SCORES PERISH IN WRECK

Steamer With 180 Passengers and Crew Driven Ashore.

A despatch from London says: The worst disaster for many years in the history of the busy cross-channel traffic between England and the continent occurred during a violent gale shortly before 6 on Friday morning, when the Rotterdam mail steamer, Berlin, from Harwich to Hook of Holland, having safely weathered the hurricane, was suddenly wrecked as she was entering port.. The terrific seas broke up the steamer with such awful suddenness that all efforts to save life appear to have been utterly hopeless.

No cause yet has been assigned for the terrible accident, and it probably will never be known how the steamer came to miss the channel, which, although three hundred yards wide and well buoyed and lighted, is always difficult of access in rough weather. It is conjectured that some derangement of the engines or steering gear may have rendered the vessel uncontrollable. Captain Precious of the Berlin had a good record of fourteen years' service. The list of passengers on the fated steamer was lost, and all the names of those who were on board have not yet been learned.

GERMAN OPERA SINGERS LOST.

The Berlin carried passengers and crew to the number of 141. Among those drowned are nineteen members of the German Opera Company, who had just concluded their season at Covent Garden. The manager of the Covent Garden confirmed the statement that nineteen members of the German Opera Company left on Thursday night on the steamer Berlin. "So far as we know," he said, "these did not include any of the star artists, as the party was made up of members of the chorus returning to their homes. They made arrangements directly with the railway company, so that we are not yet able to get an exact list of the names. The disaster has aroused the most intense alarm among the other members of the company, owing to the friendships and relationships existing."

Arthur Herbert, one of the King's messengers, who was journeying to the continent, was also lost. He was a grandson of the third Earl of Powis, and was on a mission to the courts of Copenhagen, St. Petersburg, Berlin and Teheran, bearing important despatches to the Foreign Offices at those capitals.

DUTCH HEROES SAVED ELEVEN.

A despatch from Hook of Holland says: By dint of noble courage and dogged perseverance, which could not have been exceeded by any men in the world, the Dutch lifeboat men and tugmen saved three women and eight men from the wreck of the Berlin on Friday afternoon. The rescuers worked for nearly 36 hours in furious seas, smothering snowstorms and intense cold. They were repeatedly baffled by waves which threatened to smash their small boats like cups against the pier or wreck. They returned again and again whenever a change in the tide or a temporary abatement in the ferocity of the gale caused a revival of hope, however slight, that they might reach the castaways. They were all animated by a spirit, which was put into words by Prince Henry after he had made his first visit to the neighborhood of the wreck aboard a tug. "We will not give up until we have saved them. We must get them somehow," said his Royal Highness, and not a man among the crews but had the same determination.

Their heroism was rewarded. Even now, however, their task is not completed, for there remain on the wreck two or three women, whom fear or exhaustion prevented from using the lifeline, by means of which their companions were rescued..

Renewed efforts are now being directed at saving them, and as the gale has abated and the weather cleared somewhat there is considerable hope of success.

JUMPED FROM A WINDOW.

Woman's Suicide at Victoria Hospital, London.

A despatch from London, Ont., says: Mrs. Bessie Doidge, wife of Motorman George Doidge, an employee of the London Street Railway Company, jumped from a third-storey window of the maternity ward of Victoria Hospital on Friday evening and was killed. Dr. Ferguson says that Mrs. Doidge was the victim of temporary insanity, induced by her illness. She cunningly induced the nurse to raise the window on pretence of securing air. Immediately her back was turned she jumped through. Her husband entered the room while the nurse was downstairs. Finding the room empty he immediately called the nurse, who discovered the body outside.

LAKE OF OIL ENTERED.

A Wonderful Strike Reported in Romney Township.

A despatch from Chatham says: On Saturday morning, when boring at a depth of 230 feet on a well on the northwest corner of lot 21, concession 4, Romney township, the tools disappeared and a gush of oil overflowed the field for acres. Thousands of barrels of oil were lost. Experts say an oil lake has been entered, and that the showing is the best in the field yet. The well will probably run hundreds of barrels daily. The well has been thought to be a duster and was down further than shallow oil is usually found.

FIVE FIREMEN INJURED.

Serious Fire at a Planing Mill in London.

A despatch from London, Ont., says: Firemen Thos Aitken, A. Davis, A Scott, E. Dean and J. Riddell were seriously injured in a fire which gutted the Grand Trunk planing mill at the corner of Adelaide and Simcoe Streets on Saturday night. Firemen Aitkens, Davis and Scott are in Victoria Hospital, and are reported to be improving. Fireman Aitken is the worst injured, having a broken rib and severe injuries to his back and head. Davis and Scott have internal injuries, and Riddell and Dean are injured about the head. The loss will amount to $30,000, with no insurance.

A WINNIPEG SUICIDE.

John L. Strus, Real Estate Dealer, Shoots Himself at Strathcona Hotel.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: John L. Strus, real estate dealer, committed suicide in the Strathcona Hotel on Friday evening by shooting. Social and financial troubles are believed to be the cause.

BRITISH ARMY ESTIMATES.

Ten Million Dollars Less Than Last Year.

A despatch from London says: An official memorandum issued on Friday, announced that army estimates will provide for the expenditure during 1907-'08 of $138,800,000, a reduction of about $10,000,000 from last year.

CHAMBERLAIN A WRECK.

He Is Wheeled About the Grounds in an Invalid Chair.

A despatch from London says: An interesting authoritative statement concerning the health of Joseph Chamberlain was published on Wednesday. It does not confirm the worst rumors, but it shows that Mr. Chamberlain is completely broken physically, although he is mentally alert. He passes most of his time indoors at Highbury, his Birmingham residence, but when the weather is fine he drives in a carriage in the grounds of his estate, or on unfrequented roads in the vicinity. He seeks to avoid the public gaze. He never stays outside the house more than forty-five minutes at a time. He sometimes spends considerable time in his orchid houses, as the temperature in these buildings suits him, or he will be wheeled in an invalid chair about the grounds. He occasionally takes a short walk, supported by his stout stick and the arm of his wife, but the invalid chair always is at hand.

TERRORISTS ROB POST OFFICE.

Killed the Postmaster, Two Clerks and Two Soldiers.

A despatch from Warsaw, Russian Poland says: The post-office on Wapolena Street was attacked at noon on Friday by a band of Terrorists, who shot and killed the postmaster, two postal clerks and two soldiers guarding the place, and wounded a score of bystanders. The Terrorists robbed the safe of the cash and stamps and escaped in cabs. The robbers belong to the organization known as the Fighting Socialists, and displayed a red flag while making their escape. The post-office authorities admit that the robbers got away with several thousand roubles. This was the first important raid in two months, and shows that the Terrorists were not suppressed as the authorities alleged.

The incident has caused intense excitement and aroused fears of a recurrence of the sanguinary events of the early Winter

ACTED IN SELF-DEFENCE.

Buckingham Manslaughter Charges Dismissed.

A despatch from Hull, Que., says: Judge St. Julien, at the conclusion of the argument of counsel in the Buckingham riot trial on Saturday morning, dismissed the case against Alexander Maclaren, Chief Constable Kiernan and Bailiff Cummings, charged with manslaughter. The Judge declared that the evidence showed the accused had simply acted in self-defence. They were accordingly discharged.

DENOUNCE THE RUSSIANS.

French Merchants Angry Because Their Wares Were Not Purchased.

A despatch from Toulon, France, says: The action of the Russian squadron, which is anchored in this harbor, in buying provisions from Greek and German houses, has incensed the French merchants, who have placarded the city with denunciations of France's allies and have forwarded indignant resolutions to Marine Minister Thomson.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Feb. 26.—Wheat—Ontario—No. 2 white winter, 71c to 71½c; No. 2 red, 71c to 72c; No. 2 mixed, 70½c to 71c.

Manitoba—No. 1 hard, 86c; No. 1 northern, 85½c to 86c.

Oats—No. 2 white, 39¾c to 40c, Toronto; No. 2 mixed, 38½c to 39c.

Peas—79½c to 80c.

Corn—No. 3 yellow, American, 52c to 52½c, Toronto main line and west; Ontario, 44c to 45c, basis Chatham freights.

Buckwheat—55c to 56c.

Rye—Nominally 65c to 66c.

Barley—No. 2, 51c to 52½c; No. 3 extra, 49c to 50c; No. 3, 47c to 48c.

Flour—Ontario, 90 per cent. patents, $2.70 asked, $2.67 bid; Manitoba first patents, $4.50; seconds, $4; bakers', $3.90.

Bran—$20 bid for sacks outside; $19 bulk at point of shipment.

Shorts—Scarce; price nominally $22; none offering.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—receipts are not quite so heavy and there is also some improvement noticed in quality, a good portion of the poor stuff having been got rid of.

Creamery, prints	26c to 27c
do solids	23c to 24c
Dairy prints	21c to 23c
do tubs	19c to 21c

Cheese—14c to 14½c for large and 14½c for twins.

Eggs—New-laid, 30c; storage, 24c.

Poultry — Continues very quiet and prices practically nominal.

Chickens, fresh-killed	10c to 11c
Inferior, frozen stock	8c to 00c
Fowl	8c to 00c
Ducks	10c to 11c
Geese	9c to 11c
Turkeys	11c to 12c

Honey—Steady at 11c to 12c per pound for pails and $2 to $2.50 for combs.

Beans—Market easier at $1.50 for hand-picked, and $1.35 to $1.40 for primes.

Potatoes—Ontario, 75c to 80c; eastern, 80c to 85c, in car lots here.

Baled Hay—Market is easy at $9 to $9.50 f.o.b., and $11 to $11.50 in car lots here for No. 1 timothy, and $8 to $8.50 for No. 2 in car lots here.

Straw—Steady at $7 to $7.50 in car lots here.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, Feb. 26.—Locally the grain market is steady.

Buckwheat—55c to 56½c per bushel, ex-store.

Corn—American, No. 2 yellow, 55c; No. 3 mixed, 65c, ex-store.

Oats—On spot, No. 2 white, 52½c; No. 3 white, 41½c to 42c; No. 4, 40½c to 40c per bushel, ex-store.

Peas—Boiling peas, $1 in carload lots; $1.10 in jobbing lots.

Flour—Manitoba spring wheat, $4.55 to $4.60; strong bakers', $3.90 to $4.10; winter wheat patents, $4.10 to $4.25; straight rollers, $3.60 to $3.70; do., in bags, $1.65 to $1.57; extras, $1.50 to $1.55.

Millfeed—Manitoba bran, in bags, $20 to $22; shorts, $22 to $22.50; Ontario Ontario bran, in bags, $20 to $21; shorts $22 to $29.50; milled middlings, $21 to $25; straight grain, $28 to $29 per ton.

Rolled Oats—Per bag, $2 to $2.10 in car lots; $22 to $22.50 in jobbing lots.

Hay—No. 1, $13.50; No. 2, $12.50; No. 3, $11.50; clover, mixed, $11; pure clover, $10.50 to $11 per ton in car lots.

Eggs—New-laid are coming in more plentifully, and are quoted at 32c.

Cheese—It is reported that stocks do not now amount to more than between five and eight thousand boxes, and for these 13¾c and 14c is being asked. The English market continues firm and unchanged to-day. Sixty-six shillings is being quoted for white and 68s for coloured.

Butter—Fresh creamery, 25c to 25½c; rolled, in baskets or half-barrels, 22c to 22½c; western dairy selected, 22c; Manitoba dairy, 20c to 21c; receipts this morning, 67 packages.

Provisions—Barrels short cut mess, $22 to $23.50; half-barrels, $11.75 to $12.50; clear fat backs, $24 to $24.50; long cut heavy mess, $20.50 to $22; half-barrels do., $10.75 to $11.50; dry salt long clear bacon, 12c to 12½c; barrels plate beef, $11 to $12.50; half-barrels do., $6.25 to $6.75; barrels heavy mess beef, $8.50; half-barrels do., $4.75; compound lard, 8½c to 10½c; pure lard, 11¾c to 13c; kettle rendered, 13c to 13½c; hams, 13c to 16½c, according to size; breakfast bacon, 15c to 16c; Windsor bacon, 15½c to 16½c; fresh killed abattoir dressed hogs, $10 to $10.25; alive, $7.25.

BUFFALO MARKET.

Buffalo, Feb. 26. — Flour — Steady. Wheat—Spring firmer; No. 1 Northern, 89c; Winter firm; No. 2 white, 80c. Corn—Steady; No. 2 yellow, 50¾c; No. 2 white, 51½c. Oats—Firm; No. 2 white, 45¾c; No. 2 mixed, 43¾c.

NEW YORK WHEAT MARKET.

New York, Feb. 26—Wheat—Spot market steady; No. 2 red, 81½c elevator; No. 2 red, 83½c f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern Duluth, 91¾c f.o.b. afloat; No. 2 hard winter, 87c f.o.b. afloat.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Feb. 26.—Trade at the Western Market was active on fairly free deliveries.

Choice exporters' cattle were quoted at $5 to $5.40; fair to medium, $4.50 to $4.90 per cwt. Some animals were sold under the appelation of exporters' cattle a, $4.25 to $4.50 per cwt, but these could more accurately be described as short-keeps.

Choice butchers', $4.65 to $4.80; good butchers', $4.40 to $4.60; heavy animals, medium quality, $4.25 to $4.50; fat cows, $3.50 to $4; common cows, mixed, $1.50 to $3.25; canners, $1.25 to $1.50 per cwt.

Stockers, choice, $3 to $3.25; common, mixed, $2 to $2.25; bulls, $1.50 to $2; feeders, $3.30 to $3.80; short-keeps, $3.80 to $4.25 per cwt.

Lambs, grain-fed, $6 to $7; lambs, common, $4.50 to $5.50; export ewes, $4.50 to $5.25; export bucks, $3.50 to $4.50; culls, $3.50 to $4 per cwt.

Hogs were quoted as easy at $6.70 for selects, and $6.45 for lights and fats.

THEY ATE POISONED GRAIN

One Result of the Terrible Famine in Russia.

A despatch from Kazan, Russia, says: A correspondent of the Associated Press has returned here after a twenty-five days' trip through Kazan, Samara and Ufa, three sample provinces of the twenty affected by famine. The correspondent investigated the situation in all directions, travelling 500 miles by sleigh in districts remote from the railroads where the distress is most acute. He reports sporadic cases of scurvy in all three provinces. Aside from the distribution of Government rations, the Red Cross and local municipal organizations are feeding in Ufa 210,000 persons, in Kazan 230,000, and in Samara 100,000.

A trip by sleigh into the northern part of Kazan province took the correspondent into one of the worst sections of the famine region. In the hamlet of Alanzhipshack, many persons suffering from ergotism were found in seventy-four out of seventy-eight houses visited. The symptoms of this malady are a burning sensation in the liver, followed by chills, spasms and a permanent contraction of the limbs, and finally blindness and idiocy. A total of one-tenth of the population has been permanently disabled. Almost every house visited presented variations of this disease.

Four-fifths of the cattle in this district have been killed by the same poison, and fully five per cent. of the crop is ergotic. The peasants are fully aware of the unwholesomeness of the grain, but they have no alternative and must eat what they can get. Thousands of cases of ergotism occurred before the Government was stirred to action. The malady is now diminishing.

FROST WIPES OUT FAMILY.

A Farmer, His Wife and Three Children the Victims.

A despatch from Estevan, Saskatchewan, says: A man named David Trapter, arrived here on Wednesday night with the startling information that a farmer named Radcliffe, with his wife and three children had been frozen to death. Radcliffe was a homesteader, who came here for coal about a fortnight ago. A neighbor named McAltine called at Radcliffe's during his absence and found his wife and children frozen solid and no fuel or food in the house. Further search also found Radcliffe and his team of oxen frozen to death on the ice in a neighboring creek, with his sleigh loaded with coal and provisions. It is thought that he had lost his way in the storm and perished. Radcliffe arrived from England last May and went homesteading in June. Sergt. Lett, of the Mounted Police, confirms the report by wire, adding that the bodies were brought into Macoun on Wednesday night.

DEPORT INSANE SETTLERS.

Arrangements made to Send Back Undesirable Immigrants.

A despatch from Toronto says: Arrangements have been made by Mr. S. Armstrong, Provincial Inspector of Asylums, through the Dominion Immigration Department, for the deportation of five settlers who have, since their arrival in Canada, developed insanity. All are men, and all came from Great Britain originally. One of them, who is at present confined in Toronto Asylum, will be sent back to the Old Country in a few days. Another will be removed from Hamilton on Saturday. Several more persons of the same type will leave Canada a week from Saturday. A considerable number of similar cases of colonists who have shown signs of mental weakness will be similarly dealt with shortly. During the last month 18 lunatics, who came shortly before into the country, have been deported.

WHEAT FROM THE KLONDIKE.

Sample of No. 1 Hard Grown Near the City of Dawson.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Dr. Thompson on Friday morning showed the Commons Committee on Agriculture a sample of No. 1 hard wheat, which was grown on the Yukon River, near Dawson, at a place called Minto. He states that there is a considerable area of country there on which wheat can be grown.

LIEUT.-GOV. SNOWBALL DROPS DEAD

Sudden Death of His Majesty's Representative at Fredericton, N. B.

A despatch from Fredericton, N. B., says: Hon. Jabez Bunting Snowball, Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, dropped dead on Sunday evening on Queen street, while on his way to attend service in the cathedral. Sunday morning he arose at the usual hour, partook of breakfast, and attended service at the Methodist Church. He had dinner at the usual hour, and spent the greater part of the afternoon quietly in his room. He seemed to be in his usual health, and made no complaint to those who were in conversation with him. He left for church at 6.45 and had walked less than a block and a half from the hotel, when he remarked to Mr. MacKenzie that he was not feeling very well. "I always walk too fast," said he, "when I start out." Saying this, he immediately started to return to his hotel, Mr. Mackenzie taking him by the arm. They had only proceeded a short distance when his Honor sank to the sidewalk. Help soon came, and the prostrate man was carried to his room in the hotel, where Drs. Atherton and McGrath were quickly in attendance, but there was no sign of life. The doctors said heart disease caused death.

KILLED BY A LIVE WIRE.

Young Electrician's Sad End in Toronto Power House.

A despatch from Toronto says: William Powell, 24 years old, who had been employed by the Toronto Electric Light Company, was electrocuted about 5.30 o'clock on Sunday afternoon at one of the Niagara power switches in the substation at Terauley street. Powell was up on a ladder engaged in repairing a wire on the upper part of the lower switchboard when by some means he lost his balance and fell backward across the terminals of a switch below him. Fred B. Martin, foreman in the station, was behind the board at the time and heard Powel fall. When he found him his pulse was scarcely stirring. Dr. Walter P. Thomson of Carlton street was summoned and Powell was conveyed to St. Michael's Hospital in the ambulance, but he was dead when the ambulance arrived there. Powell was unmarried and had no relatives in Canada.

THREE BURNED TO DEATH.

Fire Destroys an Indian Tepee at Middlechurch, Manitoba.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: As the result of a drunken debauch Baptiste Prince, Rosie Smith and George Kissiac were burned to death in an Indian tepee about a mile west of the Indian Industrial School at Middlechurch on Sunday morning. The three victims are Indians from the Brokenhead reserve, and were cremated as they lay stupefied from the effects of liquor in a miserable tepee constructed of bark, saplings and mud.

Mackenzie & Mann are reported to have purchased the Quebec & Lake St. John Railway.

CANADA'S RAILWAY LINES

Railway Blue Book Indicates the Past Year's Record.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The railway statistics blue book for the year ending June 30, 1906, was brought down on Friday. The development of Canadian railways is demonstrated by the increase in mileage. In 1905 there were 20,487; in 1906, 21,353.

There were 2,931 locomotives, 1,289 first-class cars, 716 second-class, 61,929 cable and box cars, and no less than 61 official cars. In number of passengers carried an increase is shown as compared with 1905. The figures are:—

1905	25,288,722
1906	27,989,782

Earnings show remarkable figures for 1906:

Passengers	$33,392,188
Freight	81,433,115
Mail and express	4,510,669
Other sources	5,986,912
Total	$125,322,865

The number of fatal accidents in 1906 was less than during the three preceding years, being 361, including passengers, employes and others.