

LONDON A CITY OF CALAMITY

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

Terrible Disasters in 1881, 1883, 1898 and Now That of 1907.

TALES OF THE DISASTER.
Miss Ethel Earle, one of the girls who was caught in the falling ruin of floors and walls in the terrible disaster at London on Tuesday of last week, but who was extricated in one of the patients in the hospital. In conversation with a reporter she described her experience.

DEATH OF CLARA MULLIN.

"I was standing near the centre of the Brewster store with Libbie Smith and May Hardingham, when, without any warning at all, there was a splitting crash and a roar that sounded like an explosion, and the walls of the building seemed to be sliding westward. I remember crying out, 'Libbie, we will never get out of this alive.' I took about two steps back and was hemmed in by the ruin. Libbie ran to me and we placed our arms around one another and the debris seemed to surround us in a minute. It was the most frightful experience I ever went through and I tell you that the ordinary person under no circumstances would have any idea of how it feels to be caught in a trap like that. One reads of a tragedy like the San Francisco earthquake but cannot begin to realize it, unless they have an experience like mine. Poor Clara Mullin was standing near us, and after the walls had fallen I could hear her moaning where she lay. She must have been in great pain, for we heard her sobbing and crying, and yet we could not move to do anything to assist her. Not long after her mouth ceased, and instinctively we knew that the poor girl was dead."

"We were hemmed in on all sides. We lay in perfect darkness. We might have been five or six feet under heavy walls, bricks and beams for all we knew, for we could hear nothing. It seemed like eternity before help came. I wonder my hair is not grey."

Miss Libbie Smith, who is a stenographer, was injured internally, but she walked with the instinct of one to whom life is dear and death is not far distant. I retain her senses after the crash.

ESCAPED SUFFOCATION.

"If it had not been for the fact that my right hand was free and uninjured I would undoubtedly have choked and suffocated after the accident," she said. "It came without a moment's warning. Ethel Earle and I were lying far apart when it seemed to hit. But the wall of the building shivered. Then there was a crashing roar and clatter and the building seemed to crumble up. It was a most terrifying moment."

"The next thing I knew was I was swept off my feet and was caught fast in a mass of debris. A dense, choking dust rose from around me and a stream of dust and what seemed like ashes began to rain down around from the ruins above. In a short time this filled my ears and got through my hair; I got my right arm free and I writhed off the stuff as it tickled down from entering my mouth and nostrils. Otherwise I should have been suffocated."

PLAYED TO DIE.

BIG CHEQUE FROM O'BRIEN MINE.
Royalty for Last Quarter Amounted to Over \$116,000.
A despatch from Toronto says: Hon. Col. Michelson has received a cheque for \$116,546.31 from the O'Brien mine, being the royalty for the three months ending July 1. By the settlement of litigation some months ago, the province receives a royalty of 24 per cent. of the output at the pit's mouth. As the O'Brien is one of the best paying mines in the Cobalt camp, this means nice big cheques. For the first three months this year \$30,000 was paid, while last fall a cheque for \$15,000 was received. This means that this one mine alone shipped about three-quarters of a million dollars' worth of ore.

PEASANTS AND POLICE.

Sanguinary Conflicts in Central Russian Provinces.
A despatch from Riazan, Russia says: Peasant disorders on the Kholmskoff estate resulted in a conflict with the police, surrounded with military force, and kind, cheery nurses, to realize that I am still in the wreck. If I go to sleep I awake with a start and again, in my fancy the walls have just fallen again."

FULL INVESTIGATION DEMANDED.
By common consent it is admitted that there must be a thorough investigation into the cause of the disaster and the responsible parties brought to book. What was the immediate cause of the collapse is still at matter of surmise, and the ultimate verdict must be based on the expert testimony which will be adduced at the inquest. At first the suspicion was that the inner portion of the Crystal Hall gave way carrying with it the outer portion, which crashed into and demolished the Brewster store. Another theory is now advanced that the outer portion of the building fronting on the alley which first gave way, and this opinion is firmly held by City Engineer Grayson. Six windows were being inserted in the wall facing the alley, and the suggestion is made that the supports were altogether inadequate. This, however, is a point which will have to be cleared up at the inquest, and although in certain quarters blame is being attached to certain individuals, the bulk of the citizens are wisely withholding their censure until they have obtained proper grounds upon which to base their verdict.

PREVIOUS DISASTERS IN LONDON.
London, Ontario, seems to be a city of terrible tragedies. It is only a little over nine years ago since the collapse of a platform at the city hall killed 23 people and injured over one hundred others. A meeting of the citizens of the city was held to discuss the safety of the platform, and the decision was to remove it. The platform stood a long iron safe, which, going down with the floor, caused a terrible crushing weight to the fallen timbers, and pinned fast the unfortunate victims, who might otherwise have had a chance of escaping. The city engineer's office, and more than 200 people were precipitated into the funnel-shaped death trap, with the safe

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

Prices of Cattle, Grain, Chees and Other Dairy Products at Home and Abroad.

Toronto, July 23.—Flour—Ontario wheat 90 per cent. patent are \$4.00 bid, with \$3.50 asked by buyers seeking outside for export; Manitoba first patents, \$4.75 to \$5; second patents, \$4.25 to \$4.50, and strong bakers, \$4.00 to \$4.30.

Oats—No. 2 white are quoted at 44¢ to 45¢ outside.

Pearls—No. 2 quoted, at 78 to 79¢ outside.

Barley—Prices purely nominal.

Wheat—No. 1 northern, 93¢; lake ports, and No. 2 northern, 93¢; lake ports; Ontario No. 2 white, 88¢; and No. 2 red winter, 88¢ outside.

Rye—No. 2 nominal, at 70 to 71¢ outside.

Corn—No. 2 American corn is quoted at 61¢ to 62¢, Toronto, lake and rail.

Bran—The market is unchanged, with bran quoted at \$1.70 to \$1.75 in bulk outside. Shorts are quoted at 70¢ outside.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Beets—Hand-picked quoted at \$1.65 to \$1.75; prime at \$1.50 to \$1.55.

Honey—Strained quoted at 11 to 12¢ per lb. and comb honey at \$2 to \$2.50 per dozen.

Hay—No. 1 timothy is quoted at \$1 to \$1.50 per bushel, and No. 2 at \$1.25 to \$1.75.

Straw—\$7 to \$7.50 a ton on track.

Potatoes—The market is quiet for old stock; one car lot being quoted at 8¢ per lb. per bag.

Poultry—Turkeys, alive, 11 to 12¢; chickens, spring dressed, 18 to 20¢ per lb.; fowl, 9 to 10¢.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Pound rolls are quoted at 18 to 19¢; large rolls are quoted at 17 to 17½¢. Creamery prints sell at 21 to 22¢, and solids at 19 to 20¢.

Eggs—Cage lots selling at 17½ to 18½¢ a dozen.

Cheese—Large quoted at 12¢, and twins at 12½¢.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Bacon—Long clear, 10¢ to 12¢ per lb. in case lots, \$2.50 per pk.; \$21 to \$21.50 per short cut.

Hams—Light to medium, 15 to 15½¢; dc. heavy, 14½¢; roll, 11½¢; short ribs, 11¢; backs, 16½¢; breakfast bacon, 15¢.

Lard—Fleeces, 12¢; lugs, 12½¢; pails, 12½¢.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, July 23.—Manitoba No. 2 white oats sold at 49 to 50¢; Ontario No. 2 at 48 to 49¢; No. 3 at 47 to 48¢; No. 4 at 40 to 47¢ per bushel, except flour.

Flour—Choice spring wheat price \$5.50 to \$6.75; choice seconds, \$4.50 to \$5.00; winter wheat, \$4.25 to \$5.35; do; in bags, \$1.95 to \$2.10; extra, \$1.65 to \$1.75.

Feed—Minot's oil, \$2.10 per bushel in bags; \$19 per bushel, \$23 to \$25 per ton; Ontario bran, \$18.50 to \$19; shorls, \$22 to \$25 per ton; \$19 to \$21; shorls, \$23 to \$25 per ton; bacon, \$1.25 to \$1.75; clear fat hams, \$20.50 to \$21.50; half-hams, \$21.50 to \$22.50; long-cut heavy meat, \$20.50 to \$21.50; half-hams, \$21.50 to \$22.50; long-cut heavy meat, \$21.50 to \$22.50; ham, 10½ to 12½¢; kettle rendered, 12 to 13½¢; hams, 14 to 15½¢; breakfast bacon, 13½ to 15¢; bacon, 15½ to 16¢; fresh killed abattoir dressed hams, \$9.75 to \$10; liver, \$7.25 to \$7.40; bacon, \$7.50 to \$8.50; ham, \$7.50 to \$8.50; compound ham, 10½ to 12½¢; pure lard, 13½ to 14½¢; bacon, \$7.50 to \$8.50; bacon, \$7.50 to \$8.50; ham, \$7.50 to \$8.50.

Business at Montreal.

NEW DEPOT FOR OTTAWA.

Plans for Million Dollar Station and Hotel to Quebec.

A despatch from Ottawa says: It is stated that there is a likelihood of the Doukhobors moving to Southern Alberta and engaging in the production of beet sugar. Representatives of the colony have completed a trip through a portion of Southern Alberta, where they inspected lands in the vicinity of Lethbridge and Raymond. In the West they also made most careful inquiry into the various processes connected with the extraction of sugar from the sugar-beet, and were through there the plants which have been established by Mormon settlers.

NEW BUILDING FOR MCGILL.

Will Replace Engineering Structure Recently Destroyed by Fire.

A despatch from Montreal says: Plans have been completed for the construction of the new engineering building at McGill University, to take the place of the one destroyed by fire on April 1. The building permit was granted to the McGill authorities on Wednesday. The new structure, which will be one of the finest of its kind on the continent, will be fireproof, and it is estimated that the cost will be in the vicinity of \$250,000.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Toronto, July 23.—Choice exporters sold from \$5.60 to \$5.90 a bushel from \$5 to \$5.

Choice butchers' cattle sold from \$2 to \$3.50, and several cattle were reported to have sold "up" to \$3.50.

Middle cows were quiet and unchanged at \$30 to \$35; for choice, and \$25 to \$30 per cow.

Viel calves were steady at 3¢ per lb.

Sleep and lamb continued steady.

Ewes sold from \$4.50 to \$4.75 and bucks and culls at \$3.50 to \$4.

Lambs from \$30 to \$40 per ewt.

Hogs were easy and unchanged at the recent advance. Selects \$6.00.

Alderman Pauli of Stratford says that the civil service tanks are frauds and will have to be rebuilt.

Wolves have destroyed a number of horses, valued at \$25,000, in the Dungeness and Fort St. John districts in the west.

SOUGHT OLD PASTURES.

Winnipeg Buffalo Swam Assiniboine and Returned to Silver Heights.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: Annoyed by the myriad of leas and mosquitos, and tired of being held captive in strange and unfamiliar domicile, the herd of buffalo on Tuesday broke away from their new home at the City Park, swam the Assiniboine, and comfortably settled down at their old quarters on Lord Strathcona's Silver Heights farm.

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GASOLINE TANK EXPLODES.

Fatal Accident at Yonge Street Dock, Toronto.

A despatch from Toronto says: A gasoline tank exploded—one of the most shocking in the history of Toronto Bay—occurred on Friday shortly after noon, in which, with the first stroke of her propellers to send her on her way to her cruising grounds off the island, Mr. Amelia Jarvis' pleasure yacht "Silarah" was suddenly shaken by an explosion of gasoline, and in the fire which followed, one woman, Mrs. V. Buckenstein, unable to escape, was mangled and burnt beyond recognition; another, Mrs. Lena Johnston, was so terribly burned that she now lies at death's door; a man, one of the crew, has his arm fractured in two places, and two little children were also burned, one of whom had his collarbone broken, and the yacht itself to escape destruction by the flames, had to be scuttled where she lay.

FLLOOD CLAIMED 22.

It was the flood that caused the terrible disaster preceding that. On May 10 and 11, 1883, the Thames overflowed its banks, and twenty-two people were drowned. They were chiefly residents of the west of London.

WHOLE FAMILIES WIPE OUT.

But the greatest tragedy of all—a tragedy which it is hoped will never be duplicated—occurred in 1881. It happened in the midst of merriment and happiness—indeed, of the celebration of the Queen's Birthday, May 24. Five hundred excursionists were returning on a steamer "Victoria" to the River Thames. Carrying load for load, they were in great distress, because of the capacity of the steamship was exceeded. The ship was crowded, and many of the excursionists were drowning in shallow water. Struggling women and helpless children went to water graves, and whole families were wiped out in that brief but agonizing catastrophe!

UNDER TERRIBLE SHADOW.

And now comes the great calamity of 1907 with its toll of victims again well up in double figures. No sooner is one tragedy almost forgotten than another occurs, and we could not move to do anything to assist her. Not long after her mouth ceased, and instinctively we knew that the poor girl was dead.

TALKED ON DEGENERACY.

Advice of Doctor Concerning Schools and Feeble-Minded.

A despatch from Dr. A. B. Atkinson, president of the Maritime Medical Society, in his annual address to that body on Wednesday, spoke of the degeneracy which there seems to be among the more highly civilized branches of the human race.

He advocated that we should not have schools at all unless it is possible to provide them with accommodation for good healthy exercise.

Speaking of girls, he said: "Indeed,

we have for some time been of the opinion that the Public schools should be closed to girls for one or even two weeks at a critical age."

These girls have been afflicted with tuberculosis and are susceptible to it. He should admit to having sterilized. He also advocated refusal under any consideration to admit feeble-minded girls to our schools.

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