

# EXPLOSION KILLS OVER 300

## Tragedy at Hulton Coal Mine, Near Bolton, England

A despatch from Bolton, England, says: More than 300 colliers lost their lives on Wednesday in an explosion in the Little Hulton Colliery of the Hulton Colliery Company, which is located a little distance outside this city. The explosion occurred early in the morning, soon after the miners had entered the pit to begin work. Its force was terrific, and later investigation showed that the lower passages had been blocked. Heroic efforts were made by rescue parties all day long, but a fierce fire which followed the explosion prevented the rescuers from penetrating beyond four hundred yards into the workings.

At half-past nine o'clock on Wednesday night all the rescuers were called out of the mine, and a conference was held, at which Government Inspector Gerrard, the engineers and the mine manager were

present. Inspector Gerrard issued a report after making a descent into the pit, in which he declared that it was impossible that any of the miners are still alive. Toward midnight, however, two more miners were found alive. They were terribly burned, and are in a critical condition.

It was announced that 40 bodies had been collected at the bottom of the shaft, and that they should be brought up as soon as possible. A flicker of hope still animates the rescuers that more men may be found alive.

The first rescue party brought out eight men, still living, but the majority of these were in a serious condition from the noxious gases.

Ten bodies also were removed, and twenty additional bodies were found partly covered by heavy falls of coal.

# WORKMEN FROM SCOTLAND

## Five Thousand Wanted to Build the Grand Trunk Pacific

A despatch from Montreal says: Mr. W. Stewart of the firm of Foley Walsh & Stewart, contractors for the mountain sections of the Grand Trunk Pacific, which will represent an outlay of many millions of dollars, has left for Scotland to secure labor for the gigantic undertaking. There is very little labor available on the Pacific coast, and public sentiment will not tolerate, nor will the Dominion or Provincial Governments sanction the im-

portation of Asiatic labor. Mr. Stewart is hopeful of getting the five thousand men he needs to build the road through the mountains. He says those men will make good settlers, after the road is constructed. "They will cost us more," said Mr. Stewart, "than Asiatics would have done, but the railway and the country will have the advantage of five thousand acclimatized settlers of the finest race the world has produced."

### ICE CREAM IS ALL RIGHT.

Seventy Per Cent. Measures Up to New Standard.

A despatch from Ottawa says: A bulletin issued from the laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department shows that at least seventy per cent. of the ice cream sold in Canada measures up to the new standard required under the regulations passed by order in Council last month. An analysis of 125 samples of ice cream on sale in various sections of the Dominion gave 77 fully up to or above the standard of 14 per cent. of milk fat; 11 samples were nearly up to the standard; 31 were somewhat below, and six were greatly below the standard. The bulletin says there has been a very marked improvement in the quality of Canadian ice cream during the past two years.

### RAILWAYS HAVE DONE WELL.

Reports of Business in the West Show Enormous Increase.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: The reports on the passenger and traffic business from the three railroads, the C. P. R., C. N. R. and G. T. P., show an enormous increase during 1910 over all previous years. Although no actual figures can be obtained up to date, as far as can be estimated, the increase on each of these roads during the present year is over 20 per cent.

# CANADA WILL BOOM TRADE

## Remarkable Growth of Commerce With Argentine Republic

A despatch from Ottawa says: An order-in-Council has been passed appointing Mr. H. R. Poussette Canadian Trade Commissioner to the Argentine Republic, with headquarters at Buenos Ayres. This appointment is the outcome of the negotiations which have been proceeding for some time between the Government and Mr. Horatio Meyer, Consul-General of Argentina to Canada. Mr. Poussette is at present Trade Commissioner at Durban, in Natal, but since the organization of the South African Union, it has been decided to place the Canadian trade representative

there entirely in charge of Mr. J. A. Chesealy, who will close the office at Cape Town and establish headquarters at Durban, which is the chief centre of trade between Canada and South Africa.

Canada's total trade with Argentina in 1909 was over five million dollars. Of this, \$2,867,785 represented exports of Canadian goods, which is more than Canada exported to France that year, although imports from the latter country were over ten millions. A syndicate has been formed to promote trade between Canada and Argentina.

# THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

Prices of Cattle, Grain, Cheese and Other Dairy Produce at Home and Abroad.

### BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Dec. 27.—Flour—Winter wheat 90 per cent. patents, \$3.55 to \$3.60 seaboard. Manitoba flours—First patents, \$5.40; second patents, \$4.90, and strong bakers', \$4.70, on track, Toronto.

Manitoba Wheat—No. 1 Northern 98c, Bay ports; No. 2 Northern, 95½c, Bay ports, and No. 3 at 93c, Bay ports.

Ontario wheat—85½ to 86c outside for No. 2 white and red Winter.

Barley—The market is quiet, with malting qualities 56 to 58c outside, and feed 48 to 50c outside.

Oats—No. 2 white, 35c, on track, Toronto, and 32 to 32½c outside; No. 2 W. C. oats, 33c, Bay ports, and No. 3 at 36½c, Bay ports.

Corn—New No. 2 American, 52½ to 53c, prompt shipment, Toronto freights.

Peas—No. 2 shipping, 78c, outside.

Rye—No. 2 at 60c outside.

Buckwheat—No. 2 at 46 to 47c outside.

Bran—Manitobas, \$19, in bags, Toronto, and shorts, \$21, in bags, Toronto. Ontario bran, \$19, in sacks, Toronto, and shorts, \$22.

### COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—Spys, \$4.50 to \$6; Baldwins \$4 to \$5; Greenings, \$4 to \$4.50; No. 2 assorted, \$3.50 to \$3.70 per barrel.

Beans—Car lots, \$1.60 to \$1.70, and small lots, \$1.80 to \$1.85.

Honey—Extracted, in tins, 10½ to 11c per lb.; No. 1 comb, wholesale, \$2 to \$2.25 per dozen; No. 2 comb, wholesale, \$1.75 to \$1.85 per dozen.

Baled hay—The market is quiet, with No. 1 at \$12.50 to \$13 on track, and No. 2 at \$10 to \$11.

Baled straw—\$6.50 to \$7.25 on track, Toronto.

Potatoes—Car lots, 70 to 75c per bag.

Poultry—Wholesale prices of dressed poultry:—Chickens, 13 to 15c per lb.; fowl, 10 to 11c per lb.; ducks, 13 to 15c per lb.; turkeys, 20 to 21c per lb., and geese, 13 to 14c per lb. Live, 1 to 2c less.

### THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Dairy prints, 22 to 24c; choice dairy solids, 21 to 22c; inferior, 18 to 19c; choice large rolls, 21 to 22c. Creamery, 27 to 28c per lb. for rolls, 25c for solids, and 24 to 25c for separator prints.

Eggs—Case lots of pickled bring 27c; cold storage, 27 to 28c; selected, 30 to 31c, and strictly new-laid, 38c per dozen.

Cheese—Large at 12½c, and twins 12½c.

### HOG PRODUCTS.

Bacon—Long clear, 12½ to 13c per lb. in case lots; mess pork, \$24; short cut, \$26.

Hams—Light to medium, 16c; do., heavy, 15c; rolls, 12½c; shoulders, 11½c; breakfast bacon, 18c; backs (pea meal), 18½c.

Lard—Tierces, 12½c; tubs, 12½c; pails, 13c.

### BUSINESS IN MONTREAL.

Montreal, Dec. 27.—Oats — No. 2 Canadian Western, 39¼ to 39½c; extra No. 1 feed, 38½c; No. 3 Canadian Western, 38½ to 38¾c; No. 2 local white, 37½c; No. 3 local white, 36½c; No. 4 local white, 35½c.

Barley—Manitoba No. 4, 48 to 48½c. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, \$5.60; do., seconds, \$5.10; Winter wheat patents, \$4.75 to \$5; Manitoba strong bakers', \$4.90; straight rollers, \$4.35 to \$4.50; do., in bags, \$2 to \$2.05; extras, \$1.65 to \$1.75.

Feed—Ontario bran, \$18.50 to \$19; Ontario middling, \$22 to \$22.50; Manitoba shorts, \$21 to \$22; Manitoba bran, \$18 to \$20; pure grain moulillie, \$31 to \$32, mixed moulillie, \$25 to \$28.

Cheese—Westerns, 11½ to 12c, and easterns, 11¼ to 11½c. Butter—Choice, 25½c, and seconds, 24¼ to 24½c. Eggs—Selected stock, 32c; No. 1 stock, 27c, and No. 2, 23 to 24c.

### UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Buffalo, Dec. 27.—Wheat—Spring wheat, No. 1 Northern, carloads, store, \$1.12½. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 48½c; No. 4 yellow, 46½c on track, through billed.

Oats—No. 2 white, 35½c; No. 3 white, 25½c; No. 4 white, 34½c. Barley—Malt- ing, 86 to 90c.

Minneapolis, Dec. 27.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, cash, \$1.02½. No. 1

# BIG FIRE AT PHILADELPHIA

## Four Firemen Killed, Twenty Buried in Ruins and Twelve Injured

A despatch from Philadelphia says: Four firemen are known to be dead, twenty are thought to be buried in the ruins and twelve others are in hospitals as the result of a fire on Wednesday night in the leather factory of Frelander & Company, 1,116-1,120 North Bodine street. It was first reported that Chief Baxter of the fire department was among those still in the ruins, but while he was injured, he escaped being carried down by the falling walls.

While the firemen were fighting the flames from the roofs of adjoining dwelling-houses, the south wall of the big building crashed down upon them. At the time there were at least 35 men on these buildings, and all were carried down. Four were later taken out dead. Twelve were able to extricate themselves from the mass of bricks and twisted iron girders, but it is thought that twenty men are still in the ruins. Not all of these are dead or seriously injured.

Northern, cash, \$1.01; Dec., \$1.00¼; May, \$1.03; July, \$1.03 7-8.

### LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Toronto, Dec. 27.—Good butcher cattle brought \$6 per cwt. in several cases, and the prevailing quotation was between \$5.85 and \$6. Medium cattle were quite firm, but culls were perhaps 10c. off. Sheep and lambs were steady, but hogs picked up about 15c. To-day's quotations were \$6.75 f.o.b. and \$7 fed and watered at Toronto.

### THE KING NEEDS HIM.

Duke of Connaught Not Likely to Come to Canada.

A despatch from Ottawa says: There is a growing belief in official circles at Ottawa that the Duke of Connaught will not succeed Earl Grey as Governor-General of Canada. There has been a semi-official hint received that King George is finding the demands upon his time so great and functions so numerous that he has to have the aid of a Prince of the blood with public experience, as both Queen Victoria and King Edward had, to represent them at hospital openings and similar functions. As the Prince of Wales is too young for such tasks the Duke of Connaught is the only member of the family available, and it is found he cannot be spared to Canada.

### YOUNG BRIDE'S DEATH.

Travelled Seven Thousand Miles to Marry.

A despatch from Edmonton says: After travelling 7,000 miles from New Zealand to join her prospective husband, Oswald Hall, a prosperous farmer of Vermilion, Lydia Bentley was married to him the other day as she lay on a cot in Misericordia Hospital here. The next day surgeons operated on her in an effort to save her life, but on Thursday she died. The young woman travelled all the way from New Zealand in order to be married here on Christmas Day. She became ill on the boat, but kept on until she reached Edmonton.

### \$5,000 FOR STARVING.

American Red Cross Sends Relief for Pekin Famine.

A despatch from Washington says: The American Red Cross, on Friday, cabled the sum of \$5,000 to Wm. J. Calhoun, American Minister at Pekin, for the relief of the sufferers from the famine in the province in the Huai River Valley. Two or three million people are affected.

# NEARLY 30 FIREMEN KILLED

## Ammonia Exploded at the Chicago Union Stock Yards

A despatch from Chicago says: Fire Marshal James Horan, and between twenty-five and thirty of his firemen were killed and forty others injured on Thursday in a fire which at an early hour had caused \$1,500,000 damage. An overhanging wooden canopy fell from the beef house of Morris and Company, where the fire started, carrying with it tons of red hot bricks and debris upon two companies of firemen and the chief, crushing them to death and encasing their bodies in a veritable furnace into which their comrades were unable to dig for several hours. Nearly all those who were not killed outright when the walls fell were roasted to death before help could reach them.

Assistant Chief Wm. Burroughs and Lieut. Fitzgerald were with the marshal under the canopy when it fell, receiving specific orders for directing the fight against the ever-spreading flames in other quarters, and they went down to their death with Marshal Horan.

Other firemen, witnesses of the fate of their chief, deserted for a brief time other parts of the blazing structure, and sought with their bare hands to drag apart the glowing bricks and debris which covered the bodies of their chief and his companions.

The entire crews of engine companies 51 and 53 are said to be among the dead. In addition six members of another company, No. 29, and a few of No. 48 were killed.

# CONDENSED NEWS ITEMS

## HAPPENINGS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE.

### Telegraphic Briefs From Our Own and Other Countries of Recent Events.

#### CANADA.

Deposits in Canadian banks at the end of November amounted to over \$840,000,000, as shown in the Government's monthly statement. A decree from Rome forbids priests from holding office in financial, industrial or fraternal organizations.

Hon. M. Cochrane, in an interview, pointed out that the Porcupine gold field was rich in prospects, but issued a warning against "wild-catting."

The power from Niagara was turned on at Hamilton on Wednesday night. Hon. J. S. Hendrie officiated and speeches were made by Messrs. Beck, McNaught and others.

After being on strike thirteen weeks, Montreal plumbers gave up the struggle and returned to work. George How, a Kingston sailor, fell in a snowbank while drunk. A dog barked, a constable investigated and the man's life was saved.

At Prince Albert, Sask., Willie Taylor, aged 12, was shooting at a mark, and accidentally shot his eight-year-old sister, who died shortly afterwards.

Effie Petrie, a young Scotch domestic, of Amherst, N. S., poured coal oil on the kitchen stove. There was an explosion and the unfortunate girl was so severely burned that she died.

#### GREAT BRITAIN.

At the conclusion of the British elections the Liberal coalition forces have a majority of 126 over the Unionists.

The method of finger print identification failed in a London, Eng., court for the first time on record.

#### UNITED STATES.

Centennial celebration in commemoration of the Battle of Lake Erie will be held in 1913.

Nettie McConachie, of Port Huron, Mich., died of hydrophobia, after being bitten by a dog two years ago.

#### GENERAL.

The Mexican insurgents held up a Federal troop train at Mal Paso for five hours and inflicted heavy losses on the Government forces.