GUNNERS SHELLED REFUGEES

Terrible Slaughter Through An Error In a Russian Town.

SLAUGHTER AT TUKUM.

A despatch from Berlin says:—A despatch to the Lokal Anzeiger gives details of the fighting and slaughter at Tukum, Courtland, on Dec. 18 and 19.

When the rebellion broke out in Courtland, 40 dragoons and three officers were sent to protect the little town of Tukum. A force of peasants besieged the place and soon captured it. The dragoons surrendered when their ammunition was gone and yielded up their weapons on a guarantee of personal safety.

The peasants, however, immediately the arms were handed over to them, treated the dragoons in a most brutal manner, gouging out their eyes, chopping off their noses and ears, and finally killing Col. Mueller, who was beheaded. They then committed atrocities upon the townspeople.

Meanwhile reinforcements of artillery arrived, and, finding the town in possession of the rebels, they bombarded it. The inhabitants, victimized by foes within and friends without, waited until night and then fled to the artillerymen for protection. The artillerymen, supposing that the townspeople were rebels advancing to attack them, shelled them with terrible effect.

The correspondent estimates that 600 of the townspeople were killed by the soldiers and 400 by the rebels. Another more likely estimate is that 600 were killed and wounded.

APPEAL FOR AID.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says:—Eight hundred landowners of the Saratoff district have telegraphed to Premier Witte, appealing for the National Assembly, in order to satisfy the land hunger of the peasants, the only hope of ending the agrarian uprising. The landlords also demanded additional troops to prevent the sacking of the remainder of the estates in the Volga.

The Novoe Vremya prints a despatch from Riga, dated Dec. 18, saying that the Letts are completing their armed organizations, and are annihilating and driving out the troops from the country, destroying the bridges and transforming the castles and residences of the landlords into forts.

MANY WORKS CLOSE.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says:—The strike promises to be on a far more extensive scale than any previous movement of the kind. Many of the largest works, including the Putiloff and Nobel concerns, have ceased operations.

The railroad stations here on Wednesday were occupied by troops, and the Government made an attempt to maintain some sort of train service, especially to the German frontier, and also to keep open communications with points abroad.

Reports received here from Moscow late on Wednesday afternoon indicate that the strike was successfully inaugurated and is spreading rapidly. Even the electric light plants are closed.

Governor-General Doubassoff has declared the city to be in a partial state of siege, which gives the civic authorities powers of arrest, etc. The next move will be to declare a state of siege, in which the military supersedes civil power.

The provincial authorities have already been empowered, in anticipation of the contingency of their being cut off from the capital, to act on their own responsibility, even to the extent of the proclamation of martial law.

The police are hunting down and arresting the strike leaders as rapidly as they can be found, but comparatively few captures have been made, as the leaders keep in hiding, avoiding their residences, and meeting in secret, each time at a different locality.

STRIKE AT WARSAW.

A despatch from Warsaw says:—Employes of the fire department struck on Wednesday night. The Polish National party has ordered the shopkeepers to remove their Russian signs.

It is reported from Nicolaieff, in the Government of Kherson, that two infantry regiments revolted on Wednesday, and that a sanguinary fight ensued. Details are lacking.

The Polish Nationalists have come to the decision that the Jews in Poland must be transformed into Poles, and the Nationalists therefore have issued a proclamation calling on all Israelites to discontinue speaking Yiddish and to learn the Polish language.

Cossacks surrounded the offices of the Socialist organ, Kurjer Codzienny, at midnight, arrested the editoral staff and sealed up the offices.

THREE CHICAGO BANKS FAIL.

Three Institutions Forced to the Wall by Speculation.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Failure of the Chicago National Bank, the Home Savings Bank, and the Equitable Trust Company, all of Chicago, was announced at 3.30 o'clock this morning by representatives of the Chicago Clearing House Association after a session lasting 18 hours.

From the ashes of these three banking institutions of John R. Walsh arose to-day an organization composed of the leading financiers of the city, pledged to pay every depositor in full upon the authority of the millions of dollars in the coffers of the united banks of the city.

At a meeting at the Chicago National Bank this morning all of the old directors, except Mr. C. K. G. Billings, who is not in the city, resigned, and the places of the retiring directors were filled by the selection of members of the Clearing House Committee and National Bank Examiner C. H. Bosworth as directors.

Hopes are entertained that the crash will not be a disastrous one, and that it will not reach the $3,000,000 at first set as the outside limit. That the capital and surplus of the three institutions will remain unimpaired is the claim of Mr. Walsh and his friends.

James H. Eckels, of the Commercial National Bank, who was on the Clearing House Committee that has taken hold of the insolvent banks, to-day expressed the belief that the securities will eventually give Mr. Walsh and other stockholders a large equity. He said the bank had on hand security in cash covering about 40 per cent. of its deposits.

WARSHIPS WILL CONCENTRATE.

British Squadrons Will Manœuvre Near Gulf of Cadiz.

A despatch from Cadiz says: Information transmitted to the Spanish Admiralty confirms a report in circulation here to the effect that the British Mediterranean, Atlantic and Channel squadrons, comprising sixty warships, will concentrate in April near the Gulf of Cadiz, with a base at Lagos, for combined manœuvres. Some people here are inclined to regard the presence of the British fleet near Morocco about the time when the Moroccan conference closes as significant.

SUFFRAGE BILL IN HUNGARY.

All Hungarians Over 24 years of Age May Vote.

A despatch from Budapest, Hungary, says: The terms of the proposed universal male suffrage bill made public on Tuesday give the franchise to all Hungarians over 24 years of age who are able to read and write, providing that voting shall be direct and secret and that any one entitled to vote shall also be qualified for election provided he has been a Hungarian subject for ten years and has not been sentenced for dishonest practices.

ORE SAMPLES ARE RICH.

Vein of Gold 400 Feet Long at Laurentian Mine.

A Toronto despatch says: Some confirmation of the reports that a valuable discovery of gold has been made at the Laurentian Mine, near Lake Manitou, has been received at the Provincial Bureau of Mines. Mr. Anthony Blum, of Boston, the president of the company, has been in the city with samples of the ores found in the vein. These Mr. Thomas Gibson, the superintendent of the Bureau of Mines, who saw them, says are the richest samples of gold-bearing rock that he has ever examined. Mr. Blum adds that there is at present in sight a pay chute of mineral extending about 400 feet.

CONVICTS PROVED HEROES.

Woman's Workhouse on Blackwell's Island Destroyed.

A despatch from New York says:—Men forgot that they were convicts and remembered only that they were men on Blackwell's Island early on Wednesday morning when the male prisoners, marshalled by their keepers into a fire fighting and life-saving corps, bore from the flaming floors of the women's wards five hundred and ninety-four frantic women, and from the hospital beds fifty more.

Starting in the sewing room of the workhouse and from a cause which has not yet been definitely decided, the fire had reached a fierce blaze at 2 o'clock, when it was discovered. The fire engine on the island proved inadequate and a call for help was sent to the city department.

Seven engines were sent over, but were not sufficient to save the women's workhouse from destruction. On the top floor of this building were cells for the women, and every one held one or two prisoners when the fire occurred. These women became frantic with fright and were soon choking with the dense smoke that filled all the halls and their cells. When the extent and danger of the blaze became apparent, the wardman marshalled his regular fighting force of employes and soon were at work. The flames spread so fast, however, that this force proved hopelessly inadequate. Then it was decided to trust to the male prisoners' sense of manhood and they bore the test well.

Released from their cells and marshalled into small bodies they entered the burning building and went at the work of fire-fighting and rescue with utter disregard of the danger to themselves. The flames were crackling all about them and they plunged through the densest smoke when they brought out in their arms the last of the women prisoners.

FARMS FOR LONDONS' POOR.

Defective Electric Wire Causes $550,000 Experiment.

A despatch from London says: Mr. Herring, formerly a well-known turfman, who is the chairman of several commercial companies, and a big contributor to the King's Hospital Fund, has given the Salvation Army £100,000 with which to experiment, with land colonization in Great Britain.

Gen. Booth, the commander of the army, has written to the King, explaining the scheme. He will select about 300 deserving urban poor and will establish each of them in a cottage, with five acres of land, farming implements, etc. All of the money advanced in this way will be repayable in instalments spread over 400 years, after which the land will be conveyed to the holders. The scheme will thus be self-supporting. It will be controlled by the Salvation Army, which undertakes to hand over the original capital to the hospital fund in annual payments rdard rdardrrrr in annual instalments of £4,000. Any profits will be applied to extending the scheme.

PORT ARTHUR GROWING.

The Town Claims a Population of Eight Thousand Now.

A Port Arthur despatch says: The special census just being completed of the town is a pretty good index of the growth of this district. In 1901 the Dominion census revealed 3,214 inhabitants in Port Arthur; in the fall of 1903 the population had practically doubled. From the figures from most of the wards it seems that the present population is about 8,000. This census is taken with a view to applying for a city charter. Port Arthur has no intention of permitting Fort William to secure all the honors in this direction.

THE PRINCE IN INDIA.

Reviews the Greatest Peace Army Ever Gathered Here.

A Calcutta despatch says:—The Prince of Wales reviewed the greatest army that ever assembled in India at a time of peace at Rawal Pindi, in the Punjab, on Dec. 8th. It was the concluding item of the great manoeuvres organized by Lord Kitchener, the Commander-in-Chief, and impressed deeply by its magnificence all who were privileged to see it.

British soldiers in scarlet and khaki contributed their color to the military mosaic in which Sikhs, Goorkhas, Punjaubis and Pathans also figured. Fifty-five thousand men in all marched past the Prince at the saluting point, mobilized as if they were on a mission of war.

The Commander-in-Chief had prepared his manoeuvres with the completeness of detail for which he is famed. They represented a war game under war conditions, and were made to demonstrate war problems by putting real tests upon the men.

For four days the army had made exhausting marches and engaged in sham fighting. Some of the troops had covered over a hundred miles; others had slept out for two nights. But they showed no trace of fatigue when they paraded to-day. What struck one most was the splendid condition of the army.

The Prince had spent the greater part of the previous four days on horseback, but he remained in the saddle for five hours at the review and enjoyed thoroughly the superb spectacle that had been prepared for him.

DEATH BED VISION A FAKE

Men Die as They Have Lived, With Little Thought of the Future.

A New York despatch says:—Dr. William Osler, now of England, in his latest book, says that "deathbed" visions, believed in by thousands and of which there are scores of supposed authentic records, is plain nonsense. Moreover, he supports his declaration by 500 deathbed observations of his own which he thinks prove absolutely that such reported visions are untrue. In all these cases there was suffering, fear and emotion, but no thought of the future. His observation is a startling contribution to a subject which has always keenly interested scientists, clergymen and physicians, and it is certain to provoke general discussion.

Dr. Osler says: "As a rule, man dies as he has lived, uninfluenced practically by the thought of a future life. I have careful records of about 500 deathbeds, studied particularly with reference to the modes of death and the sensations of the dying. Ninety suffered bodily pain and distress of some sort or another; eleven showed mental apprehension; two positive terror; one expressed spiritual exaltation; one bitter remorse. The great majority gave no sign one way or the other; like their birth, their death was sleep and a forgetting. The preacher was right in this matter—man hath no preeminence over the beast—'As one dieth, so dieth the other.'"

MUST USE THE RIFLE.

Minister of Militia's Proposition to Ministers of Education.

A Montreal despatch says:—The Minister of Militia, Sir Frederick Borden, at a banquet tendered him on Tuesday night by the local Reform Club, announced that he had proposed to the Ministers of Education in the various provinces of Canada that all Normal and High School graduates be obliged to take a course in physical culture, particularly as regards the use of the rifle. He had also signified the willingness of the Department of Militia to send men to do the training and supply the rifles. From all provincial Ministers, irrespective of party, encouraging replies had been received with promises of cordial co-operation. Sir Frederick hoped that by the next session of Parliament he would have a definite proposal to introduce in the House.

FOUNTAINS TO RUN WINE.

And Madrid to be Turned into a Flower Garden When King Weds.

A London despatch says:—The Express says that on the occasion of the marriage of King Alfonso and Princess Ena of Battenberg, Madrid will be transformed into a flower garden. Wagon loads of roses, and other flowers will be given by the government for the decoration of the city. The fountains in Madrid will run wine. There will be huge costume processions, in which students and others will take part. There will also be a monster bull fight, in which the participants will wear historical costumes. The conversion of Princess Ena to Catholicity will be celebrated with great solemnity at the Cathedral of San Francisco, in Madrid. The Cardinal Archbishop of Toledo will preside at the ceremonies which will be attended by nine archbishops and 46 bishops.

FIRE IN FERRY TERMINAL.

Defective Electric Wire Causes $550000 Loss.

A despatch from New York says: Fire on Wednesday destroyed fully half of the immense Union Railroad ferry terminal at the foot of West 23rd street on the Hudson River. The loss was estimated at $550,000. Crowded ferryboats were unloading and hundreds of passengers were debarking at the terminals when a series of explosions were heard, and immediately dense volumes of smoke filled the great buildings, followed quickly by flames. Great alarm prevailed, and when ferry boats, despite the flames, kept landing passengers from New Jersey at portions of the dock and terminal which were not ablaze, the police from four stations had to be summoned to keep order. Several employees of the railroads were severely burned, and five men were reported to be missing after the fire was under control. The fire started in a paint shop in the Lackawanna building, presumably from a defective electric wire.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S VISIT.

Expected to Reach Canada About Last Week in March.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Prince Arthur of Connaught is expected to arrive in Canada from Japan the last week in March or early in April.

ABE HUMMEL SENTENCED.

New York Lawyer Gets One Year in Prison and Fine.

A New York despatch says:—Justice Rogers sentenced Hummel to one year's imprisonment in the penitentiary and $500 fine. This is the maximum penalty. Hummel was one of the most widely known of New York's lawyers. He had been connected with a number of celebrated cases. He entered the law office in which he is now the senior partner many years ago as an office boy.

The charge upon which he was convicted was conspiracy in the Dodge-Morse divorce litigation, in which he sought to show that Mrs. Morse's divorce from Dodge was invalid. The object of this was to upset her marriage to Morse, who is a very wealthy banker and owner of steamship companies.

TIMBER WAS PROTECTED.

Forestry Report Says Fire Ranging System Was of Value.

A Toronto despatch says: Some interesting facts regarding the progress of systematic forestry in the Province of Ontario in the report of the Bureau of Forestry for 1904 has just appeared in print. After speaking of the progress made through the supplying of planting stock to the farmer by the Ontario Agricultural College, the document speaks of the value of the fire ranging system in operation on public forest lands under license. This, it states, is an increasingly useful institution in the protection of the standing timber, in which both the lumbermen and the province have such a large financial interest. The number of rangers applied for by the lumbermen has not been greater before.

During 1904 a fire protection service was organized along the line of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, which running through almost unbroken forest, was a source of danger. This was paid for by the Department of Crown Lands and the railway Commission jointly. It proved very efficient, and its value was increased by the fact that the rangers used railway velocipedes and were able to follow up the trains and extinguish any incipient fires.

Since the issue of the report of 1903 two additions have been made to the permanent forest reserves, amounting in all to 6,700 square miles, and known as the Western Temagami and the Missisaga Reserves.

The book contains a number of valuable and instructive papers on forestry subjects by Prof. Judson F. Clark, provincial forester. There are also a number of good illustrations.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Comb Case.—Take two pieces of linen 9 inches long and 2½ wide and buttonhole them together in scallops with wash silk or linen floss. Leave one end open and buttonhole the upper piece and the under one hem neatly. Before you put the two together to buttonhole them embroider a spray of forget-me-nots, daisies or holly on one piece and use that for the top. This makes a nice case for the comb when you wish to carry it in handbag or suit case.

Mending Broken Glass.—If you happen to break a glass or valuable glass ornament, it can be effectually and easily mended in the following way: Melt a little isinglass in spirits of wine, add a small quantity of water; warm the mixture gently over a moderate fire. When mixed by thoroughly melting it will form a perfectly transparent glue, which will unite glass so nicely and firmly that the joint will scarcely be noticed by the most critical eye.

Staining New Floors.—First brush over with a fairly weak solution of glue and water. When the floor is quite dry take two ounces of permanganate of potash and dissolve in half a gallon of boiling water. Brush this over the part to be stained. If not quite dark enough give a second coat. Let it dry again and polish with beeswax and turpentine.

Cleaning Tinware.—Acids should never be employed to clean tinware, because they attack the metal and remove it from the iron of which it forms a thin coat. We refer to articles made of tin plate, which consist of iron covered with tin. Rub the article first with rottenstone and sweet oil, then finish with whiting and a piece of soft leather. Articles made wholly of tin should be cleaned in the same manner. In a dry atmosphere planished tinware will remain bright for a long period, but will soon become tarnished in moist air.

To Extract Marking Ink.—Take the piece of marked linen and immerse it in a solution of chloride of lime. In a few moments the characters will be seen to pass from black to white, owing to a new preparation of silver having been formed. This white chloride of silver becomes soluble in liquid ammonia. The linen should be removed quickly from the chloride of lime solution straight into one of ammonia, allowing it to remain in the latter only few moments. The article should then be well rinsed in clean water.

For Brilliant Windows.—Take a pad of cotton rag soaked in glycerine and rub the glass all over inside. Then take a piece of clean, dry rag and lightly polish the glass until the glycerine is invisible, but not entirely rubbed away. Do this when the glass is fairly warm and dry, and you will get brilliant windows, no condensation and a great saving in the amount of cleaning.

Uses for Carbonate of Soda.—Always keep carbonate of soda in the house—it is useful for so many purposes. For burns and scalds it is an excellent remedy. The surface of the burn should be covered with it, either dry or just damped. It relieves the pain caused by the bites or stings of insects. A small saltspoonful in half a tumbler of water will relieve heartburn and indigestion, and if taken with tepid water last thing at night will frequently induce sleep in restless persons.

Dishcloths must be washed after using if they are to be kept sweet and nice. First wash in a lather of soap and water, then rinse in clean hot water, and hang out to dry. One of the nicest kinds of dishcloths is made of knitted soft cotton, which will wash again and again and look as good as new.

A great deal can be done to preserve a carpet, even in the laying it. Care should be taken that the floor is perfectly dry beforehand, as the common error of laying it in a hurry a short time after the floor has been scrubbed is often the ultimate cause of moth. It is, besides, a wise precaution to sprinkle the floor with insect powder. Once the damage is done, however, the best way of eradicating the moth is as follows: Wring out a cloth in hot water, lay it on the carpet, and go over it with a hot iron. This will destroy the eggs, and if done on a fine day with a good wind blowing, the carpet will soon dry, provided the doors and windows are left wide open.

ON THE FARM.

WINTER AND SUMMER DAIRYING

The farmer who is not possessed of quarters that will keep the cows sufficiently warm in the winter should not attempt winter dairying writes Prof. Thomas Shaw. The quarters that will keep cows comfortable, that are dry, are not necessarily the same as quarters that will keep them warm enough when giving milk, nor should the farmer try to carry on winter dairying who is unable to furnish the requisite kinds of food to make dairying altogether successful at that season. The difference in the success of the farmer who has good buildings and suitable food as compared with the farmer who is lacking in these essentials will be very great. Anyone, however, may engage in summer dairying as the chief requisites for so doing are pastures and supplemental soiling foods. This makes the problem of summer dairying a very simple one relatively.

If the dairyman lives near a cheese factory he should follow summer dairying. If, on the other hand, he wishes to make butter, he can do so more profitably in winter, other things being equal. The price for butter is much better at that season than in summer, hence the advantage of having large quantities made in winter. It may be a little more costly to make it in winter but with a due provision of food the difference will not be great.

If the calves are to be grown into beef, it will be better to have them come in the autumn. They can be cared for more readily in the winter than in the summer. There is more time to feed them at that season. In the spring they are of an age which enables them to live readily on grass, a cheap food when the season comes, and they are strong for going into winter and when the next winter comes. There is also this advantage; the calves have passed the milk drinking period, and this leaves an adequate supply of skim milk for the young swine which come to hand at that season.

DAIRYING ALL THE YEAR.

In a well-regulated dairy there will, of course, be more or less milk during all the year. Where one is so fortunate as to live near a cheese factory and also a creamery, it is not necessary to manufacture any of the product at home. But where cheese factories only are located then it is necessary to manufacture more or less of the season at home. Where dairying can thus be conducted practically all the year, it should prove more profitable than under other conditions. But it is seldom in this country that such a combination exists. In Ontario cheese and butter making are combined in the same factory to some extent.

The farmer who does the bulk of his dairying in winter can carry on mixed farming more successfully than the one who does the bulk of the same in summer. He has more time to attend to his farming. He has less milking to do than he otherwise would have, has less feeding of calves and less handling of milk. This to a man who is very busy means a very great deal. To one who has much crop growing to attend to, and especially to one who has much cultivating of corn and other products, it is indeed a boon to be free from other work that is imperatively exacting at that season. His crops will receive so much more attention than would be possible under the conditions, that the revenue from this source will be much more than it would otherwise be.

Cows must, of course, rest from giving milk for two months or so during the year. It is better for the cows to have that rest period come in the summer They are then on pasture. Food is plentiful and it is easy for them to build up somewhat during the rest period. This they cannot do if the rest period comes in the winter if kept entirely on dry fodder. From what has been said, the conclusion is clear that where the conditions favor it, more can be said in favor of winter than of summer dairying. The latter is more likely to be engaged in where countries are new, and as they get older, more and more will people favor winter dairying.

CORRECT START WITH POULTRY

Many additions are made at this season to the ranks of the poultrymen, for the winter shows always fire many of the visitors with a desire to try their hand at poultry raising, writes Mr. N. S. Green. These few remarks may help some beginners to avoid mistakes often made by the inexperienced. If rightly managed no class of live stock will afford as much profit and pleasure as a flock of pure bred chickens. In proportion to the care required and the cost of maintenance, poultry returns a larger per cent. of profit than cattle, sheep or hogs, and with chickens there is the advantage of being able to start with very little capital, and to increase the stock gradually.

It is not necessary to build elaborate houses or to have them furnished with the latest patented trap nests, roosts, etc. In point of usefulness a plain building, warm, well ventilated, and well lighted is to be preferred. I prefer to divide the chickens into flocks of 25, giving each flock a separate yard, and housing all in one long building divided into as many rooms as there are flocks, by putting in partitions of wire netting with a 2-foot board partition at the bottom. An orchard is an ideal location for the poultry yard, furnishing shade for the fowls during the hot weather, and the fruit trees are benefited by the chickens destroying numerous injurious insects. Face the houses south if possible and see that they have enough windows to give abundant light. Construct the nests and roosts so they may be removed to facilitate cleaning and do not place the roosts so high that the fowls are injured in flying down. A walking board is desirable where the nests must be high up.

To keep the hens laying it is necessary to feed intelligently and see they get plenty of exercise. A fat hen will not lay and if the chickens are compelled to work for their food they will be kept in proper condition. I feed all kinds of grain and vegetables available, aiming always to give a variety of food. A mash of grain, cooked vegetables and table scraps constitute the morning meal; in the evening grain is fed. Milk is one of the best foods to produce eggs, and green bone should be fed two or three times a week. Grit must be provided at all times and nothing is better than broken crockery. The chickens prefer it to the commercial article, but for a large flock its preparation would require too much work.

Cleanliness is one of the chief requisites of success, so the houses, nests and yards should be cleaned frequently, the houses whitewashed and insect powder used freely. Clean out the droppings every day, oil the roosts frequently, and provide clean material for the nests. If this is done there will be no trouble from lice, but if filth is allowed to accumulate, the mites will multiply rapidly and cause no end of trouble. I change nesting material every two weeks and when putting in the new straw sprinkle it liberally with insect powder. A dirt floor is best for the hen house and should be raised several inches above the outside level so it may be kept dry.

FLASHES FROM THE WIRE

The Very Latest Items From All Parts of the Globe.

CANADA.

The Allans are going to build two new steamers for the Atlantic service.

A new public school is to be erected in Calgary at a cost of $60,650.

The Provincial Government is considering a plan of retiring allowances to civil servants.

A company propose doing business in Brantford selling bread at four cents a loaf.

Trade returns for the last five months show a gain of $26,000,000, of which exports contributed $18,000,000.

Plans for a steamship to be placed on the Pacific route have been prepared by the Canadian Pacific Railway.

American lumbermen have purchased a saw mill and 260 miles of spruce timber limits at Prince Albert.

The Toronto Electric Light Company secured the contract for lighting the city for five years at $63.34 per electric lamp.

It is reported at Halifax that the C.P.R. will make that city a winter port for their new Atlantic passenger steamers.

Brantford City Council have granted a twenty-one year competitive franchise to the Canadian Machine Telephone Company.

Prince Arthur of Connaught is expected to arrive in Canada from Japan the last week in March or early in April.

The Minister of Agriculture has issued invitations for a conference of fruit growers to discuss questions of national importance.

Near Almonte foxes have played great havoc with poultry this season, and the County council may renew a fox bounty by-law.

Vivian Playart, eleven years old, while hunting in the Comox Valley, Vancouver Island, shot at a grouse when a panther sprang up and got the charge through the heart.

W. B. Archibald, Dominion Parole Officer, addressing the Ottawa Canadian Club, said 1,082 men had been released from penal institutions on parole, only 24 of these had been returned to prison.

The C. P. R. have submitted to the Minister of Railways the route map of the Georgian Bay and Seaboard Railway. It will start from the south end of Georgian Bay and run through the counties of Simcoe, Victoria, Peterboro', Hastings, Lennox and Addington, Frontenac and Lanark, to connect with the O. & Q. division.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Aberdeen Council would have the cattle disease act amended for the admission of Canadian Cattle.

UNITED STATES.

Prince Louis of Battenberg has accepted a membership in the Canadian Camp, an organization of 700 sportsmen and sportswomen, residing in all parts of the United States.

Besides the loss of life in the Santa Fe train wreck at Lang, Kansas, on Tuesday, about $5,000 in gold, $9,000 in currency and thousands of dollars worth of jewellery was destroyed by the express car taking fire.

"I am feeling badly. I wish you would sing for me." As she uttered these words the Rev. P. Ekster collapsed in the pulpit of the First Holland Christian Reformed church, Paterson, N. J. Before the eyes of the startled congregation the aged minister fell backwards, striking his head with great force on the floor.

GENERAL.

The German Government is prepared to despatch several cruisers to Baltic ports for the protection of German subjects.

KILLED WIFE AND SELF.

A Shocking Domestic Tragedy at Buffalo.

A despatch from Buffalo, N.Y., says: Driven to desperation by the refusal of his wife to live with him ever since the day they were married, Wm. McCoy, a seaman on the lakes went to his wife's home at No. 384 Swan street on Wednesday night talked with her for about fifteen minutes and then fired four shots at her. Two of the shots went wild but one bullet hit the woman near the heart and another entered one of her limbs. Death followed in a few minutes. Without waiting to learn whether his wife's wounds were fatal McCoy put a bullet into his own heart and fell dead.

McCoy was twenty-three years old. His wife was three years younger. The couple were married two years ago last March. The young woman had refused to live with her husband from the day they were married for a reason which she had never communicated to any one so far as could be learned.

NO MORE YANKEE HOGS.

May be Imported in Bond and Slaughtered in Canada.

An Ottawa despatch says:—The Government, after hearing the views of pork packers and raisers have decided that the order-in-Council prohibiting the importation and slaughter in bond of hogs from the United States must go into force. The purpose of the order is to keep hog cholera out of Canada, and to maintain the high reputation of Canadian bacon in the markets of the United Kingdom. There is reason to believe that inferior United States bacon has been brought into Canada, exported from here to Britain, and sold there as Canadian bacon.

Table Linen.—Table linen to look well should always be sprinkled and rolled for at least ten hours before it is ironed. If good linen, it will not need any starch. A cloth to look well should not be folded with too many creases. One through the centre lengthwise and then folded once again the same way will leave the cloth without any cross creases. When dry, roll the cloths, but do not fold.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Dec. 26.—Wheat — Ontario —78c to 79c for white, red or mixed, outside; goose and spring, 76c to 78c.

Wheat—Manitoba — Unchanged at lake ports, 89c for No. 1 hard, 86c for No. 1 northern and 83c for No. 2 northern. Yesterday's inspection at Winnipeg covered, 151 cars, against 175 a year ago: 1 No. 1 hard, 76 No. 1 northern, 22 No. 2, 7 No. 3, 2 No. 4 northern, and 43 other grades.

Flour — Ontario — Export, [illegible] in bags, at outside points. [illegible] sales at $3.40 to $3.50. Manitoba — $4.50 to $4.80 for first patents, $4.20 to $4.40 for second patents; and $4.20 to $4.30 for bakers'.

Millfeed — Ontario — Bran, $16 in bulk at the mills, shorts $17 to $18, Manitoba $16.50 to $17.50, [illegible] $18.50 to $19.50, at Toronto and equal freight points.

Oats — 34c to 35c, outside.

Barley — No. 2, 47c to [illegible] extra at 45c to 46c, and No. 3 at [illegible] to 43c, at outside points.

Peas — 78c to 79c, at [illegible] outside.

Buckwheat — Nominal at [illegible] outside.

Corn — New Canadian, [illegible] Chatham freights; American [illegible] low, 51c at Toronto, with 2c [illegible] at outside points, according [illegible]

Rolled Oats — $5 in [illegible] 75 in bags, on track here; [illegible] broken lots here and [illegible]

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter — Holds steady [illegible] a keen demand for [illegible]

Creamery .... [illegible]

do solids .... [illegible]

Dairy lb. rolls, good to [illegible]

do tubs .... [illegible]

do medium .... [illegible]

do inferior .... [illegible]

Cheese — 13c for large [illegible] twins.

Eggs — 22c to 23c for [illegible] of fresh and 20c to 21c for [illegible]

Poultry — Fat chickens, [illegible] 7c to 8c; fat hens 6½ [illegible] to 7c; ducks, 11c to [illegible] geese 10c to 11c, turkeys [illegible]

Dressed Hogs — [illegible] quoted at about $8 [illegible]

Potatoes — Ontario [illegible] bag on track here, [illegible] store; eastern 75c to [illegible] 90c to 95c out of store.

Baled Hay — $8 [illegible] timothy in car lots here [illegible]

Baled Straw — $6 [illegible] on track here.

MONTREAL

Montreal, Dec. 26. [illegible] inquiry by cable for January-February bids were about [illegible] line.

Peas — 75c to 76c [illegible]

Barley — Manitoba [illegible] 46½c.

Flour — Manitoba [illegible] cents, $4.90 to $5 [illegible] to $4.60; winter wheat [illegible] $4.50; straight roller [illegible] in bags, $1.85 to $1.95 [illegible] $1.75.

Millfeed — Manitoba [illegible] $17; shorts, $20 per [illegible] in bulk, $14.50 to $15 [illegible] ed, mouille, $24 to [illegible] mouille, $25 to $27 [illegible]

Rolled Oats — Per [illegible] 45.

Cornmeal — $1.4[illegible]

Hay — No. 1 $8 [illegible] to $8; clover, mixed [illegible] pure clover, $6 [illegible]

Corn — American [illegible] yellow 53½c [illegible]

Cheese — The [illegible] 12½c to 12½c [illegible] receipts and for [illegible] 12¾c to 12½c for [illegible] tober made [illegible] for Ontarios.

Butter — Prices [illegible] to best creamery, [illegible] tubs, fresh rolls [illegible]

Eggs — Select [illegible] from 25c to 26c. Montreal lined at [illegible] 22c, according to [illegible] western lined [illegible] at 30c, and from [illegible]

Provisions — H[illegible] $19 to $20; light [illegible] American cut clear [illegible] compound lard 6½ [illegible] lard, 10½c to 11c [illegible] to 12c; hams 12c [illegible] size; bacon, 13c [illegible] at for dressed hogs [illegible] $6.50 mixed lots.

NEW YORK WHEAT

New York, Dec. 26. [illegible] easy; No. 2 red, 91 [illegible] red, 94¾c f.o.b. afloat. [illegible] Duluth, 95¼c f.o.b. afloat. [illegible] Manitoba, nominal, f.o.b. [illegible]

FOLLOWED THE POLICE

Three Little Girl Tramps [illegible] London.

A despatch from London says:—Three weary little [illegible] found wandering [illegible] High street, Coldbrook, [illegible] villagers asking them [illegible] were going, the children [illegible] cry, and said they had [illegible] to London.

They told a pathetic [illegible] have run away from home [illegible] enhead because father [illegible] we are going to find our [illegible] London. We started from [illegible] heard early this morning [illegible] food or money, and we walked [illegible] day, following the telegraph [illegible] London. We are so tired and hungry, but we want our dear mother.

A kind villager led the [illegible] mites into his house, and [illegible] food. The children ate [illegible] but, having finished their meal, wanted to go to London [illegible] mother. Placing the little ones in his cart, the villager drove them to the Eton Workhouse, where [illegible] master the circumstances. They were put to bed [illegible] Maidenhead police [illegible] with.

Next morning their [illegible] the workhouse, and took [illegible] ren back to Maidenhead.

AIMING AT FRIENDSHIP.

New British Cabinet to Discuss Relations With Germany.

A Berlin despatch says: [illegible] blatt says the new British cabinet will initiate a discussion of the Anglo-German differences, aiming at securing friendly relations between the two nations. Chancellor Von Bulow congratulated Prime Minister Campbell-Bannerman and Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Grey on their taking office, and received cordial replies.