

FURNESS LINER WENT DOWN

Steamer Florence
Driven Ashore on
Coast of Newfoundland

Twenty-two of the Twenty-seven
Members of the Crew Met a
Watery Grave

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 22—Twenty-two of the twenty-seven members of the crew of the Furness Line steamer Florence, from Halifax, N.S., for St. John's, lost their lives in the wreck of the vessel on the ledge west of St. Shotts during a northwest gale last Friday. Five exhausted survivors who reached land in a boat, brought the news to Trepassy tonight.

The steamer carried no passengers. Captain Barr of the steamer, and all his men reached shore after the vessel struck but the lofty, inaccessible cliffs of St. Shotts prevented their escape. The big tide, backed up by the gale, made it impossible to remain there and all hands were obliged to put back to the ship, which was pounding heavily.

Capt. Barr felt confident that the wind would go down but Second Mate J. Hedley volunteered to take four men in one of the ship's boats and seek a more favorable landing place further along the coast in the heavy seas then running. The captain was unwilling to risk more lives and give his consent to the second mate's expedition with reluctance.

FOUND LANDING PLACE.

With great difficulty Hedley piloted his small boat along the coast until he saw a break in the rugged line of cliffs. Pointing the nose of the boat directly into the surf he avoided the outlying rocks and on the crest of a great breaker ran his craft in without being upset. Tumbling out hastily to avoid being sucked back by the undertow, the mate and his four men dragged their boat up the beach out of reach of the sea.

The wind and sea in the meantime had increased. The combers broke continually over the decks of the vessel, which was grinding heavily on the jagged rocks. Hedley and his men searched in vain for some path by which the cliff might be scaled or the crew of the Florence helped.

The coast in that vicinity was uninhabited. The few fishermen's huts were deserted for the winter and Hedley had to take refuge for the night in one of these abandoned huts.

STEAMER DASHED TO PIECES.

At daybreak Saturday Hedley found that the wind had been steadily increasing. Hurrying back to the point off which the Florence lay he could see no signs of the steamer. Considerable of her cargo of lumber was floating along the shore but no boats were visible.

After the five survivors had made a long but fruitless search along the shore for some trace of their shipmates, they started for St. Shotts, the nearest inhabited place, several miles distant. Two of them were so exhausted from the cold and exposure that they had to be assisted by their companions. These two were left at St. Shotts to recuperate, while the others pushed on to Trepassy, when they sent word of the disaster to this city. They are not expected to arrive here before the middle of the week.

Besides Mate Hedley the survivors are Seamen W. Wight, C. Malne, J. S. Taylor and T. Smeding.

The steamer Florence was of 1,600 tons burden and was built in Sunderland, England, in 1889. She was 293.5 feet long, 40.2 beam, with a beam of 26.1 feet.

A NEW SERIAL.

The Mail will on Thursday begin the publication of a new serial entitled "The Girl of the Lumberlost," by Gene Stratton-Porter, a thrilling story of love and adventure. Watch for the opening chapter.

DETECTIVES DOGGED CASTRO'S FOOTSTEPS

Paris, Dec. 3—The Matin prints an interesting account of the adventures in Europe of Cipriano, Castro, the ex-President of Venezuela. When he arrived at Antwerp he found 20 detectives waiting for him. These dogged him with varying luck to Brussels and then to Paris.

The ex-President eluded the detectives several times with great astuteness, when he arrived in Paris, he thought he had managed to conceal his identity, but soon afterwards he became involved in a quarrel in a cafe and demolished considerable crockery with his cane. The police were called in and Castro's identity was disclosed. It is believed Castro came to Paris for the purpose of fermenting an insurrection in Venezuela but finding he was not successful in this, decided to go to the United States. Castro is aboard the Steamer Latouraine, which sailed for New York.

CATASTROPHE IN THE SOUTH

School Building Collapses While Xmas
Concert is Being Held

Over a Score of Persons Were Injured
and Some Will not Recover—
Many Broken Limbs

Greeneboro, N. C., Dec. 23—Six persons were fatally injured and a score seriously hurt, at Elkin this State last night, when a section of a school building in which the Christmas entertainment was being given, collapsed, throwing 100 persons a distance of twenty feet. Fire added to the horror of the early scene but the flames were extinguished, though not until two women and a girl had received fatal burns. Three men will die from fractured skulls and other wounds.

The scene of the tragedy is in a remote mountain country. Ten of the less seriously injured sustained broken legs, eight broken arms and several reported broken ankles or wrists.

MONCTON VISITED BY SERIOUS BLAZE

Moncton, Dec. 22—A fire that caused a loss of probably \$12,000 of \$15,000 in which H. G. Marr, the well-known milliner of St. John, was the principal sufferer, broke out in Marr buildings, Main street, opposite the Summer Company block last night.

The blaze started near 12 o'clock in one of Mr. Marr's small buildings at the rear of the three story structure which was occupied by Archibald McDougall, as a carpenter shop. The origin of the fire is unknown but it is supposed to have started around the chimney.

The firemen made a quick response but the flames had a considerable start, when discovered, and the building was doomed before the water could be got on it.

There is a net work of wooden buildings where the fire occurred, and probably only the fact that the night was calm that a general conflagration, extending from the Marr building at the front of Wesley street to the lower end of Main street, was averted. As it was the firemen had a hard fight to prevent the flames spreading to the surrounding buildings.

SUPREME COURT RECESS

Washington, D.C., Dec. 23—At the conclusion of a brief session today the Supreme Court of the United States announced a recess for the Christmas holidays. It is expected that the vacation will be employed in the preparation of some important decisions to be handed down when the court convenes on January 6.

Mrs. Alex. Allen of Gibson, is spending the Christmas holidays with her daughter, Mrs. Frank True of St. John.

OUTLOOK FOR PEACE SOMEWHAT IMPROVED

Austria Reported to be in a More Pliant
Mood—Crisis in the Conference is Ex-
pected to be Reached Today—Allies Op-
pose Turkish Request for the Provision-
ing of Adrianople—Greeks and Turks
are Still Fighting

London, Dec. 22—The crisis of the peace conference will be reached at the session tomorrow. If the Turks decide to waive their demand for the revictualing of Adrianople the allies will present their terms for peace. The conference can then proceed to the discussion of its real business.

The Turkish cabinet met today and telegraphed instructions to the Ottoman delegation. All the delegations held conferences at their hotels and despatched long cipher telegrams to their governments.

The allies oppose the Turkish request for the provisioning of Adrianople not only for the reason that this would give the enemy a great advantage in the event of the resumption of fighting, which would not have been earned by arms, but on technical grounds, but because the delegates have not the power to reopen military questions which the Tehatalja conference who signed the armistice dealt with.

The opening of another chapter of warfare is a step which the allies do not invite, but for which they profess to be fully prepared. While suspicion exists that the Turks have been sparing to gain time since the conference assembled ten days ago the consensus of opinion is that the Turkish government will recognize the situation and conclude peace and that the situation in Constantinople dictates that course. Advice which the principle powers have been giving to Turkey is in the direction of peace.

ALLIES READY TO RESUME FIGHTING

The Bulgarians declare that if the Turks are not ready to come to terms and if none of the powers offer acceptable mediation, the allies are ready to resume the war immediately with fresh ardor, greater vigor and a deeper feeling than they will achieve ultimate victory because as they themselves express it, they "are fighting not only for the independence of the Balkans but for western civilization against the traditional eastern enemy."

The allies claim that their military position has been greatly strengthened and if they must re-open the war they can muster between Adrianople and Tehatalja 350,000 men including 100,000 Bulgarians who are veterans of the November battles, 150,000 fresh and well drilled Bulgarians anxious to emulate their brothers in arms, 60,000 Servians and 40,000 Greeks who can be landed at Dedeagatch and Enos at a moment's notice.

Most of the military allies here believe that the allies will not attack the Tehatalja lines, which have been reinforced with fresh troops and the fortifications strengthened but will await the attacks of the Turks behind their entrenchments, while pressing the siege of Adrianople and forcing its capitulation.

Both the Turkish and Bulgarian armies are supposed to have constructed new works at Tehatalja, since they gained much information regarding the respective positions in the recent fighting.

The Greek community in London gave a banquet tonight in honor of the Greek delegates. The Greek minister presided. Premier Venizelos was given a great ovation when he arose to speak and there were cheers for Crete. The premier said that a victorious war would not only alter geographical boundaries but would expand the nation's soul.

The Bulgarian minister gave a lunch in honor of the Bulgarian delegation.

BUSINESS CAREER.

For years Dr. Curry has been prominently identified with St. John river passenger steamers and at the time of his death was president of The St. John River Steamship Company, which owns the steamers Victoria and Elaine, so well known to the travelling public.

Dr. Curry, in politics, was a Conservative and in religion was a member of the Anglican church. He was a member of the Union Club.

The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon at two o'clock from his late residence 138 Charlotte street.

Dr. Alward, speaking concerning the deceased to The Telegraph last evening, said:

"Dr. Curry was a most painstaking student and an able lawyer. He was very successful as a practitioner and won a high reputation for proficiency in the law."

There were many expressions of regret in Fredericton today when the news of the death of Dr. Curry became known. The deceased was well known and had many friends here. His business connection with the river steamers brought him to Fredericton frequently and there are many of the older residents who remember him as a college student.

N. B. GUIDES ASSOC. ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the New Brunswick Guides' Association is being held this afternoon at the Queen Hotel and many of the members are here to attend. The association has had an existence of about fifteen years and has been one of the best mediums of publicity the province has possessed.

Tonight the annual dinner of the association will take place at the Queen. Mr. W. Harry Allen of Peniac, one of the prominent officers of the association, has received the following list of acceptances:

George McDade, Fredericton's publicity and industrial commissioner; His Worship Mayor Hooper, O. S. Crockett, M.P.; Lt.-Col. T. G. Loggie, deputy surveyor general; C. B. Lockhart, M.P.P., St. John; Dr. O. E. Morehouse, M.P.P., Upper Keswick; Postmaster L. H. Bliss, Fredericton.

Other guests are also to be present. The guides generally report a good season.

MARKET FOR CANADIAN OIL

Noted German C. E.
Praises Albert
County Natural
Gas

Thinks Canadians Should Stop Talk-
ing of the German War Scare and
Take Advantage of Opportunities

Montreal, Dec. 23—Mr. Von Der Osten, civil engineer of Berlin, who is a guest at the Windsor, says that the German government having successfully grappled with the Standard Oil Company, the opportunity is a good one for the development of a German market for the oil product of Canada. Some time ago Mr. Von Der Osten, who was working in conjunction with Baron Von Bredow—Von Bredow, who has since returned to Germany went over the oil districts

New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario, and speaking yesterday of the gas wells in the Moncton district, stated that he had never seen a finer flame than that burning in one of the Moncton plants and is confident of the future of the Dominion as an oil producing country. What he says the people have to do, is to give up talking about the war scare with Germany and take full advantage of the defeat of the Standard Oil Co. He says, in fact, that the present oil companies and those which are about to be formed, will have a protected market in Germany where although, the whole country has been drilled, very little oil has been found.

SEVERE FIGHTING IS REPORTED

Constantinople, Dec. 23—The fighting before Janina is reported to be very severe. David Rasha commander of the Seventh Army Corps who joined Essad Tasha with a remnant of the Monastir forces has been killed with his chief of staff.

The arrival of reinforcements from Janina Sunday, changed the fortune of the Turks who drove the Greeks back in the direction of Loras. The losses on both sides were heavy.

NEW YORK HAS CHILDREN'S THEATRE

New York, Dec. 23—The Children's Theatre, the only playhouse in the world to be devoted exclusively to the entertainment of children, was opened this afternoon with a performance of "Racketty-Racketty House", a juvenile play written by Mrs. Frances Burnett, author of "Little Lord Fauntleroy." The Children's Theatre is located on the roof of the new Century Theatre. It is a completely equipped playhouse in every respect, with a seating accommodation of 800. The funds for the enterprise were provided largely by William K. Vanderbilt.

MAY DEPOSE BONAR LAW

His Leadership of the
Tory Party Draw-
ing to a
Close

His Recent Speech at Ashton-Under-
-Lyne—Condemned by the Union-
ist Press

London, Dec. 23—From a party standpoint there is now no question whatever that Mr. Bonar Law made a disastrous mistake in his proposal—made at a meeting at Ashton-under-Lyne under the presidency of Sir Max Aitken—to shift the odium of imposing taxes on the food of the people of the United Kingdom from the shoulders of his own party to those of the Overseas Dominions.

Today there is a chorus of dissent from the Conservative press, and there is a growing opinion that Mr. Bonar Law's leadership of the Unionist party is fast drawing to a close and there is a powerful and rapidly increasing section of the Unionists who are determined to shake themselves free from the cause of Tariff Reform.

The Times which said Mr. Bonar Law did not know where he was leading the Unionist party in another striking article, further condemns the suggestion that a Colonial Conference should be called to consider preferential trading, and to come to a decision for or against the placing of taxes on the food supplies of the people of Great Britain.

"No statesman in this country," says the Times, "must even dream of such a proposal."

The Daily Graphic, Liverpool Courier and Yorkshire Post are among the other Unionist malcontents. The Courier and Post plead for a referendum on the tariff before anything is done.

LADDER GAVE WAY AT BOSTON FIRE

Boston, Mass., Dec. 23—After carrying twenty-five excited foreigners down a forty foot ladder from a smoke filled north end tenement house last night, four firemen with the last four persons to be rescued were hurled to the ground when the ladder broke. Among those on the ladder at the time was Mrs. Frances Zanglia, who weighs 300 pounds. She suffered concussions, a broken ankle and possibly internal injuries. Six others who were on the ladder were injured.

DOSE OF MORPHINE HAD FATAL RESULTS

Mr. C. S. Bennett of St. John, is in the city today.

Miss Esther Clark is home from Acadia College for the holidays.

Miss A. Hazel Welch of Woodstock, is in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Innes of Napujogan, are registered at the Queen.

Mr. H. H. Brewer of St. John, is in the city.

Dr. O. E. Morehouse, M.P.P., of Upper Keswick, is in the city today.

Mrs. Charles True of Gibson, has gone to Moncton, where she will be the guest of Chief of Police and Mrs. Rideout. The latter is her daughter.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS IN THE SOUTH

Turin, Dec. 23—Two violent earthquakes occurred yesterday at Messina and Reggio di Calabria. The disturbance caused a great panic, although there were no casualties. The material damage was small.

The shocks lasted from eight to ten seconds. The first shock was so violent that the earth seemed to open. It could be compared with the awful earthquake of 1908.

Lieut. Roscoe of No. 3 Depot, R.C.R., has gone to Halifax to spend Christmas.