BANKS ARE DOING BUSINESS

The Conditions Are Much Improved In San Francisco.

A despatch from Oakland, California, says: Conditions are still looking up. The restriction against entering the city is now practically off. The electric cars are running on Market Street again. The banks have both a name and a local habitation. They have found a row of private residences on Laguna Street, a thoroughfare heretofore a stranger to commerce, and from the windows of these houses flags proclaim that the Crocker-Woolworth, the Nevada and all the others are doing business within.

The Clearing House, representing the local commercial banks, has been meeting every day. They have arranged a plan for paying off depositors for temporary needs on a proportionate scale, each withdrawal to be limited to $500. Correspondents of the several banks in London, Paris and New York will transfer certain sums to their credit. The Mint will be the cashier's window for all the banks. The cheques will be made out in the usual form, endorsed by the cashier, and taken to the Mint, where they will be cashed. Superintendent of the Mint Leach says that he will cooperate in this as soon as he can get enough clerks. The savings banks report a satisfactory condition. They will open on the same day as the commercial banks.

A GRIM WARNING.

Business men who attempted on Saturday to secure assets from safes dug out of the earthquake and fire debris met with disaster. Several of the safes containing books, records, stocks, bonds and negotiable securities were forced open. The instant the latent heat in the interior of the thick strong-boxes came in contact with the first rush of air there was a blaze, and in an instant the contents were consumed.

This fact served as a grim warning to bankers who have millions of dollars locked up in safes and vaults. Many of the vaults are still buried in the debris, but scores of safes have been dragged out and left to cool in the streets.

LABOR SUPPLY INCREASING.

The market price for laborers is $2.50 a day, with the supply limited, but increasing. Besides the authorities, the War Department and street railways, private concerns want men to clear up their premises and erect temporary structures. Happily, we are almost clean again. The restrictions on the use of water for anything but external use have been removed.

DANGER OF EPIDEMIC OVER.

Every day the danger of epidemic seems smaller. There is absolutely no increase in the number of smallpox cases, no typhoid has appeared, and the cases of measles and scarlet fever are few.

SAFES ARE STILL COOLING.

Donkey and construction engines were hauled into the ruined business district to get the safes of business men out of the ruins. They are in the same fix as the banks; they dare not open the safes until they are thoroughly cooled. In cases where floors fell, five or six safes are often jumbled together in the basements. The owners get them all out and identify their property. They will be left in the streets to cool for the present. The work of razing the dangerous walls goes on smoothly. The next important stage of this work will be the laying of railroad tracks down the main business streets, to get out the great masses of wreckage.

THE FIRE-SWEPT AREA.

After a careful survey the engineers of the Board of Public Works estimate that the area swept by the fire is about 15 square miles. There are few cities in the world where so much valuable property was contained in an equal territorial area. Within the district were nearly 100 banks alone, some of the finest office buildings outside of New York, thousands of mercantile and manufacturing establishments, and about 250,000 inhabitants, together with about 25,000 transients.

These facts may give some idea of the size of the ruin and of the loss involved, but they also emphasize the small loss of life from earthquake, fire and shooting. For the death list may not go over 700, and will almost certainly not reach 1,000. This is a striking proof of the masterly manner in which the authorities, civil and military, ran things.

MANY RESIDENCES UNINJURED.

The homes of more than 150,000 are standing practically uninjured. There still remain the great shipyards at the Potrero, the Pacific Mail docks, and the busy district immediately surrounding them, the stock yards at South san Francisco, the wharves along the waterfront from Mission Creek to Hunter's Point, the Mint, the Post-office, and the large retail district on Fillmore and Devisadero Streets. After all, a big city remains in San Francisco.

The Chinese Consul-General registers a kick. He says that the soldiers have been collecting graft from his countrymen. When the first crowd of refugees was taken from the ruined district the soldiers made the Chinamen pay toll, usually $5 a head, to be guided to the ferry. He makes a further charge that the military guard was withdrawn from Chinatown yesterday, allowing crowds of white toughs to poke through the ruins and help themselves to the stocks o' Chinese stores. He said that a large amount of property was stolen in this way, while the Chinese stood by and took it all in. Being Chinese and in California, they had to.

EXODUS IS SLOWING UP.

The exodus is slowing up. The feeble and the timid have about been cleared away, and the crowds at the railroad offices for transportation and passes are sensibly smaller. The people are looking forward now to the time, a few weeks ahead, when passenger traffic shall have turned the other way, when artisans, architects and business men will be coming to help in building the new city. The air is full of projects. Herbert Law, a capitalist, who had prepared to lease the Fairmount Hotel and build an annex to it just before the fire, went east in a hurry two days ago. It is said he went after a conference of men of money to lay a proposal before Congress. This is nothing less than a request of a Government loan of $100,000,000 at 2 per cent. interest, to be used in rebuilding and to supplement the insurance payments. According to the plan, the loan is to run for 25 years, and to be secured by city real estate.

The police estimate that there are 2,000—mostly men, women and children—in Oakland, separated from their families and awaiting developments. Every hour of the day lost members of families are restored to each other.

The opening of stores along Market and Fillmore Streets has greatly reduced the number of people in the bread lines. Families of moderate means are paying for their food. Up to this time, even the rich, whose house supplies were low, had to stand in line and wait their turn with the "bums" of the Barbary Coast and the scarlet women from Belden Place. All dangerous walls on Market street are now dynamited.

There are still little shocks at the rate of one or two a day, and will be, the weather people say, for at least a fortnight. Few people pay any attention to them. Everyone understands that after a big tremor like this the little trembles must continue.

TO START RELIEF WORK.

Authorities Coping With the Situation in St. Petersburg.

A St. Petersburg despatch says: Thanks to the conciliatory attitude of the city representatives, the threat of a repetition of the great labor demonstration and the bloody events of "Red Sunday," January 22, 1905, on account of the destitution of thousands of idle workmen, has been obviated for the moment. The City Council on Wednesday night decided to begin public works amounting to $1,500,000, and, pending their initiation, to assign $250,000 among those out of work, the number of actually destitute at present, according to labor representatives, being not over 20,000. A commission, of which one-half are workingmen, was held to plan the works and supervise the distribution of money.

The situation is threatening, as the measures of relief are purely artificial. The army of the unemployed, because the factories are running on half force on account of the lack of orders, is constantly increasing.

At Wednesday's conference one workman said:—"We speak in the name of the great Russian proletariat, which headed the revolution. Heed our demands and warning. If you refuse we will rank you with the enemies of the fatherland, and we will transmit your refusal to the proletariat, with which you must reckon. Your blood and theirs be upon your hands."

BABY BURNED TO DEATH.

It Was Sleeping Alone in the House Which Was Destroyed.

A Winnipeg despatch says: Particulars of the fatality which occurred at Williams' quarry, north of this city, on Tuesday, when the infant child of James Aphni was burned to death in a fire which destroyed the parents' home, have been received. The baby was asleep alone in the house, which was a small frame structure, when the fire broke out in some mysterious way, and the building was enveloped in flames before it was noticed, making the rescue of the baby impossible.

OUTBREAK OF PLAGUE.

Many Deaths Occur in Kashmir, Northern India.

A Lahore, India, despatch says: A serious outbreak of the plague has occurred at Jammi, in Kashmir, northern India. There have been many victims among the members of the palace household and the imperial service troops. Two hundred and eighty-five deaths occurred during the past week.

YEAST BACILLUS FOR CANCER.

Dr. Doyen Tells Medical Congress at Lisbon of New Cure.

A despatch from Lisbon says: Dr. Doyen, the French scientist, announced at the Medical Congress here that he had cured cancer by inoculating the patients with yeast bacillus. He believed that investigation in this direction would lead to discoveries of the greatest value.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

WHAT THE LEGISLATURE AT TORONTO IS DOING.

TAX ON RAILWAYS.

Hon. Col. Matheson's Railway Taxation Bill, was brought in under the official title of An Amendment to the Supplementary Revenue Act. Before touching on the railway question it provides that a tax of $25 shall be imposed on each agency of a bank in any municipality instead of $25 on one agency, which is the system at present obtaining no matter how many branches a bank may have.

The system of taxation by mileage is continued, the present charges being doubled. In the application and distribution of the revenue from this source, however, the measure strikes out on new lines. After the deduction of $30,000 for expenses of collection, etc., and for maintenance of the Railway Commission, half of the remainder will be handed over to municipalities in proportion to population, and from this fund they will be asked to contribute to the support of the provincial asylums. The increase to the revenue, Col. Matheson stated, would be about $180,000, of which the municipalities will get $75,000, or perhaps a little more, while their contribution to the asylums will be considerably less than this.

RAILWAY BILL AMENDED.

Several amendments to the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway Act were proposed by Hon. Dr. Reaume. The first of these is to empower the Railway Commissioners to lease a branch or spur line not exceeding ten miles in length. Another proposes to allow the commissioners to sell, lease or otherwise deal with mining rights along the right-of-way and on town sites.

PASSED PROSPECTUS BILL.

After a few amendments had been made, Mr. Hayle's bill respecting prospectuses issued by companies was given its third reading. The main alteration was to the effect that where subscriptions for stock have been made on the strength of verbal representations, they shall not be deemed binding unless the purchaser has seen the company's prospectus.

AFTER AUTOMOBILISTS.

The Municipal Committee discussed the various proposed amendments to the automobile legislation. Hon. Mr. Hanna, the chairman, thought that if a clause could be added to the present law providing for the arrest on sight and summary dealing with offenders it would go a long way toward putting a stop to reasons for the present numerous complaints. The Government could then give the so-called frontier police something to do to earn their salary by distributing them along the roads running to the frontier, but not close to the line, say, ten to fifteen miles back, with orders to arrest all automobilists breaking the regulations. If the offenders were then properly punished the effect would be salutary. A few object lessons of that nature would be sufficient, he thought, to impress the automobilists with the necessity of obeying the law.

THE MUNICIPAL ACT.

A number of bills making various amendments to the municipal act were approved of. One of these gives municipalities the right to take stock in or guarantee the bonds of utilities situated outside the boundaries of the municipalities supplying them.

LIQUOR LICENSE ACT.

The Lieutenant-Governor's assent was given to the Liquor License Act on Friday. As the annual reissue of licenses takes place on May 1st, all hotels and liquor stores will thus begin from that date to pay the higher license provided for in the measure. The bill received its third reading in the Legislature on Thursday.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

Hon. Dr. Pyne' bill respecting the Education Department, was passed through the committee stage.

THE MINES ACT.

The new Mines Act was reviewed in committee, and a number of suggestions offered by private members on both sides of the House will be considered before it comes up for its third reading.

THREE IMPORTANT MEASURES

were introduced by the Minister of Agriculture. One of these provides for the creation of an Advisory Board in connection with the Ontario Agricultural College. The second is intended to prevent fraud in the manufacture of cheese and butter by appointing sanitary inspectors, and the third provides for the suppression of foul brood among bees.

THE NEW DRAINAGE ACT

by which the province is divided into two districts, and a second inspector appointed for the Eastern division, was read a second time.

TEMISKAMING RAILWAY.

The Amendment to the Temiskaming Railway Bill also received its second reading. By this Act the commission is empowered to lease or sell spur lines of 10 miles or less.

THE NATAL UPRISING.

Disorder Among the Zulus Increasing and Reserves Called Out.

A London despatch says: The Government has called out the first reserves in seven districts of Natal to cope with the native insurrection. The disorder is spreading among the Dini Zulus. Chief Induna's mission on behalf of the Colonial Government to Chief Siganandа has failed, and he reports that Siganandа's tribe is in a state of rebellion. The natives in Switzerland are showing signs of uneasiness, and Europeans there are appealing for protection.

WILL MAKE NO CONCESSION.

Operators Send Reply to Latest Proposals of the Miners.

A despatch from New York says: The anthracite mine operators, through their sub-committee of seven, on Friday replied to the latest propositions of the mine workers for an adjournment of the existing differences in the anthracite fields, refusing to modify their position heretofore announced. The operators call upon the miners to renew for a period of three years the award of the Anthracite Strike Commission or else to accept the operators' proposition that the Strike Commission arbitrate the question as to what changes, if any, shall be made in the scale of wages fixed by the commission in its original award. The miners have heretofore declined this offer. The letter points out that all demands but that of increase in wages, based on the impression that wages in the anthracite industry are unduly low, have been abandoned. The operators, after giving figures in detail, say that to accept the sliding scale of wages proposed by the miners would mean an increase in the price of coal to the public of 33 cents a ton. The present profit to the operators, they say, is but 20 cents a ton.

EGYPTIAN UNREST.

The Frontier Troubles Call for Large Reinforcements.

A London despatch says: In the House of Commons on Thursday George Peabody Gooch, Liberal, asked what increase was contemplated in the strength of the garrison in Egypt, and whether it was to be permanent or only temporary.

Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for the Colonies, replied that Lord Curzon considered that the existing unrest there, due to frontier troubles, necessitated reinforcements. It was impossible to say for how long it would be necessary for them to remain in Egypt.

TROOPS FROM CRETE.

A Cairo despatch says: A battery of Horse Artilley and three companies of Inniskilling Fusiliers, now in Crete, have been ordered to Egypt.

SENTENCED FOR LIFE.

Gunner John Barry Was Found Guilty of Manslaughter.

A despatch from Quebec says: The trial of Gunner John Barry, a former member of the Royal Canadian Garrison Artillery, charged with the murder of a comrade named Gunner Richard Kidd Hall, at the Citadel in November last, concluded on Thursday night at 7 o'clock, when the jury returned a verdict of guilty of manslaughter, and the presiding judge sentenced him to penitentiary for the rest of his natural life. The jury took it into consideration that the prisoner was insane when he committed the act and is still suffering from dementia, which influenced their verdict. The Minister of Justice may have the condemned man examined, and, if found insane, incarcerated in the Kingston Penitentiary lunatic asylum. The prisoner was oblivious of all that was passing during the trial, and even when the verdict was rendered and the sentence pronounced he did not realize his position, and when the guards sought to remove him from the dock he resisted, though he uttered no words, but gazed about him with a vacant stare.

SIXTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS

Gigantic Losses of British Companies in San Francisco Fire.

A despatch from London says: The British fire companies are beginning to get from their San Francisco agents preliminary estimates of the liabilities on account of the earthquake and fire. The Royal's agents cable that the company's loss may reach £1,350,000. This is about sixty-three times the premium income received by the company and its subsidary company from San Francisco during 1905. Taking this ratio for the basis on which to calculate the liabilities of all the British companies and their subsidaries, it works out that these companies in the aggregate may be called upon to pay £13,000,000. It would appear, however, that the British companies ultimately will pay considerably less than the amount of thir normal liabilities, for the present indications are that they will not indulge in generosity towards their San Francisco clients, but will pay strictly according to the

CRUSHED BY HUGE ROCK.

A Dynamite Explosion Causes the Death of Two Men.

A Kenora despatch says: A double fatality occurred at Videon & Parsons' construction camp at Parrywood, about 11 o'clock on Wednesday morning. A driller named Ben Carlson and his assistant, Johnson, were charging a hole when the dynamite suddenly exploded, causing a huge rock to fall on two muckers, working in the cut below, killing them both instantly. Carlson and Johnson escaped with some severe injuries to the head, the eyes of the unfortunate men suffering worst. The names of the two men killed could not be learned. It is not likely an inquest will be held. Carlson, the man who was charging the hole, states that he has had a long experience in the use of dynamite and never knew it to explode in this manner before.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company are offering five free scholarships covering four years' tuition in applied science at McGill University to apprentices and others of their own employees under twenty-one years of age, as well as to minor sons of employees.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, May 1. — Flour — Ontario —90 per cent. patents are selling at $3.10, buyers' bags, outside for export. Manitoba — $4.30 to $4.50 for first patents and $3.90 to $4 for seconds.

Bran — $20 asked, buyers' bags, Toronto.

Wheat — Ontario — No. 2 white, 80½c asked outside; red 80½c asked; No. 2 mixed, 79½c asked outside.

Wheat — Manitoba — No. 1 northern, 82½c asked, Owen Sound and Point Edward, 83½c bid, track, Midland. No. 2 northern, 82c asked, track, Port Huron, Owen Sound or Collingwood.

Peas — 76c bid f.o.b., 78 per cent. freight points.

Oats — No. 2 white, 36½c asked, 78 per cent. points, 38½c asked, Toronto, to arrive; mixed, 35½c bid, main line, M. C. R.

Buckwheat — 49c bid, 51c asked, outside.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter — With heavier receipts the market all round is assuming an easy tone.

Creamery	22c to 23c
do solids	21c to 22c
Dairy lb. rolls, good to choice	18c to 19c
do large rolls	17c to 18c
do medium	16c to 17c

Cheese — Old is quoted at 14c for large and 14½c for twins, and new at 13c.

Eggs — The demand is rather more active and the tendency of prices is firmer. New laid are quoted at 15c to 16c, and storage are quiet at 13c.

Poultry — Choice dry plucked turkeys, 16c to 18c; fat chickens 12c to 13c, thin 7c to 8c; fat hens 8c to 9c, thin 6c to 7c; ducks, 12c to 13c.

Potatoes — Ontario, 65c to 75c per bag out of store; eastern, 70c to 80c on track and 10c more out of store.

Baled Hay — $9.50 to $10 per ton for No. 1 timothy in car lots on track here. No. 2 being $7 to $7.50 per ton.

Baled Straw—Quiet at $5.50 to $6 per ton for car lots on track here.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, May 1. — Grain — Business is quiet in local grain circles. Oats No 2, 41c to 41½c; No. 3, 40c to 40½c; No. 4, 39c to 39½c; peas, 74c to 75c, f. o. b., per bush.; barley, No. 3 extra, 52c afloat, May; No. 4, 50c; corn, No. 3 mixed, 56c; No. 3 yellow, 56½c, ex track.

Flour — Manitoba spring wheat patents, $4.20 to $4.30; strong bakers', $3.90 to $4.10; winter wheat patents, $4 to $4.25; stright rollers, $3.80 to $3.90; do., in bags, $1.75 to $1.85; extras, $1.40 to $1.60.

Millfeed — Manitoba bran, in bags, $19 to $19.50; shorts $20 to $21 per ton; Ontario bran, in bulk, $18.50 to $19.50; shorts, $20; milled mouille, $21 to $24; straight grain mouille, 25 to $27 per ton.

Rolled Oats — Per bag, $1.95 in car lots, $2.05 to $2.10 in small lots.

Cornmeal — $1.30 to $1.40 per bag.

Hay — No. 1, $9 to $9.50; No. 2, $8 to $8.50; clover mixed, $6.50, and pure clover, $6.

Beans — Prime beans, $1.65 to $1.70 per bushel; hand-picked, $1.80 per bushel.

Honey — White clover, in comb, 13c to 14c per pound section; extract, 7c to 7½c; buckwheat, 5½c to 6c.

Provisions — Barrels heavy Canadian short cut pork, $22.50; light short cut, $21.50; barrels clear fat back, $22.50, compound lard, 7¼c to 7¾c; Canadian pure lard, 11¾c to 12¼c; kettle rendered, 12¾c to 13¼c; hams, 13½c to 15c, according to size; breakfast bacon, 16c to 17c; Windsor bacon, 15c to 15½c; fresh killed abattoir dressed hogs, $10.25 country dressed at $9.25 to $9.50, alive, $7.65 to $7.75 for selects.

Eggs — New laid, 14c to 15c per dozen.

Butter — Choicest creamery, 19½c to 20c; under-grades, 18½c; dairy, 16c to 18c

Cheese—Colored, 11¾c to 12½c.

BUFFALO MARKET.

Buffalo, May 1. — Flour — Firm. Wheat — Spring easier; No. 1 Northern, 83¾c; Winter, no offerings. Corn — Dull; No. 2 yellow, 53¾c; No. 2 corn, 53c. Oats — Firm; No. 2 white, 36 to 36½c. Barley — Quiet; spot offered at 43 to 52c. Rye — Stronger; No. 2 held, 66½c. carloads.

NEW YORK WHEAT MARKET.

New York, May 1.—Spot firm; No. 2 red nominal elevator; No. 2 red, 90¾c f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 Northern Duluth, 88⅞c f.o.b. afloat.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, May 1.—Moderate deliveries of cattle were recorded at the Western Cattle Market to-day, and prices were steady to strong in the better grades.

About the usual number of export cattle were brought forward, and prices ranged from $4.75 to $4.90 for fair loads. A few extra choice loads brought $5.15 to $5.20.

Choice butchers', $4.75 to $5; medium, $4.40 to $4.60; cows, $3.25 to $3.75; bulls, $3 to $3.50; canners, $1.50 to $2 per cwt.

Short keeps, 1,150 to 1,250 lbs, $4.40 to $4.95; feeders, 950 to 1,150 lbs, $3.85 to $4.40; stockers, 700 to 850 lbs, $3.75 to $4; stock calves, 400 to 650 lbs, $3 to $3.60 per cwt.

Export ewes, $4.75 to $5.25; culls and bucks, $3.50 to $4; grain-fed lambs, $5.75 to $6.50; calves, $3 to $6 per cwt; Spring lambs, $3 to $6 each.

Quotations for milch cows and springers was $30 to $55 each.

Hogs were offered in larger numbers. Quotations were as follows:—Selects, $7.15; lights and fats, $6.90 per cwt.

It is reported that the Government will introduce a bill to provide for the transmission of cheap power.