

Italy Celebrates Mussolini's Escape From Death

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The Weather Rain

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ONE CENT In Greater Saint John, TWO CENTS Elsewhere

LIGHTNING CAUSES DISASTROUS OIL BLAZE

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS LOSS IN CALIFORNIA

Huge Reservoirs of Union Oil Co. Are Destroyed

FLAME MILE LONG

Tank Farm Containing Six Million Barrels Abandoned To Blaze

SPAN LUIS OBISPO, CAL., April 8.—The 300-acre tank farm of the Union Oil Company, a mile and a half south of here, in which was stored some 6,000,000 barrels of oil, was abandoned early today to the fire which had threatened its destruction since yesterday morning, when two underground tanks were struck by lightning.

Four huge underground reservoirs to which the blaze had been confined, all day yesterday and last night, boiled over early this morning, and flaming oil, sweeping over a dyke that had been thrown up, carried the fire to two other reservoirs and ten surface tanks. Other surface tanks were rapidly ignited.

DAMAGE ENORMOUS

As the fire spread from tank to tank, it created a flame a mile long. Damage will amount to an unestimated number of millions of dollars. Even before the flames spread beyond the bounds of the four reservoirs officials of the oil company, estimated the loss at perhaps as high as ten million dollars and described the fire as the most destructive in the history of the petroleum industry in California.

The fire was started early yesterday by lightning. Officials of the oil company, unable to understand how the four lakes of oil could have been ignited by one flash, have reached the conclusion that two bolts struck simultaneously, causing two of the storage lakes to explode and throw their flaming roofs over on to the reservoirs.

FRUITLESS BATTLE

With the reservoirs turned into seething cauldrons, hundreds of men, employees of the Union Oil Company, the Standard Oil Company and the Southern Pacific Railroad, and others, were pressed into service to throw up an earthen embankment in an effort to isolate the blaze, but without the slightest success.

The fire, flaring 500 to 1,000 feet into the sky, could be seen for fifty miles around. Rain fell in repeated showers during the entire night, and with each shower the blaze flared to its greatest height.

Italian Socialist Leader Attacked

ROME, April 8.—Signor Modigliani, Italian Socialist leader and prominent member of the Jewish community of Naples, was seriously wounded last night when attacked by Fascists. Signor Modigliani acted as counsel for the widow of Giacomo Matteotti, Socialist deputy, who was kidnapped and murdered June 10, 1924, and the attack is attributed to this fact.

LIVING COSTS ARE HIGHEST IN TORONTO

Survey Shows Figures in Excess of Any Other Eastern City

TORONTO, Ont., April 8.—That Toronto had the highest cost of living of any city in Eastern Canada was the decision arrived at by the Ontario Public School Men Teachers' Federation, after a survey had been made with a view to preparing a salary schedule for federation members.

ONE TODAY

One man, charged with drunkenness, appeared before Magistrate Henderson in the police court here this morning and was fined \$8 or two months in jail.

C. N. R. Counsel Replies To Contentions of Maritime Rights Committee

And We Believed All The Time It Was Gay Paree! But For Morbidity These Little French Yarns Have Us All Twisted

PARIS, April 7.—In many country villages a sum of money is laid aside in a person's will so that a really good funeral, with first-rate meal to follow, can be given. Such forethought is remarkable, but it has been beaten by a case here of a man just dead, who had printed the cards announcing his death and had even addressed the envelopes with his own hands, long before he had any suspicion that he was about to embark upon his last illness.

SOME people delight in morbidity. There is a well-known Montmartre Cafe which caters especially in the shape of coffins, the gloom which is emphasized rather than relieved by wax tapers, while the waiters are clad in caecocks. Skulls and skeletons decorate the place; the entertainment provided is in keeping with the surroundings. The guests are conducted through an elaborate labyrinth to a central cell, where members of the audience are asked to take their stand in a coffin. There, to the strains of the Dead March, they gradually assume the appearance of a grinning skeleton.

THREE N. B. FIRMS ARE INCORPORATED

List Includes Eastern Coal Docks Ltd., With Head Offices Here

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES-STAR. FREDERICTON, N. B., April 8.—Frederickton Ice Cream and Butter Company, Limited, is incorporated with head office at Fredericton and capital stock of \$25,000, of which one-half is to be preference stock. Those incorporated are Frank Tuplin Pridham, Percy Gilbert Long, and William Johnston.

S. J. O'NEILL, President of Eastern Coal Docks, Ltd., is incorporated with head office at Saint John and capital stock of \$100,000, of which one-half is to be preference stock. Those incorporated are George McAllister, H. A. Porter, and L. McC. Ritchie, all of Saint John.

McAllister, Ltd., is incorporated with head office at Jeddah and capital stock of \$24,000. Those incorporated are Daniel McAllister, Mrs. Elmer M. McAllister, Stewart McAllister and Mrs. Bessie McAllister, all of Jeddah. The company is authorized to take over the business as general merchant conducted at Jeddah River by Daniel and Stewart McAllister.

JOURNALIST DIES

William MacKenzie, Former Member of Press Gallery, Passes in California

OTTAWA, April 8.—Word has been received in Ottawa of the death at Palo Alto, California, of William MacKenzie, a prominent member of the parliamentary press gallery for thirty years, and a resident of Ottawa for some forty years. At the conclusion of his newspaper career, Mr. MacKenzie accepted a position in the department of external affairs, as secretary of Imperial correspondence, from which he retired about eight years ago. Since his retirement he had resided in California.

Report Queen Marie Joins Greek Church

LONDON, April 8.—A dispatch to the Daily Express from Bucharest, says Queen Marie of Rumania has joined the Greek Orthodox Church, feeling that there was need for her to be closer to the spiritual relations of her children, who were reared in the Greek Orthodox faith.

Fear Expressed For London's Position As Cheap Money Mart

LONDON, April 8.—Fear of America's becoming the world's dominant money market was expressed Wednesday by Sir Thomas Hayden, chairman of the Cunard and Anchor Lines, at the company's annual meeting.

Itself included. It was a matter of congratulation that the Cunard Company could borrow \$750,000 in New York on a basis of 5 per cent. to the investor. The reason we did not follow by refunding the 7 per cent. debentures in New York was that the yearly interest was not a deduction from profits for purposes of the British income tax.

Whether this state of affairs benefits British industry generally is gravely doubtful.

MOVEMENT TO REDUCE CONGESTION LEADS TO LONDON TRAFFIC WAR

Ministry of Transport's Action in Cutting Bus Service Rouses the Ire of Owners and Public; Battle Becomes Lively

LONDON, April 8.—The London traffic war over the recent order of the minister of transport cutting down the motor bus service with the proposed object of reducing the congestion of traffic in the streets of the metropolis is becoming livelier daily. The day the order was supposed to have gone into effect, March 29, there were 20 privately owned buses in the streets carrying passengers as usual in defiance of the order and since then many more bus services have been defying the ministry and manifestly receiving public sympathy in connection therewith.

LAKESIDES OUTPLAY SAINT JOHN GIRLS

Toronto Team Takes Lead From Start—Second Game on Friday

TORONTO, Ont., April 8.—Lakeside girls, champion basketball team of Ontario, secured a decided advantage last night in the first of the two game series to decide the senior championship of Eastern Canada, when they overwhelmed the Trojan-Rovers of Saint John by a score of 69 to 18.

RECALLS DAYS OF YUKON GOLD RUSH

Former Gold Commissioner Speaks of "Sourdoughs," Now Dead, Fortunes Gone

OTTAWA, April 8.—The history of the early rush to the Klondyke gold fields in the nineties, of the trials, hopes and the tragic deaths of the veterans of the "trail of '98," are all recalled in gold figures in the report of the Auditor General's Department in Ottawa. They are those of the leaving estates which have since dwindled to nothing by the depreciation of the gold claims. Of the total of \$4 million recorded, the total amount approximates only \$800,000.

HARD TO CLASSIFY CHILD IN THIS CASE

Rabbi Presents Problem to National Council of Education in Montreal

MONTREAL, April 8.—Rabbi S. J. Samuels, in a discussion on citizenship at the session of the National Council of Education here yesterday, commented on the problem of the ideal of "Canadian citizenship" in the program of the council and during the conference.

ICE-BOUND STEAMER GETS 1,600 WHITE COATS

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., April 8.—The steamship Viking, which has been stuck in the ice in the Gulf for the last three weeks, had her first bit of luck yesterday when 1,600 white coats were secured about 15 miles off Cape Ray, according to a message received from Captain Bartlett last night.

CLUE IS EXPLODED

Man Under Arrest in Indiana Is Not Missing Ambrose J. Small

ALBION, Ind., April 8.—Another clue which it had been hoped would lead to the discovery of Ambrose J. Small, missing Toronto theatre owner, has been exploded, and a man under arrest here, who claimed he did banking in Toronto under that name, has turned out to be a criminal with a record dating back to 1898 and a sales man of Canadian lands which police claim do not exist.

CALCUTTA RIOTS KEEP CITY IN STATE OF PANIC

Further Clashes Feared At Approaching Ramadan Feast

EUROPEAN HURT

Mill Manager and Others Assaulted by Native Operatives At Gouppore

CALCUTTA, April 8.—Disturbances continue in Calcutta. One Mohammedan was killed in a street scuffle, and 10 Mohammedans and two Hindus were severely injured. The city is still in a state of panic with continued false reports of assaults and desecrations of temples and mosques.

HUGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF MINING CO.

Between 10 and 15 Million Dollars to Be Spent in Film Flon Arta

WINNIPEG, Man., April 8.—A development scheme involving expenditure between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000 will be launched in the Flon Arta mining area of Northern Manitoba, as soon as a railway line is built into the area, and tests for treatment of ore completed, according to J. P. Watson, head of the Mining Corporation of Canada.

NEPISIGUIT POWER BILL IS APPROVED

Measure Goes Through This Morning With Few Minor Amendments

FREDERICTON, April 8.—Formal consent of the Legislature and the Lieutenant-Governor now is needed, and the Bathurst Co. Ltd.'s plans for its extensive hydro electric development will be put into effect at once, the corporations committee having passed the enactment relating to the formation of the Nepisiguit Storage Company Ltd., with a capitalization of \$1,000,000, at a session this morning.

HULL RAILWAY SOLD TO INTERNATIONAL

OTTAWA, April 8.—The Journal this morning says: "One of the biggest deals in the history of Hull has been consummated, according to a reliable local report, whereby the Hull Electric Railway, which is owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway, has been sold in its entirety, to the International Pulp and Paper Company for the sum of \$4,750,000. News of the deal, it is understood, will be officially announced some time today."

Form Club AUTHORITY OF RAILWAY BOARD IS CHALLENGED

A. Fraser Says Dominion Act Bars Maritime Concessions

WELDON HEARD

More Data On Freight Rates Submitted At Moncton Hearing Today

MONCTON, N. B., April 8.—The hearing of the Dominion Board of Railway Commissioners on the subject of Maritime Province freight rates was adjourned since this afternoon, owing to illness of A. Fraser, C. N. R. counsel, and Col. J. L. Ralston, counsel for the Maritime committee, both being summoned to Montreal. The commission will fix the time and place for the next hearing.

By F. X. JENNINGS.

Start Correspondent of The Times-Star.

MONCTON, N. B., April 8.—The Canadian National Railway's reply to the contentions of the Maritime Transportation Rights Committee, as presented to the Board of Railway Commissioners, by Colonel J. L. Ralston, was commenced here this morning, Allister Fraser, of Montreal, counsel, and A. T. Weldon, of Moncton, regional traffic manager, being heard.

COAL RATE DISCUSSED

Taking up coal rate discussion at the opening of the morning session, Hugh Ross, K. C., of the British Empire Coal Corporation, explained that through rates on coal from Sydney to points on the D. A. R. was made up of the local rate to Turin and a rate over the D. A. R. arranged by J. R. McIsaac, the total being less than the sum of the two local rates. He presented this to modify statements made yesterday by Mr. McIsaac.

BESCO SEEKS REDUCTION.

Mr. McIsaac said that what Besco wanted was the reduction of the D. A. R. proportion to the same level as the C. N. R. rate to Turin.

E. F. Flintoff, C. P. R. counsel, quoted figures from C. N. R. and the D. A. R. tariffs to show that the through rates to all points were less than the combination of the local rates, although in all but competitive cases they were higher than the one-line haul rates by about 1 1/2 cents.

Col. Ralston, referring again to the grain situation, requested that, if possible, the board view Halifax to view the facilities and get any other information to be obtained to assist in the consideration of the case.

To Commissioner Oliver, he said that if a hearing were held at Halifax he

Continued on Page 10

Form Club

LORD OXFORD

THOMAS HARDY

LORD INCHCAPE

LORD BALFOUR

A GROUP of England's famous men still hard at work among their allotted three acres and ten years have formed the Octogenarian club. Here are Lord Oxford, Thomas Hardy, the author, Lord Inchcape and Lord Balfour.

Wm. Smid of St. Catharines Was Wanted on Abandonment Charge

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., April 8.—When police went to a hotel room to arrest Wm. Smid, of St. Catharines, Ont., early today, they found him dead in bed. The police held a warrant for his arrest on a charge of abandoning his wife and family in the Canadian city. A coroner said death was due to heart disease.

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Earl Cavan Slated To Succeed Byng

British United Press. LONDON, April 8.—That Earl Cavan, until lately chief of the general staff of the British Army, will be the next Governor-General of Canada is the confident prediction made this morning in an announcement appearing in the Daily Dispatch of Manchester, but so far there has been no official confirmation of this appointment in London, although it is admitted that his claims are being considered.

The dispatch adds that there is a considerable amount of comment in political circles over the delay of the government in making the decision, although it is known that three names have been under consideration in London and Ottawa—Lord Lee of Fareham, who gave Chequers to the British people and held many high offices during the great war; Lord Willington, who has served a term as governor of Madras, and the Earl Cavan. The last of these three is generally regarded as the favorite. The sport of picking a new Governor-General for Canada has been going on in the newspapers for several months past and has proved highly diverting in both the social and political clubs. Lord Beaverbrook has been most industrious in selecting a suitable nominee, while the Daily Dispatch, which now favors Earl Cavan, on a previous occasion picked the Duke of York for the post. On that occasion the newspaper said that it had received the intimation from the highest quarters, but that it had considered it unwise to print rumors involving the names of members of the royal family.

The Weather

SYNOPSIS—Pressure continues high over the Western Provinces and Northwest States, and is decreasing near the Atlantic coast, while a depression centred in Western Virginia is moving northward. The temperature remains almost stationary throughout the Dominion.

FORECAST: Rain. MARITIME—Increasing east and southeast winds, rain tonight and Friday.