

THE WEATHER
Maritime—Strong north-
east winds, fair, becoming
colder, a few snow flurries
Sunday, fair and colder.

The Daily Mail.

TWELVE
PAGES

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TELEGRAPHERS MAY STRIKE

Operators of the
Great North West-
ern Co. Want In-
creased Wages

Arbitrary Attitude of the Company
Sure to Lead to Trouble—Many
Dismissals Made.

(Canadian Press.)

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 18.—For the third time in seven years is the Great Northwestern Telegraph Company threatened with a strike of its operators from the present temper of the men and the uncompromising attitude assumed by the company, there seems little doubt but the trouble will at least report the point of an appeal for the appointment of a board of conciliation, under the provisions of the Lemieux Act.

International President S. J. Koneca, M.P., of the Commercial Telegraphers Union of America, arrived in the city yesterday to take charge of the situation. While there was no question of union recognition in the dispute, the union would render the committee appointed by the men support in their fight for a reasonable salary schedule.

While the trouble has come to a head in Toronto, three dismissals following the presentation of a new schedule, he pointed out that the entire staff of operators from Winnipeg to the Atlantic Coast would be affected by any action that might be taken.

Twenty-five men have been discharged by the Great Northwestern Telegraph Company since January 1st, as a result of a campaign among the telegraphers of that company, which had for its object higher wages. Telegraphers' wages have not generally kept pace with the times, and the minimum salary remains at \$25 per month, with a maximum of \$70 with the G.N.W., the same as ten years ago, despite the increased cost of living. The men sought to obtain relief first by petitions and finally by organization.

A new schedule of wages asking for a minimum salary of \$30 per month was presented to the management on February 2nd, by a committee holding authority from the great majority of the employees and the committee asked for a conference. The company replied by first discharging the committee and then dismissing eight of those who refused to sign a paper which stated that they were satisfied with present conditions, and that the committee was not authorized to act. While nearly all of the telegraphers involved are members of the Commercial Telegraphers Union, the question of recognition of the union is not a part of the schedule which is patterned after the employees' agreement in effect with the C.P.R. and with the various railroads in Canada. The C.P.R. at the present time pays from 15 to 20 per cent higher wages than the G.N.W.

BUBONIC PLAGUE HAS INVADED EUROPE

London, Feb. 17.—Despatches from St. Petersburg saying that the bubonic plague has invaded Europe and caused thirty deaths in the Russian province of Astrakhan resulted today in steps being taken for the inauguration of a campaign to protect English ports from the plague. It is possible that within a short time a general quarantine against Russian shipping will be declared. This may ultimately result in all Russian vessels being forbidden to stop at English ports.

BURGLAR ALARM PLACED ON MAUSELIUM

Erie, Pa., Feb. 18.—The Mauseliurn of the late Wm. L. Scott, millionaire and congressman, desecrated recently in the cemetery by vandals, has been equipped with an electric burglar alarm and electric lights. The alarm connects with the home of Mrs. Chas. H. Strong, a daughter.

TAFT WILL ANNEX AURORA BOREALIS

President in Facetious Mood at Banquet Last Night to the British Ambassador at Washington—Friends of Reciprocity Pleased Over the Fate of Bennett's "Annexation" Resolution—Bill Now in the Hands of the Senate Committee of Finance—Measure Likely to Provoke Considerable Discussion in the Senate.

Washington, Feb. 18.—The action of the House committee of foreign affairs yesterday in killing Mr. Bennett's "annexation" resolution, was hailed with satisfaction by the friends of reciprocity in Washington and it was hoped it would dispose of the aspersions on the good faith of the United States in the reciprocity matter.

It is now settled that the senate committee on finance will meet today to deal with the reciprocity bill. No one can say with certainty when it will come out, but it is not expected to be kept there long. The pressure of the other senators themselves will be for a speedy conciliation of the measure in committee. The committee hardly can report against it in the face of the obvious sentiment in the country for the bill and in the face of the sentiment of the present majority of the senators to have it voted upon this session.

Owing to the rules permitting practically unlimited debate in the Senate, the bill may take a considerable time for discussion.

Washington, D.C., Feb. 18.—President Taft talked territorial expansion last night at a dinner at which Ambassador Bryce of Great Britain, and other members of the diplomatic corps were present. In what he termed "the annexation business," he suggested as an initial movement the immediate acquisition of the Aurora Borealis.

The president dropped in during the evening at the dinner given in honor of the secretary of state, Mr. Knox, by Representative David J. Foster of Vermont, chairman of the House committee on foreign relations. He said, when asked to speak that he wished to emphasize the importance of the state department and that he hoped the subject would not cause surprise.

"Our attention has recently been called to the subject of annexation," said the president, turning laughingly to the British ambassador, "and that's something Mr. Bryce and I ought to have a little confidential chat about."

"Look out," broke in Secretary Knox, "they'll think next we're after Australia." And his caution evoked laughter in which both the president and Ambassador Bryce joined heartily.

"But I want it distinctly understood," continued the president, "that if we are going to embark in the annexation business, we must at the earliest opportunity annex the 'Aurora Borealis.'"

Renewed laughter greeted the suggestion. The president's remarks were wholly informal and no other speeches were made.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The handle given by Champ Clark to the opponents of reciprocity in Canada by his remarks concerning annexation, has been so quickly grasped that the stand-patters in Congress have hopes that they may cause the defeat of the agreement in Canada. With this idea in view, Representative Bennett, of New York, has introduced a resolution in the House calling upon the president to begin negotiations for the annexation of Canada. Mr. Bennett probably would be one of the last persons in the world to desire annexation, and the entire action is being forwarded with the view of defeating reciprocity by scaring Canada into rejecting it.

SEES RUIN FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER.

Concord, N.H., Feb. 17.—In support of his contention that the enactment of the proposed Canadian reciprocity agreement will reduce the price of American wheat and increase the price of Canadian wheat, former Governor R. J. Bachelier, master of the National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, today issued a statement in which he compares wheat movements in the markets of Chicago and Winnipeg, as an answer to a recent statement by James J. Hill. Mr. Bachelier's statement says: "James J. Hill is not satisfied with the \$100,000,000 he has made

out of the farmers of the northwestern states, but is seeking to increase his fortune by having his railroad haul Canadian wheat and flour to the consumer in this country. Speaking at Chicago day before yesterday, Mr. Hill charged that the opposition to the Canadian reciprocity scheme was dictated by 'demagogues,' and was centered on the claim that the free admission of Canadian wheat and barley would reduce the price of these products in this country. That such would be the effect, he declared, is not merely improbable, but ridiculous and impossible."

Mr. Bachelier adds: "While the price of our wheat has fallen, that of Canadian wheat, as shown in the Winnipeg market, has not fallen to the same extent, owing to the expectation of the Canadian wheat growers for a better market in this country. Before the reciprocity bill was introduced, wheat was higher in Chicago than in Winnipeg, but yesterday it was two and three-quarters cents higher in Winnipeg than in Chicago. Does not this furnish the clearest possible proof that reciprocity will reduce the price of our wheat and increase the price of Canadian wheat?"

ANNEXATION A BOGEY, SAYS SCHWAB.

New York, Feb. 17.—"The subject of greatest interest now before the world at large," said Charles M. Schwab today, as he stepped from the gang plank of the Mauretania, "is the pending reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada. Personally, I believe in reciprocity. There is no real boundary between the two countries—nothing but an imaginary line, and there is no reason why two nations so situated should not have closer trade relations."

"Annexation? Every sensible man knows that isn't seriously considered by Americans, nor in my experience is it so considered in England."

THE CORONATION DURBAR WILL BE HELD AT DELHI

Ceremony of Overwhelming Magnificence Fixed for December 12—Arrangements For Historic Event in the Hands of Sir J. Hewitt—Their Majestys the King and Queen Will Attend—Imposing Ceremonies Will Last a Week—Tiger Hunt to be Arranged for the King.

New York, Feb. 18.—A Herald special cable from London says it is now definitely settled that the Indian Coronation Durbar shall be at Delhi, the ancient seat of the House of Timur on December 12 of this year. Thus the ceremony, which will be of overwhelming magnificence will avoid any of the native feasts that fall due about at the beginning of the new year.

Arrangements for the Durbar are already in the hands of Sir J. Hewitt who has been released of his duties as one of the provincial governors to prepare for the historic event. After the Durbar ceremonies which will last a week, the King and Queen will visit Khatiwandu the capital of the independent native state of Nepalely-land between Bengal and Tibet. The

journey to Khatiwandu is one of the most fascinating that can be made in India. There is no railroad and the royal party will have to travel by road into the beautiful country of the Himalayas. The road however is good and as the best tiger shooting in India is to be had in the Nepalez Terai, it is probable a great shoot will be arranged. It is well known that King George is anxious to shoot an Indian Rhinoceros and these creatures survive only in the Terai.

That the Durbar will be in the old fort at Delhi and not on the open plain outside the city as was that of ten years ago, is no accident, but evidence of the great precautions of the Indian government against any opportunity for an attempt on the royal party by disloyal natives.

RUSSO-CHINESE SITUATION GROWING MORE THREATENING

(Canadian Press)

Pekin, Feb. 18.—That a secret agreement between Russia and Japan to strip China of a large part of her territory is responsible for the ultimatum sent by the Czar's government to Peking is the belief of the Imperial Council. This agreement is believed to be part of the treaty entered into between Russia and Japan, following the Russo-Japanese war. As a result of threats made against the Russian minister to China, the Russian embassy is under guard today and it is reported that the Muscovite official is ready to leave the empire at a moment's notice.

The news that Russia was moving troops towards Mongolia and that she would tolerate no delay on the part of China in forwarding the answer to the ultimatum has shown con-

clusively that China faces the most serious era since the Chinese-Japanese war. Students of international politics go farther than the treaty difficulties in seeking a cause for the hostile action of Russia.

Russia will have an army upon China's border and should war come, Russia could have an army moving towards Peking, if such a campaign were deemed expedient, within twenty-four hours of the declaration of war. The foreign board, the Imperial Council and the Prince Regent had further conferences today and important notices were sent to the diplomatic representatives of China in these nations which were notified by Russia of the proposed military demonstration. It is obvious that China is seeking delay while the intervention of foreign powers can be obtained. There are many complications to the situation.

DOM. EXPRESS CO. LOWERS RATES

Classification Approved by Rail-
way Commission
March 1

New Classification Requires Charges to
Be Made on Empty Cases—Public
Will be Benefitted.

(Canadian Press.)

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 18.—The Dominion Express Company has sent out notices that the classifications approved by the Board of Railway Commissioners will be in effect from March 1, 1911.

On Feb. 28th, the old classification No. 16 becomes void except as regarding returned empty cases on which the new classification requires charges to be made.

But for four months outstanding empties that have been received full by express previous to March 1st, may be returned subject to classification No. 16 and supplements thereto, provided that each shipper fitted to such returns, files with the Express Companies within thirty days verified statement of such empties stating in whose hands and at points such empties are outstanding.

ANOTHER COLD WAVE WORKING EASTWARD

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 18.—The low area, which was in Ontario yesterday has moved to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and an area of high pressure with a cold wave, is now spreading eastward over Ontario. The weather is again decidedly cold in the Western provinces.

THE STOCK MARKET

Amalgamated...	64½	65½
Atchafalca...	105½	106½
Smelters...	78½	79½
Brooklyn...	78½	79½
Canadian Pacific...	212½	213½
Great Northern, Pfd...	128½	129½
Northern Pacific...	127½	128½
Pennsylvania...	158½	159½
Reading...	143	144
Soo...	178	179
Union Pacific...	80½	81½
U. S. Steel, Com...	80½	81½
La Rose...	11½	11½
Nipissing...	58½	59½
Dominion Iron, Com...		

CUSTOMS SEIZURE

(Special to The Mail.)

St. John, Feb. 18.—Detective Burnham of the customs department, arrived from Nova Scotia this morning. He at once called upon the mayor and demanded the plans for the proposed sugar refinery to be established here. It seems that the plans were prepared in Philadelphia and brought here without payment of the duty. The amount involved is not a large one and it will probably be paid.

IN PRISON FOR LIFE FOR

Georgetown, N. Y., Feb. 18.—Wesley McCatten has been sentenced to the penitentiary for life for stealing a turkey. This being his third conviction for similar offences he was given the life term under the habitual criminal act.

DEATH OF CHILD

The death of Walter Fred Bailey son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bailey of Nashua, N.H. occurred last night from pneumonia. A brother and sister survive. The funeral will take place at 2.30 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Rev. Dr. Smith will conduct the service and interment will be made at the Pickard Burying Ground.

LOTS OF SNOW

Mr. Charles Cremin has returned from an extended trip to his sporting camps on the headwaters of the Nepiguit River. He reports five feet of snow in that section. Mr. Cremin leaves on Monday on a trip to New York and Philadelphia.

BOLD BURGLARS MADE MILLION DOLLAR HAUL

Rome, Feb. 18.—The great exchange bank near the stock exchange was looted by burglars early today. The burglars killed the two night watchmen who were attempting to defend the vault of the institution and escaped with a vast sum of money. The crime was the most daring in the history of Rome.

It is reported that the burglars procured more than \$1,000,000 though a complete count of the cash in the vaults will have to be made before the exact loss is determined. There were at least five men in the gang and they had either a wagon or an automobile to carry away their booty.

SUPREME COURT IS ADJOURNED UNTIL MARCH 1

The Supreme Court yesterday adjourned until March 1st. Argument was heard in the afternoon in the case of Hall vs. Donaldson et al., a case under the Workmen's Compensation Act referred by Justice McKeown. H. B. Wallace, K.C., for claimant; F. R. Taylor for the defendants. Court considers.

The Sanford Manufacturing Company, Ltd., vs. Stockton, G. W. Fowler, K.C., moved to enter a verdict for the defendant. Court considers.

Disraeli Asbestos Company vs. Isaacs et al., F. R. Taylor supporting appeal. Court considers.

But one case remains unheard. As usual, Friday next will be common motion day.

HON. MR. FIELDING A WITNESS IN FARMERS' BANK CASE

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 18.—The preliminary examination into the case of the provisional directors of the Farmers Bank and others charged with making or accepting hypochondria of the banks note issue conspiracy fraud, etc., will probably not be concluded today. Certainly not if as intimated yesterday, the presence of Hon. W. S. Fielding as a witness is to be demanded. Besides the inclusion of W. S. Morden of Belleville in the lists of defendants, there were significant rumors of a summons to be issued for another prominent man but his identity could not be discovered.

Toronto, Feb. 18.—A big sensation was sprung in the Farmers' Bank case this morning, when W. H. Travers, the convicted bank manager, who has been an important witness in the case against the provisional directors and J. R. Stratton, and J. J. Warren, in the conspiracy case, was suddenly whisked off to Kingston. Travers has been held here for days because he was a necessary crown witness. His sudden departure for Kingston was like a bombshell for the crown officers and the detective department. Detective Duncan was furiously angry and made no attempt to conceal his indignation. It is openly asserted that this move is the result of political wire pulling.

HAD TO DISCONTINUE STUDY

Miss Lillian Shaw, who has been attending the Provincial Normal School, has been compelled to discontinue her studies and go to her home in Florenceville, on account of illness.

AGED WOMAN BURNED TO DEATH AT ST. JOHN

(Special to The Mail)

St. John, Feb. 18.—Mrs. Mary A. Harvey, widow of Captain John Harvey, was burned to death at her home here this morning. She was a woman of seventy-seven years of age and had been a sufferer for sometime of varicose veins in one of her limbs, and was in the habit of getting up in the night to dress it. She retired last night at the usual hour and about two o'clock this morning her daughter heard screams in her room. On investigating it was found that her clothing had caught fire, from a match which she had used to light kerosene lamp. The fire was extinguished but not before she was very badly burned. Death put an end to her sufferings four hours later.

A BAD ACCIDENT ON READING RAILWAY

Pottsville, Pa., Feb. 18.—A Philadelphia and Reading Railway north-bound passenger train on the Catawissa Branch mounted the rail near the lofty tunnel shortly before seven o'clock this morning and plunged over the bank. The engineer is pinned under the wreckage. Wreck caught fire. The number of fatalities is not yet known.

Mr. Chas. H. Gilmour of Oromocto, is in the city.

Mr. A. O. Dawson of Toronto, is registered at the Queen.

CANADIAN OFFICERS HAVE BEEN RETIRED

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 18.—That Major A. F. Anderson, and Captain P. E. Prideaux of the Canadian Ordnance Corps, two well known local officers are permitted to resign their commissions is the significant announcement in military orders today. It follows upon an investigation into the recent explosion of a shell which killed Sergt. Reynard of the Ordnance stores in which the two men were officers.

P.E.I. YOUNG MEN HAD TOUGH EXPERIENCE

Charlottetown, P.E.I., Feb. 18.—Lewis Harris, aged 17, and Fletcher Jordan, aged 25, of Murray Harbor, while out fishing on the ice off Cape Bear yesterday were carried out to sea by the ice breaking up. They were from 9 o'clock yesterday until 8 o'clock this morning before they were picked up by the government ice breaking steamer, Earl Grey, which had been sent to their rescue. They had no fire during the night and were almost exhausted when found.

STILL ALARM

The firemen were called out about 1.45 yesterday afternoon by a still alarm for a fire at the residence of the Misses Beverly Brunswick St. The fire was caused from an overheated furnace pipe. The damage was not great.

WESTMORLAND LIBERALS TO HOLD MEETINGS

(Special to The Mail.)

Moncton, Feb. 18.—The Liberals of the eastern part of the county are preparing to hold a series of meetings for the discussion of provincial politics. This evening at Cape Bauld, Hon. C. W. Robinson and his colleagues will address the electors. Other meetings will be held at Port Elgin, Oultonville and Dayfield early next week.

LABOR TROUBLES IN AUSTRALIA

Melbourne, Feb. 18.—Industrial unrest is everywhere making its presence felt throughout the Commonwealth. Every day it seems a new section of employees throw down its tools, with a fresh demand upon the masters. Because forty men, non-union were employed by the leading harvester companies in their factories, 1,500 men struck work this morning. The manufacturers decline to dismiss the nonunionists at the bidding of the men and neither will they compel them to join the union. The factory owners have large orders and many contracts for Argentine but consider that they must resist the labor aggression at all hazards. The works therefore are lying idle.

Mr. Hanford Sloat of Keswick, is at the Barker House.