ONTARIO WHEAT CONDITION

32,000 Acres Cut of a Total of 694,000 Acres Have Been Winter Killed

A despatch from Ottawa says: The census and statistics office in a bulletin states that according to returns from its crop correspondents, made on May 6, about 19 per cent. of the area sown to fall wheat in Ontario has been winter killed, this percentage representing a reduction of 132,000 acres, i.e., from 694,000 acres, the area sown, to 562,000 acres, the area expected to be harvested.

In Alberta the other large fall wheat province, fall wheat has been killed to the extent of 15.6 per cent., representing 36,000 acres, which will make the area to be harvested 193,000 acres instead of 229,000 acres, the area sown last fall.

The total area estimated to be sown to fall wheat, including besides Ontario and Alberta, 3,000 acres in Manitoba, 78,000 acres in Saskatchewan and 2,700 acres in British Columbia, was 1,005,700, now reduced by winter killing in Ontario and Alberta to 838,700 acres.

The condition of fall wheat on May 6 was in Ontario returned as 81.3 per cent., and in Alberta as 87.3 per cent. For all Canada the condition of fall wheat on May 6 was 83 per cent. of the standard, or 103 per cent. of the average condition of the past five years represented by 100. The condition of the fall wheat crop this year is, in fact, superior to that of any year since 1910, when the record was over 89 per cent. of the standard.

Upon the whole, spring seeding was well advanced, except in the Maritime Provinces, where the spring this year is reported as abnormally late, and in Quebec, where not more than from 3 to 5 per cent. of spring seeding was reported to have been done by May 6. In Ontario at this date about 24 per cent. of wheat, 43 per cent. of oats, and 41 per cent. of barley had been got in, and 40 per cent. of the total seeding was reported as completed on May 6 as against the same proportion last year on April 30. In Manitoba 57, in Saskatchewan 79, and in Alberta 88 per cent. of the spring wheat crop was reported as seeded by May 6, these proportions comparing favorably with the progress reported last year on April 30. For the five provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta the proportion of seeding reported as effected on May 6 was about 48 per cent. for wheat, 23 per cent. for oats, 16 per cent. for barley and 37 per cent. for all crops.

About 14 per cent. of the area in hay and clover meadows is reported as winter-killed, as compared with 22 per cent. last year. The average condition of these crops on May 6 was 86.7 per cent., as compared with 89.6 per cent. last year, and 74.6 in 1912.

UNDESIRABLES DEPORTED.

Ontario Rejects Over Four Hundred in Six Months.

A despatch from Toronto says: In the half-yearly report of the Provincial Police, issued Wednesday, the campaign against undesirables has been continued with considerable success. During the six months 417 undesirables were turned over to the Dominion immigration authorities for deportation, which is an increase of 274 over the same period last year. Evidently conditions in the United States are driving this class to Canada, for last week 44 undesirables were encountered at Niagara Falls. The number of cases handled was 789, in connection with which there were 527 convictions and 136 discharges. This is an increase of 279 cases handled.

JUMPED FROM MOVING TRAIN

Kingston Man Died After Reaching the Hospital.

A despatch from Brockville says: In jumping from the eastbound Grand Trunk express, on which he was stealing a ride, Fred McCormack, a Kingston man about 25 years of age, fell under the wheels as the train was coming to a stop at the local depot. One arm and one leg were severed and other serious injuries inflicted. McCormack died four hours later in the hospital.

MILITANTS ARE BLAMED.

Fire Broke Out Near Where King and Queen Were Staying.

A despatch from Aldershot, England, says: A serious fire, supposedly of suffragette origin, on Wednesday, broke out in the long valley close by the Royal pavilion, where King George and Queen Mary are staying for the manoeuvres. Their Majesties had left the pavilion when the blaze was discovered. The fire was extremely difficult to combat and was not extinguished for a considerable time. When the King and Queen left the pavilion two suffragettes were seen at the entrance waving "votes for women" banners.

BEARS AT STURGEON POINT.

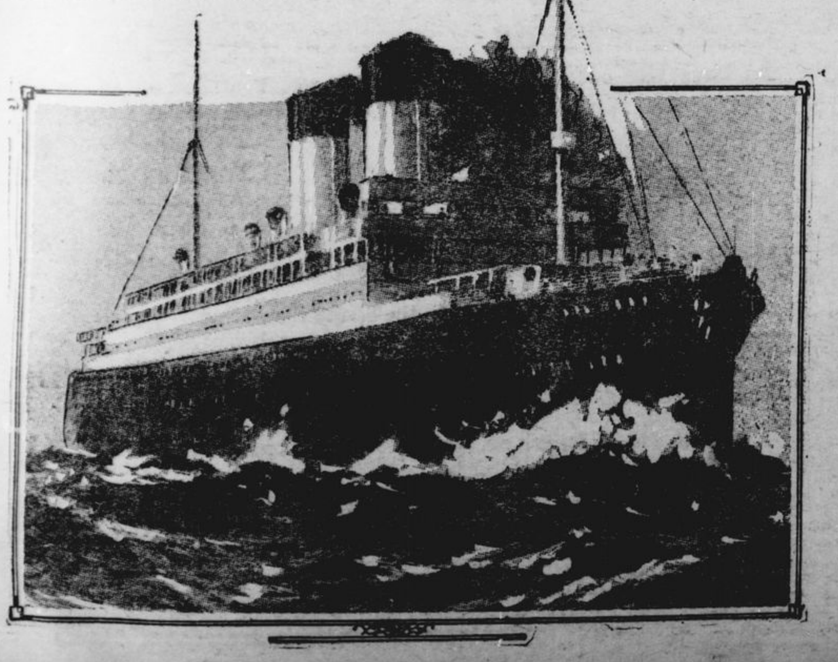
Several Have Been Killed and Others Have Been Seen.

A despatch from Minden says: Bears seem to be particularly tame just now in the North Country. It is seldom that a bear is seen at Sturgeon Point, yet one trotted past a lady recently and disappeared in the bushes. A big black bear, weighing 250 pounds, was shot by Mr. Ezra King, of Belmont Lake. The skin was in prime condition. Phil Aldred, of North Harvey, shot a bear which he had previously trapped. The pelt was jet black, and valued at $18. The bear was a large one.

NEW ATLANTIC LINERS.

Two Splendid Vessels for the Canadian Pacific.

This season will see the Atlantic service of the Canadian Pacific augmented by the addition of two new steamers. These two vessels will be of the one class cabin type, which are becoming so popular. Barclay Curle & Company, of Glasgow, secured the contract for the building of the ships some months ago, and the construction is well under way. They are being specially constructed for the Atlantic service and will contain every possible convenience for the comfort of passengers. They will be of the "one class" type, with passenger accommodation for 520 second, and 1,200 third class. These new vessels have been named the "Missanbi" and the "Metagama." Their length will be of 520 feet, greatest breadth 64 feet, while the breadth of the passenger deck will be 41 feet. Each vessel will have a dead weight capacity of 7,950 tons, with an approximate cargo capacity for 6,000 tons. The famous cruiser stern, which is the feature of the new Empress recently placed on the Pacific coast, is being introduced, and the new ships will also have six complete steel decks. In order to ensure safety the hulls are to be sub-divided by water-tight doors and bulkheads, so as to be capable of floating when three compartments are open. These water-tight bulkheads and doors will be automatically controlled from the bridge. The speed of each vessel will be 15 knots, with a draught of 27.5. As for the interior of the vessels, each second-class state room will be fitted with a wardrobe and chest of drawers, folding lavatory with mirror, and other conveniences. The public rooms will be dining saloon, smoking room, lounge and drawing room. The refrigerating plant will be capable of making 300 lbs. of ice per eight hours. The vessels will be heated and ventilated on the thermo-tank system, changing the air eight times each hour. There will also be a printing plant on board each ship.



PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES OF AMERICA.

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

Breadstuffs.

Toronto, May 26.—Flour—Ontario wheat flours, 90 per cent., $3.80 to $3.85, seaboard, and at $3.85 to $3.90, Toronto. Manitobas—First patents, in jute bags, $5.60; do., seconds $5.10; strong bakers', in jute bags, $4.

Manitoba wheat—Bay ports—No. 1 Northern $1.01½ and No. 2 at 99½c.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 quoted at $1.04 to $1.05, outside and $1.06, on track, Toronto.

Oats—No. 2 Ontario oats, 39½ to 40c, outside, and at 42c, on track, Toronto. Western Canada oats 43½c for No. 2, and at 41c for No. 3, Bay ports.

Peas—$1 to $1.05 outside.

Barley—Good malting barley, 56 to 58c, according to quality.

Rye—No. 2 at 63 to 64c, outside.

Buckwheat—$3 to $5c, outside.

Corn—No. 2 American, kiln-dried, quoted at 78½c, Toronto.

Bran—Manitoba bran $24 to $25 a ton, in bags, Toronto freight. Shorts, $26 to $27.

Country Produce.

Butter—Choice dairy, 18 to 20c; inferior, 15 to 16c; farmers' separator prints, 21 to 22c; creamery prints, fresh, 23 to 24c; do., storage prints, 22 to 23c; solids, storage, 20 to 21c.

Eggs—21 to 23c per dozen, in case lots.

Honey—Extracted, in tins, 10½ to 11c per lb. Combs, $2.25 to $2.50 per dozen for No. 1, and $2 for No. 2.

Cheese—New cheese, 14 to 14½c for large, and 14½ to 15c for twins.

Beans—Hand-picked, $2.25 to $2.30 per bushel; primes, $2.10 to $2.20.

Poultry—Fowl, 17 to 19c per lb; chickens, 19 to 20c; ducks, 20c; geese, 15 to 16c; turkeys, 20 to 23c.

Potatoes—Delawares, $1.20 to $1.25 on track here, and Ontarios at $1.10 per bag, on track.

Provisions.

Bacon—Long clear, 15 to 16c per lb. in case lots. Hams—Medium, 18 to 18½c; do., heavy, 17 to 18c; rolls, 15 to 15½c; breakfast bacon, 18 to 19c; backs, 20 to 22c.

Lard—Tierces, 12¾c; tubs, 13c; pails, 13¼c.

Baled Hay and Straw.

Baled hay—No. 1 at $14.50 to $15 a ton, on track here; No. 2 quoted at $13 to $12.25, and clover at $10 to $11.

Baled straw—Car lots, $8.25 to $8.50, on track, Toronto.

Winnipeg Grain.

Winnipeg, May 26—Cash:—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, 96⅝c; No. 2 do., 94⅝c; No. 3 do., 93⅝c; No. 4, 89⅝c; No. 5, 80⅝c; No. 6, 75⅝c; feed, 70⅝c; No. 1 Winter wheat, 96⅝c; No. 2 do., 94⅝c; No. 3 do., 93⅝c. Oats—No. 2 C.W. 38⅝c; No. 3 do., 37⅝c; No. 2 feed, 36⅝c. Barley—No. 3, 49⅝c; No. 4, 43⅝c; rejected, 45⅝c; feed, 45c. Flax—No. 1 C.W., $1.36¼; No. 2 C.W., $1.35¼; No. 3 do., $1.23¼.

Montreal Markets.

Montreal, May 26.—Corn—American No. 2 yellow, 80c. Oats—Canadian Western, No. 2, 43½ to 44c; No. 3, 42½c. Barley—Manitoba feed, 50 to 51c. Flour—Manitoba Spring wheat patents, firsts, $5.60; do., seconds, $5.10; strong bakers', $4.90. Winter patents, choice, $5.25 to $5.50; straights, rollers, $4.70 to $4.90; do., in bags, $2.20 to $2.35. Rolled oats—Barrels, $4.55; bag of 90 lbs., $2.15. Millfeed—Bran, $23; shorts, $25; middlings, $28; moullie, $28 to $32. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car vots, $14 to $15.50. Cheese—Finest westerns, 12½ to 12¾c; do., easterns, 11¾ to 12c. Butter—Choicest creamery, 23 to 23½c; seconds 22 to 22½c. Eggs—Fresh, 23 to 24c; selected, 26 to 27c; No. 1 stock, 23c; No. 2, do., 21 to 21½c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, 95c to $1.25.

United States Market.

Minneapolis, Minn., May 26.—Wheat, May, 93⅞c; July, 94¼c; No. 1 hard, 99¼c; No. 1 Northern, 95⅞ to 98¼c; No. 2 Northern, 93⅞ to 96⅞c. Corn, No. 3 yellow, 68 to 68½c. Oats, No. 3 white, 33⅞ to 39½c. Flour and bran unchanged.

Duluth, Minn., May 26.—Linseed, cash, $1.56¾; July, $1.57¾. Close wheat, No. 1 hard, 97⅞c; No. 1 Northern, 96⅞c; No. 2 Northern, 94⅞c to 94½c; July, 96⅞c.

Live Stock Markets.

Toronto, May 26.—Cattle—Choice butchers, $7.90 to $8.30; good, $7.90 to $8.25; common cows, $5 to $5.25; canners and cutters, $3.60 to $4; choice fat cows, $6.50 to $7.25; choice bulls, $7 to $7.50.

Calves—Good veal, $8.75 to $10; common, $4.75 to $7.

Stockers and feeders—Steers 800 to 900 lbs., $7.25 to $7.75; good quality, 700 to 800 lbs., $7 to $7.50; light, $6.25 to $7.25.

Sheep and lambs—Light ewes, $6.50 to $7; heavy, $5.75 to $6.25; bucks, $5.75 to $8.25; Spring lambs, each, $6 to $10; yearling lambs, $9 to $9.50.

Hogs, $8.35 to $8.40, fed and watered; $8.60 to $8.65, off cars; $8 to $8.05, f.o.b.

Montreal, May 26.—Prime beeves 8c to near 8½c; medium, 5¾ to 7½c; common, 4½c to 5½c; cows, $30 to $80; calves, 8c to 7c; sheep, 5½c to 8½c; spring lambs, $4 to $6 each; hogs, 9¼ to 9½c.

LIABLE TO HUGE FINE.

Big Seizure of Skins at a Hudson Bay Company Post.

A despatch from Fort William, Ont., says: When the Provincial Police searched the Hudson Bay Company's post at Long Lake, about one hundred miles north of Jackfish on the C.P.R., last Sunday, 424 beaver, 86 otter and 1,324 muskrat skins were found. All the animals named are protected by law. The manager of the post, William Thompson, when brought before the Magistrate at Nipigon pleaded guilty to unlawful possession of the skins, and asked to have his case remanded. The entire number of pelts are valued at $10,000, and figuring the penalty for each skin the maximum fine would amount to $117,000.

BRITAIN'S NEW AEROPLANE

The King Was Enthusiastic After Witnessing a Flight—Secret Will be Kept

A despatch from London says: It is stated that the Government wishes to maintain the secret of the new safety aeroplane which is the property of the War Department. While this would give a great advantage to the British army aerial service, it is pointed out by some that it would be against the interests of humanity in the conquest of the air. The King is enthusiastic over the new machine. After witnessing a flight at Aldershot he exclaimed: "Why haven't you a hundred of these in the army?"

Col. Seely, Secretary for War, in an interview said the invention of the machine was due to the brains of many men. Four organizations had played a part, namely: the National Physical Laboratory, the Advisory Committee on Aeronautics, the Royal aircraft factory and experimental fliers. "The new aeroplane," he said, "is inherently not automatically stable, that is to say its stability depends on the shape, not on any mechanical attachment. The secret can be applied to the monoplane as well as to the biplane. The new aeroplane, which is all British and all the product of British brains, except the engine, has been put to all manner of trials. It has been flown in a gale, flung at air pockets and eddies, and banked steeply, and has proved stable in all ways. A novice can quite safely control it in the air, but still the greatest problem of all remains to be solved—that of safe landing. I have flown hundreds of miles, and know that this is one thing that is checking the advance of flying."

FROM BONNIE SCOTLAND

NOTES OF INTEREST FROM HEB BANKS AND BRAES.

What is Going on in the Highlands and Lowlands of Auld Scotia.

Intimation has been made of a gift of $500,000 to Dundee by Sir James K. Caird, Bart., towards the erection of a new city hall and council chamber.

As the result of an explosion that occurred in Mount Vernon Colliery, Shettleston, two miners, Duncan McIntyre and John Brown, were severely injured.

A man named McGowan of Glasgow, was fatally injured whilst working in the Kingston Dock, Glasgow, through a heavy iron bucket falling on his head.

Important developments are pending in the coal fields around the Bellshill district. Two new pits are being sunk by the Wishman Coal Company in the vicinity of Mossend.

Owing to the slackness of trade many men are being paid off or suspended at Glasgow docks, and crowds of men can be seen waiting in vain for a chance to get work.

The death has occurred at his residence in Upper Coltbridge Terrace, Murrayfield, Edinburgh, of Mr. Francis Braid, formerly postmaster of Glasgow, in his seventy-sixth year.

Damage to the extent of about $600,000 was done by a fire in the paper works of Messrs. Pirie at Stoneywood, near Aberdeen, and between 400 and 500 employes have been rendered idle.

The death has occurred of Mr. Henry Arthur Kellen, a prominent official of the North British Railway Company at Glasgow. He had been employed with the company for more than fifty years.

The Sanquhar and Kirkconnel Collieries have advanced the Kirkconnel Bowling Club the necessary amount to clean off the debt on their new green and as much as will build an up-to-date pavilion.

The managers of the Western Infirmary of Glasgow announces the handsome gift made to the institution by Miss Helen Murray, Edinburgh, of a sum of $40,000 for the endowment of a ward.

The Weston District Committee of Stirlingshire have formulated a scheme for the improvement of 46½ miles of main roads within its area. Negotiations for a loan from the Road Board are proceeding.

At the annual conference of the Scottish Fisheries Association, held in Buckie, resolutions were adopted calling upon the Government to make further inquiry into the matter of State loans to fishermen.

During a severe thunderstorm that broke out over the Weston and Midland districts of Scotland, the spire and part of the U.F. Church at Blackford, Perthshire, was struck by lightning and an old man killed.

Edinburgh Council have approved of a recommendation by the Electric Lighting Committee that a piece of ground be acquired at Westbank, Portobello, for the erection of a new electric light station to cost $75,000.

A boy named John Smith, 16 years of age, of Aberdeen, met with a terrible death when he was blown over the cliffs at Burnbank Shore, near Cove Bay, a few miles outside Aberdeen, and fell a distance of over 120 feet.

Campbelltown fishermen have resolved to protest against the motion passed by the convention of burghs, regarding a close time for herrings in the Forth of Clyde, and the closing of Loch Ryan against seine-net fishing.

The Army and Navy Chaplain Committee of the Church of Scotland and the United Free Church of Scotland, have addressed a letter to the National Rifle Association protesting against opening the ranges at Bisley on Sunday.

Intimation has been received through an Edinburgh firm of solicitors that Miss Christina Anderson, a native of Tullicillan parish, has made a gift of $5,000 to Dunfermline Abbey, and a similar gift to Tullicillan parish church.

In Apprehension.

"I gave her a plush album on her wedding anniversary. It was one I had had about the house for some time, but it looked like new."

"Well?"

"Now she has found that I have an anniversary soon."

"Well, no doubt you expect her to reciprocate."

"Reciprocate is not the word; I'm afraid she will retaliate."

MILITANTS AGAIN ACTIVE.

Battle of Buckingham Was Fiercely Contested.

A despatch from London says: What the public calls the Pankhurstian maniacs gave what was perhaps the silliest of their numerous silly shows when they made a hopeless attempt to force their way into Buckingham Palace to see King George. They can, if they wish, boast of having caused several hundred police to be summoned to special duty at the public expense, and of having caused some thousands of idlers to stand in the broiling sunshine to watch their futile antics, but their achievements beyond this amounted to practically nothing except that 57 of them were arrested.

HELD AS SLAVE IN PARAGUAY

British Charge d'Affaires Has Been Asked to Report the Facts.

A despatch from London says: Sir Edward Grey stated in the House of Commons that the attention of the Foreign Office had been called to a report that a British-Canadian was being held in slavery in Paraguay, and that the British Charge d'Affaires had been requested to report the facts immediately by cable.

SIGHTED GREAT ICEBERGS.

Like Snow-Covered Islands, Reports Scandinavian Captain.

A despatch from Boston says: Numerous bergs and heavy field ice on the Grand Banks compelled the Sweden-Norway Line steamship Texas, which arrived here from Stevanger, to make a long detour to the south. Capt. Hillestrom reported that some of the bergs were of enormous size and looked like snow-covered islands.

BLOWN TO PIECES.

Tried to Pick Dynamite Out of a Crevice With a Hammer.

A despatch from Dundas, Ont., says: George Niblock, a foreman, 50 years of age, employed by the Canada Crushed Stone Corporation, was blown to pieces at the quarries here. Niblock dropped a piece of dynamite into a rock crevice. He tried to pick it out with a hammer and a terrific explosion followed.

FOUR MEN KILLED ON SHIP.

Vessel Was Participating in Naval Manoeuvres at the Time.

A despatch from Bizerta, Africa, says: Four men were killed and one was badly scalded through an accident in the stokehole of the French destroyer Renaudin on Wednesday. The Renaudin was participating at the time in the annual naval manoeuvres.

DID THE WORK

Grew Strong on Right Food.

You can't grow strong by merely exercising. You must have food—the kind you can digest and assimilate.

Unless the food you eat is digested it adds to the burden the digestive organs have naturally to carry. This often means a nervous breakdown.

"About a year ago," writes an Eastern lady, "I had quite a serious nervous breakdown caused, as I believed, by overwork and worry, I also suffered untold misery from dyspepsia.

"First I gave up my position, then I tried to find a remedy for my troubles, something that would make me well and strong, something to rest my tired stomach and build up my worn-out nerves and brain.

"I tried one kind of medicine after another, but nothing seemed to help me.

"Finally a friend suggested change of food and recommended Grape-Nuts. With little or no faith in it, I tried a package. That was eight months ago and I have never been without it since.

"Grape-Nuts did the work. It helped me grow strong and well. Grape-Nuts put new life into me, built up my whole system and made another woman of me!"

Name given by Canadian Postum Co., Windsor, Ont. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

THIS INVESTMENT

HAS PAID 7% PER ANNUM

half yearly since the Securities of this Corporation were placed on the market 10 years ago. Business established 28 years. Investment may be withdrawn in part or whole any time after one year. Safe as a mortgage. Full particulars and booklet gladly furnished on request.

NATIONAL SECURITIES CORPORATION, LIMITED.

CONFEDERATION LIFE BUILDING - TORONTO, ONT.

CANADA'S NAVY RESERVE

Atlantic, Pacific, and Great Lakes the Scene of the Three Headquarters

A despatch from Ottawa says: The Government Bureau has issued a statement which says that an order-in-Council has been passed by the Government and was signed by the Duke of Connaught authorizing the establishment in Canada of a volunteer naval reserve force under the Naval Service Department. A sum is being placed in the estimates sufficient for this year's work.

There is already a volunteer naval force at Victoria, B.C., which has been financed privately. Admiral Kingsmill is on his way to the coast, and this force will be at once given official recognition.

There is a petition already before the department for the formation of a company of naval reserves in Toronto, and steps will be taken at once to organize the force. Mr. Aemilius Jarvis is interested in the Toronto company, and predicts easily the formation of a company of 250 men.

The headquarters of the force will be at Ottawa, but it is proposed to organize three divisions, Atlantic, Great Lakes, and Pacific.

The Great Lakes division will likely have its headquarters in Toronto, and will include the Upper St. Lawrence, the Great Lakes, and the territory as far as the Rockies.

Our London Letter

On Watch for Suffragettes.

Hampton Court Palace has just been reopened under conditions which assure its historic collection from damage at the hands of suffragettes.

An entrance fee of one shilling (24 cents) is charged, children under 12 in the company of adults being admitted for sixpence (12 cents). Visitors are not allowed to wander through the palace alone, as previously, but are conducted around in parties at convenient intervals.

Apparently there will be no free days, but large parties are admitted at half rates, subject to prior application to the secretary.

To Do Away With Strikes.

A great trades union combine has been organized in England, in which miners, railway men and transport workers, totaling 1,350,000 men, hereafter will support each other in their disputes with employers. The members of the Miners' Federation voted in favor of this working agreement between the three organizations and the executives have appointed a committee to arrange the details.

It was found in some of the more recent strikes that without a working agreement by which all would join together, in case of a dispute, not a great deal could be accomplished by any one organization. When the transport workers were on strike, for example, the railway men kept at work and the attempt to tie up the transport of goods, except in restricted areas did not succeed. Also when the miners go on strike they cannot make it immediately effective unless the railway men refuse to handle coal, as in many cases the collieries have large stocks on hand and at other mines non-union labor can be obtained. With the three working together, the leaders believe they can enforce better conditions from the employers.

Robert Smillie, M.P., president of the Miners' Federation, which with its 800,000 members is the largest organization in the combination, believes that co-operation between the three classes of workers will do away with strikes and lockouts, as representations made to employers by leaders representing 1,350,000 men will be there to receive every consideration, while others consider that the combination will wield a great influence in politics. Social legislation supported by all these voters will certainly, it is argued, receive the attention of parliament.

Vindication of a Reporter.

Ten years ago Henry W. Nevinson, then a rather obscure London journalist, investigated conditions of slavery alleged to exist in Portuguese West Africa, especially with respect to the laborers of the "cocoa" islands of San Thome and Principe. He wrote what he saw and his report was received with laughter, then with sneers, then with angry denial. But the "White Book" recently published by the British foreign office proves that he understated rather than overstated the truth.

It was difficult to get serious governmental attention to the matter, but the affair became an English political scandal because the leading cocoa-makers using this slave labor products are also pillars of nonconformity and bounteous contributors to liberal party funds. Finally the Portuguese government was brought to promise to send home these entrapped negroes, who now number 23,000.

The recent "White Book" shows that slave raiding on the mainland for the islands is still going on, that the promises of repatriation are being slackly kept, and that with practical unanimity the laborers wish to "go home."

Caste in India Breaking Up.

Sir George Macalpine, urging the claims of India at the Baptist Missionary society's meeting recently, said that if there was one fact clear to-day it was that caste in India was breaking up. One learned Indian had told him that he gave caste ten years more life, after which it would no longer exist. And caste gone, there would be a great influx from India into the Christian church.

Rewards for Scientific Discovery.

Sir Ronald Ross, discoverer of the malaria parasite of the mosquito, has applied to the British parliament for a pension of $5,000 a year in the effort to establish the principle that there should be public rewards for scientific discoveries which are of such a nature that they can bring no commercial return.

How much his discovery means in money as well as in human lives is shown by the case of the Suez Canal company's works at Ismalia, which were about to be removed because so many of the workers were dying with malaria. Sir Ronald went to Egypt three times without fee. As a result of his investigations and advice the mosquitoes were removed instead of the works, and the British nation, which owns a majority of the canal shares, was saved far more than $5,000 a year in public revenue.

Prepare Connaught's House.

Clarence House is apparently being prepared for the home-coming of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. Since the Duke was appointed Governor-General of Canada the big mansion in St. James's has been shut up and all the blinds drawn, and the only sign of life about the royal residence has been the sentry who has daily mounted guard at one of the side doors.

Within the last few days, however, there has been an invasion of builders and painters and lately the upper windows were thrown open and the blinds drawn up. Workmen are busy making extensive alterations to the raised conservatory at the side of the house looking out over the Mall and St. James's Park. Scaffolding has been erected and some of the windows have been removed.

Women Guides in London.

For some years an Englishwoman living in Paris has made a capital living as a guide, and an advertisement appeared in a London daily paper recently in which an English woman "speaking five languages" offered to accompany visitors of her own sex around London.

There should be, one would imagine, a big demand for women guides in London, but an official at Thomas Cook and Son's head office did not take this view.

"We have a number of women guides on our list," he said to a correspondent, "but we are very rarely asked for their services."

On the other hand the Women's International League organizes trips abroad conducted exclusively by women, and women guides are always available for visitors to London. It is found that their services are greatly appreciated and mothers often ask for women who can meet their children on their journeys to and from school.

It is obvious, too, that in shopping expeditions a male guide is useless, and there must be many foreign, American and Colonial women now in London who would be glad of the services of a capable woman with an intimate knowledge of the West End shops.

Comment on Events

One More Fact About Mars.

The idea of a life on the planet Mars, and especially the idea of a life closely resembling our own, somehow always makes a strong appeal to the imagination. Astronomers themselves are not immune from the enthusiasm. Hundreds of books have been written, pro and con, and within recent years a notably sane and well-reasoned defence of the idea of Professor Percival Lowell, one of the most prominent of American investigators with the telescope. The theory must still be considered to be in the "hobby" stage, for no absolute proof exists. It is a question of weighing probabilities and speculating from them toward possibilities.

One more fact has just been thrown into the scale, adding to the weight of the probabilities that life may exist on the planet. Professors Slipher and Very, of the Lowell Observatory, find that Mars is surrounded by a watery vapor, and that there is probably one-third as much water in its atmosphere as in the atmosphere of the earth. This means that forms of life similar to those we know are possible although the probability for the existence of the human species is slight. It is, of course, slight on many other counts as well. Nevertheless here is a very important new factor.

A Spur to Efficiency.

A novel argument for the establishment of a minimum wage in industry is advanced in an article entitled "Some Aspects of the Minimum Wage" in a recent issue of the Journal of Political Economy. According to the writer of the article, H. A. Millis, a minimum wage in many cases would benefit the employer as much as the employe, for it would compel both to adopt more efficient methods of production.

At present, the writer points out, many manufacturers, especially in the trades which are labelled "sweated," run their establishments in a wasteful manner. They are able to keep up with their more up to date and efficient competitors only because the wages they pay their workers are much smaller than the wages paid by the more reputable employers.

A minimum wage law applied to such employers would it is asserted compel them either to discontinue their slovenly method of manufacture or get out of business. Confronted by such a drastic situation, these employers would no doubt learn to find other means of keeping their business on a paying basis than the exploitation of their employes.

The British Flag in Mexico.

At the height of the crisis in the City of Mexico, before the warships sent men ashore at Vera Cruz, an American, traveling on business, stopped at his country's embassy on his way from the railway station to a hotel. "Don't let the natives know you're an American," an attendant warned him. "Better register as from London. And here, wear this"—and the attendant pinned on his coat lapel a miniature of the Union Jack. The ruse worked. The man passed to and fro among the excited natives without being molested, and, having completed his errand, left in perfect safety. You've got to hand it to John Bull for at least one thing—he has made his flag feared everywhere, if not everywhere respected.—Cleveland Press.

Suffering Sicily.

The historic perils of Southern Italy have again become manifest. The giant Enceladus, imprisoned beneath Mount Etna, has made another effort for release and has shaken the whole island with disaster.

How great the destruction shall prove has yet to be shown. Its extent cannot be determined until more complete reports are received of the isolated country districts to which inhabitants fled from the crumbling and burning towns.

Sufficient is told, however, to awaken the sympathy of the entire world. The loss of life must be great, the ruin of prosperous enterprises calamitous, the destruction of homes most lamentable. It is not expected that this will prove to be a parallel of the stupendous disaster at Messina five years ago, but it will hold a memorable place in the long list.

Life is a Funny Proposition.

This is the way it looks to an Eastern cynic: Drink water and get typhoid fever; drink milk and get tuberculosis; eat soup and get Bright's disease; eat meat and encourage apoplexy; eat oysters and get blood poisoning; eat dessert and get paralysis; eat vegetables and weaken the system; smoke cigarettes and die early; drink coffee and obtain early exhaustion; drink wine and get the gout. Life is a funny proposition after all. Perhaps it is best to take the playwright's advice to the heroine of his play: "Put a rose in your hair and go as far as you like."

Chinese Bandit White Wolf.

Of late much attention has been attracted to the atrocities of the Chinese bandit White Wolf, whose bands are recently reported to have suffered a severe defeat. About the atrocities themselves there is not the smallest doubt and the actual facts are sure to be worse than anything which has appeared in the newspapers. It is a mistake, however, to suppose that White Wolf and his proceedings are a rare phenomena in China. He comes of a long line of hereditary bandits, who for more than two hundred years have made robbery, rape, torture, and murder their career. Possibly the latest scion of this hopeful family has carried matters rather further than his ancestors, but the main point about him is that his doings have been brought to public notice. Peking, with its astonishing capacity for shutting its eyes to realities and for believing only what is convenient, has hitherto been able to ignore a long succession of White Wolves, most of them quite as bad as the present holder of the title. Humanity requires that White Wolf and his followers should be extirpated, but, politically, they are of no importance unless they should succeed in capturing Sianfu, the ancient capital of China. To the Chinese this city is sacred, and its fall would be regarded as a terrible omen and as a judgment upon Yuan Shih-kai and his rule.

Cat's Meat Going Up, Too.

The cats' meat mean in London complains that the export of broken-down and worn-out horses to Belgium has so raised the prices which he must pay and which compel him to ask higher prices of his customers, that he will have to give up business altogether. The profit, he says, has fallen to the vanishing point, and many of his fellows are refusing to buy or sell the commodity until prices are lowered. There are about two thousand cats' meat men in London, most of whom are united in a trade organization known as "the Retail Horseflesh Carriers' Association," and if they refuse to buy or sell meat until prices are lowered pussy's plight will not be a happy one, with the cost of living gone up among cats as well as among other Londoners.

TORONTO