MILLION FIRE AT QUEBEC

Elevator, Freight Sheds and Cold Storage Plant Destroyed.

A despatch from Quebec says: A fire loss estimated at from $1,000,000 to $1,250,000, and the death of one fire fighter, mark the destruction Saturday night of the million bushel grain elevator owned by the Canadian Northern Railway. The building was erected a few years ago at a cost of $400,000. It was destroyed, together with 150,000 bushels of grain. Also consumed were two huge freight sheds, well filled with goods; the Customs House, 3 small freight sheds, the plant of the Quebec Cold Storage Co., and a number of loaded freight cars and two small boats. The fire broke out in the elevator about eight o'clock, and as it was constructed of wood, and of a good height, it soon became a mass of flames, the firemen being quite helpless. The freight sheds of the cold storage plant followed, and then the dome of the custom house, a large stone built edifice, ignited and in a short time the place was in ruins. The records were saved. A stiff west wind fanned the flames and threatened the safety of the C. P. R. steamer Empress of Ireland, which was lying at Neford's wharf in a damaged state, and the steamer was moved across the harbor.

The fatality occurred when Jerome Fortin of the fire department and a C. N. R. fireman named Martel fell with a ladder from the second floor of the custom house. They alighted on the stone steps 30 feet below. Fortin was instantly killed, while Martel had both legs and several ribs broken, and sustained other injuries.

The fire was not under control until the early hours of Sunday morning. Only the direction of the wind saved the lower tows. The work of the fire department is being severely criticized, and, an investigation may be held.

The insurance is said to be less than $500,000.

THANKSGIVING

"They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness."—Ps. cxiv. 7.

Why should we set aside one day in the year and ask men to give thanks to the Most High for the mercies of the past? Does the Infinite Giver of Good demand the tribute of our praise? Might it not be well rather to spread the thanks through all the year and every day to cultivate the habit of gratitude?

Yet it may be a good thing to have this special day of appreciation—at least one day when complaining is silent and the face is set to find the best in all things. If we earnestly seek on this day to cultivate thanksgiving its spirit and its light will shine through all the year; we steadily shall cultivate the view of life as crowded with loving kindness.

Then it is a good thing to have a day that questions our boastings of self-sufficiency, that marks with interrogation our oft reiterated "all these things have my hands wrought," that questions whether there is not something of credit due in all our works both to fellow man and to the Father of us all.

It is good to have this day in which even the dreariest and saddest lives shall feel the swelling tide of joy and shall be borne by it to find cheer anew for themselves. Each day of rejoicing but augments the bitterness of those who are burdened with sad memories. Yet if they will but look for it joy awaits them somewhere.

How blind are we who measure our benefits in terms of the dust, who feel that we have not been blessed unless we are laden with toys, and follies, and paltry prizes. We ought rather to murmur if with all our gain of things we have missed the lasting treasures of peace, and love, and character.

The real causes for thanksgiving, the great benefits of life, are in what has come of enriching to the heart, and mind, and memory. Who then, has not occasion for joy? The retrospect may have pain and loss in its vista, it may be here a parting and there a grave. Yet have not the dark days brought to us that which could have come in no other way?

What lives are as rich as those that have been down in the dark valley? Where are hearts developed as in that way that is barren of all but the flowers of love? To whom do we turn when we would find riches of sympathy on which to draw save to those who have found the wealth of the inner life through the hardness and despoiling of outer things?

How empty must the day of thanksgiving be to him who can count his benefits only in cash balances. No matter how great the gains in things there is no reality in praising God for what has been made in apparent independence and often in conscious defiance of him, while it would be but mockery to join with your fellows in praise for that which has been gain to you only because it has meant loss to them.

Even the humble and honest lives cannot be satisfied with giving thanks only for profits and gains in things. Gratitude wells up from deep source. When looking beyond and through the experiences of gain or loss, of pain or pleasure we see what these have added to us, not what has passed through our hands, but what has found its way into our hearts.

How small seem the prizes for which we strive, how paltry that of which we have been proud when with clearer eyes we review the process of enriching the permanent assets of our lives which has been going on through storm and sunshine, good and bad, as it has come.

What thanksgiving is there like to that for the joys of home, for friendships, human loves, glimpses of higher beauties, the foretastes of nobler living, the treasures of memory and hope, the touch with the world of spirits?

These are the gifts with which the days that are past return to us if we have but the spirit of appreciation, if we have but eyes to see and hearts to know true values, if we but lift up our hearts to thank the Infinite Goodness for the glowing pattern and the imperishable treasure of character that is being woven in this strange and busy mill of life.

WESTERN EXPANSION.

Enormous Growth of Winnipeg Bank Clearings.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: Business conditions in the west are reflected in the hundred million dollar expansion in bank clearings, the five million dollar increase in building operations in Winnipeg, with a proportionate development in the country and other cities, and twenty million bushels increase in the wheat yield. The banks are very active in establishing branches in the newer towns and growing centres, and in one case a branch was opened in a farm house, awaiting the sale of townsite lots by the railway. The city of Lethbridge, with seven thousand population, has ten chartered banks.

THE YIELD IN THE WEST

Expert Says It Will Not Fall Short of 122,000,000 Bushels.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: Grain Agent Acheson of the C. P. R. returned on Thursday, after a complete tour of the west. He was studying the grain situation, and reports himself delighted with the yield, which, he says, is running far beyond all early estimates. He is convinced that the total wheat crop will run close to 122,000,000 bushels, which, at current prices, would mean a cash return to farmers of nearly as many million dollars.

"We estimated the yield of wheat in Manitoba at fifteen bushels to the acre," he said: "Saskatchewan at seventeen, and Alberta at twenty bushels to the acre. Actual reports show that in Manitoba wheat is running from seventeen to twenty-five bushels to the acre on an average; in the vicinity of Moose Jaw, 5 to 30 bushels to the acre; around Swift Current the same; out through Alberta, from 27 to 35 bushels to the acre. In one place, Pincher Creek, wheat is running 45 bushels to the acre."

He had not received a single complaint of a car shortage this fall. There had not been a hint of a blockade anywhere.

CONDENSED NEWS ITEMS

HAPPENINGS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE.

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

CANADA.

Net earnings on the T. & N. O. Railway for the past eight months show large increases.

The C. P. R. will close the Farnham shops and move the plant and men to Montreal.

Another portion of the Gillies limit is to be sold by public tender in twenty-acre locations.

Inspector John Rogers has been appointed Superintendent of the reorganized Ontario police.

Civil service examinations will be held at several points in the Dominion, commencing on Nov. 9th.

Winbourn L. Burgess was arrested at Vancouver on a charge of robbing a Canadian Express agent at Truro, N. S.

The Railway Commission ordered the Canadian Northern to build the subway at Pembina street, Winnipeg, at once.

Daniel Cummings, a Winnipeg ticket agent, who has been despondent over the death of his wife, has disappeared.

An Italian named Spanelli was convicted at North Bay Assizes of the murder of a Chinaman in a Haileybury restaurant.

Harry Bremner of Toronto jumped from a window in the Kingston Penitentiary in an attempt to commit suicide. He will recover.

Two children of a Galician settler near Vonda, Sask., named Looteschtn, were burned to death in a fire that destroyed the family dwelling.

The Government is considering the question of abolishing the grain certificates at Port Arthur and Fort William, owing to the dissatisfaction of the mariners.

The last spike was driven in the National Transcontinental Railway between Fort William and Winnipeg on Tuesday, and the line now stretches from Fort William to Edmonton.

Mr. Geiger, choirmaster of the Colborne Street Methodist Church at London, Ont., died suddenly, and the choir waited for his arrival on Sunday morning, not knowing of his death.

The San Domingo Government has forwarded a check to the owners of the Nova Scotia schooner Britannia to cover damages inflicted on the vessel by some troops firing from shore.

A work train released by some small boys rushed down hill at 50 miles an hour at Vancouver and collided with a Grand View passenger car, smashing it badly. The passengers escaped with a shaking up.

GREAT BRITAIN.

It is reported that Sir John Fisher will retire from the British Admiralty this month.

A London mob attempted a demonstration before the Spanish Embassy on Sunday night, but was driven off by the police.

Two suffragettes were sentenced to a month in prison for their attack on Mr. Lloyd-George at Newcastle.

James M. Barrie, the Scottish writer, was granted a divorce from his wife in London, on Wednesday.

UNITED STATES.

President Taft and Diaz met on Saturday on the Mexican border.

Dr. Cook was presented with the freedom of the city of New York on Friday.

Nineteen persons lost their lives in a storm which swept over Tennessee on Friday.

Homing pigeons are being used to smuggle cocaine into the Western Penitentiary at Pittsburg.

A launch with twenty-eight persons aboard is believed to have gone down in Larch Lake, Minn.

Ed. Barrill, who went up Mount McKinley with Dr. Cook, says under oath that the explorer never reached the summit.

Business men of the eastern States will send a petition to President Taft asking clemency for Charles W. Morse, who has been sentenced to fifteen years in prison for violating the national banking laws.

GENERAL.

The Nicaraguan insurgents have possessions of the entire east coast of the republic.

The general strike at Rome as a mark of sympathy with Ferrer's followers continues.

Eight Spanish soldiers were killed in a fight with a party of Moors near Melilla.

Germany's super-Dreadnought Westfalen has developed a speed of twenty knots on a trial trip.

Orville Wright reached an altitude of 600 feet in a flight before the Kaiser at Potsdam, on Friday.

Business is practically at a standstill in Rome, while the people protest against the execution of Ferrer.

The revolution in Nicaragua is assuming serious proportions. Nine men were killed in a fight near Greytown.

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

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

BREADSTUFFS.

Torontoto, Oct. 19.—Flour—Ontario wheat 90 per cent. patents, $4.15 to $4.25 in buyers' sacks on track, Toronto, and at $4 to $4.10 outside in buyers' sacks. Manitoba flour, first patents, $5.60 on track, Toronto; second patents, $5.10, and strong bakers', $4.90 to $5 on track, Toronto.

Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern quoted at $1.04½ Bay ports, and No. 2 Northern at $1.03½ Bay ports.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 mixed quoted at 98 to 99c outside, and No. 2 white and red Winter, 99 to $1.00 outside.

Barley—No. 2, 56 to 57c outside, and No. 3 extra at 54 to 55c outside.

Oats—No. 2 Ontario white, new, 36½ to 37c outside. New Canada West oats, 38 to 38½c spot, Bay ports.

Peas—84 to 86c outside.

Rye—No. 2 69 to 70c outside.

Buckwheat—55 to 56c outside.

Corn—No. 2 American yellow 69c on track, Toroto.

Bran—$21 in bags, and shorts, $23 in bags.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—$1.25 to $2.75 per barrel, according to quality.

Beans—Prime, $2.25 and handpicked, $2.40 to $2.45 per bushel.

Honey—Combs, dozen, $2.25 to $3; extracted, 10c per lb.

Hay—No. 1 timothy, $15.50 to $16 a ton on track here, and No. 2 $14 to $14.50.

Straw—$8.75 to $9.50.

Potatoes—55 to 60c per bag on track for Ontario, and at 75c for New Brunswick.

Poultry—Chickens, dressed, 12 to 13c per lb.; fowl, 9 to 10c; turkeys, 17 to 19c per lb.; ducks, lb. 12 to 13c; geese, 10 to 12c per lb.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Pound prints, 21 to 22c; tubs and large rolls, 19 to 20c; inferior, 17 to 18c; creamery, 25 to 26c, and solids, 23 to 24c per lb.

Eggs—Case lots, 25c per dozen.

Cheese—12¼c per lb for large and at 12½c for twins.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Bacon, long clear, 15 to 15¼c per l. in case lots; mess pork, $26.50; short cut, $27.50 to $28.

Hams—Light to medium, 15½ to 16c; do., heavy, 14 to 14½c; rolls, 14½ to 15c; shoulders, 12½ to 13c; backs, 18½ to 20c; breakfast bacon, 17 to 18c.

Lard—Tierces, 15 to 15¼c; tubs, 15¼ to 15½c; pails, 15½ to 15¾c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Oct. 19.—New crop oats No. 2 Canadian Western, 41½ to 42c; old crop cats No. 2 Canadian Western, 42 to 42½c. Barley—No. 2, 66 to 67c; Manitoba feed barley, 52 to 53c; buckwheat, 57 to 58c. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, $5.70; Manitoba Spring wheat patents, seconds, $5.20; Winter wheat patents, $5.50; Manitoba strong bakers, $5; straight rollers, $5 to $5.25; straight rollers, in bags $2.35 to $2.50. Feed—Ontario bran $21 to $22; Ontario middlings, $23.50 to $24; Manitoba bran, $21; Manitoba shorts, $23 to $24; pure grain mouille, $33 to $35; mixed mouille, $24 to $27. Cheese—Western, 11⅜ to 11¾c and eastern 11⅛ to 11½c. Butter—Creamery, 24½ to 25c. Eggs—Selected stock, 27 to 28c; No. 1 candled 25 to 26c per dozen.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Buffalo, Oct. 19.—Wheat—Spring stronger; No. 1 Northern, carloads store, $1.08; Winter, steady, No. 2, $1.24; No. 2 white, $1.24. Corn—Firm. Oats—Higher; No. 2 white, 43¾ to 44c; No. 3 white, 43½c;; No. 4 white, 42½c. Rye—No. 2 on track, 79c.

Chicago, Oct. 19.—Cash wheat—No. 2 red, $1.19 to $1.20; No. 3 red, $1.16 to $1.17; No. 2 hard, $1.10 to $1.13; No. 3 hard, $1.05 to $1.10; No. 1 Northern, $1.07 to $1.08; No. 2 Northern, $1.05 to $1.06; No. 3 Spring, $1.02½ to $1.05½. Corn—No. 2, 60 to 60½c; No. 2 white, 60¾ to 61c; No. 2 yellow, 60½ to 60¾c; No. 3, 60 to 60¼c; No. 3 white, 60¾c; No. 3 yellow, 60½c; No. 4, 59¾ to 60c. Oats—No. 2 white, 40¼c; No. 3 white, 39 to 40c; No. 4 whitt, 38¼ to 39c; standard, 40¼ to 40½c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Montreal, Oct. 19.—Northwest cattle sold at from 4½ to 5¼c per lb.; pretty good animals from 3¼ to 4¼c; common stock, 2 to 3c per lb.; small bulls sold at about 2c per lb.; lean old cows 1¼ to 1¾c per lb.; milch cows, $30 to $60 each. Grass-fed calves, 2½ to 4½c per lb.; good veals, 5 to 6c per lb. Sheep, 3½c; lambs 5½ to 5¾c per lb. Good lots of fat hogs 8¾ to 9c per lb.

Toronto, Oct. 19.—Really choice well-finished butcher and export cattle were very scarce, $5.50 being the top price paid for a few extra prime, picked steers and heifers. The demand for good butchers' was strong and sold freely at from $4.85 to $5. Butcher cows were rather higher. There was a good market for stockers and feeders of the heavy class, but the rough and light variety were draggy. As high as $70 was paid for choice milch cows. Distillery feeders, steers and bulls are in great demand and the supply was on the short side. Sheep and lambs were steady, with lambs slightly easier. Calves—Steady. Hogs—Unchanced at $7.50 f.o.b. and $7.75, fed and watered.

THE ATHABASCA AGROUND

Her Bow Driven Up on a Flat Rock in Georgian Bay.

A despatch from Owen Sound says: Superintendent Buchanan of the Canadian Pacific Steamship Lines took the powerful tug Harrison and cleared on Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock for Flower Pot Island, where the company's steamship Athabasca, is hard aground. Word of the mishap reached Owen Sound by the C. P. R. steamship Assiniboia, which passed the point at 6.30 on Thursday morning. Captain Brown of the Athabasca said that his vessel had gone ashore at 1.30 in thick weather, and that she was lying with her bow on a flat rock, with about four feet of water in the forward hold. An effort was made to get a message across to Tobermoray, by passing tug for assistance, but the arrival of the Assiniboia was the first word received. The Assiniboia stayed about twenty minutes, but having no tow line could not render assistance. The steamer is said not to be in a dangerous position. She carried only half a cargo, composed of general merchandise, and had less than a dozen passengers on her list.

Owing to the heavy sea it was thought unwise to attempt any assistance. It was also feared that the Athabasca if she was pulled off might sink. A conversation with a megaphone was carried on between the two vessels with much difficulty owing to the high winds.

The Athabasca is one of the smaller of the company's vessels and was built on the Clyde in 1883. Since the arrival of the two big new liners, Assiniboia and Keewatin, she has not been in regular service. She went into commission early in October for the fall trade. The point where the steamer went on is about two hundred yards from the Flower Pot Island Lighthouse, the islands being located in the channel between the end of the Bruce peninsula and Manitoulin Island, and about eighty-five miles from this port.

C. P. R. LINER STRIKES WRECK

Empress of Ireland Damaged in the Gulf.

A despatch from Montreal says: According to a message received on Thursday at the Canadian Pacific Railway office, the Empress of Ireland struck a submerged wreck on Thursday morning between Cape Chatte and Matane and had a hole punched in her bows. The steamer reached Rimouski at 4.45 in the afternoon and proceeded for Quebec after taking on her pilot, as it is apparent that she is not badly damaged, as Capt. Forster would have landed his 1,100 passengers at that point had his ship been in grave danger. Government vessels have been searching for the last few days in the river for a derelict, but without the success of the Empress.

A SHOWER OF POSTCARDS.

Hundreds of Petitions Asking Clemency for Mrs. Robinson.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The Department of Justice is being inundated with letters and postcards praying for executive clemency for Mrs. Robinson, the unfortunate woman under sentence to be hanged at Sudbury next month. On Thursday over 1,500 postcards and letters were received. While it is practically certain that the death penalty will not be exacted under the circumstances, the Minister of Justice will not deal with the case in any hasty or irregular manner.

SUICIDE AT PICTON.

Well-Known Insurance Agent Inhales Chloroform.

A despatch from Picton says: Tired of life, Geo. A. Ostrander, an insurance agent, committed suicide and was found dead by his wife on Sunday morning. On Saturday afternoon he told his wife he would not be home for supper. He went to the barn unnoticed, made a bed, and covered his face with cotton batting saturated with chloroform. Then he pulled a rug over him. Thus he was found this morning by his wife. He was aged about 60.

SIXTY-EIGHT MEN KILLED.

Loss of Life on Transcontinental Railway Construction.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The toll of death in construction work on the National Transcontinental Railway during the last fiscal year was 68, while 22 men suffered serious injuries. The fatalities were, for the most part, caused by carelessness on the part of the men handling dynamite. Most of the killed were Italians or Swedes. There were over 12,000 men in the army of railway builders during the past year.

TOOK POISON BY MISTAKE.

Miss Muriel Johnston Died at Ottawa on Saturday.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Through mistaking a bottle of carbolic acid for a similar bottle containing a tonic, Miss Muriel Johnston, 17 years of age, residing on Gloucester street, poisoned herself on Saturday and died an hour afterwards in great agony. Miss Johnston contracted typhoid fever in Cochrane several weeks ago, and was convalescing from the disease. As soon as the mistake was discovered medical aid was summoned, but efforts to save her life were without avail.

The United States will admit free of duty woodpulp from wood cut anywhere in Canada, except on Crown lands in Ontario or Quebec.

A sanguinary battle between regular troops and revolutionists was fought in Santo Domingo on Saturday.

PROF. FERRER EXECUTED

Spanish Educator and Revolutionist Faces Death Without Tremor.

A despatch from Barcelona, Spain, says: Prof. Francisco Ferrer, the Spanish educator and convicted revolutionist, was shot at the Fortress of Mont Juich, where he has been confined since his condemnation by court-martial. He faced the firing squad without flinching, and fell dead at the first volley.

Ferrer, except for a momentary expression of emotion immediately preceding his death, retained his composure to the last. His attorney, K. M. Malceran, who had defended the prisoner, had secured permission for a brief talk with the revolutionist before the latter was led to the ditch where he was to die. To his attorney, Ferrer spoke feelingly of the work for which he had sacrificed his life, and of the future of his daughter, whose brave attempt to save his life touched the father more deeply than any other incident of his trial and conviction.

On Ferrer's arrest, his family were left dependent upon his daughter, who at once secured employment in a biscuit factory. The daughter made a personal appeal to King Alfonso to spare her father's life. When these facts were related by Malceran, Ferrer broke down. It was but a passing emotion, and presently the undaunted revolutionist was himself again.

Ferrer declined to receive the last sacraments, and turned away from the two priests of the Order of Peace and Charity, who had been sent by the prison authorities to offer him the final consolation of the Church. When the hour of his execution arrived, he walked bravely through the prison yard to the ditch, in the shadow of the encircling wall. Without a quiver he faced the twelve infantrymen who, at the word of command, fired a single volley. When the report had died away, Ferrer lay dead upon the ground.

Previous to the execution precautions had been taken to forestall a possible attempt at rescue by doubling the sentinels upon the walls of the fortress.