

Bargains in odd lots of the following: Boys' Caps, Shirts, undergar, socks, gloves, overalls and pants. January Sale. McFarland.

THE COURIER.

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BRANTFORD, CANADA, MONDAY, JAN 27, 1913.

You may need an Overcoat, and would like something good. We have the very best. Take a look. Our January prices are greatly in your favor. Agent 20th. Century Clothing. Andrew McFarland.

TEN PAGES

BIG FIRE

Takes Place in Galt--At One Time it Looked as if Many Buildings Would be Destroyed--The Total Loss.

(Courier Leased Wire).
GALT, Ont., Jan. 27.—At 3.30 this morning a fire was discovered at the premises occupied by the Fraser Hardware Company on Dickson St., and within an hour the whole block consisting of three stores, two of which were vacant, and the sweater factory of J. Peard, on the second floor were completely gutted. A party resident was aroused by the noise of cracking glass, and when a fire brigade was summoned the fire had gained such headway that it was impossible to save the block, and it was only with heroic efforts that adjoining buildings were kept from also becoming a prey to the flames. The loss will amount to about \$40,000, distributed as follows:
Building owned by the Fraser Hardware Company, at \$12,000 and

THE ASQUITH GOVERNMENT

Abandons Franchise Bill--A Sensational Political Event in the Old Country Which May Lead to the Overthrow of the Government and Perhaps Violent Acts.

(Courier Leased Wire).
NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—A Tribune cable from London says: The cabinet will meet this morning to determine the government's attitude in the situation created by the franchise bill in deference to the women's suffrage amendments to the franchise bill. This issue may in time prove to be one of life and death to the present administration for the situation to-day is merely the upshot of a week of political intrigue, cabinet disunion and party chaos unique in history. All indications point clearly to the fact that the government has decided to abandon the franchise bill. The amendments devised by the ministers themselves have proved too much for their own bill.
The questions which call for immediate consideration are:
When shall the abandonment be announced? And, what promises for future redemption can be given to the angry supporters of votes for women?
The consternation caused by Lewis Harcourt's slashing attack on his cabinet colleagues Sir Edward Grey and David Lloyd-George, for their support of women's suffrage has increased among Liberals on re-perusal. The speech is admittedly the severest blow yet dealt at the prestige of the Cabinet.
The abandonment of the bill may be announced and may take place immediately without allowing the debate to proceed further, or else it may come after the division on Sir Edward Grey's amendment which is arranged to take place to-day at 7.30 p. m. The Cabinet will decide

WOOL SCHEDULE

Democrats are Working For a Downward Rate--President Taft Put His Veto Upon a Former Bill.

(Courier Leased Wire).
WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Democrat plans for downward revision of the wool schedule of the tariff, one of the most complicated features to come before the extra session of Congress, were under fire to-day before the House Committee on ways and means.
General expectation among House Democrats is that the committee will report at the outset of the extra session virtually the same woollen schedule as was incorporated in the wool bill that passed the House at the first and second sessions of this Congress, was amended in the Senate last summer, compromised in conference and vetoed by President Taft. The average ad valorem duty of the schedule in the present law is almost sixty per cent. The Democratic bill that serves as the tentative basis of the present consideration, provides very much lower duties. It would put a 20 per cent. ad valorem in spite of the higher varying rates on three classifications in the present law.
It would put an ad valorem duty of 25 per cent. on combed wool

Russia Awakens to the Utility of the Automobile in War

(Courier Leased Wire).
ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 27.—Russia has suddenly awakened to the utility of the automobile in war owing to the darkening of the clouds in the Balkans. Government agents have confidently sounded foreign interests as to the possibility of establishing a factory in Russia on the basis of guaranteed annual orders for freight and passenger cars and the taking over of the factory by the

stock \$200,000; insurance about one half; J. Peard, loss \$8,000 covered by \$5,000.
During the progress of the fire it looked as if a number of other buildings would be consumed. All the horses and vehicles were removed from Keys' livery and A. H. Tuck, who occupies a large furniture store next to the Fraser block, had a large portion of his stock placed in the street at a safe distance. The whole front of the handsome building of the Galt club across the street was badly scorched, and incipient blazes on nearby roofs had to be extinguished several times. Chief Keys was not fully satisfied at the pressure when four streams were played, and it is likely that his recommendation made some time ago that the town purchase a steam engine, will now be accepted by the council.
The Russian Government at its valuation in case of war. The recent despatch of the Russian Government agent in Europe, European automobile centres carrying with them large emergency credits for the purchase of all available automobiles, suitable for military purposes and the opening here of a school for training in automobiling of Russian army officers are further indications of the interest taken in the matter.

Railway Men are After an All Round Increase in Pay

(Courier Leased Wire).
MONTREAL, Jan. 27.—Increases approximating ten per cent. in the wages of railway conductors, trainmen and engineers, together with movements in certain general positions under which the men were being demanded of all the unions in the eastern association, including the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk. Delegates from three labor organizations, the Order of Railroad Conductors, the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers in Montreal for a preliminary conference with a view of presenting a new schedule of wages now in effect for conductors, brakemen and baggagemen and on which in cases of ten per cent are demanded, are as follows:
Conductors, 157 miles or \$4.20 per gagemen 1.55c. per mile; brakemen 1.50 per mile. The minimum allowances for passenger trainmen are:
Conductors, 157 miles or \$4.20 per day; baggagemen 111 miles or \$2.75 per day; brakemen 170 miles or \$2.25 per day. This is exclusive of overtime.
Regularly assigned passenger trainmen receive the following minimum time, inclusive of overtime earned if any for the calendar month—Conductors \$125; baggageman 75; brakemen \$70.

Suicide Left a Note for Safety of Other Inmates

(Courier Leased Wire).
NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—Before Arthur Hillman, a bootlegger out of jail with an ailing wife, killed himself by gas early to-day, the safety of the other inmates in his house, and posted a sign on the outside of his closed bedroom door. The sign read:
"Open the window in the kitchen first and also the windows in the bedroom, the gas on since midnight at high pressure." The policeman who found the body followed instructions.

THE VERY LATEST DESPATCHES

An Explosion in Paris France--Another War it is Said May Take Place--An Orphan Child to be Adopted After Falling Off a Train--Effort to Wipe out a Buffalo Preserve--Home Rule Debate to Start in the Lords--Missionaries to go to White Eskimos--Coal Shortage in Vancouver--Tragic Crisis in China.

ARMED FORCES

(Courier Leased Wire).
NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—A cable from London to The Tribune says: According to news from London, military preparations on a military basis are going on all over Ulster with a view to resistance to any Dublin parliament by an armed and disciplined force. Such is the action side by side with the fact that pending bye-election in Londonderry will be one of the closest in history of the borough. Friday next is the polling day.

COAL SHORTAGE

(Courier Leased Wire).
VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 27.—The weeks of severe weather have been marked by a shortage of coal. The primary cause is the strike in the Canadian collieries on Vancouver Island, where the work has been practically tied up for months. Soft coal has been retailed in Vancouver at \$7 to \$8.50 a ton. For many years the province of British Columbia has been expected to appoint a committee to look into the matter of prices of supplies at the collieries. Recently a member for the Legislature from Vancouver put the question up forcibly to Premier McBride. It is asserted unofficially that a commission will be appointed next week to go into the whole question.

MINISTER DEAD

(Courier Leased Wire).
FREDERICTON, N. B., Jan. 27.—Presbyterian minister, is dead at his home on a farm in Prince William near here. His wife, who survives, is a sister of the late Hon. A. G. Blair.

WILL ADOPT HIM

(Courier Leased Wire).
STRONG CITY, Kan., Jan. 27.—Harry O'Brien, a great old orphan boy, from St. Louis fell from the blind baggage of a train running 30 miles an hour Saturday night and incidentally into a home where he will be cherished and loved.
Chas. Beach, city Marshall picked O'Brien up bruised and bleeding and took him to his home to give him care. So attached did Mr. Beach and his wife become to the boy that they decided to keep him and announced to-day that they probably would adopt him.

CRISIS IN CHINA.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—A London cable to The Tribune says:
A tragic crisis has been reached in China with regard to the traffic in opium. Heavy financial commitments, it is alleged, stand in the way of Great Britain's duty in this matter, and unless the force of public opinion can be brought upon the government one more disastrous chapter will have to be added to the history of a traffic which has brought moral ruin to China while enriching the coffers of the Indian Government to the extent of \$4,000,000,000. Yielding to the pressure of the banks and merchants interested, the Government has decided that China, while straining every nerve to serve these interests and stop the use of the drug in her own dominions, ever to the extent of putting a death tax on those who violate the laws on the subject, is to be compelled to continue to buy the drug.
Sir Hiram Maxim in a letter to The Daily Express says that the opium traffic is as indefensible as the white slave traffic. It probably took about twenty thousand men to force opium into China. How many, he asks would it take to force whiskey into the prohibition states of America?

A PETITION

(Courier Leased Wire).
EDMONTON, Jan. 27.—Business men of Wainwright, Alta., are behind an agitation to petition the Dominion Government to move the herd of more than a thousand buffalo from Buffalo Park, south of the town to another reservation. The idea prevails that several hundred energetic farmers settled on the land would do Wainwright and Central Alberta generally than the bison now occupying the park.

FIRE IN WINNIPEG

(Courier Leased Wire).
WINNIPEG, Jan. 27.—Fire starting in the basement early this morning, gutted the first two stories of a three story building at No. 815 Main Street. Harrison Bros had a drug store on the ground floor and their loss is estimated at twelve thousand. The loss on the building is six thousand.

Western Canada is Threatened With a Meat Famine

(Courier Leased Wire).
CALGARY, Jan. 27.—Western Canada, particularly Alberta, is threatened with a meat famine. It transpires that a very large amount of beef in cold storage at the Burns plant was destroyed in the fire. Burns estimated \$100,000 worth of dressed beef was consumed with fully as much more pork and mutton. Much of the mutton had been shipped from Australia and cannot be replaced for some time. The result is a sharp rise in prices. Beef on the hoof has risen from five to seven and a quarter cents, and is scarce even at those figures. The retailers are boosting their prices proportionately. The amount of fire losses on the stock at the Burns plant has been assessed by the adjusters at nearly \$700,000, fully covered by insurance.

Seven Persons Meet with Death Each Day on Manhattan Island

(Courier Leased Wire).
NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—During the past year on an average over seven persons met with violent deaths each day on Manhattan Island, a single one of the city's five boroughs. This statement is contained in the annual report of the board of coroners issued to-day.
Of a total of 5,607 deaths in the borough in 1912, 2,985 were from natural causes and 2,712 of a violent character. Accidental falls were responsible for 746 fatalities. Suicides came next with 574 victims. Burns caused 267 deaths, 229 persons were drowned, there were 198 homicides and 183 persons were accidentally asphyxiated by illuminating gas. The automobile struck and killed 46 persons during the year. Of the total of 340 deaths caused by automobiles, horse vehicles and surface cars 114 were of children.

A Man Resuscitated in a Most Extraordinary Manner

(Courier Leased Wire).
WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—After his heart apparently had ceased to beat, William Lane, a lumber man from Oshkosh, Wis., was able to sit up in a local hospital and relate how he had blown out the gas in a down town hotel. When an ambulance was summoned to the hotel the surgeons pronounced the man dead, but more as a matter of form than with any hope of resuscitating him, they called the pulmotor into use on the rapid run to the hospital. After a vigorous use of the machine, Lane's pulse was found to be beating feebly. Throughout the night the doctors worked over the man and to-day he is believed to be out of danger. The hospital authorities regarded the case as a remarkable one.

The Death of a Prominent Woodstock Resident--He Was Well Known in Brantford

(Courier Leased Wire).
WOODSTOCK, Jan. 27.—Francis Ball, K. C., one of the oldest barristers in the province, died at his home here early this morning, aged 85. He was one of Woodstock's most prominent and public spirited citizens, and took a foremost part in the beautification of streets and parks, also for forty years he was county crown attorney for Oxford, during which he was one of the prosecuting counsel in the Birchell murder trial, being succeeded in office by a son of

on a visit here last week, that Rev. W. H. Fry, one of his associates, is now on his way to them, accompanied by a party of twelve Eskimos. Bishop Stringer said that he did not in the least doubt that the tribe described by Steffansson existed in Coronation Gulf, one thousand miles east of Herschell Island, near the mouth of the Copper Mine River. The Bishop said that Mr. Fry and his party ought to reach the gulf by October next before the close of navigation and the party will presumably devote the winter to spreading his gospel among the tribe.

A COMPETITION.

To the individual, man, woman, or child, who is a citizen of Brantford, and sends in the most popular name for the new vaudeville theatre on Dalhousie street, I will give a free seat for each performance, during six months. JAMES O'REILLY.