

GREAT FLOOD IN AUGUSTA.

Inhabitants Pass Night of Terror and Darkness.

From Four to Six Feet of Water in Streets.

Some Loss of Life—Damage Well Over a Million.

Augusta, Ga., Aug. 31.—Last night was a night of darkness and terror in Augusta. The town was cut off from communication with the outside world by telegraph and telephone and was in total darkness. The Savannah River was forty feet out of its banks and Broad street was a racing river with water five feet deep down its entire length. Practically the entire city of Augusta was under water.

By noon there was three feet of water racing down Broad street and every store on the street was inundated to a depth of at least two feet. At 3.30 o'clock in the afternoon the depth of five feet was reached.

Augusta has not had such an experience since 1888, when there was a flood that did a vast amount of damage. It is believed that the present freshet will do even greater damage than that of 1888.

At 2.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon the big dam at the head of the canal above Augusta gave way under the strain of the flood and a great volume of water rolled unrestrained upon the inundated city, adding to the terror of those in its pathway.

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The city is without light, fire or police protection.

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It was reported that a boat containing a family of husband, wife and two children was capsized and all drowned, but this could not be confirmed.

A conservative estimate of the damage by flood and fire has been placed well above the million mark, but it is believed this sum will be greatly exceeded before the flood waters subside.

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Boat owners were quick to see their opportunity, and at once began to charge exorbitant prices for moving those unfortunate enough to be caught.

Many, in attempting to wade or swim from their homes or from places of business in the flooded district, lost their advantage, lost their footing, and only saved themselves from the rushing torrent by catching to tree limbs. It is reported that boatmen passed a number thus caught and refused to go to their assistance unless assured of exorbitant fees. One man was seen in a tree who was pouring forth pitiful appeals for assistance, and offering \$50 to any one that would rescue him.

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ST. JOHN BOY SHOT.

Fatal Accident in the Woods Near St. George, N. B.

St. John, N. B., Aug. 31.—Frank B. Dick, son of Hazen J. Dick, a St. John druggist, was accidentally shot and killed by a companion in the woods near St. George, N. B., to-day. He and his brother Walter were on a holiday, and with Bert Cameron, aged 19, of Macarous, near St. George, went into the woods with a rifle. Cameron was withdrawing the cartridge, as the lads were about to return home, and the hammer of the rifle caught in Cameron's clothes, and was jerked back, falling with sufficient force to discharge the weapon.

The bullet struck Dick on the left side, just below the heart. Death was almost instantaneous. The body will be brought here to-morrow. An inquest has been considered unnecessary.

FLED FROM FIRE

Guelph Family Burned Out at an Early Hour.

Parents and Children Escaped Alive—Lost Nearly Everything.

A Guelph, Ont., despatch: Seven small children, the oldest fourteen years of age, and their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Robinson, Verney street, escaped at an early hour this morning from their burning home, with nothing but their night clothes. The house was a small, four-roomed affair, with back kitchen, and three of the children slept in the rear, while the others were in the front with their parents. About 4 o'clock one of the children, who slept in the back room, was awakened by the fire, which had gained a great headway, and the roof above the bed where the children slept was already blazing. She at once awakened the other children, and, going to the front of the house, aroused her parents. They got up at once, and the utmost confusion prevailed. The front door was opened, and immediately the whole interior of the house was in flames. The inmates got out with the utmost difficulty, the night dress of one little girl taking fire, and some of the younger children having no clothing on whatever. Nothing worth saving got out of the house with the exception of a sewing machine, and Mr. Robinson could not even get out his trousers, which contained his pay he got the day before. The family are now homeless and without their clothing, and the small insurance on the place will no more than cover a mortgage hanging over it. The cause of the fire is a mystery.

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BIG RUN ON BERLIN BANK

Caused by School Teacher Telling Pupils It Was Insolvent.

A Warrant Has Been Issued For His Arrest.

Thousands Gathered at Bank and Demanded Their Money.

Berlin, Aug. 31.—There were most exciting scenes around the Friedrichsberger Bank, in the eastern district of Berlin, late yesterday afternoon and evening, in consequence of rumors that the institution was in difficulties. Thousands gathered before the building, demanding the return of their deposits. The crowd became so dense that the street cars were forced to stop and a large force of police, which was called out, was unable to control the excited throng.

The president of the police personally directed his forces.

The directors of the bank obtained permission to keep the institution open until 8 o'clock. More than \$250,000 was drawn out in small sums, and the bank was able to satisfy all demands for call money, with the assistance of the Imperial and Dresdner Banks, but other customers received only \$250 each on account, owing to lack of ready cash.

The directorate of the bank declares that the institution is perfectly sound. It is stated that the rumor of the bank's difficulties was set on foot by a school teacher, who, during lessons, advised his pupils to inform their parents that the bank was insolvent. A warrant for his arrest has been applied for. An immense crowd of depositors were still shouting for their money at midnight.

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ASSESSMENT FRAUDS

Montreal Properties Escape Taxation Altogether.

Montreal, Aug. 31.—Some startling revelations have been made by the new city assessors. It has been discovered that in one division of the city alone over twenty dwellings were not assessed by the old officials. That a huge yard in the city, with various dwellings and other structures upon it, had escaped assessment for untold years; and that properties which are now being assessed at \$9,000 were escaping with an assessment of \$200. There will be a civic investigation.

THIRTY MINERS SUFFOCATED.

ENTOMBED BY FIRE IN OKLA. HOMA COAL MINE.

Twenty-five Bodies Already Recovered—Believed Six or Eight More Will Be Brought Out—Fire Started From an Oil Barrel.

McAlester, Okla., Aug. 31.—More than thirty miners were suffocated this morning in the Homa coal mine No. 1, near Haileyville, fourteen miles east of McAlester, where fire destroyed the hoisting shaft and main shaft, and cut off air from the men below.

Twenty-five dead bodies were removed from the mine to-night, following a successful three hours' battle with the flames. It is believed that six or eight more will be brought out.

Explorations in the channels this afternoon revealed that none of the men met death by burning, but that all were suffocated.

It is impossible for the rescuers to work far from the base of the mine shaft, and it probably will be twenty-four hours before a thorough search of the entire mine can be made. Some channels were three-quarters of a mile long.

After the miners had gone down in the cage a fire broke out, occasioned by the ignition of a barrel of oil which was used in the hoisting shaft and the airshaft, and all communication with the top was cut off. The first indication of the trouble was the flames and smoke coming out of the top of the shaft.

Hundreds of miners rushed to the scene and tried to get into the shaft, but this was impossible as flames and smoke were coming up that way with such force as to drive them back. Then an effort was made to operate the cages running up and down the hoisting shaft, but it was found that the cables and the guides had been burned. There was absolutely no help for the imprisoned miners. They have been there under the fire since 8 o'clock this morning, and there is no hope that they are alive. The property loss may reach \$50,000.

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THE STRIKERS.

Five Montreal Men Charged With Intimidation.

To Be a Strike Leader is No Crime, Says Judge.

A Montreal Que. despatch: Five men charged with intimidating strike-breakers and causing violence at the recent attack on Papineau Road crossing were arraigned before Judge Leet this morning. Two charged with throwing a brick through the window of a car filled with strike-breakers were allowed out on bail, while two foreigners, who openly assaulted the breakers and are said to have been instrumental in breaking the leg of one, were held without bail. A bitter legal battle occurred in the courtroom. Superintendent Carrington, of the Thiel Detective Agency, alleged that one of the discharged men was a strike leader. Judge Leet ruled that a leader of strikers constituted no crime, and let the man go.

C. P. R. TROUBLE.

ENGINEERS, CONDUCTORS AND FIREMEN WILL NOT STRIKE.

Conflicting Stories as to the Conditions of the Company's Rolling Stock—Trouble at North Bay—Intimidation at Montreal is Being Stamped Out.

Toronto despatch: The failure of the green mechanics engaged by the C. P. R. in the place of the strikers to keep the rolling stock in good condition is the central feature of the situation and the issue of the deadlock depends on the speed at which the repair shops can be reorganized. Trains are running late, and, according to returning passengers, there are many "dead" engines along the line.

The company's officers admit that the new men in many cases not up to the standard, but state their belief that they can be licked into shape before the conclusion of the rolling stock becomes serious.

The attitude of the engineers, firemen and brakemen, whose lives would be in more serious danger than usual were the rolling stock allowed to deteriorate to the point of danger, is not definitely known. It is, however, certain that the brotherhood will not join in what is known as a "sympathetic" strike. They must have adequate grievances of their own before venturing to tie up the Dominion's greatest railway system. The condition of their engines and cars might later on furnish that grievance. It does not do so yet.

No Friction.

Montreal despatch: Rumors reaching here to-day as to alleged friction between the C. P. R. officials and its operating staff are given an unqualified denial. C. P. R. officials state that there is not the slightest friction, and that the trainmen are perfectly satisfied.

At any rate, they point out that the Lemieux act would prevent them from going on strike in sympathy with the mechanics. At a late hour to-night leading officials stated again that there was absolutely no friction, and that the story was started by the strikers because their position is becoming desperate.

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ANNUAL PENSIONS.

Lloyd-George's Investigation of Germany's System.

London, Aug. 31.—David Lloyd-George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has returned to London. He said, when it was suggested that he discussed naval programmes in the course of his stay in Germany, that he had gone to that country simply to investigate the German system of old-age pensions.

Punch, commenting on this, says: "Now that his recommendation to grant pensions has been adopted he naturally feels that he ought to seriously study the question."

It seems, according to Mr. Lloyd-George's statements in an interview, that he did not find the German system to be of such a Socialistic character as he and his friends advocate in Great Britain. He said: "Employers will tell you that nearly all their workmen are Socialists."

Referring to the pension system, he said: "What a gigantic scheme is theirs compared with ours. Thirty-four million pounds are distributed in pensions every year, but," he added, "of this the State pays £2,800,000, the cost of administration only. For the rest, £14,000,000 is sick pay. The workmen contribute two-thirds. Eleven million pounds is paid to the aged and incapacitated, masters and men contributing equally. Nine million pounds is paid for accidents, which expense the employers must meet."

GIRL'S LONG SWIM AT SEA.

Surprises Friends and Wins Wager by Circling Pier.

Atlantic City, Aug. 31.—Circling the end of the Steel Pier in an ocean swim, Miss Emma Logsdorfer, a girl athlete of Philadelphia, surprised friends, with whom she had made a wager that she could accomplish the feat. The young woman is stopping at the Hotel Isleworth, and has become quite familiar with the surf and its currents during the summer. She had previously distinguished herself by swimming long distances outside the breakers, but had never before attempted the difficult task of circling the ocean pier. Crowds on shore watched the daring swimmer as she passed out beyond the line of breakers. She took the swells gracefully, and by alternately swimming and floating made the trip around in a little less than an hour.

SUPPLY OF WATER.

State Control Discussed by Health Congress.

Winnipeg, Aug. 31.—The management of infectious diseases in rural municipalities and a discussion of water supplies and sewage occupied the American health convention this morning. The convention met in three sections. In the vital statistics department there was considerable discussion upon methods of collecting and classifying. Dr. Hodges, Toronto, was elected president of this department.

The general meeting in the afternoon was addressed by Dr. Probst upon State control of water supplies, and Dr. Amory, Toronto, contributed a valuable paper upon the pollution of the great lakes and rivers.

The delegates were entertained at the house of Chief Justice Howell in the evening.

GAVE BIRTH BY ROADSIDE.

Woman Found Unconscious With Dead Infant Beside Her.

Toronto despatch: An unfortunate occurrence took place Tuesday night near West Toronto. A young woman named Mrs. Wilson, who resides at Fairbank, a district about one mile north of Davenport Station, had been visiting a neighbor's house, and on her return was overtaken by the storm on the roadside before she could reach home. The occurrence was learned of shortly afterwards and Dr. C. A. Warren, of Wychwood, was sent for. He found the child stillborn.

TO TAKE BANK'S LAND.

Captain Bernier Has Orders to Push Through Ice.

Ottawa, Aug. 31.—The Canadian Government cruiser Arctic, which sailed from Quebec last month, is under instructions to push its way through Lancaster Sound and Melville Sound, if the ice permits, to Banks' Land, and to take possession of that territory and other islands in the vicinity. If the ice blocks the passage westward, the vessel is to visit the Gulf of Boothia, and may either return in the fall of 1909 or stay over until 1910. Captain Bernier is under strict injunctions to take no course which might result in international complications.

STICK TO \$300 POLICY.

Hibernians Defeat Proposal to Increase It—Will Be Graded.

Ottawa despatch: The only business of importance before the Ontario Hibernians' convention to-day was a discussion on insurance rates, this problem having been hanging fire for several years. The report of Superintendent of Insurance Walsh, of Toronto, recommended that the order double its funds, and that a new graded insurance rate be adopted. An increase in the policy from \$300 to \$500 and \$800 was suggested, but after a three-hour discussion it was decided to retain the \$300 policy, grading it according to age.

HAD LUNCH WITH KING.

Russian Minister and French Prime Minister Meet His Majesty.