

STILL IN BLOCKADE; FEARS OF STARVATION.

Such Conditions Were Never Before Known
in Nova Scotia--Rumors of Distress
--Maritime Snowed Under.

HALIFAX, Feb. 24.—The blockade on the D. A. R. and other railways in Nova Scotia is assuming an aspect of more than merely business inconvenience. The lack of the necessities of life for man and beast is staring people in the face, and there is a shortage of fuel with no possibility of supplying it till trains on the railways get once more into motion and no man can say when that will be. At many points, particularly on the Dominion Atlantic and in Cape Breton, flour has almost run out and the farmers have no hay for their stock, which already is depicted by killing. The intercolony rail line has been closed for several days. The maritime express has been for 24 hours off the rails and is now covered with drifting snow. An attempt to send a wrecking auxiliary to her relief failed because of the snow drifted there by a fierce northeaster that has been raging all day with hail so biting that the men cannot work. The maritime express is off the rails in a section of the road that is a continuation of deep cuttings, the worst on the main line of the I. C. R. in this province and it may be days before they get the main line clear. But it is on the D. A. R. where the blockade is most complete. That whole system is tied up and is likely to continue so, bound hard in snow and ice.

Chief Justice Weatherbe, who has a place at Kentville, fears that there may be great privation if not actual starvation. Today he telegraphed the mayor of Kentville, the headquarters of the D. A. R., asking whether the food and fuel supplies would last and what would be the result if the ice blockade continued.

The following reply was received: "Kentville can hold out three or four days longer, perhaps a week, when food and fuel supplies will, without relief, be practically exhausted. We are now depending on the railroads for supplies. With your local knowledge you can estimate the consequences. W. E. ROSSCOE, Mayor."

Dr. J. B. Dewitt, mayor of Wolfville, in response to an inquiry from the provincial government, says that the situation in that town, which is seven miles from Kentville:

"The storm today has completely blocked the road again. Three hundred men are working between Wolfville and Kentville. Wolfville, with the university, has put on two hundred men daily since Monday trying to clear the road. A mail coach, which has been running, but cannot get farther. The condition is desperate. Coal is giving out and necessities of life are running low. Distress is menacing churches and schools are closing. The storm still on. Coal on the D. A. R. is about gone. The men on the Windsor branch are six miles apart, and rails are covered with solid ice. Two thousand are required between Windsor and the port of Digby to keep the road open for a week.

"The military in Halifax say they could furnish 600 men with picks to go to work on the railway and it may be that in the morning a request will be made to Sir Chas. Parsons for such assistance."

WORD FROM TRURO.

TRURO, N. S., Feb. 24.—A heavy snow storm began early this morning, lasting with more or less violence till about noon, and it has caused more serious damage on the I. C. R. No Sydney train through today. It is stated that the line from the Strait to Sydney is badly blocked from today's storm, but the line from Truro to New Glasgow is fairly well cleared out. The greatest block is north. Yesterday's Maritime express is off the track, two miles north of Londonderry, and the snow and hail has been drifting out here since nine o'clock last night, so it is reported she is now practically buried. An auxiliary sent out last night after she jumped the track, has just reached Londonderry this evening and is stopping there till the storm prevailing here the mountain abates, before attempting to reach the beleaguered "maritime."

Another auxiliary sent up this afternoon has not yet reached Londonderry. The weather with cutting hail is reported so biting on the mountain that men cannot work. Behind yesterday's 34 at Thomson is last night's No. 36 express, and behind her again at Oxford Junction is today's 34. All are first class trains with diners and sleepers attached and passengers are enjoying high living in the hermit fastness of the North Mountain. The trains are practically all helpless until the auxiliary can reach them.

No coal has arrived from Springfield since yesterday morning and none can be brought in till the express trains on the mountain are cleared out. It had been expected that several train loads would go along today and this will mean a more serious aspect. Dealers in the town are letting coal out of the barrel have cleaned out their supply.

FROM MONCTON.

MONCTON, Feb. 24.—Yesterday's storm abated some time during last night in this vicinity, but continued with increasing force between Springfield and Truro, with the result that yesterday's maritime and C. P. R. are still held up near Londonderry and yesterday's maritime from Halifax and Truro are still held up. No trains were started from Halifax today. Today's maritime went as far as Oxford Junction, Sydney and Short Line, and was badly blocked up, in fact the whole service east of Springfield is completely tied up with little prospect of any further attempt being made to clear it until the storm abates. Another storm set in here about six o'clock-tonight and at midnight is almost as severe as yesterday's. Trains north of Moncton are being held up. The delay, however, by the trains between Moncton and St. John are experiencing a lot of trouble at two or three places.

ALLAN S. S. COMPANY

Signed Three Years' Contract For Service Between Canada and France.

MONTRÉAL, Feb. 24.—The Allan Steamship Company has signed a three years' contract with the dominion trade and commerce department for a service between Canada and France, to begin with the opening of navigation in the spring. The sailings will be from Montreal and Quebec in the summer and from St. John or Halifax in the winter. The French terminal will be either Cherbourg or Havre. This is left to the option of the company. Even until November inclusive there will not be less than two round trips per month. During the year the company binds itself to provide not less than eighteen round trips, which, however, may be increased to twenty-four. For eighteen trips the subsidy will be \$100,000, and for twenty-four trips \$133,333.

The steamers for the service will be the *Sardinian*, 4,249 tons; *Laurentian*, 4,325 tons; *Pomeranian*, 4,288 tons, and *Buenos Ayres*, 4,164 tons. Cold storage accommodations must be provided for, to the satisfaction of the minister of trade and commerce. The boats must have a speed of not less than ten knots. Eastern trips may be extended to a British port or ports, but the first port of call east-bound and the last port west-bound must be French.

U. N. B. MOCK PARLIAMENT.

FREDERICTON, N. B., Feb. 24.—The elections at the university resulted in a victory for the conservatives over the liberals by a majority of 2. The vote stood 52-50. John McNaughton is premier. E. B. Jones, '05, was elected governor general, and D. King Hazen, '06, of St. John, speaker. Mr. Latchey, '07, and Mullin, '08, have been appointed sergeants-at-arms, and Orchard, '07, clerk of the house.

The whips for the conservative party are: McBeath, Burnett, Sherman, Gregory, Winslow R. N., Winslow R. H., and Gilchrist.

Premier McNaughton will probably form his cabinet in a few days, as the first session takes place on Saturday evening, March 4th.

FERRON

A TONIC FOR ALL.
It makes new blood
It invigorates
It strengthens
It builds
BONE AND MUSCLE
Used with the greatest advantage by all weak people. Prevents fainting, makes weak blood like new.
Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd., Montreal.

PARLIAMENT.

OTTAWA, Feb. 22.—McKenzie, (Cape Breton) drew the attention of the government to the seizure in November last of the scho. Agnes G. Donahue, by the government of Uruguay. The schooner had gone to take part in southern seal fishing. It had been seized on the charge of poaching, but he understood the facts were that there were no poachers and have proved the vessel was used for seal fishing and also that the vessel was four miles from shore at the time. The crew of nine men and the captain were taken prisoners and the connection with the vessel, although a trial took place in the supreme court.

Prefontaine said the question had occurred to the open session of the department for about a month past. They had communicated with the home government with a view of having the men released. After an exchange of some cables they were informed that the men had been discharged, but that the government intended to keep the captain in jail, although there was no law pertaining to him to do so. They were told that the government was preparing a law to meet the case. They again communicated with the home government representing the facts as they understood them, but had not yet received any reply. The British consul at Montevideo was doing his best under the circumstances, but it was one of those cases which would happen now and then in those countries. The department was not losing sight of the question in any way.

The house went into supply on the canal items and some discussion resulted in connection with the Grenville canal. W. Perley extracted information that the superintendent who obtained salary of \$1,000 had been a combination cutter. Perley got other members criticized Emerson severely for making appointments of men who had no previous qualifications. Emerson in reply gave as one of the principal reasons for the appointment that the man had been a political friend.

Ganong was informed by Prefontaine that the open session for lobbyists in district No. 1, New Brunswick, is from January 26 to 29th June.

Replying to further questions Prefontaine said 29 food storage plants for bait had been erected.

An interesting discussion took place upon the vote of sixty thousand for the railway commission. The question was raised whether the minister of railways and canals could recommend a commission to give the information. Emerson held that anybody, whether a member of the commission or of the department of railways and canals or of the house, could recommend a commission and obtain a copy of the judgment in any particular matter. Foster contended that under the law parliament was unable to apportion the responsibility of the appointment from the commission either regarding its work or the expenditure of public money. Evidently there was a screw loose somewhere.

Laurel made a confession to make. He really thought that the commission was obliged to make a yearly report not only as to its operations, but how the money voted by parliament was being expended. He now had heard it suggested otherwise. He would consult the minister of justice, and if it were found that the commission was not bound to report to parliament, he would move that it be amended to provide for this. In regard to appointments under the board he admitted that the governor in council had no right to initiate temporary appointments, but that they were made by the board and were subject to the approval of parliament.

First of a series of petitions to parliament which may run into thousands was presented. It came from some of the electors of Centre York, and prayed: "That in granting provincial autonomy to the Northwest Territories, the federal government should not be bound by any enactment or otherwise withhold from the newly created provinces full and unrestricted freedom of action in all matters affecting the establishment, maintenance and administration of schools."

A return brought down today gives the total area of public lands still undisposed of in the Northwest Territories at \$3,815,210. The following are the areas: Alberta, 38,190,964; Assiniboia, 32,285,876; Saskatchewan, 51,333,246; Athabasca, 155,622,704; Franklin, 329,000,000; MacKenzie, 360,000,000.

IN THE SENATE.

OTTAWA, Feb. 22.—The senate today adopted a resolution calling attention of the government to local foreign and imperial postal charges with the view of remedying certain inequalities therein, and the senate affirms the principle that the conveyance of letters, newspapers, books, periodicals, etc., should be at a lower scale of charges within the empire than at the time ruling with any foreign country.

PROVINCIALISTS DEAD.

BOSTON, Feb. 22.—The following deaths of former provincialists are announced: In Forest Hills, Feb. 19, Mrs. Edna A. Lister, aged 70 years, formerly of St. John; at St. Louis, Feb. 16, John J. Green, aged 49 years, formerly of St. John and Boston; at McKeesport, Pa., Feb. 15, James O. Miller, formerly of St. John; at Portland, Feb. 14, John Wallace Hall, aged 51, formerly of St. John; in Jamaica Plain, Feb. 13, Capt. John S. Sheridan, aged 52 years, native of Advocate Harbor, N. S.; in Charlottetown, Feb. 17, Angus McPherson, aged 52 years, formerly of North Sydney, N. S.; in Charlottetown, Feb. 17, Miss Annie T. Morris, daughter of William E. Morris, aged 17 years, formerly of Halifax; in Cambridgeport, Feb. 14, Sarah E. Seaton, aged 72 years, native of Nova Scotia; in Malden, Feb. 17, Mrs. Lou B. Storey, wife of Edward G. Storey, aged 59 years, native of Nova Scotia; in this city, Feb. 19, James Martin, aged 52 years, formerly of Prince Edward Island.

THERE'S A REASON.

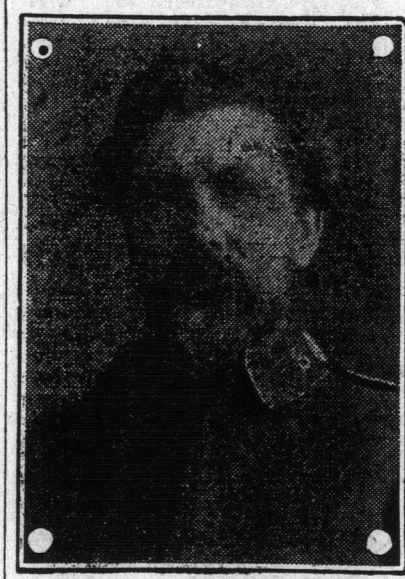
A rainbow in the sky is the symbol of purity and perfection of color. That is why the name was chosen for Rain-bow Cut Plug Smoking Tobacco, which is a pure and perfect smoke for the pipe.

IN PRIME OF LIFE.

Commissioner Coombs is an Active Man.

The Programme For His Tour Through the Maritime Provinces is Arranged.

The programme has just been arranged for the tour of Commissioner Coombs of the Salvation Army through the maritime provinces. The commissioner is expected to arrive at Springfield next Thursday, March 2nd. Here a meeting will be held in the Academy of Music, at which the mayor of the city will preside. Salvations from all the surrounding corps, Amherst, Parrsboro, Sackville, Londonderry, etc., will be present at this meeting.



COMMISSIONER COOMBS.

From Springfield the commissioner proceeds to Halifax, where a meeting will be held Friday night in Chalmers' Presbyterian church. Early Saturday morning he will leave for Glace Bay. He will hold no service Saturday night. On Sunday meetings will be held in King's Theatre, Glace Bay. Officers and soldiers will attend from Dominion, Reserve, Louisburg, New Aberdeen, Sydney, North Sydney, Whitney Pier, Sydney Mines and other places in Cape Breton.

From Glace Bay the commissioner goes to Newfoundland, visiting St. John's and Harbor Grace, and returning to Canada on the 17th. After visiting New Glasgow, he will come to St. John, where he is expected to arrive on Saturday, March 18th. Three services will be held on Sunday in the York Theatre. There will also be a service on Monday night. Officers' meetings will be held on Tuesday.

The commissioner will leave on the C. P. R. Tuesday evening for Toronto. On Tuesday evening he will be accompanied by Lieut. Col. Pughmore of Toronto and Brigadier Smeaton, his private secretary.

The new commissioner in his recent trip through the west had a warm reception everywhere, and has been very favorably commented on by the press in all the different places visited. The members of the army and many others look upon him with pleasure to his visit to this city.

Com. Coombs is a man still in the prime of his life. He is said to be very active in his movements, and to have a pleasant, intelligent face. There is a brightness and magnetism about him which is irresistible, and on the whole he is considered by those who have met him well adapted for his appointed task.

A GENEROUS GIFT.

Foley Bros., Contractors, Contribute \$40,000 Towards Cathedral.

OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—Foley Brothers, of St. Paul, the well-known railway contractors, who are double tracking the C. P. R. between Fort William and Winnipeg, have presented Archbishop Ireland with a cheque for \$40,000 for the proposed new cathedral at St. Paul. Messrs. Foley are natives of Alberta, Ont., and have amassed a fortune across the line. J. D. Grace, proprietor of United Canada, is a cousin.

LAVAL UNIVERSITY.

MONTRÉAL, Feb. 23.—The law faculty of Laval University held an important meeting here Saturday and decided to oppose the project to separate the Montreal institution from the Quebec parent university, calling it Bourget University. The fight is the renewal of the old feud of the eighties. Mr. Bruchet, archbishop of Montreal, is said to be the leading spirit in the proposed change.

CALLED FAMILY CONFERENCE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—It was learned today that before Richard Croker sailed for Europe on Saturday he called a suitable memorial for Frank Croker, Mr. and Mrs. Croker decided to contribute \$50,000 among charities of various religious beliefs where it would do the most good for the poor of the city.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S CATARRH CURE... 25c. Is sent direct to the diseased parts by the Improved Blower. It is the most effective remedy for Catarrh, and cures permanently. All dealers, or Dr. A. W. Chase Medicine Co., Toronto and Buffalo.

A Great Improvement.

Provided With Literature, Due to Efforts of Dr. Anglin—Painters Have Been at Work.

Some two months ago Dr. J. V. Anglin, superintendent of the Hospital for the Treatment of Nervous Diseases, issued an appeal to the public at large for magazines and other publications. The response was most generous. Over one hundred persons sent contributions, some of them giving quite large boxes of books. These contributions did not all come from St. John people, but were received from different parts of the province. They included many magazines, Colliers' London Illustrated, Youths' Companion, and other well known journals. These have been distributed among the different wards, and have proved a source of great delight to the hospital inmates. The books with pictures in them receive the most attention, and there are some patients never previously interested in anything who spend much of their time in looking at the pictures. Of course there are others who pay not the slightest attention to anything.

The north wing of the hospital, which has been closed during practically the whole winter, has just been reopened. A new heating plant was being put in, and the north wing of the building would be thrown into disorder by the work arising from the installation of the system, it was decided to take advantage of the chance to entirely renovate that portion of the building. Accordingly carpenters, painters and decorators were engaged and the place now looks almost like a new building. It is clean and fresh, and has a most cheerful aspect in comparison with the rest of the building.

The hospital has in the past been heated by steam, which method has never been found to be just what was desired. So it was decided to replace the old plant by a more modern one. The Buffalo system was selected, and each year a wing of the hospital will receive attention. The north wing, consisting of three floors, has just been finished, and another section will be attended to next season. Steam is still used in all the building excepting this north wing. Under the new system, fresh air is drawn into the basement, passes over heated coils, and the warmed fresh air is then forced by fans through a 3 ft. x 3 ft. lead to the different wards. The registers opening into the wards are high up on the walls, while those allowing the return of the impure air are in the walls near the floor.

Dr. Anglin says that this system of heating and ventilation is giving every satisfaction. One improvement over the old steam plant is that there are no radiators in the wards, on which accidents to patients might occur.

HE WAS SURPRISED. Miss Ottoline Alderman Shot the Man Who Entered Her Bedroom.

LEXINGTON, Mass., Feb. 23.—Edward Barrow, aged 21 years, of City Mills, was shot and probably fatally wounded by Miss Ottoline S. Alderman, upon being discovered in the latter's bedroom early today. Barrow was removed to the Massachusetts General Hospital at Boston, where it was said tonight that his condition was critical, though there was a bare chance of recovery.

The police and physicians were summoned to the Alderman home just before 3 o'clock this morning and found Barrow lying stretched out upon the floor of Miss Alderman's room groaning with pain. An examination convinced the physicians that his condition was critical, and at their advice, he was removed by the police to the hospital.

Miss Alderman, who is about fifty years of age, lives with her mother, Mrs. Frank Alderman, and a sister, Miss Cora A. Alderman. She told the police that she was lying awake in bed reading when her light was suddenly extinguished. She is quite deaf, and did not hear the intruder, but, feeling sure of his presence, reached for a small breech-loading single barrel rifle which she kept by her bed. She then felt a hand on the bed covering about her feet, and exclaimed: "It is time for you to be going if you are going."

An instant later she discovered the outlines of a man's figure crouching near her bed, and, believing that the burglar was about to spring upon her, she fired. A charge of bludgeon entered Barrow's abdomen and he sank to the floor. Miss Alderman then told her mother and sister, who had been awakened by the shot, of the shooting, and, leaving the house, went to the home of her brother, Dr. Harry L. Alderman, who notified the police.

Barrow explained that he had entered the house by mistake. The police said that the entrance was effected by climbing to the porch roof and stepping to the roof of an ell, from which the man crawled into the window of Miss Alderman's chamber. Barrow lives, he will be held for burglary.

NEW ENGLAND STORM.

Heaviest Surf in Years Pounding on the Coast.

BOSTON, Feb. 23.—The second ocean storm within a week skirted the southeastern New England coast today, giving exposed stations, like Block Island, Nantucket and Highland Light, a stiff northeaster with some snow. Farther off shore the storm was still more severe and at noon today the Nantucket Lightship was plunging about in a terrific sea which had subsided at dark, although the wind had backed from the northeast to the north-northwest, showing that the storm was hurrying along in the path of the Gulf Stream. It is expected that incoming steamers will bring reports of tempestuous weather off the coast.

The heaviest surf in years has been thundering on the New England coast for the past four days, and today's storm will probably serve to continue it.

KILLED BY TRAIN.

Was Sitting in His Sleigh Watching a Passing Freight.

PORTLAND, Me., Feb. 23.—Herbert Shaw was killed at West Falmouth today by a passenger train from the east arriving here at noon. While sitting in his sleigh on the crossing, watching a passing freight train, he failed to notice the passenger train coming from the opposite direction and was not observed by the engineer until too late. His body was found on the cow-catcher, the horse had been killed instantly and pitched into a field and the sleigh was wrecked.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

BEARS THE SIGNATURE OF DR. J. C. HATHORN.

TELLS A DIFFERENT STORY.

Captain Nicholas Saxe Describes Seige at Port Arthur.

CHICAGO, Feb. 24.—Captain Nicholas Saxe, commander of the Russian hydrographic ship *Ermak*, sunk at Port Arthur harbor immediately before the capitulation, arrived in Chicago from San Francisco en route for St. Petersburg, via New York and Paris. He was accompanied by Captain Nicholas Von Ersen, commander of the destroyed battleship *Sevastopol*, and eleven Russian naval lieutenants, all of whom were taken prisoners by the Japanese and released on parole. In an interview he told a graphic story of the siege of the Russian stronghold. Had General Stoessel held out, Captain Saxe said, the place soon would have been converted into a mere cemetery. Almost 5,000 men were scurvy-ridden and 22,000 were wounded.

When General Stoessel surrendered, 8,000 of the 9,000 soldiers and sailors under arms were suffering from wounds. Hundreds were taken from the hospitals to bear arms, but unable even to walk, fell and died at their posts before the Japanese. The ending horror, enduring day after day, night after night, said Captain Saxe.

CANDIDATE SELECTED.

Robert Murray Chosen by Local Government Supporters in Northumberland.

CHATHAM, Feb. 24.—The meeting of supporters of the local government was held tonight in Masonic Hall. Parish delegates were selected to nominate a candidate and retired to receive nominations. Ex-speaker Burchill and Robert Murray, barrister, were the two nominated by the delegates, and after a vote was polled Mr. Murray had a majority of five, the vote standing 18. Mr. Murray's name was placed before the general public, which ratified the choice.

Robert Murray was born in 1855 at Chatham and educated there at the Presbyterian Academy. He studied law with Andrew H. Johnson and was admitted attorney in 1882. In 1887 he was appointed police magistrate of Chatham, which office he held until 1892. He served two years in the municipal council and has been Scott Act prosecutor. He is a member of the St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, and according to the Canadian business public from the American travelling public. Walker says the finance department is perfectly willing to deal with the matter as soon as the complete agreement from the mining industry is in hand before the mining act is passed. It is understood this will be done at an early date. It is therefore possible arrangements may shortly be made under which Canada will derive all profit accruing from mining silver coin needed in the business of the country, while American silver will be taken at its face value at every banking office in Canada.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

Discussion in House Last Night—Foster's Criticism.

OTTAWA, Feb. 24.—The house tonight spent a long time in consideration of the inland revenue estimates in discussing the adulteration of food in Canada. Foster giving facts and figures to show that the government had neglected to utilize the analytical plant and staff which were maintained at a large cost, in the direction of protecting food consumers against the flood of adulteration that now entered into almost every article that entered man's mouth. Foster's criticism was friendly in tone and consequently more pungent than if it had been delivered from a purely party standpoint.

KILLED AT A FIRE.

Two Men Buried in the Debris—Building Collapsed.

SHERBROOKE, Feb. 24.—Coalbrook was visited by a serious fire this morning which was attended by fatal results. At an early hour fire was discovered in Shurtleff's hall and a volunteer fire company soon arrived. John Corliss, retired farmer, and another man named John Chesney were holding a stream which was playing on the flames, when the building collapsed and both were buried under a mass of assistance being rendered, it was found that Corliss was dead, while Chesney was suffering from a broken leg and other injuries.

PRETTY TOUGH.

J. Rainsford Vanwart of Wickham, Queens county, was in the city yesterday, and he says the condition of travel on the river route to use his own words, "is something awful." The snow is very deep right in the sled tracks and particularly deep off the beaten way. Therefore when a man has to "pull out" to allow another team to pass there is next thing to an upset. The river service is just as bad in this regard as the highway road. There is one thing the country folks have to be thankful for, however, and that is the safety of the ice. It never was thicker, and few if any bad spots have been located. Mr. Vanwart thinks there will be a very high frost if the spring is an open one, as there is an almost unprecedented amount of snow and ice this winter on, in and about the big stream.

PETITIONED FOR DIVORCE.

BOSTON, Feb. 24.—George Frederick Dunham of this city has petitioned for a divorce in the local court from Mrs. Lillian May Shaw Dunham of Yarmouth, N. S., on the ground of desertion. The Dunhams were married at Yarmouth in 1896, and afterwards lived at Elmwood Island, near that place.

A DOUBLE TRAGEDY.

MAON, Ill., Feb. 24.—A strange double tragedy occurred here today. L. H. Hall, a farmer, killed himself by taking poison. His body was found in a barn and was taken into his house. His son Clinton, 21 years old, affected by the occurrence, went to the barn and hanged himself.

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