AERIAL FLEETS FOR FUTURE WARS

Russia Orders Eight Aeroplanes from Bristol Company — Lord Roberts Speaks on Defence Problem

LONDON, March 4.—An important announcement bearing on the possibilities of the aeroplanes in war was made by Sir George White, chairman of the British and Colonial Aeroplane company, at a dinner held at the Clifton Down hotel in Bristol. It was to the effect that the company had accepted an order for eight "Bristol" aeroplanes for one of the great continental powers, and that others were to be purchased in the event of certain severe tests being satisfactorily answered. They had, he said, the greatest confidense in being able to satisfy the conditions laid down, in which event, not eight only, but a considerable number more of British-made aeroplanes would be found among the modern weapons of offence at the disposal of this nation.

Curiously enough, this highly interesting announcement came soon after some remarks from Sir Howell Davies, one of the members for Bristol, who mentioned that, in the course of a conservation with Mr. Haldane, the Secretary of State for War expressed the belief that the War Office would be found purchasing aeroplanes for army purposes. Sir Howell Davies further passed the opinion of an eminent Russian writer, who had written that the greater the perfection in the weapons of war became, the greater prospect was there for peace, for the reason that the nations would be too afraid of the awful consequences of war.

Naturally Sir George White's announcement created immense interest among those who entertain an honest belief that the British government is not watching and encouraging aviation and showing an appreciation of its possibilities as it should do. It was understood that the nation he has in mind was one of the Triple Entente. This view was not wide of the mark, as on a correspondent asking Sir George White if he had any objection to mentioning the name of the power, he, after some hesitation on the question of courtesy, felt himself at liberty to announce that the eight "Bristols" had been purchased for the Russian army. They represent an approximate outlay of $40,000, and it is worth while considering that this money is not coming out of the Russian national exchequer, but is part of a substantial fund which has been subscribed by rich and patriotic Russians, who realize that the aeroplane, if only because of its usefulness for spying and reconnoitering work on frontiers, must represent a powerful weapon in war.

In an address at Coventry on the possibility of a foreign invasion of xngland, Earl Roberts said he could quite imagine why many people in the country had never given the matter of the unsatisfactory state of the home defences much thought. It was because they had been brought up with the idea that the invasion of this country was an impossibility and that so long as they had a powerful navy they could "rest in their beds" and have no thought about the safety of their homes. That there should be such a general idea of security and immunity from danger was perhaps not altogether surprising, seeing that since the Spanish Armada no enemy had ever attempted to land on the shores of England. There had been scares since, and one of those caused the creation of the Volunteer force. The fact was that the Volunteer force had never been taken up seriously by the nation. It had been looked upon more as a national sentiment than a reality or necessity. Now it was the same with the Teritorial force. The people could not believe that this force would ever be required to defend their country from invasion, for if they did it was impossible that they would be content to entrust such a supreme duty to less than 260,000 untrained men and officers. He confessed that that feeling of security astonished him. It was a false security, and could only be felt by people who were either too apathetic to inquire what was going on in the world around them or were ignorant of the changes that were taking place.

They were not now in the position of twenty or thirty years ago. Unfortunately for England now her naval supremacy was being challenged. Other nations besides Germany were building ships as large and powerful as those of Great Britain while Germany alone was rapidly overtaking them in the number, speed, and power of her new vessels. They had allowed their much vaunted two-power standard to become little more than a one-power standard. They had forgotten what nationhood was when they were content to rest without the only kind of army which could prevent this country being invaded by a foreign force. The National Service League desired the country to create a reliable citizen army to defend their shores against attack. The First Naval Lord held the opinion that such a thing as the invasion of this country could not happen. On the other hand four admirals of the fleet and not less than sixty other admirals had become members of the National Service League and they supported him in his opinion that such a contingency was not an impossibility. However powerful their navy might be it could not under the circumstances of the varied demands which would be made upon it in time of war insure the safety of this country, and they must have in addition to their navy a citizen army sufficient in number, efficient in quality, thoroughly reliable, and ready to take the field at a moment's notice.

A resolution in favor of imposing upon every able bodied citizen of military age and sound physique the duty of home defence by the adoption of universal compulsory training with the territorial force was carried by acclamation.

SAANICH LIBERALS HAVE DISBANDED

(Continued from page 1.)

evitably occasioning much dissatisfaction among the hitherto loyal Liberals of the Saanich district. It is also recited that certain promises were definitely made to the residents of Saanich in respect to the free delivery of mails throughout the district, and failure to redeem these and other promises has tended to alienate the sympathies of the Liberals of the district from the party in power at the Federal capital.

Injure Fruit Industry.

It is further urged that the agreement negotiated with the United States making for the free admission to Canada of all products of the American farms and orchards—which agreement deprives the fruit growers' of British Columbia of the advantages hitherto enjoyed by them in the markets of the Prairie provinces and enables the fruit growers' of the states to the south to dump their surplus in the coast cities of British Columbia—is inimical to the interests of the agriculturists of this province, who have not been assisted in any way by the Dominion in the removal of the disabilities under which they labor in competition with the agriculturists of the neighbor states of Washington and Oregon.

After this pre-amble the resolution sets forth that "wherefore the Liberals of the District of Saanich, after due consideration have decided that the only course open to them is to dissolve and disband the Liberal Association of the District of Saanich."

FINED ONE CENT EACH LETTER

Magistrate Imposes Penalty on Firm for Infraction of the Postal Laws Through Freighting Mail

Baxter & Johnson were fined $91.64 a fine of one cent—the deficiency in postage—on each of 9164 letters sent from here by express to be mailed at Vancouver, by Magistrate Jay in the police court yesterday. The charge was laid by the postal authorities under the post office act and was heard some months ago before Acting Magistrate Prior in the police court, a decision being given in favor of the defendant company. The case was appealed, and the appeal court ordered it to be returned to the police magistrate with instructions to impose a penalty. The magistrate took into consideration the ignorance of the law, which while not an excuse was worthy of consideration in imposing a fine and also took into consideration that the postal authorities had offered some time ago to settle for payment of the deficiency in postage on 9164 letters. He therefore fined the defendant company $91.64. It seems that the company sought to post a large number of letters for Vancouver delivery and freighted the whole lot by the Dominion Express company to Vancouver for postage there at the one cent rate. When the postal authorities learned of the freighting of the letters they demanded the additional postage from Baxter & Johnson, who asked that the amount paid for freighting the letters to Vancouver be substracted. This was refused and prosecution was started. The fine was imposed without costs.

STORMY CLOSE FOR CONGRESS

(Continued from page 1.)

President Will Rest

The president himself is anxious for a little rest. April 4, therefore, seemed suited to all parties.

In the month's interim between today and the assembling of the extra session President Taft expects to spend some time in the south, most of it in resting. On March 10, he will address the Southern Commercial Congress at Atlanta. Today he practically promised Rep Moon of Tennessee that on his way to Atlanta he would stop for a day, or a portion thereof, at Chattanooga. After his visit to Atlanta, he probably will go to Augusta to spend a week or ten days in taking life easy playing golf and forgetting for a short time all about the cares of state.

Democratic Plans

In accordance with plans made at an informal conference of Democratic members of the new house of representatives last week, Rep. Clayton of Alabama tonight issued a call for a caucus on Monday, April 3, at 10 o'clock. Besides the formal selection of Champ Clark as speaker, various positions in the house will be filled, including those of clerk, sergeant-at-arms, doorkeeper, postmaster, chief clerk and journal clerk.

Yale promises to be exceptionally lively this summer owing to the gold excitement along Siwahs Creek. Upwards of one hundred old claims have been re-staked.

BRISK BUSINESS IN REALTY MARKET

All Classes of Residential Property in Demand—Investors Interested in Oak Bay and Esquimalt

Residential property in every section of the city is being put through the market daily. The number of small sales recorded was never greater in the history of the local real estate market, while at the same time there is a continuous demand for business sites. A feature of the buying is the interest evinced in waterfront lots and from present indications there is every reason to believe that residences will continue to multiply along the coast line from Esquimalt to Cadboro Bay. Practically every subdivision placed on the market is rapidly changing hands and if any two districts can be singled out as meeting with particular favor at the hands of investors they are Oak Bay and Esquimalt.

The Griffith Company has been responsible during the past few days for sales aggregating in value $76,500 These included a piece of property with a forty foot frontage on Yates street between Blanchard and Quadra for $24,000; a lot with a thirty foot frontage on Fort street between Blanchard and Quadra for $14,000; five lots in the Seaview addition; twenty four lots in the Gorge subdivision; the corner of Niagara and Menzies street sold to a Seattle investor who intends erecting an apartment house on the property; a lot on Douglas St. near the Fountain to a Winnipeg investor; two lots in Wilmot Place Oak Bay; two lots in the Golf Links Park subdivision; three lots in the Fairfield Estate and six lots in a subdivision at the corner of Moss and May streets

Messrs. Day and Boggs have sold off an entire subdivision on Grafton street, comprising thirty-two lots; fifteen lots in a subdivision in James Bay district at the corner of Boyd and Niagara streets; three acres in the Oak Bay district; fifteen lots in Foul Bay district; several scattered lots throughout Esquimalt; particularly in the neighborhood of Liverpool and Aberdeen streets; and a number of scattered lots throughout Oak Bay and James Bay districts.

Messrs. W. Allen and son since the middle of February have put property through the market aggregating in value upwards of $220,000. This firm has made a number of sales in the Rockland Park and Burleith Park subdivisions; twenty-eight lots in the Willows subdivision, Oak Bay district numerous lots lying between Victoria West and Esquimalt, as well as pieces of property in the Fairfield Estate.

Messrs. Currie and Power have put through the following sales: A piece of property measuring 101 x 112 feet at the corner of Douglas street and Garbally Road; a lot on Princess aye. a lot near Lang's Cove, Esquimalt, on Liverpool street; a lot on Fifth street off Tolmie Road; a lot on Shelbourne street and a lot on Ryan street.

The corner lot on Douglas and Pembroke streets, occupied by the wood yard of Mr. J. E. Grice, has been purchased by Mr. A. McKenzie, of New Westminster, for $40,000. The property has 120-foot frontages on both Douglas and Pembroke streets.

PATERNO'S CRIME

Murderer of Princess Trigona Likely to Live to Answer for His Deed —Makes Statement

ROME, March 4.—It is expected that Baron Vincenzo Paterno, the lieutenant who stabbed Princess Giulia Trigona di Sant' Elia, lady-in-waiting to Queen Helena, will live to answer for his crime.

The attending physicians believe that the crisis has passed. The fever has decreased and Paterno rested for several hours today. The bullet which he fired in an attempt to commit suicide is still lodged in his skull, but the patient appears not to have been seriously injured.

Owing to the improvement in Paterno's condition, the crown prosecutor interrogated him this afternoon for nearly an hour. Paterno took advantage of his condition to answer only what he wished. He repeated often: "I loved that woman. I loved her too much. She refused to belong to me longer. It made me lose my head."

He insisted on issuing a note denying that he killed the princess for revenge or that he desired to have her money.

After waking from a restful sleep today he was asked by a doctor if he desired anything. He answered: "Yes, cigarettes and black coffee," but his request was denied.

Several deputies who were formerly officers in the army questioned the minister of war in the chamber today, asking why no measures had been taken against Paterno on account of his disreputable life. The minister replied that since 1903, when Paterno entered the army, nothing had been reported officially against him. His financial embarrassments were known, the minister added, and caused his superiors to censure him severely, but nothing existed grave enough to render him unworthy to wear the uniform.

The minister ended by saying he had asked all the officers of the army to denounce their colleagues who even in private life forgot the oath of honor.

Reduction in Express Rates

A general reduction in the rates of the Canadian and American express companies is announced, and became effective as from the first of the present month. The schedule of reductions provides for a radical change in the matter of returned empties, in which connection the notification circular says: "It will be noted that this classification requires charges to be made on all return empties. The railway commission has ruled, however, that for a period of four months outstanding empties, that is empties that have been received full by express prior to March 1st, may be returned subject to Classification No. 16 and Supplements thereto—provided that each shipper entitled to such return files with the express companies within thirty days a verified statement of such empties, stating in whose hands and at what points such empties are outstanding."

Receipts From Timber.

During the just ended month of February, the receipts of the timber branch of the Provincial Department of Lands aggregated $206,327.55. A total of 922 timber licenses issued for lands west of the Cascades produced $130,573.15 in revenue, while 565 such licenses for lands east of the Cascades brought to the treasury $66,944.40. Penalties amounted during the month to $1,050; timber license transfers to $515; sixty-three coal prospecting licenses to $7,100; coal prospecting license transfers, $130, and miscellaneous, $15.

Seek News of Friend.

Ernest Orr, formerly of Richmond, Man., has been missing since February 5th, 1910, on which date he left the Chemainus Hospital ostensibly with the object of returning to his home in the east. Since that date nothing has been heard of him and his whereabouts is a mystery. Friends have arrived from the east in an effort to discover Orr and have appealed to the local police authorities. Orr is twenty-three years of age, five feet, eight inches in height and weighs about 150 pounds. He followed the occupation of a logger. He was confined to the Chemainus Hospital at the beginning of last year, but since leaving that institution nothing has been heard of him.

INDIAN DELEGATES MEET EXECUTIVE

Premier Replies that there is No Question of Indian Title to be Referred to the Courts —Indians Cordially Received

Ninety six Indian chiefs and delegates who, in the language of their spokesman, had "dragged their weary bodies great distances to ask for justice," appeared before the provincial executive yesterday morning to discuss the question of the title to the unsurrendered lands of British Columbia. They were accompanied by, Dr. A. E. Bolton, Rev. C. M. Cate and Mr. J. I. Teit, of the Columbian Institute of Anthropology of New York, who acted as spokesman for those who were unable to speak English. The members of the executive who met the visiting aborigines were the Premier, Hon. Price Ellison, Hon. Thos. Taylor, Hon. A. E. McPhillips, and Hon. Dr. Young.

Chief R. P. Kelly, who is now in charge of the Methodist Mission at Hartley Bay, read the memorial of the delegates. It set forth in brief that the Indians claim that the Indian tribes still hold full proprietary rights in the unsurrendered lands of the province. This claim, the memorial said, was acknowledged by Sir James Douglas, by the Colonial Office, and afterwards by the then Governor General, Lord Dufferin. As it was now denied by the provincial authorities, the Indians asked that it be submitted to the courts.

Chief Kelly denied the allegation that the agitation over this alleged title had been fomented by the "Society of Friends of the Indians." On the contrary, he alleged that the claim was advanced by the Indians themselves "in the hope that justice would be done them."

Chief John Chilkaleetsa of Douglas Lake, also spoke through the interpreter. He said, "I wish to hear from you whether you claim that this country of British Columbia belongs to you and your government or does it belong to the Indians? If you claim that it belongs to you, then we are of opposite opinions, and I desire that we should go together to some big court house to have it settled."

George Quakatston, sub-chief of the Cowichans, said: "God knows that I do not come here with a lie in my heart or my mouth to deceive you. We are crowded by white people and we are trying to learn their ways but when we turn our cattle out to graze they are put in pound and we are made to pay for them. My name is written here in this country because God has placed me here and in doing so he put lands here for me to stay on. I just want to get one word from the government as to wheether it thinks we own any land or does not."

Premier's Reply.

Premier McBride replied in a diplomatic adress which was interpreted into Chinook by Rev. Mr. Tait. The substance of the Premier's reply was that this matter had been brought to the attention of the present government for the first time a few months ago by a gentleman in Victoria. The government had given it careful attention and had come to the conclusion that the Indians had no title to the unsurrendered lands. Consequently the government would not go to the courts with the matter, because the government felt that there was no issue which the courts could be asked to settle. The Indians had been given large reserves, larger in fact than they needed, as many remained unoccupied, and if they wished they were able to take up homesteads in the same manner as white men. The government was of the opinion that the Indians were well satisfied with their condition, and this question would never have been raised had it not been for the pernicious activity of some white men, who should have known better. The Indians too enjoyed in common with the whites, all the advantages arising through the building of railroads and the large expenditures continually being made by the government in roads, trails, bridges, etc. They were to be commended for living peacefully and as good subjects of his Majesty, in obedience to the laws, and were acquiring education and otherwise fitting themselves for useful citizenship. If they had any legitimate grievances, these should be presented for consideration to the Indian Department at Ottawa, of which they were the wards. A native of British Columbia he had known the Indians all his life, and they were all his friends. Before the interview ended he wished to—and did—shake hands with all the principal chiefs.

The Delegates.

The interview was notable as bringing together, as never before in history, the principal Indians of every section of the province, the delegates including chiefs from the international boundary line on the south, the great Peace River district beyond the Rocky Mountains on the east, the west coast of Vancouver Island, and the Naas and Skeena in the awakening north. Of the aboriginal company, it may in fairness be said, that many of the delegates were men of notable intelligence as well as fine physique—as a group comparing very favorably with as many white men. No fewer than a dozen too were men men of worldly substance, possessed of properties valued at from $25,000 to $50,000, and even in isolated instances, much more than the latter moderate fortune. The cards of the native callers left with the Premier, included those of Ambrose Reid, of the Tsimpsean tribe; Baptiste Loggan, chief of the Vernon band of the Okanagans; Thomas Adolph, of the Fountain band of the Shuswaps; Johnson Grant of the Kitamaahts; Chief W. J. Lincoln, of the Kincoliths; Chief Matthew Johnson, of Port Simpson; Chief A. N. Caulder, of the Lakaltsaps, Naas River; Chief Andrew Mercer, of the Alyansh tribe; Chief Samuel Weeshakes, of the Gwinahas; Chief Walter Woods, of Kitlakdamut; Peter Kelly, of Kithahta and Queen Charlottes Basil Selhesket, of the Shuswaps; William Pierrish, of the same historic tribe; Chief Francis Selpaghen, of the Little Shuswap band; Chief Adrian, of the Shuswap and Chase Indians; George Quakatston, of the Cowichans; Eli, of the Nanaimos; Chief Baptiste William of the Williams Lake band; Chief Louis, of the Kamloops band of the Shuswaps; William Kweltesket, of the Soda Creek Band of the Shuswaps; Chief Chianut, of the Nkamip Band of the Okanagans; Chief John Nhamchin, of the Chopaca Band of the Okanagans; Chief John Baptiste, of the Cayuse Creek Band o the Lillooets; Chief John Tselahitsa, of the Douglas Lake Band of the Okanagans Antoine Tagholest, of the Shuswaps; Chief James, of the Pemberton Band of the Lillooets; Chief Harry, of the Squamish tribe; Chief James Nretesket, of the Lillooet Band of the Lillooets; Chief Joseph Kakyelth and Samson Squalkaylim, of the Cowichans; Chief John Whistamnitsa, of the Spences Bridge Band of the Couteau or Thompson tribe; Noel, of the Cowichans; Chief Tom, of Squamish; Chief Basil of the Bonaparte Band of the Shuswaps; William Yelamugh, of the Thompsons; Ignace Jacob, of the Douglas Lake Branch of the Lillooets Telson William of the Shuswaps; John Williams, of the same native nation; Stephen Uretesket, of the Lillooets Henry Nice, of the Kitamaahts Billy Asso, Chief of the Laquiltos: Morice Saxi, of the Pavilion Band of the Shuswaps; Chief Joshua Brown, of the Kithkahtlahs; Chief Charles Noel, of the Quakwilts; Chief George, of the Laquiltos; Chief Thomas of the Sliammons; Chief Charles Smith, of the Laquiltos; Chief Albert King and Peter Elliott, of the Bella Coola tribe; William Nahame, of the Squamish tribe; Chief Charlie, of Squamish; Chief Thomas, of the same tribe; Chief Julian, of Clo-oose; John Elliott, of the Cowichans; Chief Julius, of Sechelt; Chief Thomas Harris, of the Tsawaitinos; Chief Robert, of the Pavilion band; Chief David, of Saanich; Saul, of the Okanagans; Bazille Falardeau, of the Shuswaps; Thomas Lindley, of the Okanagans Chief Maximin, of the Halowt band of the Shuswaps; Chief Louis Tookamis, of the Ohiats; Harry of the Nanaimos; Hereditary Chief Antoine Seamawon of the Cowichmans Chief Antoine Yaapskint, of the Coldwater band of the Thompson nation; Hereditary Chief Francois Pakelpitsea, of the Penticton band of the Okanagans; Alexis Skius, of the Ashnola band of the Okanagans; Abraham Jack, of the Chemainus tribe; Chief Charles Allison, of the Hedley band of the Okanagans; August Jack, of Chemainus; Chief Peter Tatoosh, of the Ohiats; Thomas James, of the Songhees; Sub-Chief Louis Frank, of the Spuzzum band of the Thompsons; Charles Weskaletsa, of of the Cowichans; Chief Joe, of Esquimalt; William Jack, of the Songhees Thomas Paul, of Saanich; Chief Harry Nega, of the Mamalilkaulas; S. Cook, of Nimpkish; Peter Edward, of the same tribe; Philip Thomas, of the Shuswaps Chief Thomas Jack, of the Anderson Lake band of the Lillooets; Chief Louis James, of the Seaton Lake band of Lillooets; August James of the Shuswaps; Chief Aleck of the Tsawaitinos; Chief Billy, of the Matalipes; Chief Jim Wahnuk, of the Tenatuks; and Chief John Clark of the Clawitsis

It is reported that the Indians will, upon receipt of the written reply promised them by Premier McBride, denying their petition, appeal in the matter of their supposed claim, to Ottawa and to London. J. M. Clarke, K. C., of Toronto, has been retained by them as counsel in this regard.

Investigate Sudden Death

An investigation into the circumstances of the sudden death of Naojilo Matsumoto, a Japanese who died suddenly in his room on Fisguard street on Thursday evening, was made by a coroner's jury esterday afternoon. The evidence given by Dr. George Hall, who performed the post mortem examination, showed that death was due to a hemorrhage of the stomach. The jury returned a verdict of death through natural causes.

ON TOUR OF INSPECTION

Mr. Hayter Reed, superintendent of the C. P. R. hotel system, is expected to arrive in the city today on a tour of inspection. On the occasion of his last visit here some six months ago, Mr. Reed stated that the policy of the C. P. R. in the matter of building another addition to the Empress hotel would be determined by the success which attended the opening of the present six-floored addition at the Humboldt street end. Up to the present only two floors of that addition have been open to guests, owing to a delay in the arrival of furnishings from the East. Nightly for the past fortnight the hotel has had to turn away guests through lack of accommodation, and were the remaining floors of the addition in service they would have been filled nightly. The tide of travel has been almost as heavy as during previous early summer months, and even though the legislature has been prorogued there has been no appreciable falling off in the daily quota of guests. Some announcement of further extension to the hotel is expected from Mr. Reed during his coming visit.

PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED

Lieutenant - Governor Will Award Trophies to Fifth Regiment "At Home" on Thursday

On Thursday evening His Honor the Lieutenant Governor will present the prizes won by the Fifth Regiment, C. G. A., for general efficiency, gun practice, etc., at last year's training camp when the local artillerymen led all other gunners of Canada for the second year in succession. A general parade of the Fifth Regiment, C. G. A. has been ordered by Lieut. Col. A. W. Currie for this occasion, the dress being drill order. After the presentation of the prizes a band concert will be given in the Drill Hall by the Regimental band, and the regiment will be at home to its friends. It is expected there will be a large gathering of citizens to attend the presentation and at home.

The Governor General's shield for general efficiency will be presented to No. 1 Company, and the Turnbull shield, given for the best gun practice among the artillery companies of the Dominion will again go to No. 3 company, which won the shield the previous year. The Fifth Regiment took first, second and fourth places among the artillery companies of Canada in the competitions and the previous year took first, second and third places.

TRANSPORT TAKING FLOUR FOR CHINESE

Buford Leaves Sound Today with 2600 Tons of Flour for Distribution Among Sufferers

With a cargo of 2,600 tons of flour the U. S. army transport Buford will sail today for Chinkiang, where her cargo will be landed for distribution among the sufferers from the famine in the Kiangpeh district. The Buford has been the scene of many demonstrations while loading at Seattle, and her officers have been lavishly entertained. Religious services have been held on board. The transport will fly many flags, including the bunting of the Christian Herald, National Red Cross and Seattle Commercial Club. The Christian Herald flag, sent from New York to the Buford, was accompanied by the following letter:

"The Christian Herald flag has been carried at the mast of no less than four famine relief ships—the Leo, for Russia; the Everett and Quito, for India, and the Buford, for China. We are glad once more to have to float above the relief cargo in which our readers and their friends, together with the good people of the country generally, have taken so much interest, and which may be the means under Divine blessing of saving human lives."

The City of Everett referred to in the letter as taking wheat to India was a whaleback collier used by R. Dunsmuir & Sons and was in command of Capt. R. D. Bucknam, now in charge of the navy of Turkey.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry View, who have been visiting friends in town for the last few days, neft yesterday on their return to Nanaimo.

SIX STOREY STRUCTURE ON GOVERNMENT ST.

Dr. Frank Hall Plans Office Building for Site Now Occupied by B. C. Permanent Loan Company

At a cost of between $75,000 and $100,000 a six-storey building will be erected on the site now occupied by the B. C. Permanent Loan Company, 1210 Government street, as soon as the leases held in connection with the present structure expire. The site, which has a 32-foot frontage on Government streeet, runs back to Langley street where the frontage widens to 60 feet. It is the property of Dr. Frank Hall, who intends erecting the new six-storey building.

Dr. Hall states that the structure will be of concrete and stone, built in thoroughly up-to-date fashion. The ground floor on Government street will be occupied by a store, or possibly a bank, while the remaining floors of the buildings will be let as offices. The leases held by the present tenants of the site expire during the present year, and on their expiry the new erection will be commenced at once.

FERDINAND'S MOVE

Proposal to Secure Free Hand in Negotiations with Austria is Displeasing to Russians

ST. PETERSBURG, March 4.—Widespread dissatisfaction prevails in political centres in Russia at the clever manoeuver of King Ferdinand, of Bulgaria which, if successful, give him a free hand to conclude an alliance with Austria without control or responsibility. The programme of modifications in the Bulgarian Constitution which the Great Sobranje will be asked to enter upon the statute book includes the kingly prerogative to conclude an alliance with foreign powers without informing the legislative chamber of the stipulations, or even of the circumstances that it has been concluded. The deputies cannot well throw out the bill on the ground that it undermines parliamentarism, because parliamentarism is not taken very seriously by the Bulgarians readily oppose it on the ground that they distrust the present monarch. Consequently, the Sobranje will doubtless comply with the request of King Ferdinand, who will then be authorized to follow the example of Roumania, and negotiate a secret convention with Austria.

For some time past this consummation has been apprehended, in consequence of the significantly sharp language employed by King Ferdinand after his long and unfruitful conversations with M. Iswolsky last year. The Bulgarian ruler, whose mood was then bellicose, is alleged to have remarked:

"The Russian bear will hybernate for the next ten or fifteen years. During that time Bulgaria must look out for herself. Bulgaria, being a healthy state, cannot but desire ultimate reunion with all the members of her own family, and adopt the means of achieving it, but Russia's pursuit of peace at all costs will not advance her very far."

EXPLAINS TRANSACTION

Mr. Warren Refers to Incident in Farmer's Bank Investigation

Mr. James J. Warren, president of the Kettle River Valley Railway, who also is general manager of the Trusts and Guarantee Company of Toronto, is a guest just at present at the Hotel Empress, and will probably return to the Boundary country this evening. Interviewed with regard to the Farmers' Bank investigation, Mr. Warren said yesterday:

"Over four years ago the Trusts Company, in conjunction with one of the large life insurance companies loaned Mr. W. R. Travers personally $80,000 on the hypothecation by him of certain promissory notes. Only $25,000 of this amount was contributed by the Trusts Company, the remainder being advanced by the life company. The loan was paid off in full in a few months' time.

"Moreover the notes, the subject of the hypothecation, were paid practically in full and by the promissors. It now develops that Travers declared to the Finance Department at Ottawa that the Farmers' Bank had some $27[illegible] paid in cash by stock subscribers, and that this declaration was untrue. I admitted that we did not know that he was going to make such a declaration or that such a declaration was made. From these simple facts, however, it is suggested that technically we conspired with Travers. No one suggests that we, or that I, got any of the moneys of the bank.

"The matter is not taken seriously in Toronto, as it is recognized that a money-lending institution must be able to lend money on ample security without being obliged to send a policeman with the borrower to see what he does with the money."

Grant to Chilliwack Exhibition.

Officers and members of the Chilliwack Agricultural Association are rejoicing in the fact that the Provincial Department of Agriculture has felt itself justified in providing an appropriation of $2,500 towards the construction of an exhibition building on the new Chilliwack fair grounds. This assistance, together with what is expected will be forthcoming from the city and township councils in the way of money grants will go far towards completing the plans formulated a year or so ago, for the establishment at Chilliwack of a model country exhibition and driving park.