

SEVEN HUNDRED MAY BE LOST

The London Advertiser

Several London Girls' Dis-
appearance Reported.

LAST
EDITION

It Is Feared That Steamer May Have Gone Down With All On Board Off Formosa---Guelph Watchman Found Dead In Factory---Cat Sets Fire To House After Being Struck By Lamp---Local Syndicate Buys Fifty Acres at Lambeth.

IS LONDON A PORT OF MISSING GIRLS?

Three Disappearances Reported Within Past Few Days—
Claim Made That Police Refused Assistance—Mothers
Should Look After Girls, Says Officer.

Is London a port of missing girls? Within the last few days reports of the disappearance of three young women have come to The Advertiser. This morning it was learned that while one of them had returned, two were still absent, and that relatives knew nothing of their whereabouts.

The reluctance of relatives to give the alarm when girls are missing, the difficulty of discovering where the girls went, make it next to impossible for police officers willing to give aid to secure the necessary information upon which to begin investigation.

In one of the cases two girls residing on one street disappeared. It was not known whether they went away of their own accord or were enticed from the city. Stories that they had been seen in the company of men lead to the belief that they had been lured from the city.

This morning when The Advertiser sought to secure information in the case, a natural reluctance on the part of those who might have given information made it difficult for reporters to secure any facts.

Say Police Refused Aid.

Some people said that the police had been appealed to and refused to take up the matter. Others were not sure that the police could have done anything.

In another case it was reported that a girl from one of the neighboring

township has disappeared after working in the city. She stopped writing to her parents and they are unaware of her residence at the present time.

Many mothers have become agitated over the frequent reports that forced them to the effect that girls have disappeared.

Let Daughters Run Loose.

"The trouble with a great many people is that they let their daughters run loose on the streets before they are of an age to take care of themselves," said one police officer. "There may be something in the white slave talk, but how can the police act if there is no notice given of a disappearance until weeks after the parents have known of it. The officers are just as human as anyone else. They would not hesitate to act if they could get the necessary information, but usually there is not a fact upon which to work. Girls may have left the city of their own accord. Some of them may have been enticed away. If this happens, it would seem necessary for the police to provide an escort for every susceptible child that walks the streets. Let the mothers of these girls give them the proper attention and you will not hear much of disappearances. Why I see 'bums' on the streets with girls who come out of good homes. I want the girls, but they seek out the same companions again. It's time the loafers who oggle girls were made an example of."

Police Investigate Sensational Story

Girl Found Roaming Streets Says She Was Forcible
Into Life of Shame and Implicates Room-
ing-House Keepers.

As the result of a story told by a young girl at police headquarters today, summons will be issued for a number of citizens to appear before Police Magistrate J. C. Judd on a charge of being frequenters and running houses of ill-fame.

The girl, who was found by the police roaming around the streets during the early morning hours, was taken to police headquarters, where today she told a story

of being forced to go on the streets and live a life of shame in order to earn her living, and that how the money she secured from night charms to divert her from the coming-house keepers, who allowed her to bring men acquaintances to their houses.

The police are investigating the girl's story and a number of arrests are expected to follow.

LONDON SYNDICATE BUYS 50 ACRES AT LAMBETH VILLAGE

Will Subdivide Suburban Property for City People Who Demand Homes There.

WONDERFUL DEVELOPMENT

Community Affords a Striking Example of What Radicals Will Do.

Fifty acres of land in the heart of the village of Lambeth have been purchased by a London syndicate to be laid out in building lots to meet the demand of London residents for homes in the popular suburb.

The land is situated back of the main street and is to be levelled and laid out in blocks. New streets will be put through and sidewalks constructed. Several hundred lots will be placed on the market. The consideration was not made public.

W. A. Finch will be manager of the property and a number of those interested in the syndicate will build homes at once.

Lambeth continues to reach toward London. It is predicted that within the next five years a great many homes will be erected in the village and along the Wharfedale road. Access to the city is afforded by traction cars, nominal rate being charged. Eventually, it is hoped, the thriving village will extend clear to the city limits. There are building movements both from the city south and from Lambeth toward the city.

A few years ago almost a deserted village, Lambeth is an example of the value of radial lines that pass through small villages along much travelled roads.

COST OF DYING JUMPS

Keeps Pace With H. C. of L. When Liversies Increase Rates.

The high cost of living has been increasing for a long time. Now it is the high cost of dying that is becoming cause for anxiety. The local Liversies' Association has just increased its fixed schedule of prices for hacks, caskets and other carriages used at funerals at the rate of 50 cents for each vehicle to local cemeteries. Hacks, which were \$3.50, are now \$4, and the cost of other carriages are similarly increased.

FIRST OF MEXICAN REFUGEES TO COME TO THIS CITY



DISCLAIM LIABILITY FOR SEWER OVERFLOW

Controllers Claim City Is Not Responsible, and Criticize Engineer.

Mrs. Sarah Woodfine, through her solicitor, A. O. Jeffery, K.C., gave notice to the board of control this morning that she was seeking an unstated damage alleged to have been done to her property, on Emery street, South London, when sewer water backed up in the cellar. It will be remembered that Mrs. Woodfine's four-year-old son was swept from the stairs into four feet of water, and nearly drowned. The child's life was saved only through the use of the pulmotor.

City Engineer W. N. Ashplant advised the board that he had sent men from his department to clean up the cellar, and immediately there was a roar of disapproval from the controllers who took the engineer's action as an assumption of the city's liability, and told him so.

"We are not responsible for the flooding of the cellar," said the mayor, "and we will refuse to accept any liability."

The controllers also decided to take no action on the demand of Whit Lancaster for damages by reason of dirt and water washing down the Dundas street fill into his boathouse during the recent big rainstorm.

The city engineer presented a statement to show that corporation laborers were being paid from 20 to 25 cents per hour, and Controller G. E. Rose, who has been agitating for higher wages for the men, was satisfied.

Job Cook offered the city a piece of land at the corner of Wellington and Nelson streets for \$800. It is proposed to use the property for opening up Nelson street from Wellington to the Incinerator. The engineer was instructed to secure a report on the feasibility of the scheme.

Controller W. G. Coles wished to know what action was being taken toward placing all wires underground and was told that the matter was now under consideration, i.e., the Government and the railway commission.

The east end market proposition was laid over for further consideration.

Several subdivision plans were approved.

AMERICANS STILL IN MEXICO CITY; UNABLE TO LEAVE

Carranza's Attitude Towards
Proposals the Great
Question.

IT ALL RESTS ON HIM

State of Treasury at Vera Cruz
Is Now Definitely Estab-
lished.

[Canadian Press.]

Washington, D. C., May 1.—Consul Canada at Vera Cruz reported to the State Department today that there still are 1,500 Americans in Mexico City unable to get out because of interrupted railroad facilities. These are, for the most part, new arrivals in the Mexican capital from the surrounding country. Consul Canada has asked the Brazilian minister and Admiral Cadeo, the British commander, to exert their efforts to restore railroad communication with the capital.

CARRANZA THE KEYSTONE.

Washington, D. C., May 1.—With the declaration of a truce between Huerta and the United States Government, interest centered today in whether Carranza, the rebel chief, would resolve himself into the keystone of a diplomatic arch designed to bridge the whole problem of the pacification of Mexico and its international complications.

Huerta, it was announced, had accepted proposals of the South American envoys that hostilities between the forces and those of the United States cease. Secretary Bryan had informed the mediators that the American Government took it for granted there would be no hostilities during the mediation proceedings.

With that situation in hand, the mediators today looked for a reply to the armistice proposal sent to Carranza. It was felt that the mediation attempt for the present necessarily would be confined to the adjustment of differences between Huerta and the United States to the exclusion of Mexico's pressing international difficulties.

FORCEFUL REPLY.

Constitutionalist officials in El Paso asserted that Carranza's reply was plainly forecast in orders for a concentrated rebel attack on Tampico. The envoys, nevertheless, have not abandoned the idea of settling the entire Mexican problem. Huerta's attitude on the question of an armistice between his government and the northern rebels also was a factor.

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SIX SMALLPOX CASES

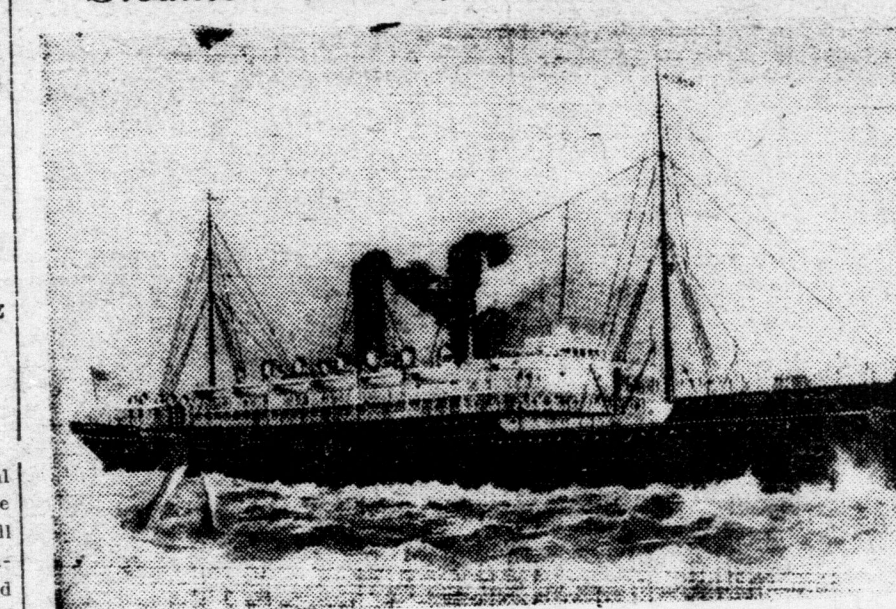
That Many at the Cove Hospital at the Present Time.

There were six smallpox cases at the Cove hospital yesterday, but one was sufficiently recovered to be released last night. However, two other cases have been located by the medical officers of health, Dr. T. V. Hutchinson, which brings the detention hospital population up to seven. All the patients are reported to be getting along satisfactorily.

"We are now reaping the fruits of the campaign against vaccination some five years ago," said Dr. Hutchinson today.

PASSENGER LINER MEETS DISASTER OFF FORMOSA; MANY LIVES MAY BE LOST

Steamer Siberia, Victim of Disaster



May Have Gone Down With All Hands and Many Passengers Off Formosa.

FURRY FELINE FIREBRAND SETS FIRE TO HOUSE AS IT ATTEMPTS ESCAPE

Catching Fire From Lamp Thrown at Woman Cat's
Frantic Pin-Wheel-Like Efforts to Leave
Room Ignited Curtains.

In a drunken brawl last night, at a friend's house on Wilson avenue, Olaf Frieden threw an oil lamp at a woman. It missed, broke on the floor, and a cat, said to look at least 100 years old, caught fire from the flaming oil. Frantic with terror and pain, the cat rushed around the room like a pinwheel, setting fire to the curtains, and making a terrifying spectacle for the occupants in the house, who thought a four-legged firebrand was loose.

The screams of the woman and scuffling brought Policeman James Oakley to the house. Just as he came through the door,

the blazing cat started through it from the other side. They met, and the officer, muffled out on the cat. After an exciting chase down the street, he caught it, terribly burned, and weak, but it managed to escape again, and nobody knows what became of it. The small fire in the house was extinguished by the policeman, who averted a dangerous blaze.

"Firemen have a soft job, when the fire stands in one place for you, but it is hard work chasing it around," he remarked.

In police court this morning, Frieden said he was drunk, and did not remember what happened last night. He was fined \$5 and costs, or 10 days in jail.

MOTHER LOVE IS DOMINANT FACTOR OF SINGER'S LIFE

Mme. Clara Butt's Fondness for
Her Children Revealed in
Chat With Reporter.

BELIEVES IN PANKHURSTS

Says Their Militant Efforts Are
Necessary to Convince Eng-
land of Women's Rights.

[By the Nomad.]

"Good morning," said the deep contralto voice, and the reporter realized that the tall woman in purple advancing down the aisle of the car was none other than Mme. Clara Butt, the world-famous contralto singer. Mme. Butt and her equally distinguished husband, Mr. Kennerly-Rumford, arrived in London via Grand Trunk this morning, travelling in their luxurious private car, the Washington, and Mrs. Rumford, as she is called in family life, kindly granted an interview with an Advertiser reporter upon their arrival here.

"We have been on a long tour, eighteen months now," she said, "and I shall be glad to get back to England. We have not seen our children for three months. They have been on a California ranch with their tutor, and will join us in New York about May 16. We expect to sail then."

That mother-love is one of the dominant forces of Mrs. Rumford's character is at Continued on Page Eleven.

Relics of the Fire

Covers burned and scorched, pages blackened and brittle, and the volume swollen beyond all recognition, Bicknell and Seager's Division Court Act represented all that was left of the extensive law library of a left since the fire," explained J. W. McIntosh, clerk of the court, to Judge Talbot Macbeth at the post-mortem sittings of the court.

Lifting up the little Testament that has served in so many sittings of the division court, Mr. McIntosh pointed to its swollen covers and blackened pages and declared that even it should now be superannuated.

Two small cases were dealt with, the defendants being ordered to pay minor amounts for which they were sued.

Pacific Mail Steamer Si-
beria Carried Over
500 Passengers.

SENT WIRELESS DISTRESS SIGNALS

These Grew Indistinct
and No Details Were
Learned.

PIRACY RUMORED

Japan Acts Quickly In
Sending War Vessel To
Scene of Accident.

[Canadian Press.]

Tokio, May 1.—Wireless calls for assistance from the Pacific Mail steamer Siberia, from San Francisco, April 7, for Manila, heard on the Japanese coast today, intimated that she was in grave peril off the coast of Formosa. The exact nature of the accident has not yet been determined, nor have any details been received here up to a late hour tonight.

An early report said the liner was sinking, while a later message conveyed the information that she was ashore six miles off the southeast mainland of Formosa Island.

Among the passengers on the Siberia are Mrs. Francis Burton Harrison, wife of the Governor-General of the Philippines, and Mrs. John B. Rentiers, wife of the new British consul at Manila.

The Siberia left Yokohama April 27 and Nagasaki April 29, direct for Manila. This course would have taken her to the east of Formosa. She had a passenger list of 71 persons in the first cabin, about 50 in the second, and 400 in the steerage. She is in command of Captain Zeeder, and carries a crew of about 200 men.

Piracy Rumored.
At a late hour tonight a report was current in Tokio that Chinese pirates may have been connected with the accident to the liner. This fear was held at Tai-Pu-Fu, the capital of Formosa, whence it was conveyed in a cablegram.

The gravest anxiety prevails owing to the fact that the wireless calls for help from the Siberia have ceased. The American consul at Tamsui, Formosa, telegraphs he fears this means that the vessel has gone down. When the first wireless calls for help were heard, the nearest ship was six hours away.

Report Discredited.

The Japanese navy department was inclined tonight to discredit the reports of piracy, and expressed the opinion that they may have been an outcome of the recent looting of a British steamer by pirates.

The first wireless message was received direct from the Siberia early this morning at the Japanese wireless station at Oosakai. It conveyed the information that the steamer had met with an accident and was in distress. This message was mutilated and no further definite information could be gleaned from it.

Other Boats Notified.
The plight of the Siberia was communicated by wireless also to the steamer Minnesota, of the Great Northern Steamship Company, which was making her way to Nagasaki, as well as the British cruiser Minotaur.

The position of the Siberia is given by wireless as longitude 121.10 east, latitude 22.40 north. This location is about six miles

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Rush for Trout on Opening Day



Tony Tillmann's first trout, which he caught on the first day of the season, was a specimen of the trout streams of London.

"Tony" Tillmann would not be denied the first day of the season and motored to his own favorite secret trout stream. Everyone still has a secret trout stream who fishes in the vicinity of London. The trout are usually secret, too. A local artist could do a good business by offering to paint colors on perch and other garden varieties. A machine for stamping the red and pink spots on trout would have a large sale.

FIRMLY SUPPORT PARTY LEADERS

London Liberals Are Behind
Them on Their Stand in
the Question of C. N. R.
Loan.

London Liberals to a man stand behind the decision of the party leaders at Ottawa to fight the proposals to grant \$45,000,000 to the Canadian Northern, practically as a gift.

It is felt in this city that Mackenzie & Mann have the Borden Government in a position to demand and receive anything they ask, no matter how much the interests of the country may suffer.

That the country receives everything in the event of failure and nothing in the event of success is the principal basis of criticism.

"The government is paying for the aid it received from the C. N. R. in the reciprocity campaign," said one prominent Liberal. "The farming community will not stand for this enormous gift, and everywhere Liberals will fight it tooth and nail. The Borden Government is doomed as soon as it passes this legislation, and the old chief will ascend to his rightful place once more."

Cases Stand Over.—The adjourned assize court sittings set down for today were declared lapsed, owing to the fact that Mr. Justice Kelly could not terminate his court in Berlin in time to come to the city. The case set down for trial, the non-jury action Nicholson vs. Grand Trunk Railway will stand over until the non-jury sittings in June.

---and the Worst Is Yet to Come

