

The Semi-Weekly Telegraph

VOL. XLVII

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1907.

NO. 31.

ANOTHER TERRIBLE MINING DISASTER

Sixty Men Dead in Explosion in Alabama Colliery

Four Miners Crawled Out an Hour Later Terribly Burned—Immense Amount of Timber and Dust Blown Out—Diggings Supposed to Have Been Most Modern in Equipment.

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 16—Advices tonight from Yolande indicate that about sixty men met death in an explosion in the mines at that place early today. The work of recovery is slow, and while hundreds of miners from adjacent mine camps are present to assist, it is thought that all of the dead cannot be taken out before tomorrow. Only twelve bodies had been recovered up to dark. Fewer than 100 men were in the mine.

There was great heat near the shaft after the explosion. Officers of the mining company immediately took steps to rescue the men inside. The fans were started and other means were employed to eliminate the bad air. Within an hour fourteen men had crawled out of the mine, and their description of the interior conditions was terrible. Several of these men were severely burned. Yolande mine is a few miles from Virginia City, where a similar explosion occurred about two years ago, when 111 people were killed. Yolande is thirty-five miles south of Birmingham. The Yolande Coal & Coke Company, owners of the mine, is headed by Dr. G. B. Crowe, of Birmingham.

BLACKSOD BOOMERS STRIKE MONTREAL

Sir Thomas Trowbridge Declares British Government Approves of Irish Terminus for "All-Red" Service.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Montreal, Dec. 16—It will take but three and a half days to Halifax and fifteen hours from deep water to Montreal, then the opposition to the route should, in my opinion, disappear. It is the way Sir Thomas Trowbridge, the head of the "All-Red" route syndicate, sizes up the situation as far as the Canadian part is concerned.

Sir Thomas, who arrived today from London, tonight declared that he had several talks with Hon. Clifford Sifton while that gentleman was in London, but he had no idea what his intentions were.

Sir Thomas Trowbridge called at the C. P. R. and Grand Trunk offices during the day and had interviews with Sir Thomas Shaughnessy and Charles M. Hays.

The passenger business between Great Britain and Canada, he said, had increased thirty-five per cent. the past year, and the increase would be 100 per cent. by the time their boats would be ready. No one, he said, could overestimate the amount of travel between the old land and the dominion in a few years, as out of more than 80,000 new settlers who come into western Canada, at least 10,000 of these will go home once a year and a good many will even go more frequently.

"If you get a contract tomorrow," he was asked, "when would you be ready to go ahead with the construction of the necessary vessels?"

"The designs are already completed, and I have them with me. I am in a position to announce that the British government is thoroughly satisfied as to our ability to successfully finance the project."

Sir Thomas was also questioned as to the British government's ability to carry through a measure of this kind independent of Irish support, and he declared emphatically that they would not be able to do so.

As for the land trip from Halifax to Montreal, he said that Lord Strathcona had taken the responsibility for the claim that the railways could run passengers from Halifax to Montreal in perfect safety in fifteen hours.

GUARANTEE COMPANY STUCK BY CARELESSNESS OF BANK ACCOUNTANT

Toronto, Dec. 16—(Special)—By judgment delivered by Judge Mabey this morning, the London Guarantee and Accident Company must pay the Crown Bank \$11,000 as a result of E. St. George Banwell's defalcation, when the teller made the run to the bank with \$40,000 of the bank's money. A large amount of this was recovered but the cost of bringing Banwell back and the amount he made away with amounted to \$10,543. On this the bank claimed interest.

The bank carried a \$5,000 bond on Banwell in the London Guarantee and Accident Company, and \$8,000 on Francis M. Maunell, the accountant, whose carelessness is alleged to have permitted Banwell's defalcation. According to Judge Mabey's decision the whole amount of the bonds must be paid.

Woman Swindler Got Off Easy.

Toronto, Dec. 16—(Special)—A St. Catharines today, Police Magistrate Comford sentenced Lillian Hamilton, a Buffalo young woman, who pleaded guilty to swindling L. H. Collard, a private banker, out of \$200 by forging a local merchant's signature to a note, to the Mercer reformatory for eight months.

BOTH TO BLAME FOR MONGOLIAN-HURONA COLLISION

Thomson Line Lost Suit for Heavy Damages Against Allan Company.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Montreal, Dec. 16—A special London cable says: The British admiralty court has handed down a decision in the case arising out of the collision between the Thomson line Hurona and the Allan line Mongolian last September. The Thomson line people sued the Allans for heavy damages, claiming that the Mongolian was responsible for the collision, but the admiralty court holds that each party was equally to blame, and dismissed the action, dividing the cost of the collision.

The collision between the Hurona and Mongolian occurred off Point Amour, in the open gulf, on Sept. 22. Both vessels were proceeding at slow speed in thick weather, the Hurona being inward bound. Although surrounded by miles of open sea, the two big liners met squarely bow on, and both were considerably damaged. Had it not been for the collision bulkheads, the boats would have probably sunk, but they both limped into port several days later, and were given temporary repairs here. Later they left with their regular cargoes and passengers for Liverpool, and are now undergoing repairs in England.

WON GIRL'S HAND WITH STOLEN MONEY

Young Man Pleads He Forged Checks for \$2,000 Rather Than Let His Wealthy Rival Cut Him Out.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Windsor, Ont., Dec. 16—Somewhat of a romance was revealed today when Walter Fitzgerald appeared before Judge McHugh on a charge of forgery and embezzlement. No attempt was made to deny that he secured \$2,000 by raising cheques while employed by a Walkerville firm, but the defence showed that the young man took the money to buy presents for a young lady he afterwards married, and that, as he had a wealthy rival for her hand, he committed the theft to stand on an equal footing with his rival. He will be sentenced Friday.

MERCIER WON THREE-CORNERED CONTEST

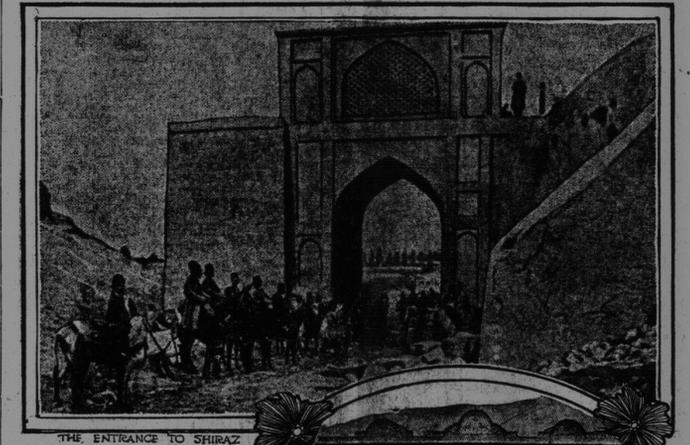
(Special to The Telegraph.)

Montreal, Dec. 16—In a three-cornered contest for the legislative seat of Chateauguay in the provincial legislature today, Ald. Honoré Mercier of Montreal, the government candidate, was elected by a plurality of 229. His opponents were Jos. Laberge and Dr. Poissant. Mr. Laberge came second. The vacancy was caused by the appointment of Mr. Dupuis to the readership in Montreal. All the contestants were Liberals.

Big Drop in Tin.

London, Dec. 16—Tin fell £8, which gave the market a sensational appearance closing at 110. The extensive realizations are attributed to professional operations, with the object of freezing out the large Chinese holdings.

RIOTING PERSIANS FIRE ON THE BRITISH CONSULATE



STOLE \$185,000 IN EIGHTEEN YEARS

A. H. Anderson, Treasurer of Quebec Central Railway, Got Five Years

PRISONER HAD A PULL

Newspapers and Others Conspired to Hush the Matter Up—Books Were Audited Yearly, But a New Auditor Discovered the Defalcation.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Sherbrooke, Que., Dec. 16—That the Quebec Central Railway defalcation amounted to about \$185,000, and that the thefts have been going on for the past eighteen years, is the surprising state of affairs shown by the continued investigation into the books of former treasurer A. H. Anderson, who was sentenced to five years imprisonment this morning.

What is almost as surprising is that a special auditor came out yearly from England, and for all these eighteen years reported the books "O. K." Not till a new auditor came was the shortage discovered.

Anderson is a nervous wreck. He has not been himself since the arrival in Canada of the new auditor. He has completely broken down, even to the point of trying to take his own life.

Anderson came to Sherbrooke from England twenty-five years ago with his mother, who is still living. He is married, and lived with his family on Montreal street, in Sherbrooke. His habits were good, and it is a puzzle to all to find that he did with the money he stole. He was earning a salary of \$2,500 with the Quebec Central and if he speculated no one appears to know about it.

That Anderson has powerful backing and influence behind him is proven. The Sherbrooke newspapers have only mentioned this embezzlement as a case that runs into the six figures, as an everyday occurrence. The newspaper correspondents of the Eastern Townships have refrained from sending the facts of the case to their respective papers. The financial interests of Sherbrooke have also kept it quiet.

GOLDFIELD MINES START UP WITH NON-UNION MEN

Goldfield, Nev., Dec. 16—The Roosevelt committee began its investigation of labor troubles in Goldfield today. The committee will go over the testimony obtained by Governor Sparks and General Funston before hearing new evidence. An increased force was at work today in the mines and at the Consolidated mill. Operators say most of the new men are former members of the Western Federation of Miners. Thirty men to take the place of striking miners arrived today from California. The men were taken to the camp of the Consolidated Mines, where accommodations have been made for 500 men. No demonstration was made on the arrival of the strike-breakers. The mine owners say that the end of the week will see the camp filled. More than 100 men went to work this morning and the mines will work three shifts from this time on. The Nevada Reduction Works will start tomorrow with eight men. The regular number is 30. The plan of the operators is to bring the strike-breakers in gradually in order to avoid trouble.

SENATOR TILLMAN PAYS HIS RESPECTS TO ROOSEVELT

Says He Turns on the Light But Not the Handcuffs, and Destroys the Confidence of the People.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 16—A characteristic speech was today delivered in the senate by Senator Tillman. Mr. Tillman spoke on his resolution directing an investigation of the recent bonds issue, and clearing house certificates, but he took occasion to comment upon a good many matters concerning the financial affairs of the country.

"The treasury," he said, "dumped" its money into Wall street and the country pruned the patriotism of J. Pierpont Morgan, "aiding the country to get a grip on itself and not let everybody go crazy and precipitate further loss and horrors on the country."

Mr. Tillman said he did not know whether the criticism of the chairman of the house committee on banking and currency (Mr. Tamm, of New Jersey), had caused the secretary of the treasury to halt in the issuance of bonds, but a change of plan seemed to have been made and he had not been able to learn how much of the proposed bond issue had been put out. He expressed the opinion that the secretary had violated the spirit of the law if he had not violated the law itself.

He said he would not worry about the panic, but he found so many facts connecting the treasury department, even the senate and the house of representatives with Wall street that he was obliged to recognize them, especially as the farmer, the cotton planter and the manufacturer were affected.

The senator held aloft a banking house certificate in loud voice calling upon the senate to look at it. "Here is a specimen," he declared. "Looks like what you call Confederate money—shin plasters—and yet they are issued by national banks. Look at it—I am going to have it engraved if it can be done without destroying it and put in the congressional records. But I don't propose to have it destroyed and lose a dollar just to enlighten you on the currency." He wanted only good greenbacks, he said, and emphasizing the necessity of money, he said: "You will have to go to the bone-yard if you can't get it."

The comptroller of the currency, he said, are so complacent and polite while they are in office that "almost every one of them has graduated into the presidency of a bank."

The officials about the president, he said, go out to join the kings of finance. "The president turns on the light. Why don't he turn on the handcuffs when he finds somebody stealing? He goes to the country and makes speeches and destroys the confidence of the people, but we do not find him putting anybody in prison."

PRINCIPAL WITNESS IN DRUCE CASE CANNOT BE FOUND

Contestant for Duke of Portland's Estate Admits That Caldwell's Testimony Cannot Be Relied On.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

London, Dec. 16—The dramatic disappearance from London of Robert C. Caldwell, the American witness in the Druce case, served to revive interest in the proceedings and when the hearing was resumed today, the court room was crowded.

At the hearing last Friday, Mr. Atherton-Jones announced that the prosecution had decided not to rely upon any evidence given by Caldwell, and the day following it was discovered that Caldwell had suddenly left London, presumably for America.

Replying to Magistrate Plowden, Mr. Atherton-Jones declared today that he regarded the testimony of Caldwell as having been discredited on certain points and that therefore, all his evidence should be obliterated. Without admitting that the whole story of the mock funeral was false, Mr. Atherton-Jones said that Caldwell's story of this occurrence could not be accepted. He also intimated his belief that Horace Avory, counsel for the defence, had established his contention that Caldwell and his alleged brother were one and the same person.

Mr. Avory in opening for the defence, announced Caldwell as "the most noxious perjurer who ever has polluted the fountain of justice."

He scouted the idea that Charles Dickens would have lent himself to the intrigue of keeping up the delusion of the dual personality of the Duke of Portland, and he declared Miss Mary Robinson, who testified that she knew T. C. Druce as the Duke of Portland, to be a suspicious witness, and said he would prove that part of her testimony was false, should be obliterated. Without admitting that the whole story of the mock funeral was false, Mr. Atherton-Jones said that Caldwell's story of this occurrence could not be accepted. He also intimated his belief that Horace Avory, counsel for the defence, had established his contention that Caldwell and his alleged brother were one and the same person.

TORONTO JUDGE TRIED CASE WHILE SMOKING

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Toronto, Dec. 16—Another of "Judge Morgan's Democratic Courts" was held this morning. Not feeling very well his honor reclined at ease in his room where he leisurely smoked while lawyers presented their case. The suit was the result of the plumbers' combine, exposed two years ago. The plaintiff was W. J. McGuire, and the defendants the Gold Medal Manufacturing Company. McGuire wished to recover \$500 on two promissory notes of \$250 each given as a final payment on a \$9,000 contract. The defendant company maintained they are not bound to pay the \$900 because the contract price was put up by reason of the combine. The case was not finished.

Ontario Nominations.

Toronto, Dec. 16—(Special)—Nominations for the dominion parliament for Centre York were held at Thornhill today. Dr. P. D. McLean, Liberal, and Captain Tom Wallace, son of the late Hon. N. Clarke Wallace, Conservative, are the candidates. George Hanan was nominated for the commons by Welland county Conservatives.

JAPANESE INFLUX UP IN PARLIAMENT

British Columbia Members a Unit Against Their Admission

All Favor Making the West a White Man's Country—Dr. Daniel Wants to Know About Pay of St. John Militia Corps—Wilmot of Sunbury Queries About New Brunswick Immigration Agents—Other Business of the House.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Ottawa, Dec. 16—Ralph Smith, Nanaimo, moved in the house today that steps should be taken to restrict the influx of Oriental immigrants into Canada. Inasmuch as the policy of the government concerning Chinese immigration had proved entirely satisfactory a definite policy should be immediately put into operation looking to the accomplishment of equally satisfactory results with regard to all other immigrants. Mr. Smith spoke at length on the whole subject. The question, he said, was not a provincial one, but a Canadian one. What was bad for Canada was bad for the empire. To understand the Oriental question it had to be studied on the spot. Eastern men, who were opposed to exclusion, became converts after visiting British Columbia. It is generally said that the prejudice is all on the one side, that of the Occidental against the Oriental. But the race prejudice was stronger in the mind of the Oriental than in the Occidental. Canadian and international as well. He was willing to look at it from all sides as well as local. It was an empire problem. What weakened one link of the chain of empire weakened all. He had no belief in a military invasion of Canada, but a labor invasion was within reach. There were 800,000,000 starving in Asia and there was a land flowing with milk and honey at their door.

In reference to the Chinese it was only the industrial classes complained of the influx, but in regard to the Japanese commercial men were as much opposed to the Japs as the industrial classes.

After dealing with the restrictive legislation on immigration of the United States, Natal and Australia, he went on to show how the Chinese legislation had effectively shut out Chinamen, although recently they were beginning to come in notwithstanding the poll tax. As to Japanese, he said that from 1902 to a period in 1907 there was no demand made on the lieutenant governor of the province. The restriction which was in force between Canada and Japan was satisfactory until a period in 1907.

Big Influx of Japs. During the past seven months 9,000 Japanese, 1,000 Chinese and over 3,000 Koreans arrived in British Columbia. Referring to the contracts with the Wellington Coal Company and the C. P. R. and to bringing Japanese into Canada he said that it ought not to be possible in this country to make such contracts. Over the Wellington Coal Company there presided the lieutenant governor of the province. The employment of Japanese in the coal mines was the cause of the disaster 20 years ago. He ridiculed the statement of the Japanese consul in Japan when the United States shut out the Japs they came by way of Canada. It should be impossible that this could be done. Canada should amend its immigration laws to prevent this and also not accept passports except direct from Japan. He spoke of the commercial advantages of Japan which British Columbia wanted to retain along with proper restrictive measures against the Japanese. He hoped the government would find a solution of the matter in this direction.

Mr. McPherson said that the question was one which gave great scope for a demagogue. He wished to say from the start that he would not approach the subject from a demagogic standpoint. When the treaty was passed the members for British Columbia relied upon the restrictive measures against the Japs. They were then confined to a restricted number. The leader of the government relied upon the arrangement, that then existed, as they all did. The leader of the opposition asked where he was when the treaty was being passed. He might just as soon ask where was the leader of the opposition when the treaty passed. The leader of the opposition was dumb on that occasion. This influx of Japanese came upon the province of British Columbia like a bolt from the blue. The people of the coast saw these Japanese arriving in large numbers to oust them from their homes.

The Natal act would never keep out the orientals. The voters of the province could deal with this immigration, and it was to the federal authority that they would have to look for relief.

Mr. Sloan (Comox-Alberni) spoke of a white Canada and said that manufacturers, who were now anxious for the Japs to come to this country, would yet be praying to get rid of them.

Mr. Ross (Caribou) said that the race question was as old as the sons of Noah. Like other speakers he supported the Japanese treaty because of the assurance that the agreement between Japan and Canada as to the restriction of immigration would be maintained.

McIlreith's Fees. In answer to Mr. Foster, Mr. Aylesworth said that R. T. MacIlreith, of Halifax, was first authorized to act as agent for the justice department in 1903. He was still waiting in that capacity. He was agent for Nova Scotia. The total amount paid to McIlreith since first employed was \$30,362.

In regard to the complaint of A. J. MacDonald, of Baddeck, N. S., that MacIlreith kept one-third of the amount allowed him in one or two cases, Mr. Aylesworth said that MacIlreith took strong exception to such a letter. MacIlreith says he employed MacDonald as his agent to do part of the work, the fees to be shared, as was the custom in such matters among solicitors in England and Ontario, and the usual and regular agency basis in Nova Scotia, two-thirds to the agent and one-third to the principal. MacDonald denied the existence of such an agreement, and the department left them to adjust it between themselves.

Mr. Kennedy (Westminster) supported the other speakers and Mr. McCarthy (Calgary) moved the adjournment of the debate.

Wants Government-owned Ferry to P. E. I. All the Year. Mr. Hughes, of Prince Edward Island, has given notice that he will move the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this house the name Intercolonial Railway and Prince Edward Island Railway should be dropped and the name Interprovincial Railway substituted therefor, that the government system railway works should be considered as one entity in the keeping of accounts and in all other respects. That the ferry service across the straits of Northumberland should be owned and managed by the railway department, winter and summer, as the ferry service across the Straits of Canso is now, and as the ferry service across the Straits of Georgia are owned and managed by the C. P. R."

Query About N. B. Immigration Agents. Mr. Crockett will move for a return showing the number of post offices receiving daily, tri-weekly, semi-weekly and weekly mails in each county of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and the total postal revenue and expenditure in each of said counties.

Mr. Daniel will enquire if St. John militiamen received their pay since last August and if any other corps in the active militia is in the same condition. If not paid, when will the corps be paid. He will ask if they completed their drill and were duly inspected in August last and, if not, why not.

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ALLAN LINER GRAMPAN ARRIVES AT HALIFAX

(Special to The Telegraph.) Halifax, N. S., Dec. 16—The new Allan line steamship Grampian arrived today from Glasgow on her first trip to this port. She is superbly fitted up and a fast ship. The steamer met with head winds throughout the passage and had a rough trip. The trip was uneventful up to this morning at 1 o'clock, when Zario Yotel, a twenty-six-year-old Bulgarian, in the steerage, died suddenly from heart disease. His body was prepared for burial at sea, and at 4 o'clock this morning the remains were committed to the ocean. The Grampian has 450 passengers.

STRATHCONA CANCELS SAILING BUT SEES SIFTON OFF TO CANADA

Montreal, Dec. 16—(Special)—A C. A. P. cable says: Lord Strathcona cancelled his booking for the Mauretania, but today was present at Boston station when Mr. Sifton left for Liverpool. Lord Strathcona arrived only a few minutes prior to his departure on the train, and occupied three minutes in conversation with Mr. Sifton.

The Daily Telegraph's Christmas number will be issued next Saturday, December 21. No advertisements for that issue can be accepted after 6 p. m. Thursday, December 19