

SOOKE LAKE IS ULTIMATE GOAL

\$300,000 IS OUTSIDE PRICE FOR GOLDSTREAM

Aldermen Would Take it for That But Doubt if People Would Give Sanction.

"Let us go to Sooke" was a prevailing cry at the streets committee last night, when the refusal of the Esquamit Waterworks Company to accept the city's offer of \$300,000 for the Goldstream and Thetis lake works was discussed.

The members of the council appeared to be almost unanimously of the view that the purchase of the Esquamit company's work was a desirable end, if it could be accomplished for \$300,000, although much doubt was expressed as to whether the ratepayers would sanction the purchase at that or even a much lower figure.

Water Commissioner Raymur, to save time, read the report he had received from Theodore Lubbe which he will formally present to the council next Wednesday evening. Mr. Lubbe merely acknowledges the receipt of Mr. Raymur's letter, and says "the city's offer to purchase the company's assets has been submitted to the board of directors, who have declined to entertain it."

Ald. Stewart said the feeling of the public, so far as he had observed it, was not in favor of acquiring the Esquamit works at the price offered, although he personally thought they would be worth securing at \$300,000. People told him the council was crazy to make such an offer instead of going to Sooke.

"We are only going to waste time if we do not go to Sooke," said Ald. Stewart. "When we met the directors they did not talk \$300,000 for \$300,000; they simply said they would take \$1,300,000 and nothing less, and they believed arbitration would give them within two per cent. of that."

"I do not consider it as worth any such figure; the offer we made them was a very good price. We would like to have Victoria West in the general waterworks scheme of the city, but it is not worth it if we are to be held up. What is Thetis lake worth to the city? Absolutely nothing. And we would have to relay the whole distribution system in Victoria West at a cost of probably \$400,000. I do not believe the people would vote for it. I have no doubts about expropriation."

"They would turn it down at \$700,000," remarked Ald. Ross. "Let us wipe the Esquamit scheme of the slate altogether," said Ald. Fullerton. He went on to point out that arbitration would take time, the people wanted water and the special reserve of Sooke lake to the city had not such longer to run. Not two in ten would vote for the Esquamit scheme at \$300,000, for which \$600,000 was thought an outside limit a few years ago. One feature in its favor was the power proposition, which it was not certain could be developed at Sooke. When the purchase price, cost of a new pipe line in and new distribution (Continued on page 4.)

DEMAND LOWER RATES ON RAILWAYS

Applications by Chambers of Commerce Will Be Heard by Commission.

Seattle, Wash., May 22.—Suits against all transcontinental railroads with Pacific terminals will be commenced within the next three weeks. Action will be begun simultaneously by the chambers of commerce of Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles and other places. The cause of action has its origin in the Spokane rate decision. Lower distributing rates from seaport towns into the interior will be demanded. Railroad commissions of the three states, involved and the interstate commerce commission will hear the case.

CUSTOMS HOUSE FRAUD.

U. S. Government Investigation Will Result in Startling Disclosures. Washington, D. C., May 22.—Frauds in the New York customs threaten to create a far bigger scandal than has been the case heretofore. It was learned to-day at the treasury department, officials of the department believe that the government's investigation will result in some decidedly startling disclosures. According to the report the investigation may involve several importers, transportation company inspectors and high customs officials.

OKLAHOMA INVESTIGATIONS.

Tulsa, Okla., May 22.—The special federal grand jury which is investigating the town lot alleged swindles began taking testimony to-day in the case of Haskell, Turner and Eaton cases. The finding in the case decided yesterday is being kept secret.

BY-LAWS VOTE ON THURSDAY

MONEY NEEDED FOR WATER AND SEWERS

Mayor Hall States Some Reasons Why Citizens Should Cast Affirmative Vote.

On Thursday next the ratepayers will be called on to vote on three money by-laws—one for \$125,000 to provide for the extension of the waterworks distribution system, another for \$45,000 for additional sewers, and the third for the cost of permanent paving of the Causeway, Douglas, Belleville and Humboldt streets, surrounding the Empress hotel. It is necessary to submit a by-law in this latter case, as the city's share of the cost comes to more than \$15,000.

It was the intention of the city council to have called a public meeting at which a statement might be made to the people of the reasons why these by-laws should be carried, but in view of the holiday season it will be impossible to carry this plan out.

"It is of great importance to the city as a whole that these by-laws should be carried," said Mayor Hall to the Times this morning. "Take the waterworks by-law. The growth of the city is so rapid and the imperative demand for the laying of new mains is such that we must have the money immediately to purchase more pipe. As it is the pipe would not be delivered until early next year, so it can be seen that if the by-law were not to carry it would seriously embarrass the water department and prevent any extension of the waterworks system for an indefinite time."

"It is the same with the sewer by-law. The extension of the sewer system is equally important with that of the supply of water, and the city must have the funds to buy more pipe. There can be no question, either, about the desirability of putting down a permanent pavement on the Causeway and adjacent streets. First improvements of a place always remain, and the city must have the money to do so."

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His worship expresses his confidence that the citizens will, following their precedent of the last eighteen months, carry these three by-laws by large majorities.

PRESENTATION TO GEORGE HAM.

Popular C.P.R. Man Receives Gift From Australian Press Delegates.

Quebec, May 22.—The Australian delegates to the press conference, after being feted here, sailed last evening for Liverpool. They presented George Ham with many valuable gifts, which included presents for himself, his daughters in Vancouver and Montreal, and his grandson "Buster" who received a gold ring.

NORTHERN PACIFIC DETERMINED TO FIGHT

Will Not Accept Decision Opening the Portland "Gateway."

(Times Leased Wire.)

Portland, Ore., May 22.—President Howard Elliott, of the Northern Pacific railroad, announced to-day that the corporation of which he is the head will, if necessary, fight all the way to the United States supreme court, yesterday's decision of the interstate commerce commission, opening the Portland "gateway" in favor of the Harriman lines.

It was intimated to-day that the Hill lines would take the first step against the enforcement of the commission's ruling by seeking an injunction. The decision holds that the Harriman and Hill lines must join hands in selling through tickets from eastern points to Puget Sound and vice versa, via Portland, so that travelers will not be compelled to leave trains in the latter city and buy another ticket, as has been the case heretofore.

PROFESSOR RECEIVES PENSION

Berkeley, Cal., May 22.—Prof. Albin Putzker, of the German department of the University of California to-day became professor emeritus at the university, and retired upon a pension from the Carnegie foundation recently granted the state institution.

MINING COMPANY'S DIVIDEND

Boston, May 21.—The Catomet & Essex Mining company declared a quarterly dividend of \$8 a share, payable June 22nd, and to stockholders of record May 22nd.



HOW VICTORIANS WILL SPEND THE HOLIDAY

WAS VICTIM OF CONSPIRACY

CHARGE MADE BY MRS. CHARLES MORSE

Declares Her Husband Was Ruined by Powerful Enemies.

(Times Leased Wire.)

New York, May 22.—Charging that her husband was ruined and sent to prison through the conspiracy of powerful enemies who used the courts to gain their ends, Mrs. Charles W. Morse, wife of the former banker, declared to-day that she was willing to auction off her home to meet the demands of creditors.

Mrs. Morse was seen yesterday in her Fifth avenue house, which is practically denuded of furniture, sold to obtain money to pay off the debts of her husband. Her retinue of servants has dwindled until but one faithful serving maid remains, and she too will probably be dispensed with, if the family home is sold. Despite the reverses with which her husband has met, Mrs. Morse remains loyal to him and bravely battles the sacrifices she has made.

"Of the indebtedness of \$7,000,000 over \$5,000,000 has already been paid," said Mrs. Morse to-day, "and if Mr. Morse had been allowed to remain at liberty we would not owe a penny."

"Many of the suits which have been brought against Mr. Morse since his imprisonment were purely blackmail, advantage being taken by unscrupulous persons of the fact that my husband was not in a position to successfully combat their claims."

Her sacrifices Mrs. Morse counts for naught. "Too much has been said of little things," she declared. "Of course I sold my jewels to help my husband. What wife would not? My husband is more than anxious that all his creditors shall be paid, and I shall certainly do everything within my power to be of assistance to him."

"Government officials declared they would ruin my husband and all his enterprises, but I did not believe the courts could be used as a party to this. Long ago powerful persons vowed they would ruin him, and they have kept their vow against justice and truth."

TARIFF BILL.

Senator Aldrich's Proposal to Take Final Vote on June 2nd Is Laid Over.

Washington, D. C., May 22.—Senator Aldrich to-day asked the senate to fix June 2nd as the date for the final vote on the tariff bill.

DIES SUDDENLY.

(Special to the Times.)

MORE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT ARRESTED

Japanese Officials Continue Investigation Into "Sugar Scandal."

(Times Leased Wire.)

Tokyo, May 22.—Further arrests have been made of members of parliament in connection with the "sugar scandal," which has stirred the country from end to end. Officials of high and low degree have been arrested for the gigantic irregularities which have been unearthed and the government authorities are leaving no stone unturned and show no mercy. Twenty members of parliament and six directors of the sugar company have been arrested so far.

The constitutional party has been the chief sufferer in the expose, and will find it extremely difficult to rally under the blow.

CHARGES AGAINST CAPTAIN OF LINER

Accused of Violating the Customs Regulations at San Francisco.

(Times Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Cal., May 22.—Capt. A. E. Filmer, commander of the Japanese liner Nippon Maru, was charged to-day by Charles A. Stephens, chief boarding officer of the customs service, because he allowed Capt. Eberle, commandant of the Yerba Buena naval station, to remove Vice-Admiral Urie and his wife from the vessel yesterday before the customs officials had come aboard.

Stephens announces that he had taken action against the captain of the liner because he believed Captain Eberle did not know that he was violating the law and that Capt. Filmer should have known. His charges were filed at the office of Collector of Port Stratton, and will be heard Monday.

Capt. Filmer declared that "he saw the gold braid," and supposed that the customs officer accompanied Captain Eberle.

Stephens' action is taken under article seven of the act of the Passenger Act of congress of 1882, which provides that it shall be unlawful for the captain of a vessel to allow any person to leave his ship without the consent of the collector of the port or his representative. The penalty prescribed is \$1,000 fine for each person allowed to leave the ship. If Stephens' charges are upheld, Capt. Filmer will be subject to \$2,000 fine, as he allowed both the admiral and his wife to board Capt. Eberle's tug, without the consent of the customs officers.

CRUISERS SAIL FOR SEATTLE.

San Francisco, Cal., May 22.—Three cruisers of the second squadron of the Pacific fleet sailed for Puget Sound this afternoon. The cruisers, the West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, will be stationed at Seattle during the exposition.

FISCAL RELIEF FOR PORTUGAL

EXPENSES OF ROYAL FAMILY TO BE CUT

(Times Leased Wire.)

Lisbon, May 22.—At the urgent appeal of his advisors, King Manuel is considering plans for a revision of the existing system of taxation, in an effort to lift the heavy financial burdens of his subjects. A change is demanded by the people, and in the belief of many of the king's advisors, at least a reduction of the civil list is necessary to prevent an uprising.

Conditions that have been effective in squeezing from the people the last penny possible exist. The bankers who finance both the state and the civil lists have been granted oppressive monopolies, and the popular feeling against them is intense. Customs duties, which are assessed between provinces and at city and village boundaries, are so great as to preclude extensive internal commerce.

One of the most irritating drains to the taxpayers, however, is the assessment for the support of the queen mother and the queen grandmother, Maria Pia. Both women are foreigners, which heightens the dissatisfaction. The queen grandmother is paragonically lavish and maintains several palaces. She demands the last cent of her rights, and the bitterness she has engendered among the people is regarded as a serious menace to the dynasty.

FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE

Lincoln, Neb., Lawyer Is Taken Into Custody at Seattle.

(Times Leased Wire.)

Seattle, Wash., May 22.—Clad in overalls, soft shirt and cap, Jos. H. Storres, Harvard graduate, brilliant campaign orator and lawyer, was arrested here to-day as a fugitive from justice.

Storres, who was known in Seattle as Jos. H. McCarthy, is wanted at Lincoln, Neb., to explain the disappearance of \$5,000 in cash and diamonds valued at \$1,000 which were placed in his care when he was appointed administrator of the estate of Mrs. Helen M. Horn, an aged widow, who died under peculiar circumstances.

When last February, Storres was to have appeared in court to give an accounting of the property under his charge, he disappeared and the police of Lincoln have since sought to gain some trace of his whereabouts.

When arrested to-day, Storres had little to say except that he "guessed he was up against the real thing." He expressed a willingness to return to Nebraska without extradition proceedings.

COL PICHE DEAD.

(Special to the Times.)

Joliette, Que., May 22.—Col. Gaspard Piche, of the 83rd regiment, is dead. He was 51 years of age.

BOOTHS CAUSE TROUBLE AT FAIR

OREGON COMMISSION APPEALS TO EXECUTIVE

Objects to Lawn in Front of State Building Being Disfigured.

(Times Leased Wire.)

Seattle, Wash., May 22.—Development in the war that has broken out in the vicinity of the Oregon building at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition are awaited with interest to-day. A temporary truce has been declared pending an appeal by President Wash. F. Allen, Jr., director of works of the executive committee of the exposition.

The trouble began yesterday, when a candy and chewing gum booth, which had been placed on the lawn of the Oregon building by order of Frank F. J. Smith, when a force of workmen appeared to replace the booth. Mr. Smith ordered the thirty-five men employed in the Oregon building to the front and drawing his revolver, stood off the exposition workmen. After some peppery verbal exchanges, the invaders withdrew.

Director of Works Allen has planned to place 100 booths about the grounds where post-cards, candy, chewing gum and ice cream will be sold. Among the locations selected were four sites on the lawn of the Oregon building.

When it was learned that the Oregon commission refused to allow the booths to be placed on the ground under its control, Director Allen threatened to use the exposition guards to enforce his order.

President Wahrens of the Oregon commission, said to-day: "We shall not submit to having our grounds disfigured with these booths. The director of works cannot install them without our permission, and no such privileges will be granted."

It is also proposed to place two booths on the California grounds. J. A. Fletcher of the California commission declares that if this is done he will use dynamite to remove them.

COMING TO VICTORIA.

Presentation Made to W. Melville, of Winnipeg, By Members of Masonic Lodge.

(Special to the Times.)

Winnipeg, May 22.—Last evening at the Masonic Temple, members of Northern Light lodge took occasion to make a presentation to Wm. Melville, Junior Warden, who leaves shortly to assume an important position in the Government printing office at Victoria. The presentation, which consisted of a beautiful gold locket, was made by Past Master Walker in a happy speech heartily endorsed by the lodge.

GIRL WAS COERCED INTO MARRIAGE

Declares She Was Drugged and Now Begins Suit for Annulment.

(Times Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Cal., May 22.—Made to drink wine in which cigarette ashes had been dissolved, and then coerced into marriage with Erwin Ruddick, of Oakland, is the starting charge brought by Mrs. Eva Dufour Ruddick in a suit for the annulment of her sorry union. The suit was brought before Judge Sturtevant, but because the papers were made out in the woman's maiden name, the judge is of the opinion to-day that another complaint must be filed.

According to the tale told by Mrs. Ruddick, she refused several offers of marriage from the man who is legally her husband. She claims Ruddick entered into a conspiracy with others to ply her with liquor, and she was not responsible for her actions, and then secured the performance of the ceremony that would bind her for life.

Rev. Pierce, Mrs. Ruddick claims, officiated at the strange wedding, which was performed in Oakland, December 8th, 1907. She says she has not lived with Ruddick since her marriage and asks the right to use her maiden name.

FOR EXPOSITION.

Winnipeg, May 22.—Subscriptions for the Canadian Exposition and Selkirk Centennial in Winnipeg are already beginning to come in. The street railway company yesterday headed the list with a contribution of \$7,000. There is a persistent rumor on the streets yesterday that Lord Strathcona has granted \$250,000 on condition that the exposition be held in Kildonan, and that the permanent buildings be devoted to the University of Manitoba. This rumor could not be confirmed.

LEAD WORKS DESTROYED.

Blaze at Montreal Causes Loss Estimated at \$250,000.

(Special to the Times.)

Montreal, May 22.—The Canada lead works, owned by the James Roberts company, were wiped out by fire this morning. The loss is estimated at \$250,000.

BUILD CRUISERS SAYS BERESFORD

ADMIRAL'S SUGGESTIONS TO THE COLONIES

With Uniform System of Defence Empire May Laugh at World.

(Special to the Times.)

London, May 22.—Speaking at the Australian banquet last night Admiral Lord Charles Beresford said the proposal from any one of the dominions to spend \$2,000,000 on a battleship would not really help, and the idea of having destroyers and submarines in their home waters would not carry out the object at all. If the dominions would begin with cruisers they would eventually go in for a larger growth, but to meet the difficulty and to gain the object they had in view, namely, to help the mother country, he maintained the investment of money in cruisers would most likely meet the object desired.

Lord Beresford advocated occasional interchange of ships, and declared that if the nations of Canada, South Africa, Australia and Great Britain were cemented together for defence they could laugh at the rest of the world.

He considered it absolutely necessary to lay down eight Dreadnoughts in 1909. Referring to the unofficial announcement that the government will order four contingent Dreadnoughts in 1908, he said Premier Asquith was anxious to meet colonial statesmen before deciding the question.

DIES SUDDENLY IN SEATTLE CAFE

(Times Leased Wire.)

Seattle, Wash., May 22.—John Pevey, a retired lumberman and a pioneer of Puget Sound, dropped dead in a cafe on First avenue last night. Pevey had taken a capsule of medicine as had been his habit before meals, when his head fell back. J. W. Ross, a waiter had just reached the table at which Pevey sat, when he noticed the latter's condition. A physician was summoned, but Pevey was past human aid. He had been ill for some time.

JAPANESE IN STATES.

Statistics Show That Fifty Per Cent. Are in California.

Tokyo, May 22.—Statistics just compiled show that there were in 1905 59,100 Japanese subjects in the United States and of this number no less than 53 per cent. were in California and neighboring states. In California fifty per cent. of its total were found.

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT SUPPORT HENRY

Action of Attorney-General Regarded as Indicating Change of Policy.

(Times Leased Wire.)

Washington, D. C., May 22.—Francis J. Heney, the San Francisco graft prosecutor, will not receive the same support from the present administration that he did while President Roosevelt held office, if the impression prevalent to-day among the prosecutor's friends here is correct.

The impression was created by the announcement that the department of justice had sent to San Francisco complete copies of the records of Heney's entire legal connection with the federal government on request of Patrick C. Houn and his New York attorneys. Attorney-General Wickersham, in addition to sending the original copy of the gallery bills and vouchers, which he secured from the treasury department, for a period of five years, sent the original commission to Heney from Roosevelt, and has instructed United States District Attorney Devlin at San Francisco that the government has waived the usual procedure, and that the records can be turned over to the court upon Heney's request.

Heney's friends declare that the prompt wholesale response to the request of a defendant in a criminal prosecution so contrasts with the Roosevelt administration's refusal to aid graft defendants that it creates the fear that the federal government is no longer back of the graft fights which are being waged in the various states and cities.

Attorney-General Wickersham declared to-day that he was ignorant of the details of Heney's connection with the government in the absence of the original records which have been sent to San Francisco.

Sought Heney's Opinion. San Francisco, Cal., May 22.—Friends of the graft prosecution here do not consider the attorney-general's action in sending out a report of Heney's connection with the government as being adverse to the prosecution. They argue that Wickersham asked Heney's opinion before making the report public, and point to the fact that the prosecutor gave his consent to the action.