

NEWS OF THE DAY IN BRIEF

Three Years for Dishonest Mail Clerk.

Immense Steel Tank for Ridgetown, Ont.

Prescott Has No Candidates for Town Council.

Henry H. Burnham, a leading citizen of Fort Hope, is dead.

W. J. Youell, of Grace street, Toronto, was badly injured by a street car.

It was announced that the water and light plants of Woodstock, Ont., show a profit of over \$16,000 for the year.

Walter Young, found guilty in the Belleville Police Court of raising a cheque, was given five months in the Central.

Mr. John Barry, of the wholesale firm of John Barry & Sons, Montreal, died after an illness extending over three months.

The dead body of a man about forty years of age was found at the end of Ostarqui bridge by the Military College shore, Kingston.

H. J. Walker, M. P. for East Northumberland, has been confined to his home at Wankworth for the past ten days, with a severe attack of whooping cough.

Miss Ethel C. Reid, 18 Simpson avenue, leaves to-night for San Francisco, where she will embark for Southern China and join the missionaries in that foreign field.

Col. Sam Hughes has been offered and has accepted a dinner by the members of the Garrison Club of Quebec. The date for the function is fixed for the 24th of January next.

Rev. Geo. V. Daniels, a Quaker, has been called to a church in Philadelphia. Mr. Daniels is a son of the late George K. Daniels, who was a pioneer in Quaker for many years.

Albert Jordan, a young man, was arrested at the Parkdale station for having stolen a watch from the pocket of Owen Brown, who is wanted on a charge of stealing \$25 from his employer.

The large steel tank at Ridgetown, Ont., with a capacity of 55,000 gallons, for the waterworks system, has arrived and will be set in position on the cement foundation. It will reach to a height of 123 feet.

Stratford Separate School Board for 1912 was elected by acclamation as follows: Avon Ward, J. J. Coughlin; Palatka, J. P. King; Hamlet, F. Devlin; Romeo, Rev. D. J. Eagan; Shakespeare, T. S. Tobin.

Thieves effected an entrance to the bar of the new Dufferin House, Woodstock, and in a workmanlike manner removed the plates from the cash register. Fortunately all the money had been removed to the safe.

That William Higley, aged 73, was asphyxiated to Toronto, by illuminating gas, and that no person save himself was to blame for his death, was the verdict of the jury at the inquest held by Coroner W. A. Young at the Morgue.

The disappearance has been reported to the police of Grand Rapids, Mich., of Percy Stedall, whose home is in Toronto. Stedall was employed as an orderly in the United States Assembly Hospital there and has been missing for over a week.

Mrs. Hilt, aged about twenty-eight, of 101 Garnet avenue, was taken to the Toronto Western Hospital suffering from the effect of carbolic acid poisoning. Part of a cup of tea was found in which were traces of the poison.

The man who was found lying in a doorway at the corner of Queen and McCaul streets, Toronto, and who died soon after being taken to St. Michael's Hospital, was identified at the Morgue, as James Mortimer, of Oshawa, a plumber.

Three years in the Kingston Penitentiary was the sentence imposed by Judge Winchester at Toronto on C. M. Patmore, a mail clerk, who pleaded guilty to stealing registered letters containing money and jewelry to the value of \$140.

The Stratford Light and Heat Commission has announced a surplus of something over \$600. The total expenditures for the year are placed at \$29,800, with receipts of \$29,400 odd. The reduction in rates has saved the consumers \$8,000.

The eighteen cotton mills of the B. B. & R. Knight Company in Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts will go on a full time schedule, beginning next Tuesday. The mills have been running forty-eight hours a week for twenty weeks.

James Dale, brother of the late Robert F. Dale, by whose will a legacy was left to Dale Church, Toronto, will appeal the decision favorable to the church, recently given by Justice Sutherland, and the case will go to the Supreme Court of Ontario.

Prescott, Ont., is in the peculiar position of having only one candidate for the Town Council, instead of the necessary seven. The two candidates for the Mayor's chair as well as those nominated as Councilors, with one exception resigned at the last moment.

Dr. A. S. Moorhead, of Toronto, has won a signal honor in London, England, having been awarded the final fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons. Dr. Moorhead, who is 30 years of age, graduated from Toronto University in 1906 and was a medalist in his final year.

Henry Matthews, a Toronto chauffeur, was severely injured last night when

dan on December 19th, when she was crossing the road at the corner of Queen street and Denison avenue, was fined \$15 for drunkenness while driving the car, but was discharged on the charge of reckless driving.

The Guelph Separate School Trustees were elected by acclamation as follows: St. Patrick's Ward, John Tentardini; St. George's Ward, John A. McDermott; St. John's Ward, Dr. Frank Walsh; St. David's Ward, James Ryan; St. Andrew's Ward, T. J. Hannigan; St. James' Ward, W. J. Bedford.

Judge McHugh at Windsor dismissed the appeal of Earl Perkins, son of the proprietor of the Crawford House, here, against the decision of Police Magistrate Leggett, who fined Perkins \$100 and costs some time ago for refusing to open his bar to License Inspector Peaud, when the latter demanded admittance.

LONDON IS WRONG

Writ Against Newmarket on False Assumption.

Forest City Feels Loss of Industries.

London, Ont., despatch: City Solicitor Meredith entered a writ yesterday on behalf of the city against the Town of Newmarket, asking for an injunction to prevent the latter town from issuing debentures to the amount of \$25,000 as a loan to the Harding Motor Car Co., of this city.

This is the first step of the kind taken by the city to keep its industries and to prevent other towns offering inducements to factories to locate there.

In this case Newmarket offered the Harding Motor Co., which has been established in this city for some time, a loan of \$25,000 if the company would move its factory there. This offer was accepted, and the city is now moving to prevent the deal going through and to have the by-law passed by the Newmarket Council declared void.

The law, it appears, is very explicit on the point of a municipality offering special inducements to an established industry to move away, and some interesting developments are looked for.

Mr. Harding, financial manager of the Harding Motor Company, is in London with Mrs. Harding, spending the Christmas holidays. Speaking of London's action, Mr. Harding said:

"The information contained in the London despatch is entirely misleading. Apparently the London Council have not learned the facts. Originally there was talk of the town of Newmarket making a loan to the company, but that idea was long since abandoned. Twenty-five business men of Newmarket have placed \$25,000 in the hands of the company, each subscribing \$1,000. The town offers no financial inducements of any sort and is not issuing debentures to the company.

The company had decided to move from London in any event, and nothing which the London Council can now do will prevent it.

LAND GRAB

Mongolia and Turkestan Pass Over to Russia.

Teking, Jan. 1.—Mongolia, which almost equals China proper in size, will be proclaimed independent to-morrow simultaneously with the cutting off from China of the vast dependency of Turkestan. Both will pass under Russian influence and will practically become Russian protectorates. Russia will at any time be able to annex them. A Grand Khan will be named as Monarch of Mongolia. The construction of the Transmongolian Railway, for which Russia has long sought permission from China, will now be a matter of time. Europe thereby coming nearer to Peking by three or four days.

Russian influence will flank the Japanese sphere in Manchuria perilously, and a Japanese alliance, for the sake of preserving Japanese interests, may sooner or later be expected. Russian officers and officials, if not the Russian Government proper, have influenced this action in Mongolia.

CLERK GUILTY

He Blames Gambling for His Downfall.

Toronto despatch: B. A. Bennett, a former C. P. R. clerk, pleaded guilty before Judge Winchester yesterday to charges of uttering a forged document and to theft from the railway company, and blamed gambling for his downfall. The total amount mentioned in the charge of theft, and which he acknowledged, was \$1,333. His operations, he said, continued for upwards of a year, having commenced in June, 1910. He had become involved through horse racing and other gambling until his salary was not sufficient to pay his debts. About last August, he said, he had made up his mind to make up a list of the amounts he had taken and try to raise the money to pay it back. J. A. McPherson pleaded guilty to charges of forgery and theft from the same company. The two were also charged with conspiracy to forge and defraud the company, but on this charge were found not guilty by the judge. They will appear before the judge for sentence on the former charges next Wednesday.

Rupert Labor and J. J. Adamson, the two other clerks who were arrested with Bennett and McPherson, were accordingly also discharged on the conspiracy charges. They pleaded not guilty to charges of forgery, and their trials will proceed on Wednesday.

THE FIRE FIEND AT GOLDEN CITY

Porcupine's Pioneer City a Prey to the Flames.

No Fire Protection—Many Places Burned Down.

Used Dynamite to Check the Conflagration.

Cobalt, Ont., despatch: The south side of King street, from the Lyric Theatre to the Mulligan House, in Golden City, was destroyed by fire early this morning. Golden City is the pioneer town site of Porcupine and the buildings burned to-day were about the only ones that did not fall a prey to the flames in the terrible fire last July. The fire started in a saloon, and as there were practically no fire protection in the town, the flames soon got beyond control. Dynamite was used to check the fire and in this manner the bank, saloon, the Lyric Theatre, the Land Supply Co. and one other saloon were blown up. The premises burned out included Evans & Co., gent's furnishers; J. P. Crawford's law office; Carter & Wright, druggists; the Strathcona Hotel; Laubb fruit stores and two saloons. The Mulligan House was saved after a hard fight. The insurance rate is ten per cent. and therefore very little insurance was carried. This is the third time Carter & Wright have been burned out in Porcupine.

MORE PARTICULARS.

North Bay, Ont., despatch: Golden City, Porcupine, was visited by a disastrous fire which started in the Mulligan House at twelve-thirty yesterday morning and spread until a o'clock, wiping out business places, including the Land Supply Co., Evans' gent's furnishing store, a drug store, the Strathcona House, two Chinese laundries, Police Magistrate Gordon's office, Imperial Bakery, Forbes & Co.'s grocery store, Dr. Russell's office, St. George's restaurant and others. The Mulligan House was damaged but not destroyed. The fire was stopped at the theatre which was blown up to stop the spread of the flames.

FIREMEN'S FACES FROZEN.

Cobalt, Ont., despatch: The fire loss at Golden City is estimated at forty thousand dollars, with very little insurance. Ten buildings and a number of shacks were destroyed, taking in one solid block on the south side of King street. An overheated stove caused the fire, and the dry wooden buildings burned like tinder. A number of volunteer firemen had their faces frozen owing to cold weather at the time. All homeless people are being well taken care of.

VILLAGE FIRE

Frankford Almost Wiped Out by Fire Last Night.

Trenton despatch says: The village of Frankford, about eight miles northeast of Trenton, was almost wiped out by a terrible fire which broke out this evening and was still blazing late to-night. The fire started about 9:30 in the Stratham Hotel block, on the Frankford main street. In a very few minutes this was destroyed, and the flames spread to the Bremen Hotel adjoining. The fire then crossed to the south side of the street, where is the residential section, and four or five houses were wiped out in a very short time. Catching the north part of the business section, Ross' blacksmith shop and harness store were cleaned out, and before long the south side of the main street from the Streetman block to the Bell Telephone office was destroyed. Late at night other assistance was obtained from Stirling and Glen Miller. One more residence, that of Mrs. Ferguson, has been destroyed since the previous report. Very little furniture and few personal belongings were saved from the flames.

Trenton, Ont., despatch: Fire which broke out in Streetman's Hotel, on Main street, Frankford, eight miles northeast of here at 8:30 last night, resulted in a conflagration which destroyed the hotel, Sweetman's saw mill, Sills' woolen mill and barns, Ross' blacksmith shop and harness store with dwelling, and Mrs. Clarke's dwelling. All were frame buildings except the harness shop and the dwelling which was of concrete. The loss will be around \$20,000.

COFFIN NAILS

Montreal Recorder Condemns Smoking of Them.

Montreal, Jan. 1.—"It is pitiful to see the state of health some youngsters who have appeared before me have been reduced to by smoking cigarettes," said Recorder Dupuis, this morning, before fining Armand Tremblay ten dollars for selling cigarettes to a fourteen-year-old boy. Continuing the Recorder said: "The evil has reached such proportions here that only the most severe measures will end it. I recommend that the police make a campaign against the men who persist in selling cigarettes to kids. Only last week I had an eight-year-old lad before me. He was already a cigarette fiend." The Chief of Police has promised to inaugurate the campaign urged by the Recorder.

NEARLY DROWNED

Three Wingham Boys Broke Through Ice.

Wingham despatch says: Earl Johns, Gordon Buchanan and Frank Galbraith, ranging in ages from 7 to 12, had a desperate struggle for life in the river here yesterday afternoon after going through the ice. All three were skating when Johns suddenly went through. The other lads at once went to his assistance, and in turn were plunged into the icy waters. They hung on to the edge of the ice for nearly half an hour before being rescued by passers-by. They were greatly exhausted, but will recover.

THE COTTON STRIKE

Men Determined to Have Their Union Recognized.

Strike Spreading and Lock-Outs Taking Place.

Manchester, Eng., Jan. 1.—Both sides in the great cotton war, which was brought about by the refusal of one man and two women to join a trades union, and which has caused the lock-out of 160,000 weavers and the placing on half pay of an equal number of spinners, are determined to fight to a finish.

The mills in a score of towns in the north and northeastern districts of the County of Lancashire are at a standstill. In a few instances the fires are kept going, but this is the only sign that some of the owners are still inspired with the hope that there may be an early resumption of work.

The operatives seem quite firm in their resolution to demand recognition of their union. They thronged the streets throughout the day, but all has been quiet and orderly up to now.

The dispute opened to-day to the County of Cheshire. The mills at Marple, owned by the Calico Printers' Company, locked out their hands this morning, and similar action is expected in other Cheshire centres.

The Cotton Waste Spinners' Federation resolved to-day to close the mills belonging to its members on January 19, if the dispute between the employers and the workers in Lancashire is not settled in the interim. This will add many thousands to the number of the unemployed.

The next move appears to lie with Sir George Askwith, of the Board of Trade, the noted strike breaker, who has acted successfully in so many other labor disputes.

THE TRAVELLERS

To Ask Government to Reform Hotels.

Toronto despatch: The question of improved hotel accommodation throughout the Province will be discussed at length by the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada at the annual meeting to be held to-morrow evening in St. George's Hall.

In order to obtain a proper idea of existing conditions the petition will urge that the Government appoint a commission to enquire into conditions and investigate the matter of accommodation generally.

Among the beneficial results which would follow such action, they say, are the following:

1. More efficient system of hotel accommodation in the direct interest of the public who travel.
2. A much higher standard of hotel premises, with up-to-date sanitary and other public conveniences.
3. A vast improvement in the moral character of the hotel men, who would be given charge of the business.
4. Complete wiping out of what is known as the slum hotels, where accommodation for the travelling public is only a pretence.
5. The possible solution of the vexed problem of the evil of intemperance.

ANOTHER YARN

King's Narrow Escape From Wounded Tiger.

New York, Jan. 1.—A despatch from Bombay, printed here this afternoon, says: A sensational report that King George had a narrow escape from death while tiger hunting in Nepal was circulated here to-day. The story was told by a native, who had accompanied the Royal expedition as a game-beater.

Although every precaution possible had been taken to protect the life of his Majesty, an enormous tiger, streaked with blood from several wounds, and frantic with pain and rage, leaped upon the elephant from whose back King George did his shooting, before it was finally put to death.

Two of the best shots in India were stationed on elephants on each side of the King. Each had fired upon the tiger when it was driven from cover by the hords of game-beaters, but their first bullets missed a vital spot. King George fired first, that honor being accorded all guests of the Maharajah. He missed, and after the beast had been wounded in half a dozen places it made the leap to the Royal howdah. The King's nerve remained unshaken, and the tiger fell to the ground with two well-directed bullets through its head fired by the marksmen on either side of his Majesty.

WILL ACCEPT A REPUBLIC

Chinese Emperor Will Abdicate If Nation Wills It

Japan Using Her Influence Against Republic.

British Steamer Looted—Royalty to Leave Peking.

Peking, China, Jan. 1.—6.17 p. m.—The throne has agreed to Premier Yuan Shi Kai's suggestion to refer the question of the future government of China to a national conference and to abide by its decision, whatever it may be. The Dowager Empress, Premier Yuan Shi Kai and the Manchu princes of the imperial clan, debated throughout the entire morning the scheme for calling together a convention of delegates from all parts of the empire to decide on the form of government which shall prevail in future in China.

Prince Ching, former Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, stoutly urged the acceptance of the proposal. Prince Yua Tang, member of the Grand Council, and Prince Tsai Tao, former Minister of War, and brother of the present Prince Regent, on the other hand, strenuously opposed the scheme.

Those among the Manchu princes present who were in favor of the acceptance of the proposition, finally prevailed, and the decision was reached to leave the settlement of the future form of government in the hands of the delegates selected by the nation.

The Cabinet has instructed to draw up the regulations which shall govern the national convention and to inform the delegates to the peace conference at Shanghai that the throne is willing to abide by the decision of a representative convention no matter what form of government it may choose.

In view of the activities of the Shanghai revolutionaries, imperial government officials consider it to be doubtful whether the rebels will agree to the long delay inseparable from the calling of a national convention.

The action of the throne leaves no room for doubt that the advisors of the Regent and the Emperor are prepared for abdication should that course prove to be the only way of settlement.

JAPAN OFFERED TO REPUBLIC.

Paris, Jan. 1.—A Shanghai despatch to the Paris edition of the New York Herald says that the Republicans have received unimpeachable information that Japan is influencing Prince Ching, the ex-Premier, and Premier Yuan Shi Kai against a Republic, and they are widely excited at this state of affairs. They declare that unless Premier Yuan announces a definite policy immediately they will resume hostilities on Sunday.

A strong protest also is being framed, says the despatch, and will be sent to Tokio warning Japan that the responsibility for the resumption of hostilities will be on her shoulders.

The Tokio correspondent of the Herald says he learns that Japan will only offer friendly advice against the establishment of a Republic in China.

WILL LEAVE PEKING.

London, Jan. 1.—A telegram from Tien Tsin to the Exchange Telegram Co. says that the Imperial family has decided to leave Peking. The decision will be announced at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

BRITISH STEAMER LOOTED.

Hong Kong, Jan. 1.—Traffic along the West River is generally quiet, but occasional piracies occur. The British steamer Sze-yang, while plying from Hong Kong to Canton, was attacked and looted by sixty armed pirates, who succeeded in carrying off arms, ammunition and sundries to the total value of about \$29,000. The crew, which was unarmed, was unable to offer any resistance. None of them were harmed.

GAVE HIMSELF UP

Saw Face in Bed of Man He Murdered.

Baltimore, Jan. 1.—Beckoned back to ward the scene of his crime every night in the darkness by the apparition of the man he killed, John Henry Martin surrendered to the police here to-day, saying he was the slayer of William H. Mickle, an aged cigar store keeper, in Washington, whose murder has been a mystery since November 7th last.

"The man I killed kept a cigar store in Seventh street," said Martin, who appeared to be a nervous wreck. "I went in and asked him for money. He refused to give it to me and I struck him over the head with a monkey wrench. Then I ran away. I went to West Virginia and came here about three weeks ago from Berkeley Springs.

"Ever since I read that I killed the man I have seen faces before me at night when I was in bed. I could distinctly see the aged man beckoning to me.

"I read in a Washington newspaper that Mickle was dead and also that another man had been arrested. At first I thought I had a lucky escape, but the memory of the deed and the thought that an innocent man might suffer led me to a priest, and I told the story. He urged me to surrender.

REPORT DENIED.

Berlin, Jan. 1.—The Foreign Office authorizes the most absolute denial of the statements in an article in the Temps of Paris that Germany is contemplating the establishment of a sailing station in Haiti in view of the opening of the Panama Canal. The article intimates that France should act in a similar way.

SAVED GREY

Schooner Driven Ashore on Black Island.

Black Island, N. I., Jan. 28.—The stranded schooner Mary Abbott, owned by Felt Johnson, N. Y., and bound for New York, was driven ashore on Black Island by a terrific northerly gale early to-day, and four hours and a half later her crew of ten men was rescued by the Black Island life saving crew.

The rescue was spectacular, and was accomplished only after the life crew had tried repeatedly to reach the stranded craft. The schooner was hoisted from Norfolk, Virginia, for New Britain, Conn.

BRITISH FORCE

May Punish Those Who Attacked Consul.

Ameer Mujahid May Succeed Mr. Shuster.

London, Jan. 1.—The Tehran correspondent of the Times says: "Infantry from Jank and all available ships, it is reported, have been ordered to Bushire, a seaport 125 miles from Shiraz, and a British punitive expedition is thought likely.

"The People of Tehran appear to be cowed by the Russian excesses at Tabriz. The Ministers, alarmed at the anger of the populace, have issued an announcement that the elections will be held a week hence, but the announcement is not believed.

"The principal candidate for the office of Treasurer-General is Ameer Mujahid, the Bakhtiari, whose knowledge of arithmetic is defective, but who is reputed to have the deepest pocket of all his acquisitive tribe. His candidature throws a lurid light on the Bakhtiari support of the Cabinet.

Russian telegrams from Tabriz yesterday report that the fighting had been resumed. Five persons were killed and four wounded in the Russian cantonments in that city. The other cantonments were safe.

THEY GOT OFF

Jury Acquitted Owners of New York Fire Trap.

New York, Jan. 1.—Max Hirsch and Isaac Harris were acquitted to-day of the charge of manslaughter which was brought against them after the fire in the Triangle Waist Company, of which they were the proprietors, on March 25th last. One hundred and forty-six persons lost their lives in the fire. Hirsch and Harris were put on trial before Judge Crain in the General Sessions, on Dec. 16th. There are six other indictments against them, charging manslaughter, it being claimed that the doors of the factory were locked when the fire took place. The jury was out one hour and forty minutes. Although Judge Crain had warned the spectators to maintain silence, there was a movement toward applause when Foreman Lee Abraham announced the verdict. Most of the spectators were friends of the defendants or persons attracted by curiosity, as the witnesses for the prosecution and relatives of those who had been lost in the fire were rigidly excluded from the court room.

HASTY WEDDINGS

Elopements in Massachusetts Under New Law.

Boston, Mass., Jan. 1.—After January 1st there can be no more elopements and no hasty marriages in Massachusetts.

Under the new law which goes into effect there any person wishing to marry must file a notice of intention. After that he must wait five full days before he can get his license.

During these five days, the parents, guardians or any other relatives or friends of the lovers can come and ask questions and register any objections. Should they have a justified objection or should either of the twain be too young, or otherwise unfit, the penalty is no license.

There will be no escape from this law. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island have all passed similar ones.

FATAL WRECK

Huntington, W. Va., Jan. 1.—Engineer William Dunn, of Hinton, W. Va., was killed, Fireman Lacey Latell was fatally injured and a number of passengers were hurt when the engine of train No. 5, on the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad left the track at McKendree, W. Va., to-day. The engine rolled down an embankment and a number of cars left the rails. The train is one of the best on the system.

FOUND SPANISH TREASURE.

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 1.—Guided by an ancient chart found in the ruins of a Spanish shellhouse on Fort George Island, two boys of this city say they have unearthed Spanish treasure worth \$150,000. They say the gold, silver and copper coins were found in a strong box about one cubic foot in size buried about six feet deep.

Those who have seen the coins say that they bear dates of more than a century ago.

THEIR DESTINATION

Child-mother, whose car crashed on New York road, says she will go to the hospital.