FIFTEEN PEOPLE PERISH

Victims Were Trapped on Upper Floor of a Chicago Building.

A despatch from Chicago says: Twelve women and three men lost their lives on Friday in a fire in the Fish Furniture Company store, 10th Street and Wabash Avenue. Seventeen persons were known to have been on the sixth floor, only two of whom are known to have been rescued. Seven bodies were found in the south-east corner of the sixth floor. They were huddled together, as if each victim was trying to keep the flames from reaching the other. Two of the victims had died while kneeling, as it to offer prayer before the flames reached them. The bodies were not far from the front windows, showing that the victims had made a vain attempt to reach safety by that means. The bodies were so badly charred that identification was only possible by means of jewelry or pieces of wearing apparel that escaped the flames. The bodies were wrapped in blankets tied to planks and lowered from the windows. As the first bodies were lowered a groan went up from the spectators in the streets, and there was a rush for the opposite side of the street, many in the crowd being knocked down in the jam.

Minor W. Bell, one of the departmental managers of the company, and H. M. Mitchell, auditor of the firm and a brother-in-law of Isaac Fish, were burned to death in an effort to save the girls. Both of them were in places of safety when they heard the cries of the girls on the top floor. With no concern for themselves, they ran up the burning stairs and perished with the girls. The fire started from an explosion at 8.30 o'clock. It burned for three hours, threatening to spread to other buildings before it was extinguished.

Leo Stocker, an employe of the firm, was arrested by Detective Horn in the crowd of spectators while the fire was in progress. At the station he was questioned by Fire Attorney Hogan and Lieut. Ben Enright. He said that he was filling an automatic cigar-lighter with alcohol on the fourth floor. The device was lighted, and ignited the fumes of six gallons of benzine near him, causing a terrific explosion and starting the fire. The financial loss is conservatively estimated at $650,000.

TOSSED BY A LOCOMOTIVE.

Little Girl Escapes Injury in a Wonderful Manner.

A despatch from Utica, N. Y., says: Tossed from the railroad tra ks by a locomotive on Thursday evening, Gertrude Swartout, five years of age, escaped without a scratch. The West Shore Railroad runs close to the Swartout home, and the little girl, running to meet her mother, crossed directly in the path of a freight train. The pilot of the engine threw her to one side, and she struck several feet away in a ditch filled with water. This undoubtedly saved her from injury. The train was stopped and the engineer went back and picked up the child. She complained of a pain in her ear, but otherwise seemed unhurt. Examined by a physician, it was determined that there was not even a bruise on her head or body.

ETNA IN ERUPTION.

Stream of Lava Threatening the Town of Nicolosi.

A special despatch to the London Daily Mail from Catania, Sicily, says: Mount Etna broke into eruption on Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock after a night during which a number of slight earthquakes was recorded. The eruption is taking an alarming form, and a stream of lava is advancing and threatening the small town of Nicolosi. In its course the lava destroyed some houses and estates. The people of the towns in the vicinity are showing alarm.

YOUTH KILLS HIMSELF.

Snaps Pistol at His Head Not Knowing it Was Loaded.

A despatch from Ottawa says: "Now, I'll show you how to shoot," exclaimed Eugene Bordeleau, aged 19, whilst playing with some children on Sunday afternoon. Producing a revolver, he pointed the weapon at himself, pulled the trigger, and received a bullet in his head. He did not know the weapon was loaded. He was removed to the Water Street Hospital, but died in less than an hour. His parents, with whom he lived, were on a visit to Montreal.

DYING, ACCUSES WIFE.

Farmer Says His Three Weeks' Bride Shot Him.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: Samuel Bovitch, a farmer of Whitemouth, Man., died on Friday from a gunshot wound. He made a statement before his death that his wife, 19 years of age, whom he married only three weeks ago, had committed the crime.

HIGH PRICES TO CONTINUE.

No Relief Until New Crops of Meat-producing Animals Come In.

A despatch from Omaha, Neb., says: J. Ogden Armour sees no relief from high prices until the new crop of meat-producing animals comes in. Mr. Armour says: "We are sorry for the people because of the high prices of meats, but really the packers do not make as much money when prices are high as they do when they are low. We are more sorry for ourselves over our curtailed profits than we are for the people. I can see no relief in sight until the next crop of hogs, cattle and sheep come in. Then we hope that prices will go down. But we do not look for lower prices until that time."

IMMIGRATION FROM U. S.

Number Exceeded Eighty-six Thousand Last Year.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The tide of immigration from the United States into Canada has exceeded all expectations during the past year. Since April 1st of last year 86,488 immigrants have entered the Dominion from the neighboring republic, an increase of nearly 36,000 over the figures for the previous year. Mr. W. J. White, inspector of Canadian offices in the United States, anticipates that by the end of the present month, when the fiscal year ends, the number will not be far short of 100,000. The increase in number is no less gratifying than is the quality of the people who are coming to take up their homes in the Dominion.

BURNED HERSELF TO DEATH.

Quebec Woman Commits Suicide in a Horrible Manner.

A despatch from Quebec says: The wife of Jean Baptiste Giroux, of Beauport, after the latter had gone to work on Friday, went to the cellar of her home and, sitting on a pile of straw, set it on fire, burning herself to death. For a few days past Mrs. Giroux had given signs of being mentally deranged.

LIT FIRE WITH TURPENTINE.

Ottawa Man Set House in Flames, Family Had Close Call.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Henry Thomson, of Laurier Avenue, whilst lighting a fire with turpentine on Sunday morning, caused an explosion and set fire to his house, doing considerable damage. He succeeded in rescuing his children and sick wife before the flames had spread very far.

MUTINY ON BRITISH WARSHIP

Disaffection Among the Crew of the Battleship Irresistible.

A despatch from London says: The battleship Irresistible has been isolated at Portland Roads since March 12 owing to disaffection among the crew. The cause of the trouble has not been made public. It became known on Wednesday, however, that the sights of the big guns were thrown overboard on the night of March 12 and that the most rigid investigation has failed to reveal those responsible. Since the discovery of the offence the crew has been confined to the ship, no mails delivered, or any communication with the shore allowed, and tobacco and all other luxuries have been withheld. The ship sailed for Bantry Bay on Wednesday. A Court of Enquiry has been called at Portland.

CONDENSED NEWS ITEMS

HAPPENINGS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE.

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

CANADA.

William Bradley was acquitted at St. Catharines of the charge of murdering George Bulman.

The Arthur B. of Tacoma, with captain and five men, foundered in the Fraser River, off Sandheads.

The Canadian elevator at Gilbert Plains Man., was burned, with about fifteen thousand bushels of grain.

Contracts for construction, involving the expenditure of millions of dollars, have been let at Winnipeg by the C. P. R.

The large building at Windsor occupied by D. M. Ferry & Co. as a seed warehouse, was gutted by fire on Friday. Loss $200,000.

Nine men were sentenced at Fort Frances for defrauding the Ontario Government in connection with wolf bounties.

After spending two years in Hull jail awaiting trial, Alfred Dandelion was sentenced to six hours for assaulting another river-driver.

One hundred and ten German miners, imported by the Dominion Coal Company to take the place of strikers, arrived at Glace Bay on Friday.

Thomas Gorman, one of the gang of American crooks who robbed the postoffice at Wright, Quebec, has been sentenced to five years in penitentiary.

The Government has decided to approve of the new waterways treaty with the United States, the War Department of that country having expropriated the land along the St. Mary's River that was the subject of the Senate rider.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Lord Rosebery's third resolution declaring that the possession of a Peerage should no longer give the right to sit and vote in the House of Lords was passed in the upper Chamber on Tuesday.

UNITED STATES.

A bill to protect investors in stocks against unscrupulous promoters was introduced in the Assembly at Albany.

A number of Pittsburg Councilmen, indicted of graft charges, have given notice of their intention to fight the charges.

The United States naval appropriation bill, presented to Congress Thursday, provides for the expenditure of $129,037,602.

A minister at Butler, Pa., has warrants issued for six other ministers of the town, charging them with criminal libel.

A Turk, who had an arm and leg crushed by a train at Cleveland, bled to death rather than permit the injured limbs to be amputated.

The Detroit Drydock Company hopes to get contracts for the construction of warships on the lakes if the Rush-Bagot agreement is amended.

The American Bible Society has succeeded in raising $500,000, and so it is entitled to lay claim to the half million offered by Mrs. Russell Sage.

A large deputation from the border States waited on Secretary Knox at Washington on Wednesday to protest against the imposition of the maximum tariff against Canada.

GENERAL.

King Menelik of Abyssinia is said to be dying.

The French Senate has passed the workmen's pension bill.

The new Chinese Minister of War is planning a system of universal military service for his country.

A Montreal youth was shot in the mouth at Cincinnati while holding a cigarette in his mouth for another man to shoot at.

A bill passed the House of Representatives at Washington providing for the raising of the battleship Maine, which was sunk in Havana harbor.

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy has signified his intention of going to the assistance of those who are suffering from the eruption of Mount Etna.

ENDED LIFE WITH PISTOL.

Resident of Victoria County Village Committed Suicide.

A despatch from Lindsay says: Albert Cameron, of the Village of Oakwood, committed suicide on Thursday by shooting himself with a revolver. Cameron, who is a married man, has been despondent for some time, but his actions did not indicate anything unusual. It appears that he sent his little girl to the minister of the village with the request to "Send father two dollars." The minister responded with the money. Cameron then came to Lindsay, bought a revolver and returned home, locked himself in a room during his wife's absence from the house, and shot himself by placing the revolver to his mouth.

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, March 29.—Flour—Winter wheat 90 per cent. patents, $4.20 to $4.25 in buyers' sacks on track, Toronto, and $4.10 to $4.15 outside, in buyers' sacks. Manitoba flour, first patents, $5.70; second patents, $5.20 to $5.30, and strong bakers', $5 on track, Toronto.

Manitoba Wheat—No. 1 Northern, $1.13, Bay ports, and No. 2 Northern at $1.11, Bay ports.

Ontario Wheat—No. 2 mixed red Winter or white, $1.07 to $1.08 outside.

Barley—No. 2, 55 to 56c outside; No. 3 extra, 53 to 54c; No. 3 at 50 to 51c, and feed, 48c outside.

Oats—No. 2 Ontario white, 38 to 38½c outside, and 41 to 41½c on track, Toronto. Canada West oats, 41½c for No. 2, and 40½c for No. 3, Bay ports.

Peas—No. 2 for shipment, 81 to 82c outside.

Rye—No. 2, 68c outside.

Buckwheat—51 to 51½c outside for No. 2.

Corn—No. 2 American, 70 to 70½c and No. 3 yellow, 67 to 67½c, Toronto freights. Canadian corn, 63 to 63½c, Toronto freights.

Bran—$22 to $22.50 in bags, Toronto, and shorts at $24 in bags, Toronto.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—$1.50 to $2.50 per barrel, according to quality.

Beans—Car lots outside, $1.85 to $1.95, and small lots at $2.10 to $2.20 per bushel.

Honey—Combs, dozen, $2 to $2.50; extracted, 10½ to 11c per lb.

Baled hay—No. 1, $14.75 to $15.50 on track, and No. 2 at $13.50 to $14.25.

Baled Straw—$7.50 to $7.75 on track, Toronto.

Potatoes—40 to 45c per bag on track for Ontarios.

Poultry—Turkeys, dressed, 18 to 19c per lb.; chickens, 15 to 16c, and fowl, 11 to 12c.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Pound prints, 21 to 23c; tubs and large rolls, 20 to 21c; inferior, 16 to 18c; creamery, 29 to 30c; solids, 26½ to 28c per lb.

Eggs—Case lots, 21 to 22c per dozen.

Cheese—13 to 13¼c per lb. for large, and at 13½c for twins.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Bacon—Long clear, 15 to 15¼c per lb. in case lots; mess pork, 28 to $29; short cut, $30.50 to $31.

Hams—Light to medium, 16½ to 17c, do., heavy, 15½ to 16c; rolls, 15 to 15¼c; shoulders, 14c; breakfast bacon, 18½ to 19c; backs, 20 to 21c.

Lard—Tierces, 16¼ to 16½c; tubs 16½ to 16¾c; pails, 16¾ to 17c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Buffalo, March 29.—Wheat—Spring wheat firm; No. 1 Northern carloads, store, $1.22¼; Winter steady. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 62½c; No. 4 yellow, 60½c; No. 3 corn, 61½c; No. 4 corn, 59½c; No. 3 white, 64½c. Oats—Easier; No. 2 white, 47½c; No. 3 white, 46½c; No. 4 white, 45c. Rye—No. 2, on track, 85c.

Chicago, March 29.—Cash Wheat—No. 3 red, $1.18 to $1.19; No. 2 red, $1.11 to $1.16; No. 2 hard, $1.13 to $1.14; No. 3 hard, $1.09 to $1.13; No. 1 Northern, $1.18½; No. 2 Northern, $1.16½; No. 3 Spring, $1.09 to $1.15½. Corn—No. 2 white, 62½c; No. 3, 59 to 59¼c; No. 3 white, 61 to 61½c; No. 3 yellow, 59½ to 60c; No. 4, 55 to 56c; No. 4 white, 57½ to 58½c; No. 4 yellow, 55 to 56½c. Oats—No. 2 42¼ to 43½c; No. 2 white, 46c; No. 3, 41¾ to 42c; No. 3 white, 41½ to 45c; No 4, 48½c; No. 4 white, 40 to 42½c; standard, 44½ to 45c.

BUSINESS IN MONTREAL.

Montreal, March 29.—Oats—No. 2 Canadian Western, 43½ to 44c; No. 3, 42½ to 43c; Ontario No. 2 white, 42½c; Ontario No. 3 white, 41½c; Ontario No. 4 white, 40½c. Barley—No. 3, 60c; No. 4, 58c; feed barley, 56c. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, $5.80; do., seconds, $5.30. Winter wheat patents, $5.50 to $5.60; Manitoba strong bakers', $5.10; straight rollers, $5.10 to $5.25; straight rollers, in bags, $2.40 to $2.50. Feed—Ontario bran, $22.50 to $23; Ontario middlings, $23.50 to $24; Manitoba bran, $22; Manitoba shorts, $23; pure grain mouillie, $31 to $33; mixed mouillie, $27 to $29. Cheese—Westerns, 12½ to 12¾c. Butter—Choicest creamery, 26½ to 27c, and other grades at 25½ to 26c. Eggs—Canadian new laid, 27c, and American, 24 to 25c per dozen.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Montreal, March 29.—There were no extra cattle on the market, but some were sold at about 7c per lb. Prime beeves sold at 6 to 6½c per lb; pretty good animals, 4¾ to 6c; common stock, 3¾ to 4¾c per lb.; milch cows from $30 to $60 each. Calves from 4 to 7c per lb. Sheep from 5 to 5½c per lb.; lambs at 6½ to 7½c per lb. One buyer bought 12 Spring lambs at $8 each. Good fat hogs sold at 10¼ to 10½c per lb.

DESPERADO ON A TRAIN

Shoots Conductor and Pullman Car Porter at Wilmington, Delaware.

A despatch from Wilmington, Del., says: Three men were killed on a northbound Baltimore & Ohio Railroad train on Wednesday afternoon in a fight which began at Newark, Del., and ended in a desperate battle between the police, aided by the firemen and citizens, and a murderer at Delaware Station here, following the arrival of the train at 5.17 o'clock. Several were wounded. The dead are: O. E. Wellman of Philadelphia, conductor of the train; Samuel Williams, colored, Pullman porter, and J. H. Bethea of Dilton, S. C. The triple tragedy was the result of an altercation between Bethea, who was a passenger, and Williams, porter on the Pullman.

The car was bound from Washington to Jersey City. Bethea, who had been drinking heavily, shot the porter through the heart, killing him instantly. When Conductor Wellman saw the porter and ran up, Bethea fired a second shot into the colored man's body. Then, without a word, he shot Wellman through the heart. The conductor fell dead in his tracks. Before the passengers could interfere the double murderer barricaded himself in the toilet room of the Pullman car and threatened to kill the first person who approached. Meanwhile, the train reached Wilmington. When it came into the station a hurry call was sent to the police station. When the officers arrived and called on Bethea to surrender, he opened fire on them with an automatic revolver. After a battle lasting an hour, the murderer was driven from his stronghold by firemen with hose, and continued his fight from the car platform, where he was at length shot down.

THE WEST IS BOOMING.

Returns From Building Permits Show Great Increase.

A despatch from Toronto says: Building operations are at their height all over the Dominion, and the increase in the returns for last month showed marked activity in the West. Toronto returns show that work totaling $860,440 was undertaken during the month of February, which is a slight advance over January. Vancouver leads the Dominion in the amount of work undertaken, with a total of $886,795, while the little town of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, heads the list of the Dominion for the increase in percentage of work, the increase amounting to 1,955.55 per cent. Calgary shows an increase of 117.55 per cent. Hamilton showed an increase of 25.1 per cent. Nearly every city in the Dominion showed some increase, but there are a few where the returns for building permits show a decrease.

DEFENCE OF SOUTH AFRICA.

General Botha Hopes to Have Finest Force in the Empire.

A despatch from London says: A South African cable reports that at Zerust, Gen. Botha, in a speech, stated that his dearest ambition was to create the best colonial defence force in the Empire, representing both races. It is considered that Botha's recent speech at Pretoria finally disposes of the question of Government coalition.

GREAT SEALING CATCH.

Indicated by Wireless Reports From the Newfoundland Fleet.

A despatch from St. John's, Nfld., says: Further advices by wireless from the sealing fleet in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and on the Grand Banks indicate that the vessels are meeting with decided success. Already the sealers have begun to put into port, the steamer Viking having arrived at Port Aux Basque and the Harlaw at Codroy Harbor. The Viking brought 24,000 seals and the Harlaw 13,000.

IMMIGRANTS WITH MEANS.

Two Hundred Coming With Nearly a Million Dollars.

A despatch from London says: A remarkable thing about the exodus of emigrants to Canada is their co-operative wealth. The Empress of Britain on Thursday evening took 200 homeseekers, the poorest of whom possesses £500, and the majority £1,000 or more. They are mainly farmers.

MR. ROBLIN MAY RETIRE.

Premier of Manitoba is in Very Poor Health.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: Owing to failing health it is understood that Premier Roblin has practically decided to retire from active politics in the immediate future. He is at present sojourning at Hot Springs, Ark., and while he is sufficiently improved to be able to walk around he is still a very sick man. His heart is understood to be badly affected. Should he retire the Premiership will devolve upon Hon. Robert Rogers, and Mr. G. Steele, member for Glenboro', will be taken into the Cabinet with the portfolio of Agriculture. Hon. Mr. Rogers is leaving at once for Europe on a pleasure trip and will be absent about two months, and no definite announcement is anticipated until his return or until the eve of the general election.

THE MILITIA CAMPS.

Will be Held at London, Niagara and Kingston.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The dates for annual militia training camps this summer have been announced by the Militia Department. The camp at London will open June 13, and the one at Niagara on June 14. The Kingston camp will begin on June 13 and will be attended by all the regiments in the Ottawa district, there being no camp at Rockliffe this year, according to the present arrangements. It is expected that the number of soldiers going into annual training this year will be slightly larger than ever before.

TWELVE DAYS IN WOODS.

Badly Used Up Finlander Brought to the Soo.

A despatch from Sault Ste. Marie says: A Finlander who was found wandering aimlessly in the woods between North Chippewa and Batchewana Bay was brought to the Soo on Wednesday evening. He was in a bad condition and had been picked up by Indians. He had been looking for work in the camps and lost his way, remaining in the bush alone for twelve days, living on animals caught in the traps of the Indians. His feet will likely have to be amputated, as they were badly frozen.

SERIOUS RIOT AT PESHAWUR.

Seven Persons Killed in Conflict Between Hindus and Mohammedans

A despatch from Peshawur, British India, says: Serious rioting occurred here on Monday through the holding of the Hindu and Mohammedan religious festivals at the same time. The conflicts were renewed on Tuesday and much looting was indulged in. Altogether seven persons were killed and 38 injured. Troops now occupy the city.

WIRELESS ON GREAT LAKES

It Will Play an Important Part in Navigation This Season.

A despatch from Windsor, Ont., says: The wireless telegraph is expected to play an important part in lake marine service this season. A large number of boats are being equipped with machines and with numerous shore stations, and but few points on the Great Lakes will be out of the zone of communication. One wireless company has planned to install a big tower and station on Isle Royale, one of the principal danger points in Lake Superior, and with the station to be erected by the Canadian Government at Port Arthur the largest lake in the chain will be thoroughly covered. There are now ready for operation stations at Sault Ste. Marie, Calumet, Grand Marais, Marquette and Duluth. The equipment for Isle Royale will go out on the first boat from Duluth.