GIRLS RESCUED BY FIREMEN

Fire Damages Large St. John Dry Goods Store.

A despatch from St. John, N. B., says: One of the most serious fires St. John has had in years was discovered a few minutes after noon on Friday in MacAuley Bros.' big dry goods establishment on King Street, and in a very short time thousands of dollars' worth of damage was done, and several young women employed in the millinery rooms on the fourth floor of the large building, had their means of escape cut off until the firemen placed ladders to the rear windows on South Market Street and carried the frightened girls to safety.

The fire started in the basement at the King Street front of the store, presumably in a quantity of cotton, but what caused it is not definitely known. Mr. B. R. MacAuley visited the basement about 11.30 o'clock, but at that time there was no sign of what eventually developed into the most serious conflagration in the firm's history.

A few minutes after noon, while the big showrooms were well filled with customers, an employe smelled smoke and a second later say a tiny curl issuing from a fixture directly behind him. Word was soon passed to the customers and the store was emptied of all but employes without the slightest disorder. In the meantime dense smoke had filled the basement and poured up the elevator shaft to the upper floors. It being dinner hour, many clerks were away from the store. Three or four girls working as dressmakers on the upper floor, were nearly suffocated One girl kept crying out: "I am going to jump," but the firemen encouraged her to hold on. At last the big truck was hoisted by firemen and two girls rescued, nearly exhausted. Another girl was taken out of the front entrance on King Street by two of the salvage corps almost overcome with smoke.

While the firemen were rescuing these girls by the rear window another young woman appeared at a big bow window on the King Street side of the third floor. It was feared she would jump to the street, but the firemen came to her rescue.

The flames were confined to the basement where the fire started. The whole of the splendid plate glass front was shattered by the firemen, and much of the flooring on the lower floor was ripped up.

Firemen who were working in the cellar had a very narrow escape about 2 o'clock. They had just gotten out of the cellar when the first floor gave way, and fell into the cellar.

The loss is in the vicinity of $110,000 with insurance of $100,000. $80,000 on the stock and $20,000 on the building.

THIRD ADVANCE IN FLOUR.

High Price of Wheat Causes Another Jump at Winnipeg.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: The jumping wheat market has had its inevitable effect of still further raising the price of flour. Friday at noon a further advance of 10 cents a bag on all grades of flour took effect, and this is the third advance in price in less than a fortnight, making an increase altogether of 60 cents on some grades of flour and 50 cents on others. The poor consolation is offered the Winnipeg public of knowing that so far the price of flour has not been increased by the mills in proportion to the advancing prices of wheat. Now comes this latest addition to the prices and the consumers of bread can apparently make up their minds that flour will ascend still higher, and that they will not decline for a long time ahead. The two first advances have not resulted in the bakers raising the price of bread, but with Friday's addition it is a foregone conclusion that the consumer must pay more for his bread.

UNREST CONTINUES IN INDIA.

Population of Eastern Bengal in a State of Nervous Irritation.

A despatch from Calcutta says: Although there have been no fresh outbreaks in Eastern Bengal the unrest continues. It is largely attributable to the Hindu movement to boycott English goods. The Mohammedans still refuse to join the boycott and the Hindu bitterness against them increases. A Hindu organization called the National Volunteers is carrying on the agitation in the rural districts, keeping the whole population in a state of nervous irritation. The members go armed with spears, clubs and swords and sometimes firearms, preaching sedition, hampering trade, destroying foreign goods and terrorizing the inhabitants. Trade has almost stopped and farming is hindered. The jute crop is likely to be seriously crippled.

DROVE STICK THROUGH BRAIN.

Dynamite Killed Workman on Construction East of Kenora.

A despatch from Kenora says: Another serious dynamite accident occurred on Wednesday at Parry Camp, about 40 miles east of here, on the C.P.R. construction work, under Foley Brothers, whereby Alex. McDonald, who has been in employment of the company for only three weeks, was killed. He was loading a hole with dynamite when the explosion occurred. The loading stick struck him under the chin, penetrating through to the brain. He was brought in to the Royal Jubilee Hospital in an unconscious state.

FARMER BLOWN TO PIECES.

Elisha Huff of Prince Edward County the Victim.

A despatch from Belleville says: A terrible accident occurred in the township of Hallowell, Prince Edward county, shortly before 6 o'clock on Friday evening, when Elisha Huff, a very prominent farmer, was blown to pieces. He was part proprietor of the Huff-Sprague Telephone Company, and was engaged putting up poles. After a hole had been dug he placed in it a charge of dynamite and ignited the fuse. Then he walked away a few steps, but returned and placed his hand in the hole. Just then the charge exploded, tearing away half of the man's head and shattering his body to pieces. Those assisting him think Mr. Huff must suddenly have become either demented or dazed, as he was generally most careful. He was 55 years of age, and leaves a widow and three grown up sons.

HUMAN FLESH SOLD.

Horrible Tales of Cannibalism From German West Africa.

A despatch from Berlin says: The Cologne Gazette reports that fearful cannibalism is still practised in the German West African protectorate of Kamerun. A German merchant writes to the newspaper that the natives not only devour their enemies, but also criminals and persons who have been locked up for trivial offences. The merchant escaped the fate with difficulty. Kaka natives, he writes, offer human flesh for sale in the public market, to provide which death sentences are imposed for the most trivial offences. The worst man-eaters belong to the Baia tribe. They are strict Mohammedans, and daily perform their religious rites.

JUDGE RIDDELL'S REPORT.

Attorney-General's Department Receives Letter Regarding Case.

A despatch from Toronto says: The Attorney-General's Department has received a communication from Mr. Justice Riddell in reference to his judgment in which he sentenced Conductor Thompson who was in charge of the Grand Trunk train wrecked at Guelph, to three years' imprisonment. The judge in his letter asks that some action be taken by the department to learn what officials of the railway were responsible for allowing the man to work a longer number of hours in one day than the law allows. Some action will, it is understood, be taken by the department in accordance with the suggestion of the judge.

CANADA'S BRIGHT PROSPECTS

Population of Eighty Millions eBfore End of Century.

A despatch from London says: Professor Stephen Leacock spoke on Thursday at the Victoria League on the question of Canada. Mr. Haldane, moving a vote of thanks, said it had been calculated that Canada before the end of the century would possess a population of 80,000,000. What a power that would be! It might be that Macaulay's famous vision would be realized and the centre of the empire be transferred elsewhere, but if development went on on right lines it would be a development of the same empire, the same people permeated with a deeper sense of unity.

The Archbishop of Canterbury spoke of the immense and grave problem of Canada. Men undertaking spiritual work are going there in quite inadequate numbers. The difficulty is as great as any the Church has had to contend with. The Bishop of Montreal said all the wit and wisdom of England would be needed to solve the problem how to perpetuate the magnificent loyalty now animating the Canadians.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, May 21.—Call board quotations are:—

Wheat—Ontario—No. 2 white, 78c bid, ouside; No. 2 mixed, 77c bid, outside.

Wheat—Manitoba — No. 1 northern, 96c asked, track Goderich.

Barley—No. 3, 55c asked outside, 50c bid.

Peas—No. 2, 80c asked, outside, 79c bid.

Oats No. 2 white, 42c bid for 10,000 bushels, 42c asked for 5,000 bushels.

Rye—No. 2, 72c asked, outside.

Prices are:—

Wheat—Manitoba—Lake ports—No. 1 hard, 98c; No. 1 northern, 96c; No. 2 northern, 94c.

Wheat—Ontario—No. 2 white winter, 79c to 80c; No. 2 red, 79c to 80c; No. 2 mixed, 79c to 80c.

Oats—No. 2 white, 41c, outside; No. 2 mixed, 40c.

Peas—76½c bid.

Corn—No. 3 yellow American, 57½c to 58c, lake and rail, 59c to 59½c all rail; Ontario, 48c, Chatham freights.

Rye—Quite dull, 65c to 66c.

Barley—No. 2, 53½c to 54c, outside; No. 3 extra, 52½c to 53c; No. 3, 51½c to 52c.

Flour—Ontario—90 per cent. patents, $3 to $3.10 bid; Manitoba, first patents, $4.75; seconds, $4.15 to $4.20; bakers', $4.05, Toronto.

Bran—$21 to $22; shorts quoted at $22 to $23, outside.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Supplies are heavy, and increasing daily.

Creamery, prints	25c to 26c
do solids	23c to 24c
Dairy, prints	22c to 23c
do tubs	18c to 19c

Cheese—13c for large and 13½c for twins.

Eggs 17c to 17½c.

Honey—Pails, 11c to 12c lb.; combs, $1.50 to $2.50 per dozen, according to quality.

Beans—$1.50 to $1.55 for hand-picked and $1.35 to $1.40 for primes.

Potatoes—Ontario, 85c to 90c; eastern, $1.00 to $1.10, in car lots on track here. Ontario, nominal.

Baled Hay—Steady at $12.50 to $13 per ton for No. 1 timothy and $10 to $11 for secondary grades, in car lots here.

Baled Straw—Steady at $6.75 to $7 per ton, in car lots here.

PROVISIONS.

Dressed Hogs—Firm at $9.25 for lightweights and $8.75 for heavies, farmers' lots. Car lots nominal.

Pork—Short cut, $23 to $23.50 per barrel; mess, $21 to $21.50.

Smoked and Dry Salted Meats—Long clear bacon, 11c to 11½c for tons and cases; hams, medium and light, 15½c to 16c; heavy, 14½c to 15c; backs, 16½c to 17c; shoulders, 11c to 11½c; rolls, 11½c; out of pickle, 1c less than smoked.

Lard—Easier; tierces, 12¼c; tubs, 12¼c; pails, 12½c.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, May 21.—The local market for oats is very much stronger, and for No. 2 white Manitobas 46½c to 47c is now quoted, while for Ontario same grade 46c to 46½c is being quoted quite freely.

Buckwheat—55c to 56½c per bushel.

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

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

Flour—Manitoba spring wheat, $4.25 to $4.60; strong bakers', $4 to $4.10; winter wheat patents, $4.10 to $4.25 straight rollers, $3.60 to $3.70; do, in bags, $1.65 to $1.75; extras, $1.50 to $1.55.

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

Rolled Oats—Per bag, $1.90 to $2.

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.

Cheese Firm at 12¼c.

Butter—The market shows an easier feeling, and 21½c is freely quoted.

Eggs—Prices are unchanged at 17½c to 18c.

Lard—Compound lard, 9½c to 10¼c; kettle lard, 13c to 13½c; pure lard, 12½c to 13¼c.

Pork—Barrels heavy Canada short cut mess pork, $22.50; tierces, heavy Canada short cut mess pork, $33; half barrels Canada short cut mess pork, $11.50; barrels selected heavy Canada short cut mess pork, $11.50; barrels selected heavy Canada short cut mess pork $23.50.

Smoked Meats—Hams, extra large (family pork), $22.50; half barrels short cut back pork, $11.50; barrels light Canada short cut clear pork, $21; barrels heavy flank pork, $21; barrels clear fat backs, $24.50.

BUFFALO MARKET.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 21—Flour—Steady. Wheat—Spring dull; No. 1 Northern, $1.01⅛; Winter, no offerings. Corn—Firm; No. 2 yellow, 59c; No. 2 white, 59½c. Oats—Weak; No. 2 white, 47½c; No. 2 mixed, 45½c. Barley—No offerings. Rye—Firm; No. 2 offered, to arrive, 80c.

NEW YORK WHEAT MARKET.

New York, May 21.—Wheat — Spot easy; No. 2 red, 98½c in elevator and 99½c f.o.b. afloat; No. 1 northern Duluth, $1.09 f.o.b. afloat; No. 2 hard-winter, $1.02 f.o.b. afloat.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, May 21.—Prices were slightly higher on an active demand for cattle at the Western Market to-day. Values ranged from $5.10 to $5.40 for good to choice exporters, and from $4.90 to $5.05 for fair to good ones.

Choice selected butchers' cattle sold at $4.90 to $5.20; fair to good butchers' cattle brought $4.40 to $4.85; common, $4 to $4.35; cows, $3.25 to $4.40 per cwt.

Good grain-fed lambs, $7.50 to $8 per cwt; common lambs very slow and almost unsaleable; spring lambs $3 to $8 each; export ewes firm at $6 to $6.50 each; bucks, $4.50 to $5.50.

Heavy feeders, 1,050 to 1,150 lbs, were in steady demand at $4.50 to $4.75 per cwt. Short keeps brought $4.75 to $4.90 per cwt.

Calves were steady at $3 to $7.50 each.

Hogs were unchanged at $6.62½ for selects, and $6.37½ for lights and fats per cwt.

PLOT AGAINST LIFE OF CZAR

Soldier Confesses That He Accepted Bribe to Assist in Murder.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: A Terrorist conspiracy directed against the life of Emperor Nicholas, the existence of which has been suspected for some time past, has been revealed by the arrest at Tsarskoe-Selo of a soldier of the Guard Regiment. The man confessed to the acceptance of a large money bribe to assist in the murder of his Majesty.

According to the details of the plot, the existence of which has been confirmed by one of the highest officials of the court, suspicion was directed to the soldier by the fact that he was seen to have in his possession considerable sums of money. He was at once placed under observation. When he noticed that he was being shadowed he became panic-stricken and sought the authorities. He then broke down and voluntarily made his confession, after which he begged for protection.

All the threats of this conspiracy, which is radically different from former attempts of this nature, are not yet in the hands of the secret service men. A few underlings have been apprehended, but the real instigators of the crime, and the men who furnished the blood money, have not yet been identified. It is thought that the money used is part of the proceeds of several political robberies committed during last Fall and Winter. Many of the participants in these so-called expropriations have been arrested and executed, but the loot was never located.

The police officials maintain a mysterious silence when questioned regarding this conspiracy. They refuse to either affirm or deny the story, and limit themselves to stating that there is indication that the men arrested last week in this city were connected with this conspiracy.

This statement coincides with information obtained in revolutionary circles, where it is declared that the men apprehended last week were occupied with the reorganization of the fighting bands of the revolutionists, which the police succeeded last year in breaking up, and that the authors of the present conspiracy must be sought outside of St. Petersburg.

LEASING OF COAL LANDS.

New Regulations for the Western Provinces are Approved.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The Governor-General-in-Council has approved of new regulations concerning the leasing of coal lands in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, the Yukon, the North-West Territories, and the railway belt of British Columbia. They provide that coal areas may be leased for a period of 21 years, at an annual rental of $1 in advance; that no application shall be for more than 2,500 acres; that priority of legal possession shall ensure title; that operations must be begun within 12 months; that a royalty of five cents per ton shall be paid, and that actual settlers shall be allowed to buy coal for their own use at the price not to exceed $1.75 per ton at the pit's mouth.

GOLD IN THE SASKATCHEWAN.

Valuable Dredging Lease Secured East of Prince Albert.

A despatch from Prince Albert, Sask., says: Thos. H. Brooks, a former resident of this city, who has made a fortune at Cobalt, and Senator Turly, of Fort Wayne, Ind., have secured leases of the gold dredging privileges east of Prince Albert, in the Saskatchewan River. They will put four or five dredges to work at once. The success of the gold dredge that is working west of Prince Albert has stimulated interest in the gold dredging. Dr. Roughsedge and the Hon. W. C. Ramsay have taken a lot of black sand out of the river. This sand has to be shipped to the States, where the gold is extricated. They are, however, now putting in a purifying plant of their own, and will extract the gold.

THE DEADLY ROLLER.

James Torrance, a Young Man, Killed Near Lucknow.

A despatch from Lucknow says: A sad accident occurred on Friday morning resulting in the death of James, eldest son of Mr. Peter Torrance, near this village. The young man was engaged rolling in the field, and, although no one saw the accident, it appears that the horses, possibly frightened by a passing train, became unmanageable and ran away. When found Mr. Torrance was still alive but unconscious, and died shortly after. Deceased was about 24 years of age.

TRAGEDY IN THE FAR NORTH.

A Trader Loses His Wife and Three Children.

A despatch from Duck Lake, Sask., says: Word comes here by a trader from the far north of a terrible drowning accident in which the wife and three children of G. Cardinal, another independent trader, perished. Cardinal and his family were crossing Coal Lake on the ice, he being ahead on snowshoes. Hearing a scream, he turned, only to see the entire family perishing in the water, his desperate efforts to save them being without avail.

AWFUL RAVAGES OF PLAGUE.

Nearly Half a Million Deaths in the Past Three Months.

A despatch from London says: The Lancet's India correspondent reports that during the week ending April 13 there were 87,161 cases of plague and 75,472 deaths, an increase of 14,000 in the number of cases, and 12,000 in the number of deaths from the previous week. From October, 1896, to December, 1906, the total deaths from the plague were 4,411,242, and during the first three months of 1907, no less than 495,000 deaths are known to have occurred. There has also been increased mortality from other causes. The death rate for the whole of India has increased steadily for the past five years from 29 per thousand in 1901 to 36 in 1905.

PEST SPREADING FAST.

Nova Scotia Alarmed at Extent of the Brown Tail Moth.

A despatch from Halifax says: The Government of Nova Scotia, thoroughly alarmed at the extent of the brown-tail moth in this province, and the danger should the pest become general, have issued a notice that a bounty of 3 cents per nest will be paid on all species secured. The nests are to be collected night and morning and brought to the school teachers, who will keep a record. Then they are to be sent by the teachers to the Department of Agriculture, at Truro. The pest has now made its appearance in the public gardens at Halifax, and it is being frequently reported in the Annapolis Valley.

LORD'S DAY ACT IN MANITOBA.

Deputation Asks Government That Certain Clauses be Not Enforced.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: A deputation consisting of over one hundred restaurant keepers, wholesale men, retailers, fruit men and others, waited upon the Government on Wednesday mornnig and asked that certain clauses of the Lord's Day Act be not enforced, as it was in the best interests of the general public. The Government promised the deputation every consideration possible and intimated that after the decisions handed out at Toronto and Hamilton recently it would not be likely that restrictive measures would be enforced in Manitoba.

FAMINE AND FEVER.

Is Spreading Daily in China's Stricken Districts.

A despatch from Shanghai says: The thousands of women, children and aged persons who were dying of starvation in the streets of Sing Kiang Pu were placed on Wednesday in a camp outside the city and are being fed by the relief organizations. Famine and fever are spreading; and additional families needing relief are being enrolled daily. The funds sent within the past seven days will prevent the cutting off of unripe grain.

25,500 IN APRIL.

Returns of Immigrants at Canadian Ocean Ports.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Some 25,500 immigrants arrived at ocean ports for the month of April, compared with 16,876 in April, 1906, an increase of 51 per cent. The outlook at present is that the immigration for the current year will reach the 300,000 mark. Last year it was 215,000.

KING EDWARD'S GIFT.

Will Present Spanish Royal Baby With Artistic Silver Cup.

A despatch from London says: Prince Arthur of Connaught started for Madrid on Wednesday evening, taking with him King Edward's christening gift, a silver gilt cup of artistic design.