

Dominions Commission Will Meet in Canada to Consider Ocean Freight Rates

Upset Lamp Causes Another Fire in Earls Court—Sir James Whitney Has Chance of Recovery—No Hope of Satisfying Ulster on Home Rule—Waterways Conference Has Big Scheme—President Wilson's New Mexican Policy—Royalty to Attend Strathcona's Funeral

LAMP UPSET AND SET FIRE TO NEW HOUSE

Earls Court Family Homeless as Result of Blaze Which Broke Out at Church Time—Insurance Policies Destroyed With All Household Goods.

For the second time in two weeks an upset coal oil lamp caused the destruction of a house in Earls Court. About 7.30 last evening the two-story residence of Andrew Farrell, on Ravenaden avenue, was destroyed, causing a loss of almost \$1,600. The house was insured in two companies to the extent of \$1800. The insurance policies, however, were destroyed by the fire, as was all the furniture and contents of the house. The family now possess only the clothing they wore when the fire broke out.

Earls Court Reels First.

The Earls Court fire reels were first on the scene, using the city hydrant near by. They were followed about twenty minutes later by the Forth street and West Toronto reels. Steady streams of water were kept playing upon the building, but the blaze continued to make headway for over half an hour after it started. When it was finally brought under control the house was a complete ruin.

Were at Service.

Mrs. Farrell explained after the fire that her husband had taken the four children to the Royal George Theatre to attend the Salvation Army services a few minutes previous, and she was just preparing to leave after having adjusted the darning on the stove. Her theory is that she must have knocked the coal oil lamp, which was turning, over with her elbow when lifting her arm to the mantel-shelf and this had caused the fire. At any rate she had not gone many minutes when she saw the house in flames.

Mr. Farrell is a carpenter by trade and spent his spare time in erecting his home, which was scarcely completed when it was destroyed.

Mrs. Chambers, a neighbor, offered the Farrells the shelter of her home, but they will probably stay with a brother of Mr. Farrell, on Earls Court avenue until they make further arrangements.

Shop Fire Sunday.

Fire in an ice cream parlor at 306 Augusta avenue at 2 o'clock Sunday morning caused \$350 damage. The cause of the fire is unknown, and it was first discovered by the occupant, A. Hickman. It was extinguished with very little trouble. A. Wellesman is the owner of the building.

Match Was Dropped.

At 8.30 a.m. yesterday two storey brick residence at 45 Beverley street, occupied by William Werringer, caught fire from a match dropped in an upstairs clothes closet. The damage is about \$200, all covered by insurance.

Congreg. Coal Company.

A small blaze started in the yards of the Congreg. Coal Company on Gladstone avenue at 7.30 last night, but was extinguished with very little damage.

FORMER CONGRESSMAN CONVICTED OF BRIBERY

Willett Tried to Purchase Supreme Court Nomination in Brooklyn.

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—(Can. Press.)—William Willett, jr., former Democratic member of congress, was convicted late tonight of bribery in attempting to purchase a supreme court nomination in Brooklyn and Queen's County in 1911. The jury had the case under consideration for 40 minutes. Willett was remanded to jail for sentence.

Indicted with Willett were Joseph Cassidy, former Democratic leader of Queen's County, and once an important figure in local politics, and Louis T. Walter, jr., as the go-between.

ROYALTY WILL ATTEND SERVICE

Lord Strathcona's Funeral at Westminster Abbey Today Will Be Marked by Notable Gathering.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—(C.A.P.)—It is stated that many thousand applications have been received for admission to the funeral services of Lord Strathcona at Westminster Abbey today. Not only will the King and Queen and Queen Alexandra be represented, but several members of the royal family will be present and representatives of a large number of societies and institutions with which Lord Strathcona was connected, or of which he was a supporter. The reserved portion of the abbey will be occupied by a number of distinguished people. The service will be conducted by Bishop Ryle and Rev. L. H. Dixon. Sir Frederick Bridge will be at the organ.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN MASSACRED BY REBELS

Reports Say Hundreds Were Butchered by Mexican Insurrecto Band.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 24.—(Can. Press.)—One hundred women and children and 150 federal soldiers were massacred by rebels recently near Vanegua, to the north of San Luis Potosi, according to reports received here today. The soldiers, with the women, surrendered to the rebels, and were taken to a ranch near Matehuala, where the alleged butchery occurred. Major Rebollo and Captain Ramirez and a handful of men were the ones to escape. They arrived here today, bringing news of the occurrence.

PASTOR TO BECOME EDITOR.

OTTAWA, Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—Dr. Macdonald of McPhail Memorial Baptist Church tonight asked his congregation to release him from the pastorate. He has been appointed editor of The Maritime Baptist, published in St. John, N.B.

DOMINIONS COMMISSION TO TAKE UP OCEAN FREIGHT RATES AT LONG SITTINGS IN CANADA

Hon. Geo. E. Foster, Back From England, Announces That Body Representing Whole Empire, Will Come Next Year for Three Months' Stay, Taking Evidence Thruout Country.

(Special to The Toronto World)

OTTAWA, Ont., Jan. 25.—The Dominions Royal Commission, that recently created body representative of the British Empire, which deals for the most part with matters concerning the trade interests of Great Britain and her overseas Dominions, will spend three months in Canada next year. While the commission is in Canada, the question of ocean freight rates, not only trans-Atlantic, but trans-Pacific, will be examined in all its aspects.

This was the important statement made tonight by Hon. Geo. E. Foster, minister of trade and commerce on his return from England, where he had been attending the sittings of the Dominions Royal Commission. He left Canada for London on Dec. 26, so that he has been absent from Ottawa just one month.

Mr. Foster states that the question of the recent increase in ocean freight rates was not gone into by the commissioners at the London sittings, but will be taken up in South Africa, where the commission goes next month. South Africa is deeply interested in the question as well as Canada. Next year, as stated, the commissioners will spend three months in this country and will take evidence at various points east and west which are directly affected.

Control of Freight Rates.

After securing all information possible in South Africa and Canada, the commissioners will proceed to London.

(Continued on Page 7, Column 4.)

CHURCHILL HEAD OF NEW PARTY?

Northcliffe Papers Said to Be Prepared to Back Venture — Dukes May Join.

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—A special London cable to The Tribune says: The reports that Winston Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, is finding continued co-operation with men pledged as David Lloyd George into the little navyites more and more difficult are being revived this week in a slightly modified form. Vague rumors are afloat that a combine to be supported by the Northcliffe papers is being discussed for the formation of a new party, headed by the Duke of Westminster and Winston Churchill, and possibly allying the Duke of Sutherland.

MONEY TIGHTNESS HAS HURT WEST MORE THAN THE EAST

Lack of Employment Particularly Noticeable in Large Cities of Western Provinces is Report of Labor Department — Fewer Strikes During Year.

OTTAWA, Jan. 25.—(Special.)—That the western provinces have been particularly affected by the financial stringency, and that lack of employment is most noticeable in the large cities of the west is the information given in a review of labor conditions during 1913, prepared by the labor department. The east did not feel the evil effects of the money stringency during the last six months of the year as keenly as the western provinces.

While the aggregate number of working days lost during the year was greater than 1912, there were fewer strikes and lock-outs and not so many employees involved.

The total number of trade disputes last year was 112, as compared with 150 in 1912, while 38,000 workers were affected as against 40,511 in 1912. About 150,000 working days more than the previous year were lost, this being accounted for by the Vancouver Island coal miners' strike.

PRICE OF MEAT STILL CLIMBING

Sharp Advance During Year Recorded by Ottawa Statisticians—Furs on Down Grade.

(Special to The Toronto World)

OTTAWA, Jan. 25.—The trend of prices of general commodities in Canada continues upwards. Statistics issued by the labor department show that during 1913 the upward movement was most noticeable in animals and meats. The average prices in this class of foodstuffs rose during the year from the department's index number 167.5 in January to 185.3 in December. Dairy products also advanced considerably, rising from 160.4 in January to 182 in December. There was a heavy decline in the price of furs as a group, the index number falling from 358 in January to 247 in the last three months of the year. The general level of miscellaneous groceries throughout the year was two points lower than 1912. In textiles prices rose from 127.5 in January to 126.9 in December. As a result of the decline in the prices of furs the general index number for the year was about the same as for 1912, namely 186.9 in December last compared with 186.8 in December, 1912. Furs, however, would not usually be included in statistics on the cost of living so that the general figures show an upward trend.

CHINAMEN HAD MISSING GIRLS

Bertha Robertson and Elsie Freeman Located at Laundry Kept by Ing Wong — Five Arrests.

Charged with contributing to the delinquency of minors, Ing Wong, 266 West Adelaide street, was arrested by plainclothesmen Koster and Scott last evening. With him were arrested Hong Wong, vagrancy; Charlotte Harvey, aged 25; Bertha Robertson, aged 14, and Elsie Freeman, aged 17.

The woman in the case is said to be an ex-actress, and the two young girls found with the Chinamen have been missing from their homes for a week. Koster and Scott, detailed on the case, first went to the Oriental Cafe, a Chinese restaurant on West King street, and while enquiring about the girls were surprised to see a Chinaman hurry thru a back exit. The plainclothesmen followed, and the unwary Chinaman led them right to the West Adelaide street laundry, where the two girls were found.

WILSON DECIDES ON MEXICAN POLICY

U. S. President Will Lay Before the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate a Complete Scheme for Dealing With the Expected Eventualities in Mexico.

(Special to The Toronto World)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—It is understood that President Wilson when he meets with the members of the senate committee on foreign relations on Monday night, will lay before them a complete scheme for dealing with the expected eventualities in Mexico.

Altho an unusual calm has seemed to pervade the Mexican situation so far as Washington is concerned for the last three weeks, it is believed here that this is simply the calm before the storm. Preparations have been completed at least to meet this storm if it comes.

The president probably will inform the senate committee of these arrangements in detail.

It is generally credited here that John Ling is now discussing with Jesus Flores Magon, formerly minister of the interior of Mexico, the question of a provisional president to succeed Huerta. Many officials of the state department admit that they no longer place faith in the ability of Gen. Carranza, Constitutional chief, to command the situation, and altho the attitude of the president and Mr. Bryan upon this question is not known, there are indications that when Huerta falls it will be found that the United States has other arrangements than to let the situation solve itself thru the vicarities of Carranza or Villa.

Board of Government.

At the headquarters of the Constitutionalists in this city it was said that despatches reaching here indicated that Cuban and Mexican newspapers generally printed reports that Huerta was about to resign. These reports also stated that there was likelihood that a board of government, consisting of Federico Gamboa, Jesus Flores Magon and Pascual Lunay Parra, would be organized to take over the administration of Mexico.

The Constitutionalists' advice also were to the effect that Gen. Salvador Alvarado, Constitutional commander of the troops besieging Guaymas, arrived at Hermosillo today with many federal deserters and arms and ammunition. The inhabitants of the city are reported to be in a desperate condition and in danger of starvation.

"Francisco de la Barran, as successor to Huerta, would not be acceptable to Gen. Carranza or other Constitutionalists," said Roberto V. Pesqueira, confidential agent in Washington of the Constitutionalists, tonight.

POWERS WILL TEACH TURKEY SHARP LESSON

Joint Naval Demonstration as Warning Against Interference in Albania.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—The powers of Europe have decided upon an international demonstration in Albanian waters to enforce their demands that Essad Pasha give up his claim to the throne of Albania. Each nation will send one ship to Durazzo. This action of the powers also is taken as an intimation to Turkey that the future of Albania is now a European question.

In the event of Essad Pasha yielding before the arrival at Durazzo of the international fleet, as is possible, the ships will be utilized to welcome Prince William of Wied, who has been selected by the European nations to occupy the Albanian throne.

BACK BROKEN IN 1912 DEATH CAME YESTERDAY

Louis Tezzalato of North Bay Lived Seventeen Months After Accident.

After having lived for a year and five months with a broken back, Louis T. Tezzalato, of North Bay, died at St. Michael's Hospital Saturday evening. Tezzalato was a miner in the employ of the Victoria Mines, and on Sept. 19, 1912, while working near a huge derrick, was struck down by a falling beam, which broke his back midway between the waist and shoulders. He was rushed to Toronto and taken to St. Michael's, where he has lain at the expense of his employers ever since.

The body was removed to the morgue, but the matter of an inquest has not yet been decided.

SIR JAMES WHITNEY GREATLY IMPROVED AND HAS A FAIR CHANCE OF RECOVERY

Sir James Whitney has a fair chance of recovery. His physician, Dr. Alex. McPhedran, expressed the opinion last night that the premier might recover. He stated also, that in an official bulletin, that Sir James had a very fair day. He is sleeping better and taking more nourishment. He also knew some of his friends, and is recovering consciousness for longer intervals.

OCEAN STEAMERS TO TRAVEL FROM MONTREAL TO DULUTH U. S. REVIVES WATERWAY PLAN

Washington Conference Resulted in Decision to Ask Canada's Co-Operation in Project That May Cost Three Hundred Millions—Plan Shelved When Taft Met Defeat.

THEFT CHARGE AGAINST AGENT

William Evans Alleged to Have Taken Pay Checks From Four Macedonian Laborers.

Charged with the theft of a month's pay from each of four Macedonians, William Evans, 119 River street, a Macedonian steamship and employment agent, was arrested at his home by Acting Detective Mulholland last evening.

The theft is alleged to have occurred about four months ago when Evans hired the four men for out-of-town work. He took them all down to the Union Station, where they were to take train for the north, and at the station got each of them to turn over to him their cheque for the previous month's work with the C.P.R. He went out to get the cheques cashed and never returned.

According to the police Evans left for the old country immediately after the theft and returned only last week.

NO PROSPECT OF AGREEMENT ON HOME RULE

Redmond, Addressing Hugs Gathering at Cork, Said Good-Will of Ulster Could Only Be Purchased by Abandoning Principles of Measure—Willing to Conciliate.

WATERFORD, Ireland, Jan. 25.—"Every sane man knows that, barring accidents, the home rule bill will be the law on the land this year," said John Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalists, speaking before an immense gathering here this afternoon.

"If any change is made in the home rule bill," continued Mr. Redmond, "it will only be to buy the good will of our opponents. But I say frankly that I see no prospect of their good will being purchased at any price whatever. That good will is worth purchasing at a big price, but any change in the bill should be consistent with the unity of Ireland. There are no lengths short of abandonment of the principles you and I hold to which I would not go to win the confidence of the men of Ulster."

Referring to Wm. O'Brien's resignation from his seat in Cork, Mr. Redmond asked his supporters to refrain from contesting the seat, declaring that a fight between two professing Nationalists at the present moment would be a scandal and an injury to the cause.

Mr. O'Brien resigned his seat in parliament a week ago in answer to a challenge issued by Augustine Rooke, M. P. for North Louth.

Noted Painter Dead

LONDON, Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—John Henry Frederick Bacon, the painter, died tonight. He painted the coronation of King George V. and Queen Mary. He was born in 1865.

BRITISH AVIATOR KILLED TRYING DIFFICULT DIVE

Temple Was First to Attempt Flight Upside Down in England.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—(Can. Press.)—George Lee Temple, a British aviator, was killed today while flying at Hendon. He was making an especially difficult dive when a strong gust of wind caught the tail of his monoplane, and the machine crashed to the ground. The aviator's neck was broken.

Temple was the first British aviator to make a flight upside down in this country, having accomplished this feat on Nov. 24, two days before B. C. Hucks looped the loop at Hendon.

Return of the Cold and Fur Bargains.

There only remains six days before stocktaking at Dineen's, 140 Yonge street, and the fur values are without parallel in the history of this old established house. There's little excuse for anyone going without furs under present conditions, and it would certainly be unwise to purchase before inspecting the extraordinary values offered at Dineen's. Such chances may not recur in years. Make a selection while showing is good.

"The Doll Girl" at Princess Theatre.

One of the best of the season's crop of musical comedies, "The Doll Girl" with those clever entertainers Richard Carle and Mattie Williams, heading a superb cast, including Will West, Robert Ewert, tenor, Charles MacNaughton, Dorothy Webb, Cherish Simpson and eighty others, will begin a week's engagement at the Princess Theatre tonight. "The Doll Girl" has New York and Chicago endorsements.



AN IMPENDING UPSET

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