

COAL MINE DISASTER IN VIRGINIA

In which Probably Twenty One Miners Lost Their Lives

Parties Who Took up Rescue Work were Driven Back by Gas

Bluefield, Va., Jan. 5.—Twenty-one miners were killed in an explosion of mine gas in the shaft of the Cooper Coal Mine, W. V. A., at noon yesterday. Up to midnight only one body has been recovered immediately following the explosion, which was heard for several miles, rescue parties set to work to explore the wrecked shaft on the line of the Norfolk and Western Railway, and is fifteen miles east of Bluefield. The mining and most of the property used in the mine are supposed to have been blown to atoms. At five thirty p. m. the body of one of the miners was discovered some hundred feet away from the mine entry, so badly mutilated that it is unrecognizable.

HOW AN ACTRESS ROPED IN A MILLIONAIRE

San Francisco. In a series of very frank letters written to her father, Charles H. Gilman of this city, Mabel Gilman, whose affair with William E. Corey, steel magnate, is now interesting two continents, deliberately states that she set out in life with the intention of catching a rich man. In her epistolary confessions to her sire, Mrs. Gilman tells of her first meeting with Corey and of the infatuation that followed and of the jealousy of Mrs. Corey. She declares a young man is very foolish to "run with" poor young men.

"Dear Pop," wrote Miss Gilman four years ago, "I may surprise you all by marrying a very rich man."

That was while the actress was appearing in *The Mocking Bird* in Pittsburg, and long before the millionaire and his wife had had any trouble. Mrs. Gilman says that Corey, who occupied a box at the opening performance, became infatuated with his daughter. Then followed a champagne dinner at a Pittsburg restaurant and several automobile rides about the city.

Mr. Gilman asserts that Corey and his wife had their first trouble when the latter heard that her husband had entertained an actress at a champagne supper, and later the breach was made wider when Mrs. Corey saw her picture showing Miss Gilman stretched full length on a couch with a picture of Corey on an easel near at hand.

"I don't know why Corey (her younger sister) writes Miss Gilman, 'always runs with poor men.' The other day I came home and found a very nice young man with her and they intimated me that they intended getting married. I asked the young man if after he got married he intended living on me. You bet I was hot, and told the young peeping peep that that sort of thing would have to end right there."

Again Miss Gilman writes concerning the millionaire steel magnate: "He asked me how old I was, and I told him that I was eighteen when I went on the stage, and that that was three years ago, so I must be fifteen now."

Mr. Gilman told today of the first champagne dinner given by Mr. Corey. "Nothing but the very finest was opened," he said. "My daughter had everything she wanted while she stayed in Pittsburg. It was that dinner which caused trouble between the millionaire and his wife. I don't know anything about this man Corey, but when my daughter first met him she thought he was a single man.

"My daughter is wealthy now. She lives in Paris, and where do you suppose the money comes from. She has invested a quarter of a million in New York real estate, and she has lots more than that."

AMERICAN RICE

"I have been for years an enthusiast on the subject of rice, for I hold it to be one of the most important articles of food known to mankind," said Mr. P. N. Gray, of Houston, Texas, at the Riggs house. Mr. Gray is publisher of a periodical known as *Rice Culture*, and speaks with expert knowledge.

"It is a great pity that the American people do not consume a vast deal more of this intensely nourishing and easily digested food. We now use about seven pounds per capita annually, which is far too little but still more than double the amount consumed a very few years ago.

"Texas began to produce rice about seven years ago in one county of the state—Jefferson. Today it is being successfully cultivated in twenty counties, and last year the crop aggregated over 2,000,000 bags, making Texas rank second only to Louisiana in aggregate production. South Carolina, which in former times led all the states, doesn't now produce enough to be in the class of Louisiana and Texas. There are about 10,000,000 acres of land in these two states that are well adapted to growing this crop, and the day will come when all of it will be so utilized, because the American people are learning rapidly its dietary value. It is also a profitable crop, and this year our rice planters will average at least \$20 per acre. In Japan, the home of a race well high physically perfect and intellectually the peers of any, the consumption of rice for each individual runs from 200 to 400 pounds a year."

UNCOMFORTABLE CUSTOMS.

Raising the hat when out-of-doors, and remaining uncovered indoors, are two of the most common modes of salutation among Europeans; but the practice is by no means universal.

A Chinaman, for instance, generally puts on his hat when, according to our notions, he ought to take it off; and on occasions when we consider it polite to doff our hats a Japanese gentleman removes his shoes.

In Burma, even a European, meeting the King in the street, has been obliged there and then, to take off his boots; and in Persia everybody approaches the Shah barefooted.

The natives of the Gold Coast not only take off their sandals, but remove some of their upper garments as well when they desire to show great respect. They ordinarily salute Europeans by bowing, and at the same time slipping the robe from their shoulders and holding it under their arm. Burton, speaking of his reception at Dahomey, says that all men bared their shoulders at the same time as they doffed their tar, umbrella hats. But among some of the African tribes the approved form of salute is to strip the other man of his robe and tie it round your own waist.

This is uncomfortable enough for the person so saluted, but they go one better in the South Sea Islands, where it is considered a great compliment when a man throws a jar of water over the head of his friend.

PURCHASES CLAIM ON GALLIANO ISLAND

Mr. H. Macklin, manager of Simon Leiser's Ladysmith store has purchased from Mr. James Warlock, agent for the Western Fuel Company, three large claims Nos. 60, 64, and 65 on Galliano Island. It is understood that Mr. Macklin has let the contract for clearing the property to J. Miller, of Strawberry Hill, near Victoria, and will use the land as a sheep farm. The land is at present covered with timber of some value, which can be sold to saw mills at sufficient profit to cover the expense of clearing the land. When cleared the property will make valuable pasture land. The claims are situated five miles north of Mr. Macklin's farm on the Island.

Miss B. Jackson left yesterday for Crofton where she will wait on table at the Crofton Hotel.

Mrs. A. J. McMurtree went up to Nanaimo at noon today.

Mr. J. J. Bland returned at noon from Victoria, where he has been on business in connection with the waterworks.

THE REPLACEMENT OF AIDS TO IMMORTALITY

The New York City Federation of Women's Clubs learned recently at its convention in the Hotel Astor how it might attain to immortality. Dr. Sarah J. MacNutt recommended sour milk as a specific for the encephalitis of old age, and Mrs. Howard MacNutt, who happens to be no connection of the doctor's, suggested exercises of the soul. Dr. MacNutt's theory emanates originally, from Paris, where a famous savant, Dr. Mechnikoff by name, chief of the Pasteur Institute, has discovered the long sought fountain of youth in the uronomic form of a microbe which causes the souring of milk. Dr. MacNutt, who thinks life valuable and even worthy of prolongation, after 40 explained the operation of this microbe as follows:

"You all know," she said, "that the phagocytes, or white corpuscles of the blood are engaged in a continual struggle against microbes injurious to the system. Now it is a curious fact that when the phagocytes find this struggle going against them they turn upon and attack the body. When the hair turns white, for instance, it is because the phagocytes are devouring the coloring matter. This process is no different from that which takes place in any ordinary condition of ill health. The disease of the arteries which attacks old people is simply an inflammation."

The irritation which causes this action of the phagocytes in the aged is caused by the production in the body of injurious microbes, and Professor Metchnikoff's theory is that by aiding the phagocytes in their struggle against these organisms they can be prevented from attacking the body. He believes he has discovered a means of accomplishing this end in sour milk, which contains a germ which he regards as an antidote to many of the germs which produce disease and death.

Mrs. MacNutt took a less material view of things. In her opinion it was not sour milk for which poor humanity was suffering, but "exercises of the soul." Mrs. Helena Scott Tonjes did not agree with either of these views.

"We have heard," she said, "how we may secure immortality by means of sour milk and spiritual exercises, but I think we need ventilation more than either. Women are leaving our clubs because they don't want to overcrowd their lungs. What are we going to do about it?"

"Open the windows," suggested Miss Mary.

"And sit in a draft and get consumption," retorted Mrs. Tonjes. "We ought to have systems of ventilation that would give us air without drafts."

But perhaps the most disquieting salutation which the uninitiated stranger could possibly receive, is one that is occasionally to be met with in Morocco. A horseman will then charge towards a stranger at full speed, and holding a long pistol in his hand, then suddenly pull his horse upon its haunches, and discharge his weapon over the startled visitor's head.

LADYSMITH VS. VICTORIA UNITED

Tomorrow, on the bunker ground, Ladysmith meets in a game of Association football the Victoria United.

An article appearing in today's Colonist says the visitors will be up with the intention of making a hard struggle. It is safe to say they will meet an aggregation equally as determined to prove victorious.

The match starts at three o'clock sharp. The local team will be selected from the following: Hailstones, Scott, T. O'Connell, Gilmour, T. Leahy, Eno, A. Morrison, Sanderson, Winsby, S. Michie, Nimmo, Graham, T. McMillan, J. Richards.

The boys have been practicing steadily this week and will be out again this evening.

CAMPAIGN IN UNITED KINGDOM

Dublin, Jan. 5th.—The only place in the United Kingdom where there is no electoral excitement is this city. In other years things have been different, Dublin usually being the scene of riots, etc., on such occasions.

In England the campaign is now warming up. At Derby, where Joseph Chamberlain attempted to address a mass meeting in support of Unionist Candidates he was howled down. Chamberlain was enraged and rising said he was mistaken in appealing to the intelligence of the people of Derby. This caused renewed uproar and all efforts on the part of the speaker to make himself heard were futile.

Rated among the luxuries, tobacco is an easy mark for the tax-gatherer, yields a tremendous revenue to the treasury of every nation. The anti-tobacco propaganda remains appalled by the bewildering number of devotees of the weed and the billions of dollars that go up annually in the world of tobacco smoke.

It requires nearly 500,000,000 lbs. of tobacco to meet the consumption of a single year in the United States. If this huge consumption were equally divided among the entire population every person would dispose of five and a half pounds, of the product annually. Eliminating those who are under 15, constituting a third of the population, the per capita consumption would be about sixteen pounds.

The statistics place Belgium in the first place with respect to the per capita consumption. The United States is a close second.

LUNG IN HIS OWN COAT COLLAR

Ritzville, Wash. Jan. 4.—Joseph Patterson, of Ritzville, was slowly strangled to death in the collar of his own overcoat, when the halting of a dog brought neighbors to his assistance and saved his life.

Patterson was driving home from Ritzville, and is alleged to have been dazed with Ritzville liquor. Two miles out of town he went to the home of William Bierman. According to the reports, he caught hold of a column to support himself but his foot slipped and as he fell the collar of his overcoat caught on a hook which had been used to support a hammock. Patterson was unable to help himself and was struggling.

Bierman dog was aroused and barked fiercely. Its owner went to the door and found Patterson hanging from the hook, with his overcoat collar drawn tightly about his throat. The man was gasping and did not recover for some time after being removed from his overcoat.

MAY SUE C. DELCOURT FOR DAMAGES

Apparently the last has not been heard of the Delcourt-Libeauna squabble. As reported in the Ledger last evening O. Delcourt was fined \$10 and costs for assaulting Libeauna, and tomorrow Justices of the Peace Stewart and Matheson will hear a complaint by the defendant in the last case, Delcourt, against Libeauna. It is stated that Delcourt alleges that Libeauna smashed the windows of his residence by throwing rocks through them.

It is also said that Libeauna will sue Delcourt for damages on the ground that the latter did him grievous bodily harm by striking him. It is understood that Mr. Simpson will appear on behalf of Libeauna and Mr. C. H. Barker of Nanaimo for Delcourt.

RUNAWAY ON FIRST AVENUE

Yesterday afternoon, about dusk, J. Kemp's team took fright as they were crossing from High street to Roberts street, drawing a wagon loaded with lumber. The boy who was driving was thrown with the lumber below the Ladysmith Hotel and the wheels of the wagon passed over his body, positively doing him no harm whatever. The horses and wagon overturned outside the postoffice, but beyond the breaking of the wagon pole, no damage was done to the vehicle and the horses escaped uninjured.

JUST TO SMILE

It is quite proper, even complimentary, to ask a lady's age in Japan in this part of the world, however, where we do not consider ourselves heathens, but at the same time practice all kinds of deceit, it would be distinctly offensive.

A superstitious subscriber was the editor of an exchange saying that he had found a spider in his paper, and wants to know if it is a bad omen. Nothing of the kind. The spider was merely looking over the paper to see who was not advertising, so that it could spin its web across the door without danger of molestation.

It is said that 7,000 wives were deserted by their husbands in New York last year.

The municipality of Paris awards every second year a silver medal to the most industrious street cleaner.

The British peace society is protesting against the formation of the rifle clubs as "inciting the spirit of militarism."

THE GRIP.

"Before we can sympathize with others, we must have suffered ourselves." No one can realize the meaning attendant upon an attack of grip, unless he has had the actual experience. There is probably no disease that causes so much physical and mental agony, or which so successfully defies medical aid. All danger from the grip, however, may be avoided by the prompt use of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Among the tens of thousands who have used this remedy, not one case has ever been reported that has resulted in pneumonia or that has not recovered. For sale by the Ladysmith Pharmacy.

ECONOMY ON SPACE.

When Henry Ward Beecher was on a trip to the far west many years ago he was visited at his hotel in a little mining town by a local celebrity, a man noted as a hunter and scout, and the great preacher was especially cordial to him. After the caller had gone away, one of Mr. Beecher's travelling companions took him to task.

The steam colliers Wycofield and Siam, which formerly ran between British Columbia port and San Francisco with coal, and were seized by Japanese cruisers when carrying contraband, have been renamed the Shimokubi Maru and Erimo Maru.

CORRESPONDENCE ON SCHOOL AFFAIRS

G.R. Wilson is not Satisfied with Trustee's Reply to his Former Letter

And Believes Board Cannot Truthfully Deny Statements He Made

Ed. Ledger-Sir, In yesterday's issue an article signed "Trustee" fifteen out of nineteen pupils pass their examinations to a higher division, and was not Miss Milligan complimented by the Principal for the efficiency of her room? And all she got was the paltry sum of forty dollars per month. And yet Trustee would try to insinuate that my statement that Miss Milligan was an eminently qualified teacher in every particular, was not true, because she had not taught over five months: His obscure mind failed to make a note of the fact that she qualified herself for life before she began teaching. I defy him to deny the above facts, consequently he cannot be taken too seriously. Now, Mr. Trustee, did not three teachers; I only mentioned one before, in lower grades, receive fifty dollars, fifty-five and sixty dollars respectively, and did not hold as good certificates, while Miss Milligan only received forty dollars. I intend to let the rate-payers see just who is the liar in the case and let them judge whether it is you or I. I care not whom you may be.

Trustee does not state what I stated in my letter [compare them, please] about the Divisions. He has distorted the facts and what he states is misleading. I did not say the trustees had no right to close No. 2 Division. I simply asked "why it" was done; and Trustee in attempting in his feeble way to explain the "why" entirely forgets that I concluded in my former letter that no matter whether it was No. 2 Division or any other number which was closed, that does not alter the fact that Mr. McDonald is first assistant, Miss Coburn is second assistant and Miss Milligan was third assistant. I hereby challenge Trustee and the whole Board to truthfully deny my statement. And I also

--Continued in next Issue--

LIGHTS AND SIDE LIGHTS.

"This yur is the place, ain't it, whur you all set type?" queried a gender-necked young Arkansan, who had percolated into the office of the *Polkville Weekly Clarion*.

"Yes," replied the able editor. "This is the place."

"Wa-al," proceeded the visitor, "what do the type hatch, and how long does it take 'em?"

Mrs. Crimsonbeak—Do you remember what I said before I married you Mr. Crimsonbeak—that you would not marry the best man on earth.

"Well, I've kept my word haven't I?"

Zoological Specialist (gazing at solitary sea lion in the Dublin Zoo)—Where is his mate?

Irish, Keeper—He has no mate, nor we just fade him on fish.

Atlantic cables are always laid from west to east, because the prevailing winds in the summer months on the Atlantic are from the west, and ships make much better progress going eastward.

The Paris correspondent of the *London Gazette* writes that, thanks to the recent anti-tuberculosis congress there, half the people of Paris are at this moment suffering from imaginary tuberculosis.

Roman Catholics flocked to Westminster Abbey recently to visit the shrine of Edward the Confessor, who was canonized on October 13, 1163. All day long pilgrims were kneeling at the rail which surrounds the tomb and offering up prayers.

In color the squirrel fish is a brilliant red, which makes it a conspicuous inhabitant of the sea as it darts here and there with quick, alert movements. The body of the squirrel fish shows a few stripes and is well covered with sharp spines.

During the hearing of a charge of housebreaking against a number of youths in Edinburgh it was stated that each member of the gang had promised the leader not to touch intoxicating liquors during "business hours."

John Paul, steward of a political club in New York, has the rare distinction of being a grandfather and grandson at the same time. His baby granddaughter has just been born, and his grandmother is living at the age of 97.

"Say, pa."

"Yes?"

"Did grandma usta lick you?"

A silence ensues, presently to be broken by sobbing.

"What's the matter—what are you crying about?"

"I'm so s-s-sorry for poor old grandma, 'cause I s'pose it m-m-must be: always hurt him worsen it 'did you."

We have heard some funny stories about members of the craft, but this from an exchange deserves the cake: "A Coifax printer discovered a pimple on the one side his nose and attempted to remove it with oatmeal. But the pimple flourished like shamrock in Ireland, and soon grew to the size of a teacup. When the printer began to investigate he discovered that his bottle of ointment had been misplaced and that he had been using his wife's bust developer."

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THE LIFE OF THE SUN

The prodigality with which the sun dispenses heat and the possibilities which arise from this prodigality have found the subject of an address delivered in London by the great astronomer, Sir Robert Ball, the other night.

He could not escape from the operation of the simple rule, he said, that as it gave out heat the sun's body must get smaller. What the sun would become in the future he could not say, but if one could go to the sun with a measure he would find it had shrunk sixteen inches in 24 hours.

Ten million years ago the sun was nearly a million times as large as at present, and the simple principle that a red hot poker is a trifle larger than when cold must also apply to the sun.

The most important question regarding the sun, he said, is the manner in which the heat is kept up. Supposing every particle of coal were taken from the earth and poured into the sun, how long would it keep that orb going. It is a scientific truth, the lecturer declared, that the entire coal supply of the world could not coive the sun's heat for more than ten thousandth part of a single moment of time. This prodigality of heat cannot be kept up by combustion there must be some tremendous force of energy. That is, however, an idea, which is assuming a clearer and more definite shape, which gives proof how the sun's heat is kept up.

The sun, it was said, by the mere fact of attraction of its particles, gives us as much heat as could be got from burning 8,000 globes of coal. When this calculation is worked out, and it is remembered that it is not only to the earth that the sun gives heat, it shows that the sun might be kept going for 24,000,000 years.

A suggestion was made that the execution of the sun's energy has been due to radium. It radium was in the sun, as it was in the bulk of the earth then, instead of a paltry 24,000,000 years, would the earth it would be 1,000,000,000 years.

FAME'S PATHWAY.

Prince Peter Kropotkin, the famous Russian social reformer, is said to have a better claim to the throne than Alexander II.
 Harold A. Loring, of Portland, Me., has received an appointment from the secretary of the interior as superintendent of native Indian music.

Senator Sturgis, author of Maine's most drastic legislation for the enforcement of prohibition, blandly announces that he is not a total abstainer.

Tell a Story of the West

that would have the true ring to it, the author would of necessity require to live there for a time at least. He must study the characteristics of the western people—have to become one of them, living their daily life, sharing their joys and sorrows. He would have to mix with them socially and in a business way. In short he is a "Westerner." It is a question of knowing local conditions. The same reasoning applies to the "Leckie Boot" for Western Miner, the Prospector and the Lumberman.

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Time Table No. 57.

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Manufacturers of the Famous CUBAN BLOSSOM
 None but Union Labor Employed
M. J. BOOTH, Prop

Are You Going East

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The only line now making UNION DEPOT connections at ST. PAUL and MINNEAPOLIS with the through trains from the Pacific Coast.

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GENERAL DRY GOODS, LADIES' SKIRTS AND COATS BOOTS AND SHOES,
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HIGH ST. LADYSMITH

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By Order.

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Any Kind of Job Printing Done Promptly and WELL At

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NAMES OF VOTERS

IN THE CITY

Having the Necessary Property Qualifications to Hold Aldermanic Position

The following list, kindly supplied by the City Clerk, gives the names of voters in the city having the necessary property qualifications to hold aldermanic positions, that is, insured real-estate to the value of \$500. The names having an "x" opposite are owners of \$1,000 worth or more of such property, and as such are qualified to fill the office of Mayor. In some cases, however, the party may own enough property but not have it registered in his own name for the past six months, so all in the list below may not for this reason be eligible for a seat in the city council. The list will, however, be found useful to citizens generally in deciding as to whom they would like to bring out as candidates.

Watson, W. J.
Bryden, Alec.
Bryden, Andrew x
Conway, T. D. x
Conlan, James
Kerr, Archd.
Johnson, D. T.
Gould, Isaac x
Haggart, D. W.
Lawson, R.
Oren, A. x
Winston, I. O.
Weinrobe, B. S. x
Jones, Lot. x
Campbell, Colin x
McDonald, J. x
Thomas, J. J. x
McMurtre, A. J. x
Nicholson, D. x
Beveridge, W. x
McLean, W. F. x
Hunter, Robt. x
Matheson, M. x
Renwick, Thos.
Lauderbach, P.
Kerr, Wm. x
Manuel, Wm.

Scott, G. W. x
Ward, Wm. x
Smith, J. E.
Nicholson, B. x
Davis, D. H. x
Siler, Wm.
Fagan, D. x
McKinnon, Arch.
Tha, J.
Malone, P. x
Rollo, J.
Evans, B.
McRea, B. S.
Mottishaw, S. K.
Webby, Thos.
Jones, W.
McKisley, J.
Sanderson, J.
Anderson, W.
Cassidy, Geo. x
Johnson, Geo. H.
Robertson, A. D. x
Brown, W. S. x
McKinnell, D.
Jolly, Wm.
Watson, Robt.
Coburn, J. W. x
Campbell, Mike
Haworth, Geo. x
Rafter, W.
Greaves, F. W.
Morgan, T. G.
Conway, J. T.
Vere, J.
Davidson, Wm.
Fulton, Hugh
McMillan, T.
Davidson, Wm.
Steele, J. W.
Carroll, H.
Woodburn, Moses
Jones, D. W.
Hutchinson, James
Pollard, Henry
Rogers, John
Proven, James
Allsopp, J.
Wright, W.

Gisborne, H.
Kay, Harry x
Blair, Harry x
Campbell, Daa.
Vavis, John x
Munsie, Thos. x
Barclay, Wm.
Gourlay, James.
Lynn, M.
Stephens, Ed.
Razzano, B.
Smith, Wm.
Timothy, Griff. x
Muir, John
Little, John
Axelson, C.
Hughes, H.
Smith, Geo.
O'Connell, T.
Ryan, John
Ingham, James.
McMurtre, John
McMillan, P.
Auchinclove, Alec.
Callender, James
Kerr, John
Sabiston, D.
Sanderson, Wm.
Jackson, W.
Kerr, Thos.
Fletcher, W. x
Knight, A. O. x
Roberts, Geo. x
Thomas, D. J. x
Biekie, John x
Wasson, A. G.
Fraser, W. G.
Ferguson, Joe.
Dixon, J.

Weir, J. R.
Trowack, T.
Spence, Wm. x
Simpson, W. G.
Dunn, Arch.
Nose, P.
Walters, G.
Patterson, B.
Kerr, J.
James, F. W.
Gifford, Sidney
Robertson, Wm. sr.
Melintosh, S. I.
Mills, C. W.
Manuel, J.
Lewis, J. W.
Gould, Sampson x
Park, John
Williamson, R. x
Gear, Robt. x
Miles, H. G.
Gourlay, Dave.
Berco, Ben.
Nimmo, J. P.
Gilchrist, Wm.
Robertson, A. G.
Dunsmuir, J. x
Jones, Walter
Provis, T.
Allen, Chas.
Young, Lewis.
Francis, D.
Wilson, G. R.
Hill, Gus.
Mills, W. G.
James, W.
James, G.
Scarth, Geo.
Gordon, T.

Public Notice

Attention is called to the fact that the Ogilvie Flour Mills Co., Limited

makers of ROYAL HOUSEHOLD FLOUR, have for some time past been producing flour in a vastly improved and purified form by the aid of ELECTRICITY

and having secured control of all the basic patents relating thereto, to take this opportunity of advising the public that any authorized users of the electrical flour purifying processes will be prosecuted.

Ogilvie Flour Mills Company Limited

are the only millers in Canada whose Flour is purified by the electric process

