twelve, or more hours' work.

Q. What do you mean by necessary labor?

A. That which would feed and clothe and keep in comfort the nation if all took their part in performing it.

Q. Is any individual employer responsible for the exploitation of the laborers?

A. No, the blame applies to the whole class. Individual employers may be ruined, but the employing class continue to appropriate the surplus value.

Q. How do you account for this?

A. Because competition is as keen among the capitalists as among the laborers.

Q. How does it act with them?

A. It determines the division of the spoil, different sets of people struggling to get a share of the surplus value.

Q. How does this competition above affect the laborers below?

A. It does not affect them at all. It is assumed that the plunder is to be shared among the "upper classes," and the only question is in what proportion this shall be done.

Q. How do the upper classes label this plunder?

A. By many names, such as rent, brokerage, fees, profits, wages of superintendence, reward of abstinence, insurance against risk, but above all, interest on capital.

Q. Are all these deducted from the laborers' earnings?

A. There is no other fund from which they could possibly come.

Q. Is surplus value paid for at all?

A. By no means. It is the produce of unpaid labor, and is simply taken for nothing, just as a thief accumulates his stolen goods.

Q. Does not the progress of civilization decrease the amount of the surplus value?

A. On the contrary, it largely increases it.

Q. How is this?

A. Improvements in agriculture, method and machinery, which civilization renders possible, multiply manifold the productive power of the laborer's toil; but competition among the laborers prevents them from reaping the benefit.

Q. Does not competition among capitalists in the same way lower the rate of interest?

A. Certainly it does, but the rate of interest has nothing whatever to do with the rate of exploitation or of surplus value.

Q. What is interest?

A. Interest is a fine, paid by the private organizer of labor out of the surplus value which his laborers supply, to the idle person from whom he borrows his capital.

Q. What is the tendency of the two rates of interest and surplus value?

A. The rate of interest falls, while the rate of surplus value rises.

Q. Why is this?

A. Because with the storing up of the increased surplus value by the capitalist, or in other words, with the accumulation of capital, the competition among capitalists who are anxious to lend on interest becomes keener, and each individual is obliged to be content with less.

Q. Does not this lessening of the rate of interest benefit the laborer?

A. No; since it is only due to the multiplication of those who share in his surplus value, the result being the same as it would be if he were allowed to pay a penny to six people instead of sixpence to one.

Q. How do the capitalists adjust their own conflicting claims?

A. It is a question of division of spoil among plunderers. If the surplus value is high, there is more to divide among the capitalists, but if the capitalists are numerous, there is so much less for each individual among them.

Q. Explain this by an example?

A. Take the case of Belgium. The laborers are there exploited to the uttermost, there being no "factory laws" to restrain the greed of the employer, but since capital is plentiful, the surplus value is shared among many capitalists, and the rate of interest is low.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Training the Memory.

A splendid way to improve the memory is to begin by treating it as if it were another person, and then charging it, upon penalty of a severe upbraiding, to keep until wanted the information, fact, date, name, or whatever is to be remembered. By this course you unconsciously do two things—you sort out things worth while to know, and you impress them upon the memory in such a way as to cause it to grasp and keep them.

The latter is a most important thing to do. Half of one's forgetfulness comes from failure to properly grasp what it is that you are to remember. It is said of Thomas B. Reed, the famous member of Congress from Maine who was speaker of the House of Representatives for two years, that he considered it a great hardship to have to tell a man the same thing twice.

You ought never to cause any one such hardship.

The Only Explanation.

The man came in and said he wanted to see the city editor and that gentleman responded.

I heard something to-day, said the visitor, that I think ought to be printed.

What is it? queried the city editor.

Well, to begin, it is perfectly inexplicable to me, and if you can explain it I'll be obliged.

I have to hear it first observed the city editor.

That's so; excuse me. It's this: A man told me only this afternoon that he had travelled on a Pullman car last night, and this morning the porter refused to accept the customary quarter.

Possibly he was high toned and wanted a half dollar, suggested the newsman.

No, that wasn't it. There was no gag about it. It was perfectly straight. He said he offered the porter a half dollar, but it was refused on the ground that he (the porter) was receiving fair pay from the company; that it was his business to be attentive to Mr. Pullman's patrons, that he considered it both a duty and a pleasure to be polite to all passengers who were on his car, and so on through a whole category of unexpected virtues. Now, continued the visitor, after a brief rest, what do you think of that? Isn't it worth publishing?

It certainly is, ventured the city editor, thoughtfully.

Can you explain it?

Easily, asserted the city editor, with easy grace and profound confidence.

The man's face was a perfect picture of incredulity.

Come off, he said bluntly.

But I can, protested the man at the desk. How?

The man who told it to you was a liar.

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