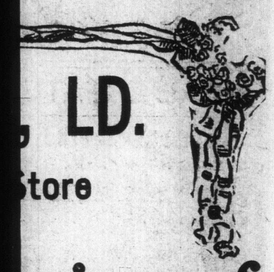

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ace, wide bertha over shoulders,
rimmed with medallions and Val.
ace, elbow sleeves made entirely of
ucking and frills, edged with in-
sertion, front of blouse made of 5
rills, edged with insertion. Price
7.50.

dies' White Silk Blouse with deep
ransparent yoke of lace, trimmed
ith circle of medallion, lower part
f blouse made
f eyelet embroidery, elbow
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rnaments, tab front, trimmed with
bands of chiffon and small steel
uckles. Price $2.25.

dies' Collar made of pleated chiffon
nd satin ribbon, fly applique and
ancy buckle. Price $2.50.

dies' Fancy Stock Collar made with
las bands of silk to form diamond
attern, trimmed with Oriental ap-
lique and opalescent beads, tabs of
leated taffeta, finished with medal-
ons. Price $2.50.

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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL. XLVIII., No. 36 VICTORIA, B.C., TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1906. FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR.

PRINCE ARTHUR REACHES OTTAWA

His Royal Highness Receives an Enthusiastic Welcome to The Capital.

A BANKRUPT PROVINCE

The Maritime Provinces Eagerly Await Readjustment of Federal Indemnities.

OTTAWA, April 14.—(Special).—The Easter recess has brought quiet within parliamentary circles, but the city is all agog over the visit of Prince Arthur of Connaught. The people of the capital dearly love pomp and pageantry. One would have thought that the display in connection with the opening and closing of parliament would long ago have paled upon the citizens of Ottawa, but year after year as this function rolls round, denizens of the capital with their country cousins pack the Senate chamber. The governor-general is now a familiar figure on the streets of the capital, but Ottawa does not receive a prince of the royal blood every day and therefore the crowds that were out to get their first view of Prince Arthur were very great, despite the pouring rain, when the royal train pulled into the station at five o'clock. The prince was received by Col. Hanbury Williams

Representing His Excellency

and Sir Wilfrid Laurier and seven other members from the government, besides General Lake, Lord Aylmer and all the headquarters staff. A guard of honor was furnished by the 43rd Rifles. After exchanging greetings with the mayor and his colleagues, Prince Arthur and Col. Hanbury Williams entered a carriage and set off for Rideau Hall, escorted by a detachment of the Dragoons. Up Wellington street and along Sussex street the crowds had assembled to see the prince, but the drenching rain sent them to cover before he passed. On arrival at Rideau Hall a guard of honor from the governor-general's Foot Guards saluted the prince as he alighted from his carriage. Tonight a dinner party is being held in honor of the prince and his suite. Tomorrow will be spent quietly and on Monday commences a round of important engagements lasting nearly a week.

Concessions in the Yukon

The policy of the government in granting large concessions to favored friends in the Yukon was challenged in the house this week in connection with the arrangement in which Mr. Belcourt, the member for Ottawa, got mixed up. Dr. Thompson, the member for Yukon, said the subject of concessions was a live one amongst the people of the territory and would remain such until the last one was wiped off the map. He declared of all concessions which had been granted and still remaining most iniquitous was the one known as the Bronson and Rays. This was investigated by a commission appointed three years ago, consisting of Judge Britton and the late Benjamin Bell. It comprised a tract of land commencing two and a half miles from the mouth of Bonanza creek and extending up that stream for a like distance. This and other concessions were granted by the government on condition that they should be worked by hydraulic process and should cover ground which could not be worked in any other way. Some assessment work had been done under the direction of J. B. Tyrell, a well known mining expert, formerly of the geological survey. In order to

Keep the Concession Going

Tyrell put into the concession several thousand dollars of his own money and when he endeavored to recover from the principals through the courts then it was that all the facts came out. Mr. Foster brought the matter up before the house and quoted freely from letters and documents filed in the court at Dawson. These documents showed that the firm of Belcourt and McDougal were to receive stock to the value of $100,000 in the company for their influence with the department in keeping the concession alive and for professional services. Although it may be, as contended by Mr. Belcourt in the house, that nothing improper was contemplated by the agreement between the company and his firm, yet it raises in a most pointed manner the question of members of the house accepting fees for professional services in the promotion of bills before parliament or matters coming up before any of the public departments. Mr. Stockton, of St. John, said the practice was degrading to the public life of this country, and was unfair to the legal profession. As far back as 1695 the Imperial parliament had laid down the principle that the offer of money or other advantage to any member of parliament for promoting any matter whatever impending or to be transacted in parliament

Is a High Crime

and misdemeanor and subversive of the English constitution. Repeatedly since then has the principle been reaffirmed. Premier Laurier quite concurred with the view laid down by Mr. Stockton. He said the reputation of Canadian parliament ought to be like Caesar's wife, above suspicion, and he for one would be glad to see a well understood rule adopted which would be a standard for the guidance of every member. Sir Wilfrid had nothing to say as to the merits of the Belcourt case. He announced, however, that the policy of the government would be to give a fair chance to the individual miner. Those concessionaries who had done their work properly would receive consideration but those who had failed to put up a plant and comply with the government regulations would find their concessions cancelled at the earliest possible moment.

A Bankrupt Province

Premier Tweedie and Attorney-general Pugsley of New Brunswick have been in town this week. They are anxious to know when the conference between the Dominion and provinces on the subjects of financial relations, fisheries, etc., will take place. The maritime provinces are getting pretty hard up, so much so that Prince Edward Island is on the verge of bankruptcy. Last year that province had a deficit of nearly $50,000 on annual expenditure of about $250,000. Premier Peters this week told the legislature that despite the most rigid economy the expenditure of the island from the government was increased while the revenue was almost at a standstill. If a just re-arrangement of the financial relation with the Dominion did not take place soon, the government will be obliged to

Resort to Direct Taxation

It will be seen from this statement how serious are affairs in the island. The whole trouble about the Maritime provinces is that they have to keep up all the paraphernalia of three governments where one ought to suffice. Considering the amount which is lost by having three lieutenant-governor's and five legislative bodies, because Nova Scotia and the island each have a double chamber, it is obvious that with one lieutenant-governor, one government and one legislature, a considerable saving could be affected. This has been urged upon the maritime provinces time and time again, but they still cling to their legislature idols and indemnities.

According to a statement brought down to parliament this week, Canada spent approximately two million dollars on fitting out the first and second contingents which went to South Africa. Of this the pay amounted to $445,000; ocean transports, $670,000; land transport, $110,000; clothing and equipment, half million; horses, $131,000; enlisting and sundry expenses, $119,000 As is well known, the cost of fitting out the Stratheona Horse was borne by the high commissioner himself while the Imperial government paid all the expenses of the South African Contingent and third and fourth contingents.

The Government and Its Friends

The opposition showed good work in its investigation before the public accounts commitee. A funny episode occurred this week which came out as a result of a question put on the order paper by Mr. Foster revelant to certain accounts paid by the department of marine and fisheries to favored friend of the department in Montreal. An officer of the department immediately telephoned to the gentleman in question and hustled him up to Ottawa and induced him to make a refund of the commission which had been charged for his services in supplying crockery, glassware, etc., for the government steamers.

The cabinet today was considering the supplementary estimates.

MINING NEWS FROM THE INTERIOR CAMPS

Shipments of Ore For the Week and Recent Developments in District.

NELSON, April 14.—The total output of the mines of the Kootenay and all districts for the week ending April 13th was 35,225 tons, and for the year to date 495,300 tons. This was made up as follows:

Boundary—Granby, Emma, Mother Lode, Brooklyn-Stemwinder, Rawhide, Sunset, Strathmore, Rambler and Preston, the last named being a new shipper this year, totaling 26,012 tons.

Rossland—Centre Star, Le Roi, and Le Roi No. 2, 7,724 tons.

Slocan-Kootenay — St. Eugene, 712 tons; Sullivan, 500 tons; Laplanta, 37 tons; Eureka, 90 tons; Hunter V., 378 tons; Broadview, 25 tons; Whitewater, 19 tons; Sunshine, 22 tons, and British Empire and Greenhorn, new shippers, three tons each on trial.

The smelter receipts of ore for the week were as follows: Hall Mines, 788 tons; Marysville, 500 tons; B. C. Copper, 4,348 tons; Dominion Copper, 4,697 tons; Trail, 8,463 tons, and Granby 16,580 tons.

News of Rossland Camp

Rossland, April 14.—There were no incidents of importance during the past week in the mines. The development of the Centre Star continues to yield good results. This is particularly the case with the tenth and eleventh levels of what was formerly the War Eagle. The task of connecting the Centre Star and War Eagle is in progress, a crosscut being run from the Centre Star to connect it with the War Eagle. Connections have already been made from the ninth level of the War Eagle and from the sixth level of the Centre Star. The object of this is so that all the hoisting may ultimately be done from the Centre Star shaft, and do away with the hoisting from the War Eagle shaft.

The shipments for the week ending this evening were: Centre Star, 4,320 tons; Le Roi, 2,430 tons; Le Roi No. 2, 570 tons. Total for the week, 7,320 tons, and for the year 93,385 tons.

In the Boundary Country

Phoenix, April 14.—A new shipping mine, the Preston, is added to the Boundary list this week, the output for the week being as hereunder: Granby mines to Granby smelter, 16,580 tons; Mother Lode to B. C. Copper smelter, 4,308 tons; Brooklyn-Stemwinder to Dominion Copper smelter, 3,414 tons; Rawhide to Dominion Copper smelter, 256 tons; Sunset to Dominion Copper smelter, 1,155 tons; Emma to B. C. Copper and Nelson smelters, 228 tons; Rambler to Trail smelter, 15 tons; Preston to Trail smelter, 20 tons; Strathmore to B. C. Copper smelter, 40 tons. Total shipments for the week, 26o,160 tons; total for the year to date, 2o2,501 tons.

Operators Sign Up

Massillon, Ohio, April 14.—The first break in the ranks of the operators in the Massillon district came last night, when five operators signed the 1906 scale. The three largest operators in the district are still holding out against the demands of the miners. The five operators who signed employ about 400 miners.

GENERAL NEWS OF DOMINION

Prince Arthur of Connaught Is Lavishly Entertained at Federal Capital.

ELITE OF OTTAWA EN FETE

Manitoba Millers Discover a Clever Ruse of 'Frisco Wheat Shippers.

OTTAWA, Ont., April 16.—(Special.)—Prince Arthur of Connaught visited the city hall at noon today and received civic address from the mayor and corporation. The council chamber was beautifully decorated on the occasion. The Prince replying, said he was especially pleased at reference to the beloved Queen, whose memory was still held in affectionate remembrance. He congratulated Ottawa on her material progress and said he looked forward with pleasure to visiting other portions of the Dominion. After the members of the council had been presented, the Prince left for Sir Wilfrid Laurier's house for luncheon. Today being kept as a holiday in the public departments.

The St. Georges Society and the Sons of England made a great hit when they secured Prince Arthur as the star attraction at the opening of the Old English fair today. St. Georges hall was crowded with the elite of Ottawa society, including Lady Sybil Grey, Lady Laurier, Mrs. R. L. Borden, Lady Borden, Lady Davies, Mrs. Hanbury Williams, Misses Fielding, Oliver and others.

The Prince was attended by all the members of his suite. Having formally declared the bazaar open, he witnessed the Canadian march and Maypole dance, visited different booths and made several purchases. Hundreds unable to get into the hall thronged Bank street and enthusiastically cheered the Prince on his arrival and departure.

Imports for March

Imports for March totaled $25,001,755 an increase of $2,414,330. Exports of Canadian products valued at $13,164,474, an increase of $1,908,365.

Lord's Day Alliance

Toronto, April 16.—Rev. W. M. Chester, M. A., of Kenora, has been appointed western secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance. His special field of labor will be Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

Ontario Library Association

There was a good attendance today at the opening of the sixth annual meeting of the Ontario Library association. The sessions, which are being held in the Canadian Institute, will last over tomorrow. The chief feature of the programme is a study of the new library buildings of Canada and the United States.

A Million More Capital

The shareholders of the Toronto Railway company met today and took favorable action on the proposal of the directors to issue $1,000,000 new shares. The additional capital will be used to extend the lines, to provide new equipment and for various other improvements.

Explosion, One Man Killed

Lachute, Que., April 16.—An explosion occurred in one of the mixing rooms of the Dominion Cartridge company at Brownsburg this morning. Fred Grimsby, who only took charge of the place last Thursday, having come from Glasgow for that purpose, was instantly killed. He leaves a widow and child in the Old Country.

Killed by Dynamite

Kenora, Ont., April 16.—Two men, names unknown here were killed by a premature discharge of dynamite at Stewart's construction camp at Biddell, near here Saturday night.

Salvationists Arrive

Halifax, N. S., April 16.—The Dominion liner Kensington arrived here yesterday with 1200 Salvationists for western Canada. They are fine looking lot of settlers.

Strike of Express Agents

St. John, April 16.—All the station agents of Intercolonial railway who are also agents of the Canadian Express company at midnight Saturday refused to handle any more business for the latter company, because of the refusal of the company to increase the sale of commission. The company will close all agencies until the strike is over.

Prince Albert, Sask., April 16.—This morning fire destroyed the R. N. W. M. P. canteen and recreation room together with contents, which included many cups, trophies and heirlooms of the force. The total loss will be about $4,000 upon which there is $600 insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

A Yankee Trick

Winnipeg, Man., April 16.—Manitoba millers have discovered a ruse by which San Francisco competitors are endeavoring to evade the Chinese boycott and capture Canadian trade. They are bagging their flour in bags stamped "Made in Canada." The matter will be brought to the attention of the Canadian government.

Wheat Prizes Offered

Winnipeg, April 16.—As due recognition of wheat growing as the leading industry of western Canada, the Winnipeg Industrial Fair board will hang up prizes for cereal this year aggregating $500. The first prize will be $200, which is believed to be the largest award for an exhibit of grain made at any fair on the continent. This will be for Red Fyfe only. Prizes will range down to $35 for fifth place. Provision will also be made for Alberta red winter wheat, but all white varieties will be excluded from honor list.

Successful Oil Operation

Neepawa, Man., April 16.—Oil boring operations here give most encouraging results, and a company has been formed to develop the proposition. The shaft is down 290 feet, and the indications continually improve. The substance brought up now burns readily.

ASK CONTROL OF PRISONS.

London, April 16.—With a view of formally taking over all the prisons, asylums and workhouses in the United Kingdom, Bramwell Booth, son of the head of the Salvation Army, has offered to take control of the institutions of any city for three years as an experiment, believing that the Salvation Army can manage them more successfully and cheaper than can the government.

SALVATION ARMY CONGRESS.

Miss Booth of the United States Corps Announces a Big Event.

Binghampton, N. Y., April 16.—Miss Booth, commander of the Salvation Army in the United States, made to the Binghampton press today the first public announcement of the fact that the International Salvation Army congress will be held in the Hippodrome, New York, May 11th to 16th.

"I believe this is the first time," said Miss Booth, "that a religious body has ever made an attempt to hold a meeting here. I shall speak, and I hope my voice can be heard all over the place. Although the New York newspapers have been after me for an announcement about the congress, this is the first I have made."

KING PETER'S CROWN.

London, April 12.—The correspondent at Vienna of the Morning Post sends the following: "Belgrade telegrams give official denial to the statement that King Peter intends to abdicate. The denial, however, does not counteract the general belief that a serious Servian crisis is brewing. April 28th is named as the day on which the King will be dethroned and expelled unless he abdicates beforehand. A strong party is reported to have been formed against King Peter, but in favor of his cousin, Prince Arsen Karageorgevitch, who is now an officer in the Russian army.

THE ROOSEVELT CUP.

German Crown Prince Will Enter Yacht in Race.

April 12.—The Kiel Gazette says that the German Crown Prince intends to send his new small yacht the Angela II to America to compete for the Roosevelt cup late this summer.

MINERS' STRIKE A VERY QUIET ONE

President Mitchell Declares It the Most Peaceable Conflict Ever Known.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 16.—President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers, and Secretary W. D. Wilson have arrived at national headquarters and seem satisfied with the outlook. The international executive board will meet tomorrow, and one of the matters to come before the board will be the proposition to levy a strike assessment on the miners whose operators have signed the 1903 scale and who have put the men to work.

At this time about 40,000 men are out on strike. None of the men have come to the treasurer for support.

"One would scarcely know that a strike was on," said Mr. Mitchell. "The operators and the public have all the coal they want. The miners would not have had any work anyway since April 1st, and if the public is paying more than formerly for coal, someone is taking advantage of the situation."

REGAINS HIS REASON.

Ogdensburg, N. Y., April 16.—Arthur Chapron, who for five years has been an inmate of the Matteawan asylum for insane criminals, was declared sane today, and as a result will be tried for the murder of John Leahy. Chapron was accused of this murder five years ago but was declared to be insane.

OFFICIALS INDICTED.

Grand Jury at Buffalo Presents Charges Against County Treasurer.

Buffalo, April 16.—The grand jury handed in a number of secret indictments today. Shortly afterwards Fred O. Murray, former county treasurer, and at present collector of the port, appeared in court and pleaded guilty. Bail was fixed at $10,000 and was furnished immediately. The indictment to which he pleaded is against Fred O. Murray and one other, and charges grand larceny in the first degree in stealing from Erie county sums aggregating $36,000

DECLARED A DIVIDEND.

Canadian Gold Fields Syndicate, Limited, Makes a Good Showing.

Rossland, April 16.—The Canadian Goldfields Syndicate, Limited, has declared a dividend of 1¾ per cent. on the $600,000 of the issued capital stock of the company. The dividend is for the quarter ending March 31, and is payable May 1.

The dividend amounts to $10,500 and the total of its dividends to date is $93,000. The Canadian Goldfields Syndicate is the owner of 4,260 shares of the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. of Canada, Limited, which at the present valuation of the shares is equal to about $600,000, or 10 cents a share, which is the par value of the Canadian Goldfields Syndicate.

Besides this the Canadian Goldfields Syndicate owns several valuable mining companies and is accumulating a fund out of its dividends with which to operate them.

ROOSEVELT IN THE PUBLIC EYE

His Advocacy of the Curtailment of Big Fortunes Interests Britishers.

LIMIT TO BIG INCOMES

Same System Is Said to Be in Practical Effect in England.

LONDON, April 16.—Most of the morning newspapers devote their leading articles to President Roosevelt's speech at the ceremony of the laying of the cornerstone of the new office building of the house of representatives at Washington on Saturday. Their comment generally is favorable to the president's words.

In the view of the papers it was a bold speech, but only what was to be expected of President Roosevelt. His defence of public men appeals strongly to Englishmen.

Too Much Popularity

Mr. Roosevelt, the articles say, is commencing to suffer from too much popularity, and already comment and abuse are heard where a year ago not a single voice was raised against him.

His outspoken words in the suggestion of a progressive tax to prevent any individual inheriting over a certain amount, the critics believe, will make him more enemies in America, but here, they say, the words do not sound dreadful, as England has what he is aiming at in an income tax combined with a system of graduation and a succession duty, which does not limit the amount an heir may inherit, but produces a big revenue from estates.

Kaiser Is Condemned

Emperor William's telegram to Count Goluchowski, the Austro-Hungarian minister of foreign affairs, thanking him for the support of the Austrian representative at Algeciras, the "splendid deed of a loyal ally," and assuring him of "my rendering a like service on a like occasion," is also lengthily discussed, but where President Roosevelt is complimented the emperor was severely censured.

RIOT AT A MINE.

Johnstown, Pa., April 16.—A 'phone message from Windber indicates that in a riot, Mining Engineer Delaney was taken to a hospital badly injured. An unknown man was shot in the leg and two or three were slightly hurt, none fatally. There were no deaths.

MONTEAGLE AT HONGKONG.

C. P. R. Steamer's Good Progress on Round-the-World Trip.

Hongkong, April 16.—The C. P. R. steamer Monteagle arrived here at 8:30 yesterday morning on her round-the-world trip. She left St. John, N. B., on January 20th and called at Cardiff and Durban.

The total distance she traveled was nearly 18,500 miles, and this was accomplished without accident or any unnecessary delay.

The passengers, amongst whom are Master Shaughnessy, son of Sir Thos. Shaughnessy, president of the C. P. R., and his tutor, are well.

A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN IMMIGRATION

Toronto Board of Trade Complains of Dumping of Paupers in Canada.

TORONTO, April 16.—The board of trade is taking up the question of the dumping of undesirable immigrants in Canada. A prominent member of the board, who returned here from England in March, forwarded to F. G. Morley, the secretary, clippings the poor law guardians there as sending paupers to Canada. Mr. Morley was instructed by the board to bring from British newspapers reporting the matter to the attention of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The Premier replied, stating that the complaint had been referred to the minister of the interior.

The superintendent of immigration, W. D. Scott, wrote on April 12 that the complaint had been sent to the high commissioner in London. The board of trade followed the correspondence up by securing the co-operation of Dr. Sheard, medical health officer, who says that the arrival of

Helpless or Indigent Immigrants

in Toronto is getting serious. Mr. Morley today received a letter from Dr. Sheard, furnishing a list of 67 persons of 11 nationalities who have applied as indigents for hospital maintenance, chargeable to the city, since July 1, 1905. The letter reads:

"The number of applicants for relief, other than hospital relief, who have been less than three months in Toronto, number 359. A large number of immigrants daily invest the casual ward of the house of industry over and above those included in the list."

TELEPHONE LINEMEN'S STRIKE.

Atlanta, Ga., April 16.—The strike of the Southern Bell telephone linemen became effective today.

RE DOMESTIC ALCOHOL.

Washington, April 16.—The House of Representatives today passed the bill permitting the withdrawal from bond, tax free, of domestic alcohol when rendered unfit for beverage or liquid medicinal use by mixture or with suitable materials.

VIGOROUS ACTION.

Governor Folk of Missouri Takes Steps to Punish Mob Leaders.

Jefferson City, Mo., April 16.—Governor Folk has issued instructions to Adjutant-General De Armond to direct General H. C. Clark, in command of the state militia, now in Springfield, to arrest the leaders of the mob of Saturday night, put them in jail and surround the jail with troops for protection. The governor said the militia would be kept in Springfield until quiet and order was restored and until danger of injury to persons and property was averted. He has offered a reward of $300 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any member of the mob.

FIRE AT GRAND FORKS.

Yale Hotel Suffers Damage Estimated at Five Thousand Dollars.

Grand Forks, B. C., April 16.—(Special.)—Just at noon yesterday, citizens saw smoke from around the roof of the Yale hotel. The fire department was on hand in short time and soon had six streams playing on the roof, one line of hose being brought up from the inside of the hotel. The guests all turned in and helped the firemen who kept the fire under control in the roof and succeeded in entirely extinguishing it.

The exact amount of damages done has not been ascertained yet, but it will be in the neighborhood of $5,000. Most of the damage was done to the hotel furniture.

The Yale hotel was built some seven years ago by John A. Manly and cost, including furniture about $60,000. Too much credit cannot be given the fire department and citizens generally for the way they fought this fire and prevented the destruction of the best hotel in the interior of British Columbia. The Yale hotel is well insured. The cause of the fire is unknown.

NEW FOG ALARM FOR PROTECTION ISLAND

Convenience to Mariners to Be Installed Off Nanaimo--Coal City News.

NANAIMO, April 16.—(Special.)—Harbormaster Knarston has been advised that the fog alarm to be placed on Protection island will arrive this week and will be immediately installed. The alarm will be in the form of an automatic ringing bell.

The baseball league opened yesterday with a game between Nanaimo and Ladysmith. The game was stopped in the 7th innings owing to a general dispute, the score at that time standing 7-6 in favor of Ladysmith, Nanaimo having another inning to play.

Joins Survey Party

Mr. Thomas O'Connell, jr., accountant in the Nanaimo branch of the Royal Bank of Canada has given notice of resignation to the bank which will take effect in about a month from now, when he will leave Nanaimo as a member of one of the Dominion government survey parties appointed to mark out the boundary line between Alaska and Canada. Mr. O'Connell is an old resident of Nanaimo and has been connected with the Royal Bank for quite a number of years, having risen from the position of messenger to his present responsible office and has not only enjoyed the confidence of the bank officials, but the esteem and friendship of the patrons. Outside his connection with the bank also, he has been one of Nanaimo's best known and most popular young men and he will take up his new work with the best wishes of a very large number of people in Nanaimo.

EXPLOSION ON KEARSAGE.

Board of Enquiry Summoned to Investigate Catastrophe.

Guantanamo, Cuba, April 16.—A board of inquiry appointed by Rear-Admiral Bomsley D. Evans, commander-in-chief of the United States Atlantic fleet, today began an investigation of the cause of the explosion April 13th on board the battleship Kearsarge when the crew were engaged in target practice off Culbera island, resulting in the death of two officers and five men. Very little information regarding the accident is obtainable here, and no members of the crew of the Kearsarge will be allowed ashore for the present. When the correspondent of the Associated Press first boarded the ship today all information was absolutely refused, but later a few details of the disaster were obtained. The explosion, it appears, took place in the forward upper turret of the battleship while a charge was being rammed in the breach of a 13-inch gun. While this was being done, it was further asserted, connection was accidentally made with the electric firing apparatus, and the explosion occurred. Lieut. John M. Hudgins, one of the two officers killed, was in charge of the firing party, and Lieut. Joseph W. Graeme, who succumbed to his injuries April 14th, was attached to the armored cruiser Maryland, and was acting as umpire. He was taken on board the Maryland and died there.

NEW PLAN AT TACOMA SMELTER

Reduction in Working Hours and General Increase in Wages.

BELLINGHAM & SPOKANE RY.

Improvement Co. to Subscribe $200,000 to Project--News of the Coast.

TACOMA, April 16.—(Special.)—W. R. Rust, of the Tacoma smelter, today announced a reduction in working hours of about 400 furnacemen. They have been working twelve hours a day, but hereafter they will work eight. Wages were recently raised at this plant, and now the pay of furnacemen for eight hours' work will be the same as they received for twelve hours before the recent increase. One hundred additional men will be employed.

Bellingham-Spokane Railway

Bellingham, April 16.—(Special.)—President Taylor, of the Bellingham Bay Improvement company, has signified his willingness to recommend to the directors that they subscribe $200,000 to the Bellingham-Spokane railway subsidy, provided some minor features of the plan are amended.

Lived in Montana

Helena, Mont., April 16.—(Special.)—Dr. A. Wolf Burton, who fatally wounded Dr. Trafton and killed Mrs. Burton, his wife, upon finding them in a room together, at Birmingham, Ala., April 10th, formerly lived in Choteau, Teton county, Montana.

A Fatal Quarrel

Napa, Cal., April 16.—(Special.)—William Voss, an aged member of the Veterans' Home at Youngsville, killed Joseph Johnson, another veteran, today at Cooper's place on Dry creek road, near Napa. Voss and Jounson had been working there as wood choppers. A quarrel arose between the two men and both picked up axes and engaged in a fight, during which Voss struck his opponent on the head with his axe. Voss is under arrest.

Pleads Not Guilty

Stockton, April 16.—(Special.)—Mrs. Emma Ladoux, charged with the murder of A. N. McVicar, was brought into court this morning to plead, she having been arraigned several days ago. She pleaded not guilty in a clear voice, hesitating only for an instant. The ceremony occupied only about one minute, but the courtroom was crowded long before the hour arrived for bringing the accused before the judge.

Moyer-Haywood Trial

Seattle, April 16.—(Special.)—Under the leadership of Dr. Hermon Titus, Socialist orator and writer, there is being organized a committee of union men to attend the Moyer-Haywood trial in Idaho and to report on the testimony given against the miners. Titus has just returned from Boise, and will go back again to be present at the hearing. In an impassioned appeal to a mixed crowd yesterday he declared Moyer and Haywood were not getting a fair trial, and that the presence of a committee of union men was necessary for their protection.

ATTACK CONSTITUTIONALITY.

An Interesting Legal Point Raised at St. Paul.

St. Paul, April 16.—Judge Bunn, in the district court of Ramsey county, today filed an order upholding the indictments brought by the grand jury against the St. Paul Dispatch, the Pioneer Press and the Daily News for publishing detailed stories of the hanging of Williams, a murderer, who was executed in the county jail here March 13th.

The newspapers were indicted under what is known as the John Day-Smith law, which forbids the publication in newspapers of details of any public execution.

The newspapers demurred to the indictment and attacked the constitutionality of the law.

CASTRO'S RETIREMENT.

Matter Does Not Appear to Be Clearly Understood in Venezuela.

Williamsted, April 16.—Passengers arriving here today from Venezuela say that the action of General Castro in retiring from the presidency in favor of Vice President Gomez, is not clearly understood in Venezuela but the general opinion seems to be that his retirement is only temporary. General Castro has gone away as private citizen unattended and paying his fare on the railroad. His wife has gone another way, and the former president's sister arrived here today. The resignation of the Venezuelan president is also causing some speculation. The ministers retired when Castro gave up the reins of power, but Gomez has not appointed a new cabinet and therefore the old ministers have retained their portfolios.

On the other hand, Castro's followers are scattering, leaving the capital in different ways.

At Caracas the political atmosphere has completely changed as is apparent on all countenances. The opinions expressed here, the nearest point to Venezuela are equally conflicting. The Venezuelans, as a rule, are reticent when questioned on the subject. They generally say that Castro is sick, but they hesitate to give their opinion of his retirement from the presidency.