

Weather Forecast for Today

Increasing easterly winds; unsettled with rain.

The Daily Herald

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VOLUME XVII.

NANAIMO, VANCOUVER ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA, THURSDAY, DEC. 27, 1917.

NUMBER 291.

GAS DETECTOR BEING TESTED

Existing Methods of Detecting Presence of Gas in Coal Mines It is Believed Will Be Revolutionized by Use of Burrell Gas Detector.

An instrument now is being put through its final tests which, if it does the work claimed for it, will give immediate warning of the presence of smaller percentages of methane in the ventilating current in coal mines than can be detected with the safety lamps. It is known as the Burrell Gas Detector. It is shown to be as effective as the present indications lead those interested to believe it will revolutionize the existing methods of testing air of coal mines and will prove of the utmost importance in safeguarding the lives of the thousands engaged actively in the industry.

Officials of the British Columbia Department of Mines are watching the developments in this connection with close attention. If the final tests to which the detector now is being subjected, are as good as anticipated, no time will be lost in introducing it, for official use, in the Crown's West Coast Field. The Minister of Mines is not satisfied with the method now in use of testing the air for smaller percentages than can be detected by the safety lamps in these mines. It being necessary to forward the air samples to Ottawa for analysis and wait their return, which involves a delay of upwards of ten days before the result is known. It is proposed placing a competent chemist, at that point to analyze the daily samples on the spot, but this course, it is pointed out, is likely to be rendered unnecessary, and in fact entirely superfluous, should the detector be shown to be effective. In the meantime, therefore, the department is awaiting the results referred to and if there are what is confidently looked for it will not be long before the mines of Coal Creek, B.C., are provided with the necessary number of detectors to enable the officials to know from day to day just what percentage of gas is present in different parts of the mine.

From a series of tests made with analyzed gas samples taken at the same time in reasonable velocities by the Burrell detector and samples taken and dealt with in the ordinary way the two have checked out very closely, within three-tenths of one per cent. In high velocities the results were not quite so satisfactory, but further tests are being made under these conditions and it is these results which have yet to come to hand. It is interesting to quote some of the comparative figures, which speak for themselves:

	Per Cent. Per Cent.	Per Cent. Per Cent.
	By Analysis.	By Detector.
No. 1 East Mine—		
Sept. 25, 1917	3.62	3.2
No. 1 East Mine—		
Sept. 25, 1917	3.12	3.2
No. 1 South Mine—		
Sept. 27, 1917	2.17	2.1
No. 8 Mine, Oct. 11, 1917	0.83	1.1
No. 1 East Mine—		
Oct. 23, 1917	3.04	3.4
No. 1 East Mine—		
Oct. 23, 1917	2.81	3.1
No. 1 South Mine—		
Oct. 23, 1917	2.20	2.0
No. 1 South Mine—		
Oct. 23, 1917	2.58	2.9
No. 1 East Mine—		
Oct. 23, 1917	3.38	3.6
Totals	23.75	24.60
Average percent—	2.64	2.73

OLD RESIDENT PASSED AWAY ON TUESDAY

The death occurred Tuesday morning at the family residence, 134 Irwin street, of John Simpson, a resident of Nanaimo for 24 years. The deceased was a native of Bradford, Yorkshire, England, aged 69 years. He leaves to mourn his loss his widow and two sons, George and Joseph, both of this city. The funeral, the arrangements for which are in the hands of Mr. McAdie, will take place on Friday afternoon, at 2:30 o'clock, from McAdie's undertaking parlors, the Rev. F. G. West, officiating.

Mr. John F. Doyle returned last evening from a business trip to the Capital.



Nanaimo Lodge No. 4, K. P. Will meet Friday evening next, Dec. 28, 1917, at the usual hour. By order of the C. C. W. H. JONES, K. R. S.

RUSSIA HAS A NEW GOVERNMENT

Russian Counsel at Seattle is informed of the Establishment of a Russian Government With Capital at Voronege.

Seattle, Dec. 26.—Nicholas Bogdanoff, Russian counsel at Seattle, announced today he has received a cable sent by way of India, telling of the establishment of a new Russian Government at Voronege, capital of a province of the same name, between Moscow and Rostov, on the Azov sea. The cable did not say who led the formation of the Government but it is believed leaders in the movement are members of the Kerensky provisional government who have fled from Petrograd.

Petrograd, Dec. 25.—Via London, Dec. 26.—It is reported that the refusal of the German government to issue passports to the German Socialists Haase, Ledebour and Kautsky, who desire to go to Stockholm to acquaint themselves with the Russian revolutionary conditions, has produced in Russia an impression which may hamper the peace negotiations.

Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister, has sent a telegram to his delegates at Brest-Litovsk in this connection, declaring that if the Germans should refuse their Socialists passports, this would create such a bad impression at Petrograd that it was deemed necessary that the German official delegation, which is expected here Thursday, should go to Stockholm instead.

The Bolshevik Commissaries have issued a manifesto to all Russian workmen declaring that, as the armistice probably will be transformed at an early date into a general democratic peace for all the European peoples, preparation of military equipment is a waste of national labor and funds, and that, consequently, the output must be stopped immediately and replaced by the production of peace supplies, which the country needs.

The Herald staff acknowledges the receipt of a Christmas gift, consisting of a consignment of Fairall's Ginger Wine, through the medium of the local agent, Mr. W. F. Norris, Call again "Bill."

Don't forget St. Andrew's Sunday School Christmas Tree tonight at 7 o'clock. Collection.

SHIPPING LOSS SHOWS DECREASE

London, Dec. 26.—Losses to British shipping show a material decrease for the past week. According to the Admiralty report, notwithstanding the fact that a total of eleven British merchantmen of 1,600 tons or over were sunk during this period by mine or submarine, as well as one merchantman under that tonnage and one fishing vessel.

being used for the same purpose. The hospitals ashore are full of dead and dying; some with legs and arms gone, and then some more with broken bodies, crying for mamma. It would make a person heartbroken to hear their appeals. We were all sent on picket duty, and no person to walk on the sidewalk. Blue jackets and soldiers are taking charge of the town, and anyone found touching or hearing a store is shot dead on the spot. I have heard that some have been shot down trying to steal. Believe me it's not a lot of fun, and "bing" and that is all you would be able to hear.

Bob Little of Nanaimo, is on our ship. He got shaken up, and it has affected his hearing, but I think he will be O.K. in a few days. I am a little bruised up, but my nerves are shook up a bit, but I consider myself one lucky fellow. It's a good job I was blown down the hatch in safety from the lead pipe and steel rivets, etc. otherwise I am sure I would never have been able to tell the tale. Believe me, I experienced and felt the Protection mine magazine, and the Oscar and Powder Works, but that was just a morsel against this one. I don't want to feel no more like this. I have not heard full details yet of how everything has come out, but I know where we have been killed, I saw lots of them myself, but I don't wish to see such a sight again.

We were only about forty yards from the ship, so you can imagine what a shaking up we got when houses were wrecked six miles away, and they heard the report in Sydney two hundred and forty miles away. Well, it's sad to think of it, so I must finish, hoping to hear from you soon. Give my best regards to all, and not forgetting yourself. I remain your loving son, J. YOUNG.

QUELETTE-ADAM

Mr. Dr. Unsworth officiated last evening at an interesting marriage ceremony at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Adam, 313 Victoria Road, the bride being their eldest daughter Miss Lillian Kathrine, and the groom Mr. Wilfred L. Ouellette, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ouellette, Crofton.

The groom who is taking an officer's training course in Victoria, was dressed in khaki, and was attended by his brother Walter, the bride being attended by Miss Eva Ouellette, sister of the groom.

The home was beautifully and artistically decorated, the decorations being of a patriotic nature and at the close of the marriage ceremony an elaborate supper was partaken of by a large number of invited guests. Mr. and Mrs. Ouellette leave this morning on a honeymoon trip to Round cities.

RIFT OCCURS IN PEACE LUTE

Reported That Russia Has Given Germany Forty-eight Hours to Either Accept or Reject Russian Peace Proposals.

Petrograd, Dec. 26.—It is reported that the German delegation which was expected in Petrograd on Thursday is proceeding to Dvinsk instead, fearing that a visit to Petrograd would be misinterpreted. There is an unofficial report, which cannot be confirmed, that the Russians have given the Germans 48 hours in which to accept or reject the Russian peace proposals.

Amsterdam, Dec. 26.—Berlin advices received here say that the commission provided for in the Russian-German armistice agreement proceeded for Petrograd today. It is headed by Count Von Mirbach, a former German Minister to Greece, and will undertake to reach a settlement with the Russian authorities for exchange of civilians and incapacitated war prisoners, and also devise measures to restore friendly relations between Germany and Russia.

WESTERN PASTIME CLUB INSTITUTED

New Organization Has Been Instituted in Nanaimo for the Entertainment and Securing of Social Advantages for Its Members.

The Western Pastime Club is the name of Nanaimo's newest organization which has for its object the securing of social advantages for its members. The Club has received its charter from the Government, the applying directors being Messrs. R. R. Hindmarch, Geo. E. Norris, A. A. Davis and David Mottishaw, and at a recent meeting the officers were elected as follows:

Hon. President.—R. R. Hindmarch.
President.—Alf. Wilkinson.
Vice-President.—George E. Norris.
Secretary-Treasurer.—Harry J. Walton.

House and Management Committee.—The above named officers together with D. Mottishaw, C. Tembey, G. Langham, J. Millburn and J. Webster.

The Club which starts out with a membership of over seventy, has fitted up quarters in the Nanaimo Hotel Block which provide every convenience for the comfort and pleasure of its members. The Western Pastime Club has all the requisites of the modern social club and with the advent of prohibition provides for the social wants of the young men of the city who heretofore have not been affiliated with any organization of a similar nature.

ELECTIONS LAST WEEK JANUARY

Victoria, Dec. 26.—Premier Brewster said today the Executive would decide next week on the date of by-elections and the date that the House would meet. The latter will be during the first week in February, while the by-elections will be held within the preceding week.

CONSIGNEES WEDNESDAY

Tabata Camp, J. H. Good, Model Furniture Co., Malkin & Pearson, R. G. Western Mercantile Co., M. L. Masters, W. Hoggan, A. Harvey, Union Brewing Co., Vancouver Milling Co., Randle Bros., S. Ueno, C. Teranishi, E. Quennell, P. Burns, J. J. Grant, Sparks & Co.

WILSON TAKES OVER RAILROADS

American Government Will Assume Possession of All United States Railways And Operate Them on Friday Next.

Washington, Dec. 26.—President Wilson announced tonight he will assume possession and operation of every railroad in continental United States on noon Friday, December 28, and the day had appointed Secretary McAdoo director-general of railroads.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Fuel administrator Garfield told the Senate investigating committee today that if the war continued very long the Government would be compelled to pool coal and sell it at reasonable prices. Some coal operators, he said, were making the greatest profits in their history, but he considered high prices a stimulus to the great production of the war demands. The Fuel Administrator said he saw little relief in prospect for the railroads until their operation was centralized.

ANZAC SOLDIERS VOTE AGAINST

Melbourne, Dec. 26.—The latest figures in the referendum are 870,000 for and 1,050,000 against conscription, including the first returns from the Australian military forces, which is officially announced are 17,000 for and 23,000 against.

Dr. A. D. Morgan and wife of Alhambra spent Christmas with the Doctor's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Morgan, Nicol street. Mrs. Morgan returned home yesterday and Dr. Morgan leaves today for Victoria where he will sign up with a hospital unit for overseas service.

Ald. Morton was given permission to introduce the Boston Property taxation exemption by-law, which was given first and second readings and will be considered in committee next Monday.

Ald. Coburn brought up the question of the conservation of meat and the introduction of a greater amount of fish into the daily diet of the public, which had been raised by Mr. Gibson on his recent visit to the town. He was of the opinion that as the matter was one of such prime importance, the Council should resolve itself into a committee of the whole with the Mayor as chairman, to deal with the matter. He moved to this effect and the resolution was adopted.

DEBUT OF SOUTH WELLINGTON BAND

Already famous for its fine coal, South Wellington seems destined to become even more so, if Tuesday's performance is a criterion of the ability of its new Brass Band to entertain.

Just at midnight Christmas morning the Band, under the able leadership of Mr. Tom Westwell, made its debut at the home of Mr. Joe Taylor, who has lent material assistance in its formation. Mr. Taylor congratulated the members on the finished and able manner in which they had rendered the various selections, and thanked them for the honor done him and Mrs. Taylor, who provided refreshments.

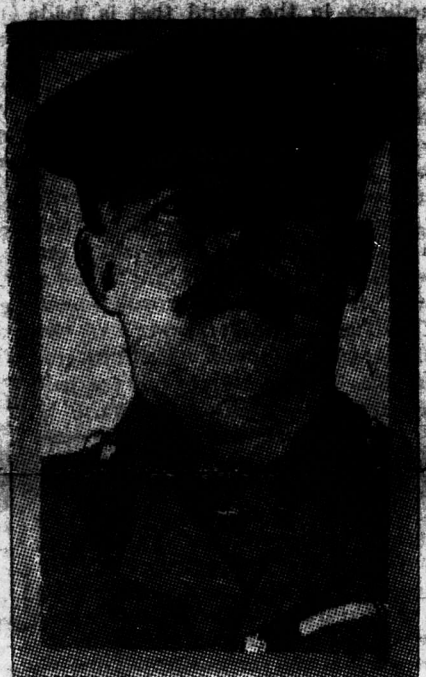
Thereafter the Band played in each quarter of the district, finishing up at 11 a.m., when Mr. Ed. Carroll had the pleasure of handing over to the treasurer a handsome collection, which will augment the Instrument Fund, (while everyone had hospitably entertained the players). The very excellent instruments have been supplied by Messrs. Whaley, Royce & Co. of Toronto and Winnipeg.

A Grand Prize Drawing in aid of the Band is being held, the results of the drawing will be published in the Daily Herald of Dec. 30th.

Miss Patricia Kelly of South Wellington invited a number of young friends to her Christmas tree on Christmas morning, among the invited guests being the Misses Irene Bateman, Tris Smith and Lena Bateman, and Master Norman Bateman. The children had a royal time and during the height of the festivities they were called on by the recently organized South Wellington Brass Band, which rendered several appropriate selections, which were much appreciated.

At his residence, 134 Irwin Street, on Dec. 25th, John Simpson, a native of Bradford, England, aged 69 years, and a resident of this city for 24 years.

Funeral Notice
The funeral will take place from McAdie's Undertaking Parlors on Friday afternoon at 2:30. No flowers by request.



Col. Lord Montague, advisory inspector of mechanical warfare for the government of India, who has arrived in the capital on his way from England to India, will, while in Canada, endeavor to stimulate interest in aviation. He will especially emphasize the necessity for a steady stream of recruits for all branches of the Imperial Air Service.

CIVIC ELECTIONS JANUARY 17TH.

Council Set Nomination and Election Dates—Ald. Coburn Submits Report of Finances of the City.

At the regular weekly meeting of the City Council Monday evening, on motion of Ald. Ferguson, it was resolved that nominations for the mayoralty, aldermanic seats and police commissionerships be received in the Council Chambers on Monday, Jan. 14th, and that should a poll be necessary, the same should be held in the Council Chamber on Thursday, Jan. 17th between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Mr. F. G. Peto was appointed returning officer.

Ald. Morton was given permission to introduce the Boston Property taxation exemption by-law, which was given first and second readings and will be considered in committee next Monday.

Ald. Coburn brought up the question of the conservation of meat and the introduction of a greater amount of fish into the daily diet of the public, which had been raised by Mr. Gibson on his recent visit to the town. He was of the opinion that as the matter was one of such prime importance, the Council should resolve itself into a committee of the whole with the Mayor as chairman, to deal with the matter. He moved to this effect and the resolution was adopted.

The Mayor brought to the notice of the two committees concerned, the fact that as yet no final report had been made regarding the petition from the Gillespie Street residents, regarding the sewerage question, nor had the committee which had the request from the Nanaimo Building and Land Company in hand, made their report on this matter. He asked that in view of the fact that the present Council would go out of office very shortly, these matters be attended to without further delay.

Ald. Ferguson asked what had been done in the matter of insurance for the firemen. He thought that this also was a question which should be dealt with promptly. The Mayor replied that the Finance Committee had already made a suggestion to the men, and that this was still under consideration.

Ald. Coburn submitted a financial report covering the affairs of the city for the past eleven months, showing total receipts of \$109,392.81, and expenditures of \$97,426.24. In introducing this report, Ald. Coburn pointed out that the loan at the bank had been reduced \$12,000, but at the same time he was afraid he said, that it might be found to be impossible to allow this reduction to remain at this figure. The cost of the street intersection paving would in all likelihood have to be met out of the general revenue, and the receipts during the next month might not be sufficient to cover this in its entirety. However, he thought that on the whole the report showed that the finances of the city were in a satisfactory condition. At the same time he pointed out that it would take almost another four years to pay off the loan to the bank in its entirety if only the present rate of reduction was to be maintained, and until this load was removed from the shoulders of the ratepayers the general finances of the city would be subject to a very grave handicap.

The report was ordered to be filed for future reference.

The Rev. J. K. Unsworth wrote to the effect that the social service council had appointed a committee to act with committees of the Council and other bodies with a view to making the best possible use of the Athletic Club Building.

Nelson has close to \$40,000 of light and water rates in arrears at present.

WILHELM HAD A CLOSE CALL

British Air Squadron Came Mighty Near Getting Kaiser "Bill" During Repraisal Raid on Mannheim Christmas Eve.

Geneva, Dec. 26.—The German report regarding the re-raid of the Verdun front led a narrow escape during the reprisal raid of a British air squadron on Mannheim, Christmas Eve, according to a dispatch from Basel. Only about an hour earlier the Emperor's special train left the station which was partly destroyed by several bombs and a section of the track was torn up, cutting communication north. In fact the Emperor's train was the last to leave Mannheim and no trains arrived at Basel yesterday from that city. Two bombs fell on the palace and one on the suspension bridge across the Neckar river, both structures being badly damaged. An ammunition factory in the north of the city was blown up and a few persons were killed. However, as the employees were having a holiday a considerable number of people were killed or injured within the town and several were blown into the Rhine.

London, Dec. 26.—An official report issued here last night, said: "At daylight Monday one of our air squadrons bombed the German city of Mannheim on the Rhine with excellent results. A ton of bombs was dropped and bursts were observed in the large main station in the works and also in the town, where fire was started. Very heavy anti-aircraft gun fire was directed against our aeroplanes when they were over their objective. One machine was damaged and forced to land. Several enemy scouts made repeated attacks upon our formation, but were driven off. All our machines returned except one aforementioned."

SOCIAL TIME BY AMBULANCE MEN

Upwards of two hundred persons were in attendance at the Social evening given Christmas Eve by the members of the Western Fuel Company's Ambulance Class, and every one present voted the affair an overwhelming success.

The entertainment consisted in a concert, supper and dance, and the manner in which each part was carried out, left nothing to be desired. Mr. F. Johns presided, the music for the dance being provided by Lewis' orchestra, while the excellent repast was prepared and served by Mr. and Mrs. James Aitken.

The concert was one in which exceptional merit was displayed, pleasing features of the program being solos by Miss Hickman, but six years old, and Miss Moore, a talented young vocalist, who is sure to be heard from again in Nanaimo musical circles. Mr. George Mordue rendered a violin solo which was well received, and among those who contributed materially to the success of the concert, were Messrs. T. Lewis, W. Baxter, T. Mason, W. Fulton, A. Thompson and Dan Jones.

BIJOU THEATRE

How a young native of the southern mountains through vision, ambition and a belief that anyone can have his fondest desire if he but possesses sufficient will power and faith rose from his humble station in life, secured a college education and a prominent position in the business world and won the love of a fine woman, is portrayed in what might be called a lesson in life but is entitled "A Son of the Hills."

ROYAL YEAST CAKES

Some women hold to the idea that bread-making is a long and difficult operation, but this is a mistake, for with Royal Yeast Cakes, light, sweet bread can be made in a few hours with but little trouble.

FREE: Our new Royal Yeast Cake Book will be sent free upon request. It contains full instructions for making bread and rolls with Royal Yeast Cakes. Send name and address plainly written and this valuable little book will be mailed promptly.

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