

News and Views of the Month

The charming group which adorns the front of this issue is from a portrait of the three daughters of the Duke of Rutland, who are known in London society as the 'Three Graces.' It was rumored a short time ago that Prince Arthur of Connaught was engaged to the eldest, the one in the centre. They are: Lady Victoria Marjorie Harriet Manners, 27 years old; Lady Violet Katharine Manners, 22 years old, and Lady Diana Olivia Winifred Maud Manners, 18 years old.

The United Mine Workers of North America, in session in Cincinnati, decided to order a strike on April 5th next, unless the wages of 300,000 workmen were raised.

By a unanimous vote the Toronto Board of Education goes on record as opposed to the teaching of French in the public schools of the Province of Ontario.

Hugh Kippen's heroism in risking his life in front of an express train to save Miss McDonald, who had been jostled off the platform and fallen across the tracks at Cornwall, Ont., was rewarded with the medal of the Royal Humane Society, which was presented by Mayor Maloney, assisted by Mr. Munro, the former mayor. The rescue took place last September. Miss McDonald was one of a wedding party. Kippen is a member of the Cornwall Lacrosse Club and a well-known pianist.

In Toronto, on March 17th, there was a big demonstration in Massey Hall, at which Mr. Thomas Reynolds, the conductor of the C. P. R. train wreck at Spanish River, was presented with the Albert Medal from the Royal Humane Society, and a silver tea service from the Ancient Order of Hibernians. The inscription on the medal reads: "Awarded to Thos. Reynolds for presence of mind and heroism in saving many lives at the Spanish River railway accident on the 21st of January, 1910." The presentation speech of the Hon. Charles Murphy, Secretary of State, was an eloquent tribute to the national position of Ireland among the nations of the world, and of her contributions to Canadian history.

In the House of Lords last month keen interest was centred in Lord Rosebery's resolutions for reforming the Upper House. These were to the effect that there was a necessity of a strong and efficient second chamber for the well-being of the State; that such a chamber would be best obtainable by the reform and reconstitution of the House of Lords; and that a necessary preliminary to such reform and reconstitution was the acceptance of the principle that the possession of a peerage in itself should no longer afford the right to sit and vote in the House of Lords. Lord Rosebery declared that the time had come for a reform from within without waiting for the Government to carry out its proposals to hamstring the Peers, and so emasculate the House of Lords that it would become no better than a painted chamber in which no self-respecting person would care to sit. He said that it was wished to establish the elective principle, but it must not be through popular elections, but by elections by associations, corporations, and county councils. Lord Rosebery poured scorn upon the suggestion of a single chamber, which, he declared, was a proposal to dig the grave of the Empire. In America, he said, the veto of the Senate was stronger than was ever the veto of a sovereign. The House of Lords adjourned the debate after a discussion which revealed marked differences of opinion as to the value of Lord Rosebery's proposal. Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, in a strong speech at the Liberal banquet in London declared that it was not sufficient to limit the veto of the Lords, but that the Upper House must be radically reformed. A single chamber, he said, would result, politically speaking, 'in disaster, death and damnation.'



THE LATE LADY GLEN-COATS.

Many in Canada heard with deep regret of the death of Lady Glen-Coats, which took place in London on March 12th. Lady Glen-Coats was a Canadian, before her marriage, Miss Elsie Agnes Walker, daughter of the late Alexander Walker, of Montreal. Two of her brothers, Messrs. John A. and C. J. Walker, reside in Montreal. Lady Glen-Coats always had a warm welcome for Canadian friends visiting in London, and those whom she entertained at her country house, Ferguslie Park, Paisley, will not forget her kindly and charming hospitality. Sir Thomas Glen-Coats is Lord-Lieutenant of Renfrewshire, and was formerly member of Parliament. Like many an Englishwoman, Lady Glen-Coats was a great help in her husband's political career. She was one of the well-known hostesses of London, and entertained frequently during the season. With her husband, Lady Glen-Coats took an active interest in the social reform movements and the betterment of conditions among the poor, and her interest was of the kindly nature that made her beloved.

Prince Henry of Prussia addressing, in Hamburg last month, a meeting of the East Asiatic Society, said that as a result of his visit to England he could assure them that Great Britain offered to Germany an honorable and sincere friendship. The idea of aggressive action, he added, was completely absent from the minds of those in the British Government. That, however, rested on reciprocity, and nothing must be omitted that might serve to strengthen the confidence of the two nations in each other. The old saying, 'confidence begets confidence,' he continued, was here applicable. He could answer for the friendly feelings of the naval officers, but the merchant had a similar duty to discharge, just as much as his military comrade. Prince Henry invited the Society to give its warm support to the projected company organized to build at Hamburg an airship dock which will accommodate at least two of the Zeppelin dirigibles at a cost of \$250,000, and make Hamburg the first point of departure for overseas airship lines. A subscription list was opened and \$100,000 was pledged.

The Fort William Board of Health, in view of five cases of smallpox in Port Arthur, has decided to close the theatres. Unless Port Arthur adopts similar measures the inter-urban car service is likely to be discontinued.

The verdict against Mme. Breshkovsky, which has been officially published in St. Petersburg, condemns her to exile to Siberia. She has refused the offer of her friends to pay for her transportation and special privileges.

Nine Indians and two white men are under arrest in the Rainy River District, on the charge of defrauding the Ontario Government by means of the bounty on wolves. Wolf skins were bought in Saskatchewan at \$2.50 each, and shipped to Rainy River, where the representatives of the Government paid \$15 for them, believing they were ridding Ontario of the pest.

The Japanese Government, according to despatches from Yokohama to New York, has announced the redemption of the entire outstanding balance of the navy loan, amounting to approximately \$4,000,000, and a portion of the consolidated loan bonds, to the amount of \$21,500,000. The drawing of these, it was stated, will take place April 11, and redemption will be made on and after April 30. Both were internal issues.

The immigration into Canada for the month of February was 10,162, as compared with 4,791 for February of last year, an increase of 112 per cent. The total immigration for the eleven months of this fiscal year was 175,729, as compared with 130,444 for the eleven months of last fiscal year, an increase of 35 per cent. The total immigration from the United States for the eleven months was 86,488, as compared with 50,650, an increase of 71 per cent.

In the British House of Commons last month the First Lord of the Admiralty expressed regret that he was unable to hold out any hope for the future of a decline in the estimates. The present large increase, he said, had been rendered necessary by the building programmes of the nations. An expenditure of over \$200,000,000 was imperative properly to safeguard the security of the country and to provide against contingencies. Mr. McKenna explained that, counting the Australian and New Zealand ships which would still be in British waters, Great Britain would have in the summer of 1912, twenty-two Dreadnoughts, while in the following January five Dreadnoughts, in addition to this year's programme, would be added to the fleet, and thus Great Britain's security through this type of a ship would be absolute.

The third session of the Twelfth Legislature of Manitoba prorogued on March 16th. The Government's policy of public ownership progressed another stage, when the Legislature passed the third reading of the bill to establish a system of Government-owned elevators in Manitoba. Two important changes were made, the appropriation clause being eliminated, while the 60 per cent. petition clause was amended so that this applies only to points where the Government will be asked to construct new elevators. The bill as finally passed contained these amendments. No change was made in the character of the commission, and it will remain responsible to the Government. The abattoir bill was among those which were approved by the House. A few minor amendments to this measure had been made in committee, one of which provides that the municipality which accepts the Government's offer of \$50,000 for the establishment of a public abattoir, be given power to raise debentures to the amount of \$250,000. The amendments to the Liquor License Act were also passed. The chief clause is the one providing that there shall only be a vote on local option or for repeal every three years.