

C. P. R. MAIL HELD UP.—The brigands who held up the Pacific mail train this week will find Canada a hot corner for playing this American game. When convicted they should be retired for life.

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THE MONTREAL HORSE SHOW has been a great success. Spite of automobiles the breeding of a high class of horses for saddle and carriage, and draught purposes, also for the army, will never cease out of the land. Apart from its utility the horse is a most attractive animal, no machine can supply its place.

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THERE ARE RUMOURS OF INSURANCE RATES BEING RAISED TO RECOUP THE COMPANIES WHAT THEY HAVE LOST IN FRANCISCO.—This course should be very carefully considered before being adopted as it would not be wise to advance rates generally avowedly to cover extraordinary losses in one city.

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MR F. H. MATHEWSON, president of the Board of Trade, Montreal, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in this city, has sailed for England. His trip will be a well earned holiday and we trust a much enjoyed one.

Mr. Mathewson will represent Montreal, the Commercial metropolis of Canada, as a delegate to the Congress of Chambers of Commerce, which will assemble in London on 1st July next.

His position as president of the Board of Trade and manager of the largest branch of the second bank in Canada will give him prominence at this Congress, and considerable influence in its deliberations. The other delegates from this city will be Messrs. Geo. E. Drummond, W. M. Ramsay, R. Wilson-Smith, G. L. Cairns, A. B. Evans, Leslie H. Gault, Geo. Hadrill, secretary.

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MONEY WELL SPENT is money devoted to educational purposes. The Government of Ontario, indeed, the whole Legislature of that Province, is to be congratulated upon having decided to make an annual grant of \$250,000 towards the maintenance of the University of Toronto. There is to be a "School of Practical Science" established in association with the University. This proposal met with the heartiest support of the Hon. Mr. Harcourt, who is, practically, the leader of the Opposition in the Ontario Legislature.

The magnificent gifts of some of the private citizens of Montreal to McGill University, have raised that institution to prominence, in one respect indeed, to pre-eminence amongst the world's universities. Their example might be followed by the wealthy men of Toronto, much to their honour and the advantage of the educational interests of Ontario.

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A BOYCOTT SET-BACK.—Three Ontario Judges sitting as a Court of Appeal have decided that boycotting by a trades union is illegal. The Toronto Metallic Roofing Company, was embarrassed in business, two or three years ago by a boycott by the Sheet Metal Worker's Union. Suit being brought for damages the company was awarded \$7,500 by Justice McMahon. This verdict was upheld by the Appeal Court, consisting of Chancellor B. yd, Justice Meredith, and Justice Magee.

THE SPEED OF AUTOMOBILES IN ONTARIO and other regulations is fixed by a recent Act. The Act holds the owner of a motor absolutely liable for any damage done. In case of accident the owns of proof of innocence rests upon the owner, or driver of the motor. In case of accident he must give his name and address in writing and permit number. For the open country the maximum is 15 miles an hour, 10 miles in cities and towns. Breach of rules is liable to a maximum fine of \$50 for first offence, \$100 for a second, and a month's sentence in jail for a third and cancellation of permit if it be within 2 years.

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SOCIETY GAMBLING.—It is much to be deplored that afternoon Bridge parties have developed the custom of gambling, in some cases the stakes being quite large. Quite recently a young lady, quite a novice, lost \$75 when playing at a friend's house, and last week another lady lost \$100 when playing Bridge. These cases are authentic. The example thus set to young men is very dangerous as it throws the cloak of fashion over vice.

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COUNTING PAVEMENT HOLES.—A Toronto contemporary seems to have detailed one of its staff, or some outsider to count the holes and other defects in the Toronto pavements and roadways. From the report given in the "News" of 3rd inst., it is evident that Toronto's pathways are in a deplorably bad condition. Take this as a specimen, "There are 1,142 holes on Yonge St. between King and Bloor," the distance being about the same as from Craig St. to Mount Royal Avenue on St. Lawrence Main "Boulevard," as that thoroughfare is now styled.

Looking down the list of holes in the Toronto pavements we consider them far less numerous than those in Montreal. On many streets there is some defect continuously in the sidewalk, there being not a yard's length without several holes or breaks. Hundreds of these gaps have been filled up with ashes and other forms of dirt. Quite recently we saw some 40 to 60 feet of sidewalk patched with old, rotten, broken pieces of board taken from another street, with the result that the so-called repairs had really made the pathway worse than before. Several men were engaged in tearing up old boards, cutting them up into short lengths of one or two feet, and using these for patching the sidewalk with the aid of ashes and dirt. The wages of this gang of men were utterly wasted. The condition and the treatment of the sidewalks in this great city are a gross scandal.

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AN HISTORIC EVENT.—At Portage La Prairie on 1st inst., were laid the first rails of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.

This town will profit largely by being the chief distributing centre of supplies while construction is in progress.

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MR. B. E. WALKER, A DESERVED COMPLIMENT.—When Premier Whitney was moving the House into Committee on 3rd inst., to consider the University of Toronto Bill, he referred to each of the Commissioners whose report was embodied therein. Of Mr. B. E. Walker, general manager of the Bank of Commerce, he said:

"Mr. Walker is a gentleman of the highest pos-