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DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON LYNCH

WAS FOUND GUILTY OF HIGH TREASON

Trial Brought to a Close This Morning After Being in Progress Three Days.

London, Jan. 23.—When the trial of Colonel Arthur Lynch, member of parliament for Galway, on the charge of high treason, was resumed to-day, counsel for the defence began summing up. There was no attempt to deny that Col. Lynch supported the Boers, but counsel contended that his naturalization was in no way prompted by treasonable intent, and was solely for the advantage he would thus secure for journalistic purposes. Subsequently the defendant actively supported the Boer cause in the belief that he was a legally naturalized Burgher.

Replying for the prosecution, the solicitor-general, Sir Edward Carson, maintained that Col. Lynch joined the Boer army as a discontented Irishman, thereby committing "a most cowardly and most serious act of treason." His naturalization, continued the solicitor-general, was only a flimsy protest. Counsel then proceeded to detail the prisoner's alleged acts of adherence to his country's enemies.

The Lord Chief Justice summed up very briefly. He said that if in war time a British subject joined the King's enemies, whatever his purpose, he was guilty of an unlawful act. Naturalization during war time afforded no excuse whatever for subsequent acts. There was abundant evidence, he said, of overt acts in aiding the King's enemies.

The jury, after having being out half an hour, returned a verdict of guilty.

When asked if he had anything to say as to why he should not be sentenced, Colonel Lynch replied "Thank you, I will say nothing."

The sentence of death was passed on each of the four counts in the indictments.

The prisoner then bowed to the court and was removed in custody.

In delivering sentence, Justice Wills said the crime of high treason, of which the prisoner had been found guilty, was happily so rare, that it seems to be almost an anachronism. No civilized community had yet failed to punish severely defection from loyalty, whether in the way of open warfare or secret intrigue. In the darkest hours of his country's fortune, when engaged in a deadly struggle, Lynch joined the ranks of its foes and shed the blood of his fellow subjects who were fighting for their country, and sought to dethrone Great Britain from her place among the nations. The only palliation which could be offered was that it had been the fashion for some years to treat lightly matters of this kind, and men had been encouraged to play with sedition and to go with the fashion; the nation had treated with contemptuous indifference speeches and acts of sedition, but it was one thing to talk sedition and quite a different thing to bear arms in the ranks of the country's enemies.

Although sentenced to be hanged, Lynch's sentence, no doubt, will be commuted. Lynch throughout bore himself with unfaltering composure. He walked out steadily between the jailers and past the bench where his wife and other relatives were seated. Mrs. Lynch has been given permission to see her husband.

KILLED BY EXPLOSION.

Two Men Lost Their Lives—Supposed to Be Due to Someone's Carelessness.

Pittsburg, Pa., January 23.—Two men were killed and four seriously injured today in the eastern end of the Wabash tunnel, by an explosion of dynamite, due, it is said, to someone turning on the electrical current without receiving the proper signal.

TRAIN DERAILED.

Engineer and Fireman Instantly Killed—Lumberman Died From His Injuries.

Freeport, Ills., Jan. 23.—Following is the list of killed and injured by the derailment of a passenger train on the Chicago Great Western near here last night: Fred Wm. J. Sheridan, engineer, Chicago; Jas. Sandberg, fireman; W. H. Day, lumberman, Minneapolis. Seriously injured—Edward H. Carr, Chicago, hands and legs frozen; O. D. Neese, Minneapolis, ribs fractured and bruised about body and face. Others were slightly injured. The engineer and fireman were killed instantly when the locomotive turned over. Day, who lay in the demolished buffet car, died from injuries and from inhaling steam.

Fatal Collision.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 23.—A Missouri Pacific passenger train, bound for Kansas City, was wrecked to-day at Yates Centre. The engineer and fireman were killed. The train collided with a coal train, the rear car of which projected over the switch of the main track.

JOINT HIGH COMMISSION.

Nothing Known at Ottawa of the Report That Meeting Will Soon Be Held.

Ottawa, Jan. 23.—Regarding the report that the joint high commission will meet early, a minister of the Crown stated to-day that nothing was known of it here. He did not believe it would meet soon.

Arrival at Ottawa.

Premier Prior and Attorney-General Eberts, with the provincial commissioner of fisheries and provincial statistician, arrived this afternoon. Hon. Clifford Sifton came on the same train from Winnipeg.

The Fraser Bridge.

The railway department is arranging for a day to discuss the bridge over the Fraser river at New Westminster at the railway committee of the Privy Council. A day at the end of next week will likely be fixed.

News to Dundonald.

The attention of Lord Dundonald was called to a rumor from Halifax that he was to succeed Major-General Grant, C. B., as inspector-general of cavalry in Britain, in October next. Lord Dundonald replied that it was the first he had heard of it.

EXPELLED FROM PARIS.

Appeals Made to the French Foreign Minister Fails to Save the Passionist Fathers.

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 23.—The Globe says Archbishop Ireland has addressed a communication to M. Delcasse, the French minister of foreign affairs, on behalf of the English Passionist Fathers of the Catholic church in Paris, who, according to the present French government policy, are about to be forcibly dispersed.

Archbishop Ireland informs M. Delcasse that the dispersal of the Passionist Fathers will be viewed with repugnance and horror by the American people. He adds that such procedure would be considered in this country a needless and wanton act of religious persecution, of a character utterly abhorrent to American people. In this way, the Archbishop declares, such a policy would do much to alter the esteem and respect mutually existing between the two countries, which he has hitherto done his utmost to foster.

The Archbishop further says: "That should the Passionist Fathers be dispersed, he would feel like a stranger in Paris on his next visit, and numerous Americans who have worshipped at the church on the Avenue Hoch will feel the same way."

It is understoo that in making this appeal on behalf of the Passionists, Archbishop Ireland was joined by General Porter and Sir E. J. Monson, the American and British ambassadors, but despite the influence brought to bear, word has been received in St. Paul from members of the Passionist order that M. Combes, the French prime minister, has determined to make a clean sweep of the Passionist congregation.

THE PLAGUE IN MEXICO.

Will Be a Hard Fight to Stamp Out Disease Among Poor of Mazatlan.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 23.—Charles M. Rhodes, of Philadelphia, a capitalist interested in mining property near the city of Mazatlan, Mexico, has arrived at Los Angeles. He was obliged to charter a steamer to go from Mazatlan to Guayamas, where his party was quarantined for ten days.

Mr. Rhodes says: "In Mazatlan the plague is confined to the peon class of natives even to the apparent exclusion of the few Chinese. Of course, a panic has been created among the population and thousands of people have fled to the mountains. The quarantine at Guayamas was very thorough, and I see no reason why the people of Southern California need have any fear of the spread of the plague this way, from Mexico. Guayamas was thoroughly cleaned by the authorities, and presents an ideal aspect from a sanitary point of view.

"In Mazatlan, the centre of the plague, the sanitary conditions were deplorable, and it may be a hard matter to stamp it out among the miserably poor people of the place. The Mexican authorities have appropriated $100,000 for fighting the plague in Mazatlan, and every house in which the disease exists is burned with its contents."

MAY RETURN TO AFRICA.

British Government Grants Permission to Abraham Fischer, the Boer Delegate.

London, Pan. 23.—The government, at the request of Colonial Secretary Chamberlain, has granted Abraham Fischer, one of the Boer delegates in Europe and a former member of the executive council of the Orange Free State, permission to return to South Africa.

DUBLIN'S LORD MAYOR.

T. Harrington, M. P., Re-elected for the Third Time.

Dublin, Jan. 23.—Timothy Harrington, member for the Harbor division of Dublin, was to-day re-elected Lord Mayor for Dublin for the third successive time.

GERMANS AGAIN SHELLED THE FORT

BOMBARDMENT WAS RESUMED YESTERDAY

Cannons of the Venezuelans Have Not Sufficient Range to Reach the Warships.

Maracaibo, Jan. 22.—The bombardment of Fort San Carlos by the German cruisers, Vineta, Panther and Falke, was continued yesterday afternoon until 6 o'clock. It was resumed this morning at daybreak. The first shells were hurled at the fort at 4 o'clock at long range, at 6 o'clock the Panther, being of light draught, closed in and again became active against the fort. The fort replied. At 8 o'clock the engagement was proceeding as fiercely as that of yesterday.

Twelve dead and 15 badly wounded Venezuelan soldiers were counted in the forts at 7 o'clock last night by the correspondent of the Associated Press.

On Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock the Panther left her position close into Fort San Carlos, which she took up earlier in the day, and joined the Falke. This ship was half a mile outside of the bar, and about five miles from the fort. At 3 o'clock the correspondent of the Associated Press in a rowboat, approached one side of the fort out of range, and from this point witnessed the long range firing of the German cruisers, which was continued from 3 until 6 o'clock. The Vineta and the Falke were close together, and nearer the fort than the Panther. The first two vessels at a range of four and a half miles poured in a continuous rain of shells upon the fort, and only stopped firing with the advent of dusk at 6 o'clock. At this hour the German vessels retired seaward after having made a second meffectual attempt to land troops in the village of San Carlos, situated at the base of the fort. At 7 o'clock on Wednesday evening the correspondent, who was accompanied by a government telegrapher bearing a telegram from President Castro to the commandant of San Carlos, landed on the island and entered the fort.

The walls of the fort are terribly battered, and there were many evidences of the fierce engagement. Twelve dead Venezuelan soldiers were counted behind the rampart, and 15 other men seriously wounded were lying on a low platform. The fort is literally covered with pieces of broken shells. It was seen that a great many of the German shells had not exploded. The magazine had a very narrow escape, two shells having come within an ace of penetrating. The walls of the fort, which faced towards the entrance of the lake, suffered particularly, and were damaged. It is estimated by the Commandant-General Pello, that the German ships fired more than 1,600 shells at Fort San Carlos. Although the damage inflicted upon the fort by the sustained fire of the German cruisers is very great, it is not all that could be expected from such a continuous fire from modern high-power guns.

The village of San Carlos suffered owing to inaccurate firing, for more than 60 per cent. of the shells exploded in the village before reaching the port.

The cannon mounted at San Carlos have not sufficient range to reach the Falke and the Vineta, so the fire from these vessels was not returned, as they kept out of range of the Venezuelan artillery. The Vineta and Falke are of too great draught to cross the bar. The Panther alone can do this, and this fact explains why the last mentioned cruiser was the only one to come in close to the fort.

Some of the artillery on the fort has been destroyed by the German fire, but there are still five guns that can be used. Gen. Bello is a soldier of great courage and daring. He has shown great bravery and is in no way intimidated. He will not abandon the fort, but will resist so long as it is possible for him to do so. He declares that on January 17th, the occasion of the first bombardment, the Panther fired upon him first, without reason or provocation. That the biggest attacking vessel was either an English or an Italian ship, is untrue. It is known that all three vessels are German.

The Venezuelan gunboat Miranda is in Lake Maracaibo. It is thought the intention of the Panther in trying to pass the fort and get into the lake is to capture this vessel. The passage over the bar that leads into the lake is narrow, and the fort commands it. Gen Bello is confident that he can sink her if she attempts to get by, with the fire of the five guns that remain to him.

Wednesday night passed without incident.

A fisherman from the village of San Carlos has arrived here with his family. Two of this man's children were killed by German shells. He reports that more than twenty-five Indian fishermen have been killed or wounded at San Carlos.

Minister's Statement.

Caracas, Jan. 22.—Foreign Minister Paralt said to-day, concerning the bombardment: "What more can we do than accept the terms of the powers and send Mr. Bowen, with full powers, to negotiate at Washington. Have we refused to agree to the terms?"

Will Cause Delays.

London, Jan. 22.—The news of the second bombardment of San Carlos reached London too late to be printed in the papers of this morning, while nearly all comment upon the "olive branch" which the German chancellor, Count von Bulow, is holding out to Great Britain in his speeches in the Reichstag and upon the difficulties in which the chancellor, by being obliged to defend his Imperial master's acts without being responsible for them, becomes involved.

President Castro's demand that the blockade be raised before the negotiations are opened is regarded here as certain to create further delays, and the belief has been expressed that the second bombardment of the Maracaibo fort will greatly increase the difficulty of the situation.

The Standard, referring to the previous bombardment of Fort San Carlos, says: "It is difficult to maintain a pacific blockade, and in the long run Venezuela must be the chief sufferer from such a contretemps. It may be hoped that President Castro will see this and promptly authorize Minister Bowen to agree to the very reasonable preliminary conditions laid down by the aggrieved powers."

The foreign office points out that everything depends on the disposition of the Venezuelan government. Should the forthcoming negotiations satisfy the powers that Venezuela is determined to do everything possible to meet her obligations, the powers will terminate the blockade at the earliest possible moment.

German Chancellor's Speech.

Berlin, Jan. 22.—In the Reichstag today during the budget debate Herr Bebel, Socialist, said Germany's attitude towards weaker states never would be tolerated towards itself. Its action towards Hayti was brusque, and how, the speaker asked, can the Panther's bombardment of Fort San Carlos be justified. Continuing, Herr Bebel remarked: "President Castro is struggling for life and the maintenance of the presidency. We cannot take it ill of a man under such circumstances if he resists excessive demands. The coercion of Venezuela is in the interest of the great capitalists, and the Krupp firm has a share in it. Such violence should be resorted to only in the most extreme cases."

The chancellor in replying said: Herr Bebel has defended the singular behaviour of the Venezuelan government against us with a degree of animation such as I have seen in no European newspaper. President Castro doubtless will read Herr Bebel's speech with the greatest delight at his morning coffee. Let me further remark that the question at issue between Venezuela and the powers is not merely one of claims, but of the defence by the powers of their prestige, which has been impaired through President Castro's action, and through the manner in which he repudiated impolitely, to express it mildly, our claims. We were therefore perfectly justified in proceeding jointly with Great Britain and Italy for the preservation of our prestige."

Destruction of Fort San Carlos.

Berlin, Jan. 23.—A report of the bombardment of Fort San Carlos, Venezuela, was received at the navy department at noon to-day, it being communicated to the imperial chanceller before being published. The foreign office has not received any representations from United States Secretary Hay relative to the bombardment.

The first official report of the bombardment of Fort San Carlos arrived in the shape of a dispatch from the commander of the Falke, dated Willemstadt, Island of Curacoa, January 22nd., saying he had received information from Maracaibo that Fort San Carlos had been shelled and set on fire by the Vineta and Panther and had ultimately been destroyed.

The Lokal Anzeiger says it has received information to the effect that Commodore Scheder reported that Fort San Carlos fired on the Panther first, as the cruiser was feeling her way into the inner harbor channel.

Raising the Blockade.

London, Jan. 23.—At the German embassy a representative of the Associated Press was informed to-day that no explanation had yet been received there of the bombardment of Fort San Carlos, and it could only be assumed that there was good and sufficient cause for it. It was suggested that judgment be suspended until further particulars were received. The British and German governments, it was added, were acting in perfect harmony, and quite agreed that the blockade should not be raised until a satisfactory guarantee had been offered by President Castro.

When Minister Bowen went to Washington it was thought he was bearer of such a guarantee, but the German embassy officials asserted, it has turned out, that they only had President Castro's promise to pay, which had previously proved unsatisfactory. If Mr. Bowen could secure some other guarantee then the blockade would be raised, but negotiations to this end are not likely to advance until the arrival of Baron Speck von Stonberg, the German charge d'affaires.

Reported Capture.

Caracas, Venezuela, Jan. 23.—10 a.m.—Up to this hour no news has been received here tending to confirm the report that the German warship Panther had entered into Lake Maracaibo, and that the Venezuelan cruiser Miranda had surrendered to her. The rumor is believed to be without foundation.

Call to Arms.

Maraicabo, Venezuela, Jan. 22.—President Aranguren, of the Fort of Maracaibo, has called to arms all citizens from 16 to 60 years of age, belonging to the militia, in order to resist the possible landing of Geramn forces at Maracaibo lake. About 5,200 men immediately answered the call.

Minister Hopeful.

Berlin, Jan. 23.—In the Reichstag today the foreign secretary, Von Richthoff, expressed the hope that the Venezuelan difficulties soon will be settled. He said: "The negotiations at Washington, it is expected, will show an early turn for settlement. So long as the blockade exists, however, respect for it must be maintained."

Berlin, Jan. 23.—The correspondent of the Associated Press has written replies from the chief of foreign office to the following questions:

First—"Why did the ships bombard Fort San Sarlos?" Answer: "Any official news regarding the Panther's reasons for forcing the entrance of the lagoon of Maracaibo has not yet been received. So far as the situation can be understood from here the seizure of the lagoon was necessary to the effective blockade of the harbor of Maraicabo; otherwise it would have been possible to convey all sorts of merchandise over the adjacent Colombian frontier, particularly arms and provisions, across the lagoon to Maraicabo and inland, thus rendering the blockade completely futile. Apparently Fort San Carlos tried to prevent the entrance of the Panther into the lagoon, and it must have been, therefore, necessary to silence it."

Second—"Why did the German ships alone take part in the bombardment?" Answer: "The fact that only German ships took part in the bombardment is obviously explained. Maraicabo harbor lies in the western part of the coast line, which was being blockaded by the German forces."

Third—"When will the blockade be raised?" Answer: "No decision has yet been reached by the interested powers as to when the blockade of the Venezuelan coast shall be raised."

Fighting Continues.

Maracaibo, Jan. 23.—At 2 o'clock this afternoon Fort San Carlos is in the possession of government forces and the bombardment of the German warships is still going on. There has been no material change in the situation. The gunboat Panther was the only vessel to come inside the bar. Communication with the fort is very difficult. Great excitement prevails.

Commander's Report.

Berlin, Jan. 23.—Commodore Scheder, commander of the German fleet in Venezuelan waters, officially reports the bombardment of Fort San Carlos, under date of January 21st, as follows: "On the 17th instant, while the Panther was passing the Maracaibo bar, she was unexpectedly attacked by Fort San Carlos, which opened a heavy fire on her. To this the Panther replied and a cannonade was exchanged for half an hour. Owing to the difficulty of navigation, the Panther then desisted. In order to exact an immediate punishment for this attack, the more so as the Venezuelan government had proclaimed it a victory, I bombarded the fort with the Vineto on the 21st and destroyed it.

Another Account.

London, Jan. 24.—In a dispatch from Willemstadt, Curacao, the correspondent of the Daily Mail says:

"On Wednesday the German gunboat Panther, which was insecurely anchored off San Carlos, moved in close to the Castillo battery, which fired one shot as a warning. The Panther disregarded the hint. Another shot was fired from the Castillo battery. Thereupon the Panther opened fire and continued the cannonade for half an hour, when she retired. The Vineta immediately began a heavy bombardment of Fort San Carlos, seriously damaging the fort and the houses in the vicinity."

Fired on Gunboat.

La Guayra, Jan. 23.—The former Venezuelan gunboat Restaurador, now in the possession of the Germans, arrived here at 2 o'clock this afternoon from Porto Cabello, and anchored near the shore. Her presence caused great popular indignation. At 3 o'clock several rifle shots were heard in the distance. Shortly afterwards the Restaurador left her anchorage and moved to a position outside the harbor, and under the protection of the guns of the British cruiser Tribune. The Restaurador has been armed, equipped and manned by the Germans since her capture. Her anchoring close into the shore was taken by the populace, in view of the Maracaibo occurrences, as a direct provocation to retaliation. It is not known where the rifle shots of this afternoon were fired from, but it is believed that the precaution of the Restaurador in moving away from the shore was timely, as the hungry unemployed populace of La Guayra, excited by recent events and driven to desperation by the conditions, had applied to the local authorities for arms and proposed making a night attack on the gunboat. Excitement against Germany is running high here.

Charge Against Germany.

London, Jan. 23.—N. H. J. Scholberg, the Venezuelan representative here, referring to the report circulated in the United States that he is awaiting permission to publish information showing that Germany has been supporting General Matos in the latter's efforts to overthrow President Castro, said to-day that there were no new developments in the case. He is merely awaiting documents from Caracas to prove the repeated assertions of the Venezuelan revolutionists. These documents, it was added, are in the hands of Minister Bowen as part of Venezuela's case.

Panther Was Justified.

Berlin, Jan. 24.—The foreign office representative to-day in conversation with the correspondent of the Associated Press referred in grieved tones to the American press comments on the bombardment of Fort San Carlos. The official said:

"In view of Commodore Scheder's report, Germany has a just right to feeling indignant at the fact that a portion of the American press, aroused over false statements of what occurred at San Carlos without awaiting facts in the case, are attacking a friendly power.

"The Panther's action, the official reports show, was strictly within the limit of international law. She was proceeding past the fort to enter the lagoon of Maracaibo, in order to prevent the importation of articles from Colombia, and in doing so was fired upon. The Panther, of course, answered the fire, as she was entitled to do. The attack was not made by us but by the Venezuelan fort. We are quite unable to see why a neutral should express disapproval because the Panther replied, or because our vessels afterward levelled the fort, since it was an hindrance to an effective blockade. The assumption that we want to prevent a settlement of the matter at Washington and the speedy raising of the blockade is wholly mistaken. We want the blockade to be raised just as soon as the powers have adequate guarantees in hand that their claims will be met. We do not even ask for the immediate payment of money, but only for guarantees. We cannot raise the blockade empty handed, without any form of guarantees."

Opinion in London.

New York, Jan. 24.—The attempt of the German naval authorities to destroy the San Carlos fortifications, capture a gunboat in Lake Maracaibo and interrupt the passage of supplies from Colombia eastward, is considered most inopportune by all English writers commenting on the affair, since it is a direct affront to the Washington government, which is striving to make peace and procure a satisfactory settlement of outstanding claims, says the Tribune's London correspondent. According to the Berlin press, whatever is done on the coast of Venezuela is by joint authority. If Germany be guilty of unfriendly conduct toward the United States, England, as its partner in the alliance with her, is also responsible. This obligation lends emphasis to the warnings from the strongest Conservative journals that there will be grave dissatisfaction throughout the United Kingdom if the alliance with Germany involves England in any sort of trouble with the United States.

Seventeen Perished.

Caracas, Venezuela, Jan. 23.—It developed to-day that the Dutch cruiser De Ruyter, which arrived at La Guayra on Wednesday from the Island of Los Roques, mostly inhabited by charcoal burners trading with La Guayra, found that 12 men and five women had died from hunger and thirst there as a result of the blockade measures of the allied powers, which prohibits schooners from carrying provisions and water to the island.

Remains in Force.

London, Jan. 24.—It was learned by a representative of the Associated Press to-day that Great Britain, Germany and Italy have agreed that Minister Bowen's proposal that the blockade of Venezuela be immediately raised can't be entertained, and that coersive action must continue until a proper guarantee is forthcoming. The foreign offices say that any other course would entail a failure of the attempts to bring about a settlement by diplomacy at Washington.

Regarding the position of the other claims against Venezuela, the blockading powers contend that their claims must first be satisfactorily settled before the demands of the countries which are not actively asserting them can receive any attention.

The Bombardment.

Berlin, Jan. 24.—An official dispatch from Willemstadt, Curacoa, dated January 23rd, says:

"The Vinet arrived in the gulf of Maracaibo on January 21st, and approached within 7,300 yards of the shore. At eleven she began a bombardment which was continued with an hour of intermission until 3 p.m. The Panther, which was standing by, observed that forty shells took effect."

SERIOUS CHARGE.

Roumanian Officials Accused of Defrauding the Government—Bankers Implicated.

Bucharest, Roumania, Jan. 23.—Two high officials of the ministry of finance have been arrested on the charge of defrauding the government out of several hundred francs through the drawings of government bonds.

Two local bankers are accused of connivance. One of them has been arrested and the other has disappeared.

The grand jury at Rochester, N. Y., have indicted Mrs. Lulu Youngs for murder in the first degree. Mrs. Youngs is accused of having stabbed to death Miss Florence MacFarlane, while in a jealous rage last November.

THEY EXPECT TO GET A HIGHER DUTY

Mr. Retallick on Lead Producers' Visit to Ottawa—News Notes From Eastern Canada.

Montreal, Jan. 22.—The British Columbia lead producers who have been in Ottawa asking the government to place a duty on lead ores and products have arrived here. "We have seen Sir Wilfrid Laurier," said Mr. Retallick, "and nearly all the members of the cabinet. They admitted the condition of the lead-silver industry was unique, and that something would have to be done to grant it better protection. Of course they would not pronounce what would be the attitude of the government, but it is understood a higher duty will be granted.

Quit Work.

Employees of the Quebec Southern railway quit work this morning because a month's pay, due on the twentieth, was not forthcoming. The men said the delay is altogether of too common occurrence. The officials of the company say the matter will be settled satisfactorily. At present traffic is at a standstill.

Sent to Prison.

Thieves have recently been operating extensively on slot gas meters of the Montreal Light, Heat & Power Company. To-day Judge Desnoyers sentenced Jean Branchette to five years, and Emil Heroine to three years in the penitentiary. Three other young men are awaiting trial on similar charges.

Back From Washington.

Montreal, Jan. 22.—Sir Thos. Shaughnessy arrived home this morning from Washington, where he met and conversed with the United States President and several member sof the cabinet. Sir Thomas repudiated very emphatically a statement to the effect that he had gone to Washington for the purpose of influencing legislation in favor of plans which the company had prepared to effect an entrance into Washington state. He said it was simply a social visit on invitation of the United States postmaster-general.

En Route East.

Winnipeg, Jan. 22.—A party of British Columbians passed through the city today on their way to Ottawa. The party was composed of Premier Prior, Hon. D. M. Eberts, attorney-general; F. S. Barnard, ex-M.P.; Mr. Babcock, commissioner of fisheries. Mrs. Eberts accompanied her husband. Colonel Prior will attend a meeting of the various provincial premiers, which will be held in the capital next Tuesday.

Committed for Trial.

The three Neepawa young men, Gowenlock, Murphy and Jacobs, accused of causing the death of Henry Spence, by giving him an overdose of whiskey, which is supposed to have been drugged, were to-day committed to stand their trial at the assizes at Portage la Prairie in March. Application has been made for bail.

Improved in Health.

Hon. J. A. Davidson, provincial treasurer, returned to-day from Germany, where he has been undergoing treatment. He is greatly improved.

Clearing House.

The clearing house returns for the week ending January 22nd, 1903, were $4,249,729, against $2,988,853 in 1902, and $2,066,223 in 1901.

Explosion and iFre.

An explosion in the basement of the post office at Manitou, Man., to-day shattered the walls of the building. Fire broke out and destroyed the stores of D. Gunn, John Wootton and Geo. Stevenson, jeweler. James Huston was the owner of the block destroyed. The loss will be $10,000.

Liberal Candidate.

Beaverton, Ont., Jan. 22.—The Liberal convention for North Ontario to-day elected Geo. E. Grant, barrister, son of the Rev. Dr. Grant, Orillia, for nominee for the vacancy in the House of Commons. His opponent will be Hon. Geo. E. Foster.

Field Abandoned.

Toronto, Jan. 22.—There is no oil at Raleigh is the verdict of the best experts in the oil well business in Canada to-day, and the field is practically abandoned. The Gurd gusher is said to be a pocket, but all the other holes are being abandoned.

Accepts Responsibility.

Newtonville, Ont., Jan. 22.—All night long wreckers labored to clear the track on the Grand Trunk railway, where the accident happened last night, but it was 3 o'clock before traffic was resumed. No trace has been found of the fireman and brakeman. The mass of burning wreckage and pile of broken trucks and twisted iron work looks like the accumulation of years. A fire engine from Oshawa arrived at 4 o'clock this morning, accompanied by twenty firemen, and since then streams of water have been pumped from the lake into the blazing ruins of the two Mogul locomotives and 26 freight cars, which are a total loss, and estimated from $100,000 to $150,000. A. McDougall, station agent and operator at this place, accepts the responsibility for the disaster, failing to give orders.