Sunday School.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON NO. VII
FEBRUARY 12TH, 1905.

The Second Miracle in Cana—John 4: 43-54.

Introduction.—In this lesson we have the closing event of the first year of Christ's public ministry. After remaining two days at Sychar of Samaria teaching the people and making many disciples, Jesus continued His journey northward, as He planned when He left Judea, and came to Cana of Galilee, where ten months or so before He had wrought a miracle at a wedding, and where was the home of Nathanael. While here He healed the son of a nobleman. The next three months give us no record of Jesus. According to Andrews, the disciples departed to their homes in Galilee, and Jesus lived in retirement until March, when He attends the Passover. Then began His second year.

Commentary.—I. Jesus received as a prophet (vs. 43-45). 43. After two days —The two days mentioned in verse 40. Galilee—The centre of life and activity in Palestine at that time. It contained three millions of people. There was a large foreign population, and the Jews were more ready to receive the Gospel than in the south. 4. His own country —It would seem that at this time Jesus regarded Jerusalem and Judea in a very important sense, as "His country," not simply His birthplace, but the place of His Father's house and kingdom, it being the metropolis of the Jews. They had already manifested hostile feelings toward Him, and therefore He turned His footsteps northward (John iii. 25). This proverb which Jesus here uttered He repeated at Nazareth early in His second year, April, A. D. 28, just after the Passover, when He visited Nazareth and was there rejected by His own kinsmen. His "own country," then, meant Nazareth, where He had grown up. Read Luke iv. 24; Mark vi. 2; Matt. xiii. 57. 45. into Galilee—The country of Galilee. He had accomplished His journey from Judea. His stop in Samaria was for two days only. Received Him—This does not mean that none rejected Him, but where He went He was welcomed. His first miracle there, nearly a year before, was still in their memory, and it was only a few weeks after that when those same countrymen met Him at the Pessover, and there witnessed other miracles and a display of His authority in cleansing the temple.

II. The nobleman's request (vs. 46, 47). 46. Again into Cana—Where His disciples witnessed the first display of His power, and where their faith in Him as the Messiah was confirmed. Very likely he was again entertained in the home of Nathanael. A certain nobleman —Literally, "one belonging to the king." Herod Antipas was king at this time, and this man was probably some high officer of Herod's court. Some think he was Chuza, Herod's steward or chamberlain, whose wife, Joanna, ministered to Jesus (Luke viii. 3). The miraculous healing of the nobleman's son resembles the healing of the centurion's servant (Matt. viii. 5 and Luke vii. 1), but must not be confounded with it. Son was sick —Very sick with a fever (v. 52). Disease and death come alike to high and low. There is misery in palaces as well as in hovels. Capernaum—A city on the northwest coast of the Sea of Galilee. Soon after this Jesus made Capernaum his home.

47. When he heard—Probably through the reports of those who had been at the Passover, if he had not himself witnessed the miracles there. Capernaum was not more than twenty miles from Cana, and the news would quickly spread that Jesus was again come to Galilee. Went unto....besought—Here we see his tender affection for his son; he spared no pains to get help for him. We also see his great respect to our Lord; he came himself, when he might have sent a servant; and he besought him, when, as a man in authority, some would think he might have ordered his attendance. The greatest men, when they come to God, must become beggars. Point of death—"Times of sorrow and deepest need lead us to Christ. When no earthly power can aid us, we turn to the One who has all power and love. Many a one has gone to Christ from a sense of want and conscious helplessness. It would seem that a certain shock is needed to bring us in contact with reality. We are not aware of the possession of a heart till some disease, some sudden joy or sorrow, rouses it into extraordinary action. And we are not conscious of our need of God till some chasm yawns which must be filled."

III. Jesus demands faith vs. 48-50). 48. Except ye see—Not only did they demand miracles, but miracles performed in a striking manner.—Bib. Mus. How totally unlike the Samaritans, from whom our Lord had so lately come, who embraced the divinity of his teachings without demanding wonders. This nobleman came purely absorbed in his dying son, and anxious for the bodily miracle, but thoughtless of the divine claims of the Saviour of sinners. It is this selfishness of spirit that Jesus now rebukes. The words of this verse are, as it were, an ejaculation, a thinking aloud of Jesus. He sees that to awaken this man he must more than heal his son; he must do that sign and an additional wonder. He must so heal him as to arouse the man to reflection, and then may come a true faith.—Whedon. 49. Come down, etc.—This discussion of faith was as loss of time to him. He cannot stop to answer the rebuke, to argue the case or to defend his character. It is his son alone that fills his thoughts. But his earnestness shows a belief in Christ's power, which will soon cause him to acknowledge his child's Saviour as divine. 50. Go thy way—This would be a great test to the man's faith, but he was ready for it. Thy son liveth—The healing is granted, but without Jesus leaving Cana. Until now the father had believed on the testimony of others. Now his faith is to rest on a better support—on the personal contact which he has just had with the Lord himself. —Godet. The man believed—This is an instance of the power of Jesus to convince the mind; to soothe doubts; to confirm faith, and to meet our desires. —Barnes. Had our God gone with him as he wished, his unbelief could not have been fully removed. God always bestows his gifts in that way in which his glory is best promoted and our eternal interest secured.—Clarke. The had believed in Christ's power to heal, now he believes in his word and acts word.... .... spoken—Before this he accordingly.

IV. Faith rewarded (vs. 51-54.) going down—From Cana to Capernaum. Met him—"While the father was descending the hillsides with trust and peace, they were ascending them with glad news." Thy son liveth—Meaning the same that Jesus meant when he used the same words—that he would recover from this sickness, with the prospect of lengthened life. 52. Then enquired he—His faith was rewarded. He had believed the word and received its fulfillment. It was his his delight to consider the works of God, and to note the beauty and harmony between his word and his work At the seventh hour—Definite time, definite work. "This was either one o'clock p. m., acording to the Jewish reckoning, or seven o'clock p.m., according to one Roman reckoning. The latter explains best why the nobleman did not go home the same night. But it is quite possible that he went as far towards home as he could possible that night and was completing the journey early the next day.'

53. The father knew—Everything was clear to his understanding. It was while he was beseeching the Saviour that his prayer was answered, though at the time he knew it not. Mortals can tell more of what they have experienced than they can claim by faith. The diligent comparing of the works of Christ with His words will be of great use to confirm our faith. As the word of God, well studied, will help us to understand His providences, so the providences of God, well-observed, will help us to understand His word.—Com. Com. Himself..Whole house—Believed in the divine claims of Jesus. This is the earliest mention of "household faith." The mother, the sisters, brothers, servants —the entire family—had shared in the anxiety, and now accepted the claims of the Messiah. Faith is graciously contagious. —Pul. Com. "The miracle preserved the blossom and hopes of the family; this affected them all, and endeared Christ to them. This was a nobleman and probably he had a great household; but when he comes into Christ's school, he brings them all with him. What a blessed chance was there in this house, occasioned by the sickness of the child. This should reconcile us to afflictions, we know not what good may follow from them." "1. Note the progress and growth of his faith: (1) He had faith in Jesus as a worker of miracles. (2) He had faith to seek Jesus for relief for his son. (3) After seeing Jesus he had faith in His word. (4) He had faith in Jesus as the Messiah, so strong as to openly confess him. 2. Note the quality of his faith: (1) It was faith overcoming many obstacles. (2) It was a faith exercised for others. (3) It was a reasonable faith, based on facts. (4) It was a faith that led to an avowed discipleship." 54. Second miracle— Not the second miracle Jesus had wrought (chap. iii. 2; v. 45), but the second in Galilee.

CZAR KEEPS COOL.

Whistled a Lively Air Before Signing a Ukase.

London, Jan. 30.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Telegraph says that if the Czar has chan[illegible] residence several times [illegible]lely out of consideration for [illegible] from a sense of personal [illegible] him, the [illegible] calm and unruffled. [illegible]ligence arrived that [illegible] or wounded on the Sha River. No[illegible] His Majesty. A person who has spo[illegible] him several times during the eventful days of the p[illegible] His week, assured the corre[illegible]spondent th[illegible] Majesty was less concerne[illegible] and less reo[illegible]cupied Sunday and Monday than was sen. Vo[illegible] alike before [illegible] political engagement.

Just [illegible] to-day's ukase abolishing the o[illegible] powers of the Administration and appointing General Trepoff Governor-General, His Majesty was whistling a lively air in his apartments in the palace while writing remarks on the loyal addresses, which continue to come slowly in. The reigning Empress is, according to the correspondent, equally brave and supremely indifferent to all interests, being wrapped up in the Imperial baby, whom both its parents positively adore.

The Dowager Empress, on the contrary, keenly appreciates the difficulties of the situation, and is terribly distressed in consequence.

HOW CAME THEY TO DIE?

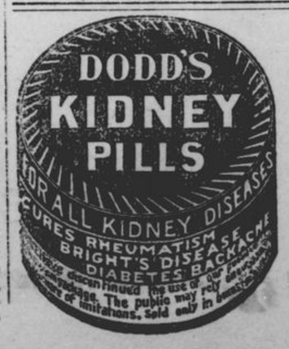
Ten Steerage Passengers Died on the Vaderland.

New York, Jan. 30.—Ten steerage passengers died at sea on the Red Star Line steamer Vaderland, which arrived here from Antwerp Jan. 24. The cause of death was given as congestion of the lungs and pneumonia, and the vessel was passed at quarantine. To-day seven hundred steerage passengers were not permitted to land when the steamer came up to her dock, and by order of the health officer the Vaderland was sent back to quarantine.

Among the questions which will come before the investigating board are: "Were the passengers on the Vaderland properly fed?" "Did the employees of the steamship company sell the steerage passengers food, knowing that the passengers could not eat the steerage rations?" "Did the steerage passengers receive proper medical attention?"

Of the ten steerage passengers who died eight were buried at sea. Autopsies were performed on the other two bodies, and Dr. Doty has ordered complete bacteriological examinations to be made in each case.

The Vaderland sailed from Antwerp on Jan. 14. The first death occurred two days later, three died on the 20th, three on the 22nd, one on the 23rd and two on the 24th. The ship's surgeon and two physicians who were in the first cabin gave it as their opinion that death primarily was due to exhaustion, exposure and poor nutrition.



ARRESTS BY WHOLESALE.

Some Five Thousand Russians Put in Jail.

Many Sent Off to Siberia Without Trial.

Grand Duke Vladimir Blamed for the Trouble.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 30.—While outwardly the capital is resuming its normal appearance, the shops reopening, the newspapers reappearing, and the troops partly vanishing from the streets, there is quietly going on a stern repression of the revolution by wholesale arrests. General Trepoff's agents, working at night, raid the homes of those whose names are marked down in the Governor-General's bureau, and seize the occupants even from their beds. It is believed that some five thousand persons have been thus transferred to prison, a large number being of the professional class. More than 150 of them are women, many of them ladies of refinement and education, who were surprised in their beds. They were compelled to dress forthwith and accompany the officers, a hundred of the prisoners are lawyers, who were instantly started for Siberia without the pretense of a trial. It may be assumed that these wholesale seizures are not only for the object of intimidating the people. but also, if necessary, to furnish the Government with hostages in future contingencies.

Minister of the Interior Sviatopolk-Marsky has promised a delegation of editors who called upon him that he will investigate the arrest of several prominent writers who are now confined in the St. Peter and St. Paul fortress and secure their release as soon as possible.

In the meanwhile the strike is spreading to other industrial centres. At Libau, a town and seaport of Russia on the Baltic Sea, with a population of about 30,000, the workmen were compelled to leave the factories and mills by the more militant faction of the strikers. The telegraph lines were damaged.

A strike has also begun at the wire works. Men singing songs and blowing trumpets, went from factory to factory, calling out the workers. Some of the mills are still working.

A gendarme was shot dead to-day while in the act of wresting a flag from a striker.

[illegible] have struck; The employees of the Riazan-Ural Railroad have joined in the movement. There has been no rioting thus far.

CAR IS A TOOL.

Keep Emperor at His Post Almost by Force.

London, Jan. 30.—News from all parts of Russia indicate a universal spread of revolt, but the populace nearly everywhere is learning the terrible lesson of the impotence of bare fists against guns and sabres, and that revolution in the form of street demonstrations against he military has failed, as fail it must. This is no guarantee for the security of the present despotism. On the contrary, all possessing real knowledge of the situation take a gloomy view of the outlook.

It is generally conceded that there soon will be a brief period of apparent calm. Then will come the real struggle. It will be the struggle of despotism, and there will be no compunction in the selection of means to the end in view. Plots take time for preparation and execution. There are millons of conspirators in Russia at the present moment, and hundreds of plots are already hatching. The St. Petersburg editors told Prince Mirsky the truth yesterday, when they declared the time was at hand when the Government no longer would be able to rely on the troops. Thousands of propagandists are now sapping the allegiance of tre military.

European students of the situation are devoting their attention to the discovery of the real object of the Grand Ducal coterie in creating Sunday's crisis. It is the general belief that Grand Duke Vladimir and his associates deliberately sought a collision with the people instead of seeking to avoid it. Few credit the monstrous stupidity of the assumption that any group of men would seek to terrorize 140,000 others by the shooting of a few thousand in the belief that the remainder would then become loyal subjects. So we have to-day elaborate stories ascribing to Grand Duke Vladimir the ambition to usurp the throne.

Vladimir Not Ambitious.

These reports may be rejected without hesitation. Vladimir's life, if he succeeded in seizing the Crown, would not be worth six weeks' purchase, and he knows it. He is not a clever man, but he is too clever to resort to such a form of suicide. He could have reached the throne by other means before the present crisis had such been his ambition. It is a matter of almost common knowledge that the Czar, more than once, wes desirous of abdicating before the present crisis and before the birth of an heir. It is well known also that his younger brother did not desire to succeed him, and the unpopular Vladimir comes next. The truth is that Grand Duke Vladimir, Grand Duge Serge and other members of the Imperial family have kept Nichalos at his post almost by force. If current report in St. Petersburg may be believed they are doing so today. Vladimir's appetites are sensual, and it is his amusement to be the power behind the throne. He has no desire to curb his debaucheries by the restrictions of imperial prominence. He is contented to remain a robber of the public funds, and to indulge his passions with the proceeds.

Grand Duke Serge is less brutal, but he is likewise a thief, and lover of tyrannical power. These men and their associates are contented with the situation so long as they are able to control the sovereign. Danger of loss of this control would drive them to any crime, however atrocious. His danger actually arose a month ago when the Czar decided to grant the essential features of the Zemstvos demands. The decree was even in print when Serge arrived from Moscow, and in association with Vladimir and others of the family interfered. The situation was the same as when Alexander decided to give a constitution to the people. Alexander refused to yield to his entourage, and they killed him. Nicholas, who is weakly, gave way, tried to compromise, and became so erratic that his mentors apparently determined to commit him irrevocably to a policy of repression. They perhaps believe now they can make him a scapegoat if the situation becomes desperate, and probably continue to control the empire through a regency. They would be able also to use the situation as a pretext for stopping the war. Whatever may be the real object of their policy they believe that it can be turned to their advantage to prolong their influence as the power behind the Russian throne. It is a policy of desperate adventure, but they are desperate men, and are utterly lacking in ordinary human compunctions.

TREPOFF OPTIMISTIC.

Confident That Crisis is Over and Proclamation Will Have Effect.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 30.—Governor-General Trepoff, in an interview this afternoon says:

"As you see the city is perfectly tranquil. There has been no disorders since Sunday, and there will be noue, in spite of the exaggerated alarmist reports with which foreign countries have been flooded. I am in a position to guarantee the peace and safety of the city. The workmen have already begun to return to work, but it is hardly possible for a general resumption of work to occur before Monday. You have read my proclamation. The vast majority of the workmen were deceived into associating themselves with a political movement. The Government intends to do everything possible under the law to see that they receive justice."

"What of the future? People talk of a revolution or an era of bomb-throwing."

"I am an optimist, I have no fear of a revolution. As for bomb-throwers, they are few in numbers. They may attempt something, but nothing will be accomplished in that fashion.

"There are stories of wholesale arrests?" it was suggested.

"There have been no arrests since I assumed the Governor-Generalship yesterday. The Government cannot permit conspirators against it to plot and agitate as they please."

"Is Maxim Gorky under arrest?"

"He is not in St. Petersburg, which is the extent of my jurisdiction."

"Where is Father Gopon?"

"I cannot tell you."

In concusion, Governor-General Trepoff said the Government had nothing to conceal. He was ready at all times to answer proper queseions.

Kovno is calm. Some of the factories were reopened this morning, but they were closed later. The street cars have stopped running. Troops are patroling and bands of workmen are parading the streets, but there has ben no disorder.

Thousands of persons gathered at the railway station to-day at Helsingfors, to welcome seven persons who returned from banishment under the decree permitting exiles to re-enter Finland. Two others, the Counts Creutz, father and son, did not arrive, having been arrested on the way.

RIOT AT RIGA.

Strikers Attempted to Enter Town—Many Shot Down.

Riga, Russia, Jan. 30.—The strikers on the suburban factories here to-day attempted to enter the town, but were opposed by troops, who fired, killing or wounding many persons. The strikers were dispersed.

The encounter occurred near the Tukkum railroad station. The strikers attacked the troops and attempted to disarm them when the order was given to fire. Thirty workmen were killed or wounded, and a sub-chief of police and two soldiers were mortally wounded.

All the workshops and factories are closed. The strikers paraded the streets and forced all workmen to join in the procession.

Riga is a seaport town of Russia, situated on the Gulf of Riga, 360 miles southwest of St. Petersburg. In population it is the fifth city of the empire, having about 200,000 inhabitants. One-half the population is German, the remainder being Russians and Letts in equal parts, with nearly 5,000 foreigners and 2,000 Esthonians. Riga is a great market for the export of timber and flax as well as for all sorts of cereals, especially oats, and is the capital of the Government of Livonia and the seat of the Governor-General.

Swinburne's Warning to Czar.

London, Jan. 2[illegible].—The following poem by Algernon Charles Swinburne, entitled "Czar! Louis XVI.! Absit Omen!" appeared to-day in the Pall Mall Gazette:

Peace on his lying lips, and on his hands
Blood, smiled and cowed the tyrant, seeing afar
His bondslaves perish and acclaim their Czar.
Now sheltered scarce by Murder's loyal hands
Clothed on with slaughter, naked else he stands—
He flies and stands. Not now the blood red star
That marks the face of midnight. As a scar
Tyranny trembles on the brow it brands,
And shudders toward the pit where deathless death
Leaves no life more for liars and slayers to live.
Fly, coward, and cower while there is time to fly.
Cherish awhile thy terror-shortened breath,
Not as thy grandsire dide, if justice give
Judgment, but slain by judgment thou shalt die.

THE MARKETS

Toronto Farmers' Markets.

Owing to elections and snowstorm, farmers did not come in to-day. The only grain received was a load of white wheat, which sold at $1.06.

Hay is unchanged, with offerings of only three loads.

Dressed hogs are firmer at $7 to $7.50, the latter for light.

Wheat, new, bushel	$ 1 05	to	$ 1 06
Do., red, bushel	1 00	to	1 02
Do., spring, bushel	0 90	to	0 91
Do., goose, bushel	0 39	to	0 40
Oats, bushel	0 75	to	0 00
Rye, bushel	0 55	to	0 60
Buckwheat, bushel	0 48	to	0 50
Barley, bushel	0 70	to	0 00
Peas, bushel	0 00	to	10 00
Hay, timothy, per ton	7 00	to	8 00
Do., mixed, per ton	9 00	to	10 00
Straw, per ton			
Seeds—			
Alsike, No. 1, bushel	6 25	to	7 00
Do., No. 2, bushel	5 00	to	5 75
Do., No. 3, bushel	4 00	to	4 50
Red clover	6 00	to	7 00
Timothy	1 00	to	1 50
Dressed hogs	7 00	to	7 50
Apples, per bbl.	1 25	to	2 50
Eggs, per dozen	[illegible]		
Butter, dairy	0 21	to	0 23
Do., creamery	0 24	to	0 27
Chickens, spring	0 12	to	0 13
Ducks, per lb.	0 12	to	0 13
Turkeys, per lb.	0 15	to	0 16
Cabbage, per dozen	0 35	to	0 50
Potatoes, per bag	0 85	to	1 00
Cauliflower, per dozen	0 75	to	1 00
Onions, per bag	0 50	to	1 25
Celery, per dozen	0 40	to	0 40
Beef, hindquarters	7 50	to	8 50
Do., forequarters	5 00	to	5 50
Do., choice, carcase	7 00	to	7 25
Do., medium, carcase	6 00	to	6 25
Mutton, per cwt.	6 00	to	7 50
Veal, per cwt.	7 00	to	9 00
Lamb, per cwt.	8 00	to	9 50

Leading Wheat Markets.

	May.	July.
New York	$ 1.15⅛	$ 1.02⅝
Detroit	1.20⅝	1.02½
Duluth	1.13⅛	1.12⅝
St. Louis	1.13⅞	0.95⅛
Toledo	1.18½	1.01
Minneapolis	1.14½	1.12¼

British Cattle Markets.

London, Jan. 25.—Live cattle are quoted at 11c to 12c per lb.; refrigerator beef, 9c to 9½c per lb.; sheep, 12c to 13c per lb.

Toronto Live Stock Markets.

Receipts of live stock at the City Cattle Market were 65 car loads, composed of 748 cattle, 1,144 hogs, 1,092 sheep and lambs, with about 70 calves.

The quality of fat cattle was fair, but trade was the worst of the season thus far. Prices for both exporters' and butchers' were from 15 to 20c per cwt. lower.

Exporters—There was only a limited number of export cattle offered. Prices ranged from $4 to $4.90 per cwt.; export bulls sold at $3 to $4 per cwt.

Butchers—Picked lots of butchers' sold at $4 to $4.25 per cwt.; loads of good at $3.85 to $4; premium at $3.25 to $3.50; common, $2.50 to $3; inferior, $2 to $2.50 per cwt.

Milch Cows—About 25 milch cows and springers sold at $30 to $55 each.

Veal Calves—Seventy veal calves sold at $3.50 to $6 per cwt.

Sheep and Lambs—Export ewes sold at $4.50 to $4.75 per cwt.; bucks at $3.25 to $3.75 per cwt.; lambs at $5.50 to $6.50 per cwt.

Hogs—About 1,200 hogs were bought by Mr. Harris at an advance of 20 per cent. Selects sold at $5.30 and lights and fats at $5.07 per cwt.

Bradstreet's on Trade.

Bradstreet's says: The holding-off tendency hitherto noted in the cotton goods trade still continues, but in woollen goods, fall fabrics have been opened at a notable advance; the shoe and leather trade show increased activity. Hardware and groceries are being sold freely, and lumber is strong at higher prices than last year, and with manufacturers active, though ultimate distribution is curtailed by seasonable influence. With the exception of the south and portions of the southwest, where low priced cotton affects collections and clouds the future, the feeling is one of great confidence in the future, and particularly as to the first half of the present year's business. Collections are irregular, being the best in the northwest and central west, and poorest in the south. Iron and steel in its crudest forms have been rather quiet and weak. The leading interest in the trade is now negotiating for a further 100,000 tons of pig for delivery in the first half of this year, and outside consumers manufacturing their own pig are said to be short of supplies. Specifications for finished products are said to be coming in very freely. Anthracite coal is in good demand, and bituminous is firmer. There is claimed to be some subsidence of the long continued eager demand for copper, but that metal and tin are actually firmer on the week. The strength and activity in the leather and shoe trades is practically country wide.

CANADIAN FAILUDES.

Insolvencies in the Dominion of Canada during the year 1904, as reported by R. G. Dun & Co., were much more numerous and involved a far heavier indebtedness than the preceding year or 1902. Carrying the comparison back still further, it is found that there were more failures in every year of the preceding eight, and liabilities were larger in five years of the previous decade. In other words, the commercial mortality in Canada was something below the average last year, which is particularly gratifying when some allowance is made for the gradual extension of business into new territory and the normal increase in population. Manufacturing insolvencies were 307 in number and $4,136,908 in amount, against 227 failures for $3,043,218 in 1903; trading defaults numbered 914 and involved $6,577,788, compared with 725 for $4,243,543 in the previous year; other commercial failures were 25 in number and $679,421 in amount of defaulted indebtedness, as against 26 failures for $235,933 in 1903; a total of 1,246 defaults and $11,394,117 liabilities, compared with only 978 failures for $7,552,724 in the preceding year. As to location, the losses were more numerous in the Province of Ontario than in 1903, and there was also a gain in amount of liabilities, but the net change for the year was slightly less satisfactory in Quebec. Liabilities in British Columbia more than doubled, rising above a million dollars, while the returns from New Brunswick compared most favorably with those of 1903.

What We Owe the Shark.

(Duluth News-Tribune.)

The smiling shark may eat a man now and then—though scientists doubt it—but if he does man gets even. He makes tinned soup and jelly of the smiling shark's fins, extracts fine machinery oil from his liver, makes handsome leather of his skin, walking sticks from his backbone, and many useful articles from his jawbones and teeth. Do you wonder that the shark takes a nip at a man's leg now and then?

Lots of people are pound-foolish who aren't even penny wise.

BALFOUR GIVES REASON.

Why He Favors Reform in the Fiscal Policy.

London, Jan. 30.—Speaking of his constituents at Manchester, Premier Balfour denied the assertion that he had been vague regarding the fiscal question. In his utterances Mr. Morley had offered a reward to anybody who could state his fiscal policy on a sheet of note paper. He would do it on half a sheet, holding up a sheet of note paper, from which he read: "First, I desire such an alteration of the fiscal system as will give us freedom of action, which is impossible while we hold ourselves bound by the maxim that no taxation should be imposed except for revenue.

"I desire this freedom in the main for three reasons; It will strengthen our hands in negotiations by which we may hope to lower foreign hostile tariffs, it may enable us to protect the fiscal independence of those colonies which desire to give us preferential treatment, it may be useful where we wish to check the importation of those foreign goods, which, because they are bountyfed or tariff-protected abroad, are sold below cost price here.

"Secondly, I desire closer commercial union with the colonies which have given that policy much support. I think it might produce great and growing commercial advantages both to the colonies and the mother country by promoting freer trade between them. Such commercial union is beset with many difficulties, but those can best be dealt with by the colonial conference, provided its objects are permitted to be discussed unhampered by limiting instructions. I recommend that the subject shall be referred to the conference on these terms.

"Lastly, I do not desire to raise home prices for the purpose of aiding home withdrawn.

SLASHED BY A LUNATIC.

Insane Man Pulled a Razor and Cut His Attendants.

Toronto, Jan. 30.—While removing a lunatic from the House of Industry to the Queen Street Asylum last evening Patrick Riley and John Webb, two inmates of the House of Industry, had a narrow escape from death. John Kaiser, another of the inmates, went violently insane a few days ago, and it was feared that he would harm the other inmates, it was decided to remove him to the asylum. He and the men who removed him left in a cab, and when they had reached the corner of Queen street and Euclid avenue Kaiser drew a razor from his pocket and with two sweeps of his arm slashed his two attendants, inflicting a serious wound on the neck of each.

As the men were in such close proximity to each other, Kaiser could not give his arm full play, and thus the lives of Riley and Webb were saved. Both men jumped from the cab, bleeding profusely, and were carried into George D. Reid's drug store, at the corner of Queen and Euclid.

After being attended by Dr. Watson the injured men were removed in the ambulance to St. Michael's Hospital. Riley was injured more severely than Webb.

TO SPEND FOUR MILLIONS.

C. P. R. Adopts Extensive Scheme of Betterments.

Montreal, Jan. 30.—The C. P. R. directors propose to spend upwards of $4,000,000 in betterments this year. The larger part of this great sum will be given over to the west, and Mr. William White, who has charge of that part of the system, left to-night for Toronto on the way to Winnipeg. Before Mr. White left, however, a decision was arrived at as to the expenditures under his jurisdiction.

The contract for the second track of the main line from Fort William will not be announced until Mr. White arrives home.

Five hundred miles of new standard rails will be laid between Montreal and Vancouver during the year. Bridges will be replaced and renewed, grades improved and terminal facilities increased. In every way possible the intention is to work towards the shortening of the passenger time tables on the main stretches, and to add to the equipment for handling freight in general and wheat from the west in particular.

STOESSEL A POLTROON.

Most Discreditable Surrender Recorded in History.

(Toronto Globe.)

London, Jan. 30.—The London correspondent of the Times telegraphs a long account of his recent visit to Port Arthur. He is at a loss to assign a cause for the surrender creditable to the Russians. After a careful examination of the city, the fortifications and the harbor, he reached the conclusion that there was no lack of troops, ammunition, food, nor any ot her essential thing. All accounts, he says, agree in condemning General Stoessel, who, if he had not been checked by General Kondrachenko, would have capitulated weeks before. All accounts, too, agree in condemning the majority of the Russian officers, who had more fear of a failure of their comforts than of ammunition. All praise the courage of the Russian rank and file, who were in many cases shamefully commanded. All agree that no man less deserved the title of hero than Stoessel. Those who have witnessed the condition of the fortress, contrasting the evidence of their eyes with the astounding misrepresentations of General Stoessel, have had their sympathy turned into derision, believing that a more discreditable surrender was never recorded in history. Had the Kaiser waited until he had received the reports from the German and other military attaches, he could never have conferred the Order of Merit upon General Stoessel.

A RUNAWAY LOCOMOTIVE.

Thrilling Escape From Death of a N. S. Train Crew.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 30.—A train crew on the Dominion Atlantic had a thrilling escape from death on a runaway engine to-day. The engine, with a snow plow, left Annapolis for Digby this morning. The plow jumped the track and toppled over. The engine cab was partly torn away and the driver was hurled off.

The engine ran away at terrific speed and covered several miles. Escaping steam and hot water nearly scalded to death the fireman and brakeman, who could not reach the throttle to stop her. The engine did not stop until the steam was exhausted.

The driver, who was dragged by the wreckage of the cab several car lengths, was considerably injured, but managed to reach the railway fencing and crawl on it half a mile to the nearest station.

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