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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL. L. NO. 277. VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1909. FIFTIETH YEAR

DISGRUNTLED EX-PROPRIETOR ADMITS SETTING FIRE TO THE VERNON HOTEL

Four Men Determinedly Hold Car Against Strikers in Bloody Riot

MYSTERIOUS THEFT OF GEMS

Four Thousand Dollars Worth of Diamonds, Chiefly in Solitaire Rings, Missing From Stock of Redfern & Co.

POLICE CONFESS THEMSELVES PUZZLED

Losing Firm Expound Theory That Expert Shoplifters Helped Themselves From Show Window on Friday

The largest, and at the same time the most baffling, case of jewel robbery with which the local police have had to do in many months—indeed since the firm concerned last sought official aid in tracing the flight of extra valuable stock—has commanded the united energies of the detective department since Saturday last, when Charles E. Redfern & Sons reported the loss of diamonds, chiefly in rings of worth, aggregating in value at standard retail prices, approximately $4,000. The missing gems, all diamonds, were contained in 24 rings, the contents of a single tray. In addition there have vanished with associated mystery a pair of diamond earrings, the stones in which were listed 5¼ karats, the value of these ornaments being roughly $1,250, and a unique little scarf pin, in the form of a tiger's head with a small diamond held in the mouth of the mimic master of the jungle.

Seldom does a case present elements of such simplicity and at the same time such difficulty, inasmuch as there appears to be absolutely no clue which may be seized by those entrusted with the work of tracing the missing trinkets of great price. The theory of the firm sustaining the loss is that the rings were stolen during Friday last, at some time between 11 a. m. and 5:30 p. m., during the display of the glittering stock in the show window of the establishment at 1009 Government street.

They were placed in the window in the usual course of business Friday morning. They had vanished when it was desired to similarly display them Saturday.

It devolved upon Mr. Harry Redfern, a member of the firm and son of the founder of the business, Ex-mayor Charles E. Redfern, to put away the extra valuable stock on Friday evening, and at that time and in so doing he does not appear to have noticed that anything was missing. Upon opening the safe on Saturday and giving the display contents to the lady window dresser, the absence of the trays of diamond rings and of the

(Continued on Page Two).

THE NEWS OF TODAY

$4,000 worth of diamonds disappear from Redfern's.

Thousands gather for aviation week at Rheims, France.

Sweeping reductions to be made in rates on White Pass railroad.

Terrible riots between strikers and officials at McKee's Rocks, Pa., result fatally.

Dr. Elliott, of Harrison Hot Springs, paralyzed by fall during runaway accident.

Disgruntled ex-proprietor of Vernon hotel admits having fired structure causing deaths of twelve.

France and Mexico dispute over small island in Pacific.

French-Canadians and Hebrews fight in Montreal.

Dominion to send mounted police troopers to the upper Skeena.

Foley Welch & Stewart G. T. P. contract approximates ten millions.

Hall mines buildings to be rebuilt at once.

Atrocious Indian murder at lower Arrow Lake.

Great Northern train drops through blazing bridge near Grand Forks.

Bishop Du Vernet on Skeena Indian disaffection.

Forgotten cash balances await claimants in Victoria banks.

Nanaimo wants B. C. Electric to come in.

IMPRESSIVE AVIATION STUNTS

Rheims the Centre of the Aeroplane World This Week—Latham France's Third International Representative

GRAND PRIZE EVENT ON MONDAY

Bayard--Clement Balloon Falls Into the Seine at Paris But Passengers Are Rescued From Water

Rheims, Aug. 23.—Blue skies and glorious weather with only a trace of wind made ideal conditions for this, the second day of aviation week at Rheims, and the people in this town awoke to the improved prospect of good sport with keenness.

Attracted by the sensational performances of yesterday, when no less than six aeroplanes were seen at the same time winging their flight in huge circles over the Plain of Bethenay, thousands of spectators came down on early trains from Paris, and when the dirigible balloon Col. Renard appeared over the field at 1 o'clock, having come down from Meux, the tributes and fences lining the field already were black with people.

The Renard, which is the first of the balloons to arrive, carried out a series of impressive evolutions above the plain. Hubert Latham has been chosen as the third aviator to represent France in the contest for the international cup, the big event of the week, which will be run off next Saturday.

The others are Messrs. Bleriot and Lefebvre. The decision was reached by the judges this morning after careful consideration of the elimination contests held yesterday. Tissinaker, Pylham and Sommer are alternates to Latham. Tissinaker, who uses a Wright aeroplane, thus far holds the speed record. Only one other Wright machine, that operated by Schreck, remains to compete in the event. The daring performances yesterday of Lefebvre has made him extremely popular, but Bleriot and Latham still remain the favorites of the crowd. Cortland Bishop, representing the Aero Club of America, today received definite assurances from Jacques Verne that he would send a small portable dirigible balloon, the Zodiac, to appear at the Hudson-Fulton celebration in New York next month. The Zodiac will compete in the race for dirigibles to be held here.

The events scheduled for today are the Grand Prix de La Champagne, and of the city of Rheims, and continuations in the Prix Du Tour De Piste and the Prix Des Aeronauts. The first event carries prizes amounting to $20,000, the first prize being $10,000. The money will be given to the six aeroplanes travelling the greatest distance without touching the ground or replenishing their supplies of fuel and oil. Strict watch is to be kept that no aviator touches the ground or comes within a certain specified distance thereof. This event consequently is a test of endurance, and unlike the other contests, each competitor is obliged to put in an appearance on the opening day. Most of the sky pilots elected to postpone their efforts until towards evening, however, and the crowds that assembled at the aerodromes had to satisfy themselves during the morning and early afternoon hours with witnessing a few unofficial tests.

Bayard-Clement in Water

Paris, Aug. 23.—The Bayard-Clement dirigible balloon, after making a flight here today, fell into the Seine. The aviators on board the airship were saved.

The Bayard-Clement dirigible balloon was built in Paris last fall. It is about 180 feet long and has a capacity of 3,500 cubic metres. The car is built of steel tubes. The airship is fitted with a steel-covered engine house and a shelter for the pilot and

(Continued on Page Two).

PROTEST AGAINST FISHING EXTENSION

Vancouver, Aug. 23.—The Fraser River Fishermen's Union on Saturday afternoon held a meeting which protested to Ottawa against the granting of any extension of the fish season. This is directly opposed to the petition of the canners.

Saturday's Regatta Throng at Picturesque Shawnigan Lake

DETAILS OF BILL TO AMEND DEFENCE

Volunteers Raised in Colonies to Form Part of Royal Volunteer Reserve and Seamen Bound to General Service

ADMIRALTY HAS POWER TO ACCEPT

London, Aug. 23.—The bill to amend the Colonial Naval Defence Act which was brought down in the House of Commons last Tuesday gives power to the proper legislative authority of the colony to provide that volunteers raised in the colony shall form part of the royal volunteer reserve and that seamen and others raised and maintained by the colony shall be bound to the general service in case of emergency.

The schedule gives power to the admiralty to accept any offer of the colony to place at the disposal of the navy for general service the whole or any part of the volunteers or seamen with all or any of their officers.

G. T. P. Officials Inspecting.

Vancouver, Aug. 23.—Collingwood, Schrieber and Chief Engineer Kelliher, of the G. T. P., are here on their way to Prince Rupert. They will go as far as Aldermere inspecting the G. T. P. route.

Nanaimo Miners Disagree.

Nanaimo, Aug. 23.—A mass meeting of employees was held here Saturday night to consider the renewal of an agreement with the company but the men arrived at no decision. The press was excluded but it was learned after a four-hours' sitting that nothing was done. The meeting could not agree on a committee. Another meeting is to be held next Saturday, when the men will take a whole day off and go into the matter. No trouble is as yet apprehended.

DR. ELLIOTT PARALYZED

Physician of Harrison Hot Springs Injured in Runaway and Now Helpless From Waist Down.

Vancouver, Aug. 23.—Dr. C. A. Elliott, of Harrison Hot Springs, was thrown out of a rig in a runaway yesterday and sustained such serious injuries to his spine that he is, today, paralyzed from the waist down.

Australian Squadron.

Melbourne, Aug. 23.—Premier Deakin states that the Australian squadron will consist of about six cruisers, nine destroyers and a small flotilla of submarines.

Many Victoria sports were in Vancouver Saturday, the races being their excuse. In reality they went over to see the chorus girls humiliate the fat men on the baseball diamond, but their wives are not supposed to know this.

REACH DECISION IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS

Department Marine and Fisheries Understands Canners Not Unanimous For Extension of Sockeye Season

Ottawa, Aug. 23.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier is expected to return to Ottawa tomorrow. It is expected that the cabinet councils will be resumed before the end of the week. Sir Fred. Borden and Brodeur are not expected to return before the second week in September.

A decision will probably be reached by the department of marine and fisheries respecting the request from British Columbia for an extension of close season for sockeye salmon within twenty-four hours. It is understood that the salmon interests are not unanimous in their demands for an extension of time, it being claimed by some that to continue the catch this season beyond August 25 would be detrimental to the runs of future years.

Total of Salmon Pack.

The salmon pack up to today was 420,000, with very few fish running. No extension of the season is yet announced and there are three more days to fish.

FETE SCENES MARK VANCOUVER DAY

Seattle, Aug. 23.—Picturesque ceremonies, international in character, marked the formal opening of Vancouver's welcome arch at Third avenue and Marion street, on Saturday morning, "Vancouver Day." Over five hundred Canadian troops, headed by Mayor Douglas, arrived on the Rupert City, and paraded to the scene of the ceremony.

E. S. Roe, who had the erection of the arch in charge, acted as master of ceremonies, and introduced the speakers, who addressed the crowd from a raised stand erected on the west side of the arch. Mayor Charles Douglas, of Vancouver, surrounded by the aldermen of his city, formally presented the arch to the city, and visiting Canadians. Mayor Douglas said in part:

"The erection of this arch was not actuated merely by a mercenary motive, or a desire to advertise. It is a token of esteem to Seattle and the exposition which has attracted thousands of people from all over North America. It typifies the friendly feeling existing between two great cities of the North Pacific. Evidences of this peaceful feeling have been made all the more pronounced today, by the landing of British troops under arms on American soil, as was done across the continent only a short time ago in the ceremonies at the Lake Champlain tercentenary."

Mayor John F. Miller accepted the arch on behalf of Seattle and responded to the friendly sentiments of Mayor Douglas in a few words which drew great applause.

James R. Stirrat, of this city, dressed in the Scottish kilts, followed Mr. Hughes, and received the arch on behalf of the Scottish people of the city. The bands played American and British airs, and the dedication ceremony came to a close.

NO RESTRICTION ON BONDS SALES

Government Official Declares Rules Governing Disposition of Bonds to Poor Are Framed For Best Interests

REGULATIONS HARDER IN GREAT BRITAIN

Ottawa, Aug. 23.—In explaining the decision of the Government to sell bonds to people having deposits in Government savings and postal banks an official of the finance department said today that the department has no intention whatever of putting restrictions on the purchase of bonds, but that in inaugurating a scheme under which the people of small means would be able to invest in safe Government securities, the department framed what were considered the best regulations for the beginnings of the undertaking. The purchase of bonds is confined to depositors of the date of September to January. It is provided simply that the money must be on deposit for three months before it can be exchanged for Government bonds bearing 3 1-2 per cent. interest. It was pointed out that the regulations in Great Britain are more severe and that money must be on deposit for a year before any transfer is made.

The official said that the present rules were made for departmental reasons and because the matter is in an experimental stage. But if it is found that there is a large demand for the bonds the conditions of purchasing may be changed if it is considered necessary.

HEBREWS AND FRENCH FIGHT

Two Racial Factions Hold Up Traffic While They Mix Matters in Montreal.

Montreal, Aug. 23.—Hebrews and French-Canadians fought one another with their fists in St. Lawrence street early Saturday evening, provoking a mob scene that eclipsed any other street fighting in Montreal thoroughfares for many years. While from ten to fifteen men mixed it up in the fighting hundreds of other people jammed St. Lawrence street, from side to side, and were packed together around the corner of De Montigny street, near where the hostilities commenced. All traffic was blocked and at the time it was impossible for the few policemen nearby to get at the source of the trouble.

Banquet to Rivers-Wilson.

Vancouver, Aug. 23.—The Board of Trade banquet to Sir Charles Rivers-Wilson will be held at the Hotel Vancouver next Saturday night.

Wonder if that son of Hetty Green who is so anxious to be an aviator is by any chance named Darius?

INFURIATED STRIKERS KILL

Bloodiest Scenes Since Homestead Massacre Enacted at McKee's Rocks, Pa., When Law and Disorder Clash

FOUR TROOPERS FIGHT TO THE DEATH

Mob Holds Up Car and Murders Deputy Sheriff Then Attacks Soldiers—Fatalities May Number Twelve

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 23.—As a smoke-befogged sun rose over the dull grey houses and factories of McKee's Rocks early today, nothing except two piles of brick and a street littered with broken glass indicated to the casual observer that last night saw one of the bloodiest riots in Pennsylvania since the days of the Homestead strike, costing six lives and at least seven mortal injuries, the result of a six-weeks-old labor dispute between the Pressed Steel Car Company of Schoenville, and its employees. From midnight until dawn today county and state officers searched dark alleyways and crowded tenements for additional wounded men and women.

Before nightfall it is predicted that the death list will total more than a dozen. The state's toll is two dead and one fatally injured. The county lost a deputy sheriff, while the striking employees of the car company lost five of their leaders, two dead and three fatally injured.

One woman, the wife of a striker, fighting for the sake of her husband's cause, was shot in the back and will not recover. A boy who stood beside her during a clash between the state troops and the infuriated mob of strike sympathizers, was also injured and is in danger of death.

The Casualties

As near as official records can be compiled, the dead and wounded are as follows:

The dead: Deputy Sheriff Harry Exler, 54 years old and married, beaten and stabbed to death.

Trooper John L. Williams, of the state constabulary, home in Philadelphia, shot dead.

Unknown striker, check No. 778, shot in the body. Taken to the morgue.

George Millhouse, 26 years old and single, striker; died from bullet wound in lung.

Adam Gubernat, 29 years old, of 18 Orchard street, Schoenville, shot four times; died at Ohio Valley hospital.

John C. Smith, 21 years old, of Mount Carmel, Pa. Shot in left side. Fatally injured:

Trooper Patrick O'Donnell.

Trooper Lucien Jones, of Morgantown, W. Va., shot in side and badly stabbed; taken to Ohio Valley hospital.

Adolph Stahl, 31 years old, striker, shot through the left lung; taken to Ohio Valley hospital.

Mike Tysowski, 22 years old, striker, Schoenville, shot through the legs; taken to Ohio Valley hospital.

Geo. H. Erschaw, 24 years old, employee of Star Enamel Co., shot through the back; taken to Ohio Valley hospital.

Unknown woman, shot in back, will die.

Unknown Polish boy, shot with rifle.

Among the several score injured, ten are in a precarious conditon, and it is stated in the hospitals that most of them will succumb before many hours.

Sheriff Gulbert of Allegheny county has sworn in half a hundred additional deputies in anticipation of renewed rioting today. It is not unlikely that militia from the eastern part of Pennsylvania will be ordered to Pittsburg within the next 24 hours if conditions warrant.

Last night's rioting came suddenly and without warning at the close of a calm and peaceful Sunday. About 9 o'clock strikers were seen together at the Schoenville end of the O'Donovan bridge, a viaduct spanning the

(Continued on Page 2.)

SWEEPING REDUCTIONS ON WHITE PASS RY.

Vancouver, Aug. 23.—J. H. Conrad, manager of the large mines at Windy Arm, who has been conducting a campaign for the past year for lower freight rates on the White Pass railway, announced today that the new tariff on that line is going into effect Sept. 8 and will include sweeping reductions on freight shipments.

CONFESSING AN AWFUL CRIME

Ex-Proprietor of Okanagan Hotel Admits Authorship of Recent Fire With Loss of Twelve Human Lives

HAS DISAPPEARED PROMISING SUICIDE

Inquiry Into Origin of Fire Dramatically Suspended—Police Can Find No Trace of Incendiary Homicide

Self-admittedly the author of the disastrous fire at Vernon about two weeks ago by which the Okanagan hotel was completely destroyed, and twelve inmates of the establishment met death in its most hideous guise in the flames, Andrew Smith, formerly proprietor and latterly bartender of the burned hotel, is now the object of thorough but ineffectual search on the part of the provincial police under the personal direction of Detective Inspector McMullin. The warrant, issued out of the court at Vernon, charges arson, and it is possible that manslaughter may be added as a separate indictment in the event of Smith's apprehension. That the police will be successful in landing the man is gravely doubted, as he would seem to have vanished without a trace to show the route he has taken, and many in-

(Continued on Page Two).

THE REMNANT COUNTER

Great Northern locomotives seem to have a special fondness this summer for deep diving stunts. Emulating the engine that plunged through the Fraser River bridge, another one has duplicated the performance near Grand Forks.

The only one redeeming thing about the Thaw case is its demonstration once again of the pertinacity of mother's love.

A Los Angeles despatch says "Jack Johnson appears to be out of condition." To those who have followed the hectic course of the champion during the past few weeks, this will come no doubt as a crushing surprise.

King Alfonso of Spain has again evinced a wild desire to go to the front and fight, and in compassion for the barbaric Riff tribesmen his ministers have once more held His Majesty back.

Vancouver has a chorus girls' ball nine. According to She-Who-Must-Be-Obeyed, "only chorus girls would play baseball before a lot of men!" And She pronounced chorus in one syllable, as if it were spelled coarse.

The admirable self-restraint exercised by the Colonist ball team in scoring is worthy of all praise.

At Quesnel Miss Alys Reyburn has changed her name to Mrs. Pat Brady. Could any man ask a stronger proof of love?

Isn't it curious that after a man has hounded a job for weeks and literally worried someone half to death to get it at any old wage, the newspapers announce with unction that "Mr. Percival de Smythe has accepted a position," etc.