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GEM IMPORTATIONS SHOW A FALLING OFF

Hard Times Attributed as the Reason for Big Decline in Imports to the United States—Hotel Roof Gardens Becoming Popular in Gotham—Hoboes of the Brotherhood Will Not Assist in Handling Kansas Wheat Crop

(Special Correspondence.)
New York, June 27—Hotel roof gardens have been opening to fast since the first of the month that there are now more than a score of these places where diversion may be found in the evening by that portion of the community that has to spend the heated term here, and the visitor from the west or south who every year is more and more generally coming to the conclusion that New York is the best summer resort in the western hemisphere, if not in the world. Travelers say there is nothing abroad quite like the New York hotel roof this summer. Paris has its open-air restaurants, though most Americans who visit them don't go to eat but to be shocked either at the prices or the notorious persons.

A heavy falling off in the imports of precious stones into the United States during the government's fiscal year ending next Tuesday is foreshadowed in estimates made by Wm. B. Treadwell, examiner of all gem importations entering this country. In the last fiscal year the entries of gems had an appraised foreign value of \$48,788,997, while this year's importations, according to Mr. Treadwell, will probably fall below \$35,000,000, a loss of approximately \$14,000,000 in the twelve months. Maiden Lane authorities estimate the drop at \$15,000,000. The drop is attributed in part to "hard times" but more to the fact that the importers overstocked last year in anticipation of the higher duties incorporated in the new tariff.

The fathers of the Franciscan Monastery in Thompson street are exhibiting with a great deal of pride a solid gold receptacle which was made to contain the sacred relic of the bones of St. Anthony. It is made out of gold rings, bracelets, brooches, pins and coins, which were melted up. This jewelry, worth nearly \$1,000, was contributed by the Italians of the neighborhood. The receptacle is studded with emeralds, rubies and pearls. The relic of St. Anthony was brought here two years ago from Italy and has since reposed in the Church of St. Anthony of Padua. According to the priests there the relic has worked many miracles and persons who have kissed it have been cured of illness and suffering.

The hoboes of the Brotherhood Welfare Association, of which J. Eads How, the "millionaire hobo," is the leading spirit, will not go to Kansas to help harvest the big wheat crop this year. The matter was definitely decided at a recent meeting of the "Brotherhood," when a proposition to ship five hundred of their members as live stock by freight from New York to Topeka was submitted to them. They might be willing to make the trip in Pullman palace cars some of them said, but most of them were more or less acquainted with the discomforts of box car accommodations and preferred the ease of the park benches and idleness while the weather continued warm.

Following the example of Mr. Belasco and other leading theatrical managers and producers, the Shuberts have finally decided to take up the "movies." In association with a group of capitalists they have formed the Shubert Feature Film Corporation, with a capital of \$2,000,000. The new concern will make photo plays of the regular stage productions controlled by the Shuberts. Among some of the best known productions to be filmed and shown are the English melodrama "The Whip," "The Midnight Sons," "The Lure," "Girls," "The Blue Mouse," "The Girl Behind the Counter," "A Gentleman from Mississippi," "The Earl and the Girl," "Way Down East," "Bought and Paid For" and "A Chinese Honeymoon."

The present dance craze is doing wonders for dealers in favors and other novelties. So large and varied is the demand that one prominent

house in this city is carrying an assortment that ranges in price, retail, from 5 cents to \$15. Among them are little dancing couples on pasteboard boxes that are to be filled with candy, as well as similar figures of celluloid, which may be perched on the edge of a glass and which serve as holders for place cards at tango teas and similar entertainments. In the more expensive favors are life-like figures of dancing couples in bisque, which retail at \$15 and which are a foot high. They are imported, of course, and are carried out elaborately as to detail.

An organization called The Church and School Social Service Corporation has been formed here for presenting moving pictures of a religious or educational nature for the use of churches, schools, social settlements and other similar institutions. An advisory board has been appointed, its members including prominent churchmen and educators of New York and elsewhere. The plan is to take pictures in the Holy Land and the mission fields, together with educational and sociological subjects here and abroad, and supply them to the institutions intended to be served at a cost lower than the regular prices of the commercial companies.

The new apple packing and grading law recently passed by the New York legislature will come into effect next Wednesday. The law provides for four classes or grades of the fruit and for having the designations branded or otherwise marked on the containers. The name and address of the packer or repacker must also appear. The minimum size of the apples in a package, stated in variations of one-quarter of an inch, must also be branded or marked on it. Fines will be imposed for violations of the provisions of the law.

MARKET WAS BRISK, SPECULATION ON HAY

Hay is Heading Out up River While Still Short—Price Will Probably Be High

There is a great deal of speculation as to the market in hay at present. The appearance of the coming crop is still a matter of dispute. One farmer on the market this morning was offering his hay for ten dollars and he claimed that the prospects of selling were slim. On the other hand some sellers were asking sixteen dollars a ton for good highland hay. The appearance of the crop up river as reported by the farmers is not very encouraging.

It seemed to have a good start but the season is now well on and the hay is heading out while it is still very short.

The interval hay while not as strong is looking better on the whole and farmers from Margerville where the land is low are making no complaint about the crop.

Some of the prices paid on Saturday for general market stuff were:
Eggs 22c and 25c doz.
Butter 21c and 22c per lb.
Potatoes \$1.75 and \$1.80 bbl.
Veal (hind) 10c per lb.
Mutton 10c per lb.
Lamb (fore quarters) \$1.00 each
Lamb (hind quarters) \$1.50 each.
Chickens \$1.50 per pair

The market was well attended and the exchanges were brisk. As usual at this time of the year the salmon supply was small and sold quickly. The price of salmon was 16 per lb.

Globe.—Mr. T. H. Bullock left on the train on Thursday for Montreal, where he will join his wife, Mrs. T. H. Bullock, who has been travelling on the continent.

THREE LIVES WERE LOST

Salem Fire Deprived Ten Thousand Of Their Homes

Property Loss is Now Estimated at Twelve Million Dollars—Relief For the Sufferers

Salem, Mass., June 26—Measures for the relief of the 18,000 persons made homeless in yesterday's conflagration were proceeding with military precision tonight. More than 3,500 were directly dependent upon the relief committee for shelter while 4,500 waited patiently in the various bread lines for the food which streamed into the city in abundance.

Those cared for in the tented camps were of the poorer class, mostly foreigners. An insurance adjuster who went carefully over the devastated district tonight, estimated the loss at \$12,000,000, of which ten million was covered by insurance. This insurance, it was stated, was well distributed, the heaviest amount falling upon any one company making \$400,000.

The loss of life, so far as known, was restricted to three persons. The ruins of the Korn leather factory, where the fire originated yesterday, were searched today, because of a report that twenty girls had been caught in the flames, but no trace of bodies were found.

The following are the dead:
Mrs. Jennie Cunningham, whose body was recovered from her tenement home on Lafayette street.

Samuel Withey, a Grand Army veteran, and for many years a Boston & Maine engineer, who was burned to death in his home at 28 Prescott street, to which he had returned in the hope of saving some clothing after he had once escaped.

A third body, found in the mill district, but so burned that it was impossible to determine the sex.

Relief for the fire sufferers poured into the city in unstinted measures today. The great loss has fallen on the factory employes, chiefly French-Canadians and Poles. They comprise a majority of the ten thousand who are homeless, and they have lost not only their homes and personal belongings, but their employment.

EARLY MORNING WEDDING AT THE CATHEDRAL

Mr. L. A. Wilmot Lemont and Miss Anna D. Taylor United at Hymen's Altar

A wedding which caused quite a flutter of excitement in social circles took place at Christchurch Cathedral at an early hour this morning, when Miss Anna D. Taylor, second daughter of Mr. George A. Taylor, manager of the Royal Bank, became the wife of Mr. L. A. Wilmot Lemont of Chicago, formerly of this city. The wedding was a very quiet one, only relatives and intimate friends of the contracting parties being present. The bride, who was attired in a becoming travelling costume, was given in marriage by her father. There was no bridesmaid or groomsmen. The newly wedded couple left by the Gibson train for Grand Falls and will spend a week canoeing on the river.

The bridegroom, who arrived from Chicago yesterday, is the youngest son of Mr. William Lemont, now of Mobile, Ala., and a brother of Ald. Lemont. He has achieved considerable fame as a musician. The bride is a great favorite in social circles, and will be much missed in the community. The young couple have the best wishes of a large circle of friends for future happiness.

A DAY'S OUTING

Those wishing to spend an enjoyable day on July 1st should attend the sail on the river under the auspices of the Junior Aid of St. Paul's Church in which they expect to run an excursion to Gagetown. Take your basket or get your meals on the boat or grounds.

HONORING THE DEAD

Memorial to Civil War Soldiers Unveiled at Marietta Georgia

Will Commemorate the Valor of Both the Union and Confederate Armies

Marietta, Ga., June 27—In the presence of a representative assemblage, including veterans of both the Union and Confederate armies, a monument commemorating the valor of the soldiers of Illinois who fought and fell in the charge upon Kenesaw Mountain was dedicated on the scene of the conflict today. The date was appropriately chosen, this being the fiftieth anniversary of the historic battle.

The memorial was erected on a provision of the Illinois legislature. Governor Dunne of that state, and his staff and a delegation of citizens who served in Illinois regiments during the war were present. J. B. Shawgo of Quincy, Ill., chairman of the monument commission, delivered the opening address and Governor Dunne made the oration of the day. The monument was unveiled by Sarah Fadel of Anderson, Ind., the seven-year-old granddaughter of William A. Payton, a member of the monument commission.

The monument is an imposing structure of gray marble, twenty-six feet in height and at the lower base eighteen feet square. The shaft proper is nine feet square. A striking feature of the memorial is the stateliness of three figures of life size, array at the base of the shaft. This in the center is the statue of a soldier at parade rest. On one side is a figure representing Illinois, holding the coat of arms of the state. The figure on the opposite side denotes "Peace." The soldier stands nearly seven feet in height, while the others are six feet.

The monument is located upon an incline at Chatham Hill, about three miles from Kenesaw Mountain and about four miles from this city. It is approached from the main road in front by two flights of marble steps. The monument itself is set upon a terrace constructed of marble and the terrace itself has a floor of marble.

ROYAL PARADE OF BIG DOUBLE CIRCUS

Sparkling Pageant of Wheeler Bros. Shows Drew Large Crowds to the City Today

Wheeler Brothers Circus arrived this morning from Woodstock and is showing in Queen's Square. The arriving of the circus in the early morning and their tent pitching is always an interesting process and some of Fredericton's early risers were on hand to see the work.

The parade which was the principal attraction of the morning was full of variety and occupied the attention of the largest part of Fredericton's sight seers for nearly half an hour.

The co-incidence of market day and circus day falling together made the city a hub and the lives of on-lookers which walked either side of the street were full of eager faces.

The parade was nearly a mile in length and offered every variety of circus exhibition and caricature.

Pretty women with their spangles and parasols mounted on spirited horses or in showy carriages, sobriety Mexican vagabonds on their tough muskets and cowboys with their sheepskin pants and broad brimmed hats; the lively bands and highly ornamented circus wagons closed or displaying a foretaste of the animal show is always a scene to draw out the pleasure seekers of the city.

The shows will take place at two and eight respectively. The big tent will accommodate five thousand people.

Capt. J. A. Read left this morning on a business trip to Barronsfield, N.S.

J. T. H. Teed, son of Mr. G. Teed of St. John, is in the city today.

COMMISSION TO MEET IN THIS CITY MONDAY

Important Evidence in Regard to the \$350,000 Loan to Gould and Associates Brought Out on Friday—Copy of the Agreement Admitted as Evidence After Strenuous Opposition From Fleming Counsel

St. John, June 27—Further interesting testimony concerning the financial methods employed in connection with the Valley Railway was given yesterday before the royal commission.

At the morning session Mr. Carvell gave notice that he would ask for the presence of A. R. Gould as a witness on next Tuesday, when the commission will be sitting in Fredericton. As Mr. Gould resides beyond the jurisdiction of the commission an official invitation from the commission, instead of a subpoena, has been sent to him and to his son, L. E. Gould. Mr. Carvell asked Mr. Mullin, who is counsel for the railway company, to have Mr. Gould in court, but Mr. Mullin made no promises. Mr. Gould will come, no doubt.

After long argument by counsel on both sides yesterday there finally was placed upon the record a copy of the agreement entered into between Mr. Gould and his associates and the Prudential Trust Company of Montreal, through which the Gould circle—described in the agreement as "the borrowers"—secured a loan of \$350,000 before construction work had begun. The agreement makes mighty interesting reading.

In the course of testimony concerning this agreement and the payments made under it, counsel for the defence raised many objections, and in giving his opinion in favor of the admission of testimony the chairman remarked that there was a prima facie case indicating that \$207,000 of the proceeds of the bonds, advanced to the Gould circle as part of the \$350,000 loan, had been diverted from its proper channel.

When the argument about the admission of testimony was at its height Mr. Carvell spoke of the wider tribunal, the country, which was anxious to have all possible light thrown upon the transactions under review. Commissioner Welles remarked that the wider tribunal was not trying this particular case, or ruling upon it.

The day was marked by rather sharp advances of opinion between the commissioners on some points, and arguments between counsel were frequent, but the commission finally ruled to admit the agreement between the Gould Company and the Trust Company, and it proved to be a very valuable document.

While the discussion on this subject was proceeding, and objections to the admission of the document were frequent, counsel for Mr. Dugal asked why there was such strenuous objection to this testimony if everything was above board.

Mr. Brown, during his testimony, remarked to Mr. Carvell that the St. John Valley Railway people "were not paupers and are not paupers today."

"I don't think they are," said Mr. Carvell; "I think they have done very well, indeed."

The commission adjourned until Monday afternoon, when it is to meet in Fredericton. Further interesting testimony is expected then.

AFTERNOON SESSION

For the fifth consecutive session B. Hal Brown was on the stand when the inquiry resumed yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Carvell started to ask about an item in the accounts which he mentioned as a payment of \$18,500 to F. L. Lisman, of New York, when Mr. Teed violently objected to any such question, and without pressing the point, Mr. Carvell withdrew the question.

Mr. Markey then produced a resolution passed by the St. John & Quebec Railway Company on April 13, 1913, authorizing the payment of monies to the construction company, on the progress estimates and orders-in-council, passed for the protection of the Trust Company. This was placed in evidence. Mr. Brown was then allowed to stand down.

Mr. Carvell submitted a statement from the Dominion railway department showing the amount paid to the

Valley Railway on account of the federal subsidy. The amounts paid to Jan. 31, 1914, totalled \$538,738.38. No payments have been made since that date. The statements were received in evidence.

DIVISIONAL ENGINEER

David W. Brown, divisional engineer on the Valley Railway, with headquarters at Fredericton, then took the stand to resume the evidence which he commenced on Wednesday morning.

The witness first stated that one of his resident engineers still has charge of his northern section while the two others are at the head office.

Examined by Mr. Stevens, the witness continued his account of the progress of the work on the northern section. The concrete work was all complete on April 8, the same applied to the dry and wet culverts; for dry paving, about \$250 is needed to complete; steel on concrete, foundations for bridges, pile driving, all complete; track-laying completed on 17.87 miles, leaving 12 miles to complete, will cost about \$4,630; fencing, gates and telegraph lines, all to be completed, estimated cost \$29,600; ballast about 75,000 yards, to cost about \$30,000 force account, work still to do will cost about \$30,000.

Witness said that these figures were compiled by himself from the records of the work done and his personal knowledge of what is still unfinished.

Another uncompleted job is the rebuilding of a collapsed culvert, about \$4,000; farm and road crossings, about \$1,500; piping will be required but this is not included in the contract and is supplied by the company; witness could not estimate cost of the materials. Water stations will cost \$6,000 to complete. Three shelters and a station building are to be erected, under the contract.

Witness said there are a lot of items including right of way, engineering, bridge construction, road diversion, signal posts, terminals, switches, head office expenses, etc., of which he had no information but which will amount to at least \$100,000.

GAGETOWN-FREDERICTON SECTION.

Going on, Mr. Stevens asked about the division south of Fredericton for thirty-three miles to Gagetown. The contract was let to J. H. Corbett & Sons direct from the St. John & Quebec Railway Company. There were three resident engineers, George McKnight on section ten, Grover Keith on section eleven and R. A. Stetson on section twelve, though afterwards George McKnight was in charge of the whole division.

The Hibbard Company was doing a piece of work from Fredericton to Victoria Mills and the estimate for 1,400 feet was not included. The progress estimate for March was \$6,548, clearing grubbing \$1,848 practically complete, solid rock to the end of March \$38,040 some more of the work to be done about \$12,500.

Mr. Brown said that he could not then give the exact details of where the work was not finished, but would when the commissioners got to Fredericton.

The royal commission then formally adjourned to meet at the Court House, Fredericton, Monday at two p.m.

SHOWING GREAT INTEREST

Councillor George M. Thorne of Cady's, Queens county, was in St. John yesterday. Speaking of the feeling of his constituency in regard to the effect of the investigation into the Dugal charges, Mr. Thorne said that there was great interest being shown and the next Conservative candidate will have a hard show for election.

Mr. F. B. Edgcombe has returned from a business trip to Montreal and back.