

The Daily British Colonist

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LAST EDITION

SWEPT AWAY

Thousands Of Persons Were Drowned.

UNPARALLELED FLOOD

SOUTH CHINA LAID WASTE—ONE VILLAGE SWEEPED AWAY.

Hundreds of Thousands of People Are Homeless and Starving—River Rose 40 Feet in One Night—Brigands Rob and Kidnap Children.

Victoria, Aug. 18.—The overflow of the West river in South China, which rose forty feet in a single night and overwhelmed a vast area, drowning several thousand persons, has left hundreds of thousands homeless and starving, according to mail advices by the Empress of Japan arrived in Victoria.

The houses in the country about Samau in the district extending from Chinquon, Yang-te and Shaohow on the north and from Chaping-fu to Yo-chok in Kwangsi on the west, were almost all submerged. The homeless people took shelter in the hills and are facing starvation. The viceregal government has asked the Peking government for assistance. All the newspapers in Canton have opened subscription lists.

At Kweilin, the famous walled city of Kwangsi, more than 1,000 lives were lost by the water rising 100 feet in twenty-four hours. Reeling, the waters disclosed wrecked houses and bodies on every bank, and ruined crops covered with a thick deposit of mud.

The Shinfoo, a government launch, proceeding up the West river, came across numberless sampans which occupants were waiting for aid. On the embankments other sampans could be seen, beating alarm gongs, appealing to their neighbors for help in repairing the dikes, and pursuing with grim determination their life and death task.

The floods came down the Fu and Kwei rivers to the mouth of eight or nine knots, foam cresting the waves and striking terror into those whose lives had been spent along the rivers. Vast tangles of wreckage and debris were carried on the invading water. In the night the rivers rose forty feet, and two days later they had reached for seventy-two feet above the previous high water mark.

Wooden houses rocked and collapsed with never a sign of the fate of their wretched inhabitants. Meantime the inhabitants of Wachow outside the walled city abandoned themselves to despair.

The river rose with such extraordinary rapidity that almost before the people had time to think of escape the deluge was upon them.

Those who had time to gain their roofs took with them only their lives. A few erected shelters of rickety bamboo poles and preposterous awnings composed of anything that came to hand. Men, women and children were huddled together.

Before the flood the river swept along many bridges or piers, as they are called in Wuhlow, and some of floating pontoons are now lying more than thirty miles from their anchorage. Dead bodies and rude coffins were also hurried along by the flood, many cemeteries having been erased. In many places the land was out of sight on every hand.

DAILY MEMORANDA.

- Caledonian Games, at Belleville, Aug. 20th.
- Locomotive Employers' Picnic, on Saturday.
- The Excursion to New York, next Tuesday.
- Str. America's trip to Lake-On-The-Mountain, to-morrow.
- See Amusement Column for the four Moving Picture Shows and Park Vaudeville.
- Visit the Sales and Garden Party, at the Hotel Dale, Bargains at the Fanny Table.
- Bijou Theatre—Russian Soldiers on Parade, "Martyrdom of King Scattered," "Queer Tales of Good Dogs," An Illustrated Reading, "Tipperary," sung by Edgar Summerby.
- Aug. 17th. In Canadian History.
- 1783—Louisburg founded by French settlers from Newfoundland.
- 1800—The Prince of Wales arrived at Quebec.
- 1874—A cricket tournament for the championship of America began at Halifax, N.S.
- 1880—Marquis of Lansdowne was appointed Governor-General of Canada.
- 1885—Sir Francis Hicks died in Montreal.
- 1890—C. Benedict, an amateur, lowered the 1,000 yards swimming record at Montreal, by doing the distance in 23 minutes and 17 1/2 seconds.
- 1904—Widespread forest fires devastated the Kootenay country.

JOB DINNER SETS

Look At The Snaps: These sets are short a few small pieces. See them. Come quick. Only one of each.

\$25.00 Sets for	\$19.50
18.00 " "	14.00
14.00 " "	11.00
12.50 " "	9.00
10.00 " "	7.25
9.50 " "	7.25
9.25 " "	6.50
8.75 " "	6.50
8.75 " "	6.50

ROBERTSON BROS.

WAS IN TRANCE

Spiritualists Guard A Man's Dead Body.

DEAD MANY DAYS

BUT HIS FRIENDS DID NOT THINK SO.

Queer Story of Philadelphia Physician Who Had Become a Spiritualist, Unknown to His Friends.

Philadelphia, Aug. 18.—Dr. Lewis E. Wheat, a physician with a reputable practice, was found dead in his home, 1900 Diamond street, and his body was being watched over by two women spiritualists who had been in the house since his death, Sunday. They insisted that the doctor was only in a trance and that the spirit which was guarding them would direct them how to revive him.

How long the body would have lain there is a matter of speculation, for both women maintain even yet that the doctor is not dead, but merely in a trance that they can lift. They were only awaiting instructions, they said, from "Dr. Miller," their guiding spirit, who prescribes for them. They do not know whether "Dr. Miller" ever existed or not, but that makes no difference—he is the spirit revealed to them, and whatever he directs they do.

The women are Mrs. Fannie Sout and Florence Buckman. Mrs. Sout is the one who receives the messages from the spirit world and Florence Buckman is a sort of chief assistant.

Mrs. Sout said to Detective Belshaw, who arrested her: "These police do not know what they are doing. The doctor is not dead. His appearance may deceive the worldly wise, but he is merely in a trance. I communed with 'Dr. Miller' only a short time ago for instructions and he told me the case of Dr. Wheat. He said that he was a doctor, a healer, which is intelligible only to me. I alone will restore him. He is only in the hands of the spirits."

When she was asked when and how she received instructions from her spirits she replied that they all came from "Dr. Miller," whom she had never seen.

"I sit and close my eyes," she said, "and 'Dr. Miller' puts a pencil in my hand and writes through me. When he has finished I read what he has said, which is intelligible only to me. He moves my hands; I do not write. Sometimes he tells me to lay my hands on the patient, and sometimes he bids me wait. Last Sunday he told me to lay my hands on Dr. Wheat shortly before he went to sleep and I did so."

The case was first brought to the attention of the police by E. C. Strunk, a druggist who lives on the opposite corner from Dr. Wheat's home. The doctor had been a daily visitor of the druggist, and often remained some time to chat. Since Mrs. Wheat is an attorney, he would visit relatives at La. Anna, Schuykill county (in the latter part of June), the doctor has made his visits longer than usual.

When he did not make an appearance at the drug store on Sunday nor any of the days following, the druggist thought there was something wrong and the police officer had to draw to notify the coroner when they were strolled by low murmuring in another room. Entering the bathroom they found Florence Buckman stretched out on the floor and Mrs. Sout muttering over her. Mrs. Sout seemed oblivious to their presence. They roused her and asked her for an explanation.

She told them that the doctor had been taking her treatment for the last seven years, since he first met her husband, who was an orderly and later a nurse in a West Philadelphia hospital. The physician then came to her house to treat the family and he came interested in her belief. He was suffering from Bright's disease, he said, and asked her to try and cure him. She began then and has continued ever since. The doctor always called on her to have the family and kept it a secret from his family and friends. No one ever suspected him, for he was intelligent and had a good practice in healing by other means than spiritualism.

Last Sunday Mrs. Sout said, the doctor called on her and said he was feeling ill, and that he had a premonition that something was about to happen him. He asked her to come to his house and try to get "Dr. Miller" to do something for him. She went around late and found him sitting in a study chair smoking a pipe. She immediately got in communication with the spirit, before she could do anything Dr. Wheat fell back and feebled at the mouth. This did not worry her. She removed part of his clothing and his shoes. While she laid her hand on his chest, Florence Buckman applied hers to his feet.

Their treatment did not change his condition, so they continued to pray. Just what time the doctor died could not be learned.

The coroner's physician, Dr. Wadsworth, and Deputies Slavin and McHenry later conducted an investigation and found that he died of uremia poisoning. The police in the meantime took the two women and the boy to

HE IS THE NOMINEE

For the Governorship of Indiana State.

JAMES E. WATSON

James E. Watson, of Indiana, is the nominee for the governorship of that state for the coming fall election. He was elected to his party at the past session of the House of Representatives, and few men are better versed in politics, both national as well as those particular to Indiana. He was born in Indiana, at Wadesboro, and is an attorney. He married Miss Flora Miller, on December 12th, 1892. He represented the 6th Indiana district in congress, and makes his home at Rushville, Ind. Mr. Watson was state president of the Epworth League from 1892 until 1894.

FOR SERVICE IN INDIA.

Melbourne, Aug. 18.—Col. Evans, on behalf of the officers and men of the Sixth Australian Infantry regiment, one of Victoria's crack militia corps, has offered to enlist for the Bombay disturbances, and is an attorney. He married Miss Flora Miller, on December 12th, 1892. He represented the 6th Indiana district in congress, and makes his home at Rushville, Ind. Mr. Watson was state president of the Epworth League from 1892 until 1894.

Australia Offers Troops to England.

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DROWNED WHILE BATHING.

Smith's Falls, Ont., Aug. 18.—George Gutteridge, while bathing, was drowned here, yesterday. Gutteridge came from Ottawa a few days ago for a holiday. He went in to bathe in the Rideau and got beyond his depth. He came to the surface again once or twice, but those nearby did not realize his danger until too late. A young man named Morend found him lying on the bottom of the river. With the assistance of others he succeeded in bringing him to the surface. Dr. Gray worked for over an hour to resuscitate him, but without avail. The deceased was about twenty-four years of age.

For A Jaded World.

Geneva, Aug. 18.—A new Alpine hotel is advertised as the ideal resort for those who want a complete rest. All the pleasures, dishes, raps and amusements are made of paper-matter, so that guests will be spared the clatter of a restaurant, and as the material is so light guests will suffer the least possible fatigue in lifting the cups to their lips.

A Murderess' Reputation.

Berlin, Aug. 18.—The counsel for the defence of Grete Beier, the German murderess, is bringing an action against the Saxon playwright, Heinrich Aepel, who has written and is about to produce a drama entitled "The Life and Death of the Murderess Beier."

100 Grandchildren As Mourners.

Vienna, Aug. 18.—A farmer who died at Mitternewald (Austria) at the age of eighty-three was followed to the grave by 100 grandchildren.

We Show The Islands.

To their best advantage on the Amson's tours, Thursday, 2.30 pm, 50c.

LATEST NEWS

Despatches From Near And Distant Places.

THE WORLD'S THINGS

GIVEN IN THE BRIEFEST POSSIBLE FORM.

Matters That Interest Everybody—Notes From All Over—Little of Everything Easily Read and Remembered.

The first carload of wheat has reached Winnipeg. There are signs of wavering among the C. P. R. strikers. London electors vote on the Sunday street car question next January. The Western Canada wheat crop is now sure to exceed 110,000,000 bushels.

General Manager Morse, of the G. F. F. says work is progressing satisfactorily. The offices of supreme treasurer and supreme physician of the I. O. F. will be combined. Private Moir will be tried at London on October 15th for shooting Sgt. Lloyd.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's tour of Western Ontario will open with a meeting at Niagara Falls on September 15th. A number of special constables have been sworn in with a view to stopping rodneyism on harvesters' excursions.

Hamilton street railway company will renew its system and erect shops if the city cuts its percentage on all earnings over \$5,000.

Lighting struck the tower of the Mercer Reformatory for Females, Toronto, tore off a quantity of slate and set the building on fire. Wheat cutting is general in Portage Plains, the Brandon district, Indian Head, parts of the Soo Line, and everywhere where the crop is not late.

Out of 184 deaths in Montreal last week 123, or sixty-six per cent., were of children, under five years of age. Eighty-two were from diarrhoeal diseases.

The first section of Harrow to Bally's circus train was derailed near New Westminster, B.C. on Sunday, and two employees were killed and several injured.

The London Telegraph's correspondent at Constantinople calls attention to the fact that Persia is appointing a representative at Athens for the first time in 2399 years.

At Moncton, N.B. on Sunday, Herbert McLeod, fourteen years of age, was drowned. He was swimming with boys with him thought his cries for help a joke until he sank.

Mr. Coody, city treasurer, of Toronto, announces that he has received subscriptions to the Quebec Battlefields fund amounting to \$27,037.75, exclusive of the city grant of \$5,000.

Eighty per cent. of the coal mines along the Monongahela river are idle and thousands of miners are out of employment as a result of the low water in the Ohio river.

The steamer Pourquois left Havre on Friday on a voyage of discovery to the South Pole. The expedition is a private one, and is headed by Jean Charcot, who led a similar voyage in 1905.

The 8,000 riveters who have been on strike in the Yalcen shipyards, Stettin, Germany, for shorter hours and higher wages, have decided to return to work, thus averting the general lock-out threatened by the employers.

The Canadian bowlers concluded their English tour by defeating Ballymen at Coleraine. Of the thirty matches played eight were won and fifteen lost by narrow margins. The general opinion is that the team is greatly superior to 1907 aggregation.

Three arrests for alleged gambling were made at Yonkers, N.Y., on Monday at the Empire City race track. It is charged that the men were taking bets in violation of the law using a code system to represent the horses, the odds and the amount wagered. The prisoners were released on bail.

The world's record for a week's catch by any coast whaling station was broken last week by the Kyugot, B.C. station, by which twenty-six whales were taken by the steam whaler St. Lawrence. The best catch known before this was twenty-two, a record also made by the St. Lawrence. The Kyugot station has taken 234 whales since the season began.

Three girls, who were staying at Adams' Landing, Lake Champlain, were drowned on Sunday, while bathing. One of them had got beyond her depth, and the other two in trying to rescue her also got into deep water. None of them could swim. Four men were also drowned on Friday while attempting to run the rapids of the St. Maurice.

Stork Got Into Mix-Up. Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 18.—While John Reisk was driving his family home from a christening, the horse ran away and upset the carriage. When Reisk picked up his wife after the accident he found the stork had reached her during the mix-up and had left a fine baby boy in her care. Both were driven home unharmed by the experience.

100 Grandchildren As Mourners. Vienna, Aug. 18.—A farmer who died at Mitternewald (Austria) at the age of eighty-three was followed to the grave by 100 grandchildren.

We Show The Islands. To their best advantage on the Amson's tours, Thursday, 2.30 pm, 50c.

WAS JESUS A JEW?

Redeemer Was Not Born in Bethlehem.

Probabilities

Toronto, Aug. 18.—Ottawa Valley and Upper St. Lawrence (10 a.m.)—Moderate to fresh northwest to west winds, fine and a little cooler. Wednesday, fine; not much change in temperature.

Special Sale

OF Dress Goods To-Morrow.

A Good Opportunity For mothers to dress their girls with up-to-date materials for school opening at half and less than half the regular prices. The materials are of this season's buying. Dainty little checks, stripes and over-plaids of brown, navy and black, on light grounds, also shepherd checks. Materials that will wear well and wash well. Prices were 50c. to \$1.25.

Yours To-Morrow

—AT— HALF PRICE

Come and come early. They won't last long. SALES FOR CASH.

Stecicis

BORN. HAYES.—In Kingston, Sunday, Aug. 16th, 1908, to Mr. and Mrs. Philip Hayes, a daughter. (Winnipeg papers please copy.)

ROBERT J. REID.

The Leading Undertaker. Phone, 577. 237 Princess street.

Summer Drinks.

Stower's Lime Juice, Stower's Lime Juice Cordial, Rose's Lime Juice, Raspberry Vinegar, Fruit Syrup, Gurd's Ginger Ale, Gurd's Soda Water, Gurd's Caledonia Water, Imported Ginger Ale, Imported Ginger Beer, Radnor Water.

Jas. Redden & Co.

IMPORTERS OF FINE GROCERIES. SEALER & PICKLE BOTTLES. 55c for quarts, 25c for Pickle Bottles. Everything reduced for this month, at TURK'S Second-Hand Store. Phone, 705.

STABBED WITH A NEEDLE.

Thomas, Martin Tries Suicide at Oswego, N.Y. Oswego, N.Y., Aug. 18.—Armed with a common drawing needle Thomas Martin, who is incarcerated in the county jail to await the action of the grand jury on a charge of grand larceny in the second degree and burglary in the third, stabbed himself in the side. He was discovered in the act and the needle was taken away from him after he had wounded himself, although not seriously. He was at once taken from the rotary and placed in a cell under guard, where the jail physician is attending him. The alleged crime for which Martin is awaiting the action of the grand jury was the robbing of the room in the Redstone Hotel of Joseph Curt, a Scranton millionaire.

Great Clearing Sale.

Prevost, Brock Street, has made a great reduction in price in the order and ready-made clothing department, also gent's furnishings. Look at display windows.