

BRITAIN AND RUSSIA IN CENTRAL ASIA.

Rumors That the Two Powers May Come to an Understanding on the Matter.

Britain's Policy in That Region is Defence and Not Defiance, Says Gerald Balfour.

The Russian Ambassador and Lord Lansdowne Have Long Interview on the Subject.

London, Oct. 9.—Following closely upon the publication of the text of the Anglo-Japanese treaty, there has been considerable talk of the possibility of an understanding between Great Britain and Russia. All the newspapers are devoting columns to the discussion of the question, pointing out that if Russia is sincere in her expressions of a desire for peace in Central Asia there is no reason why the two ancient enemies should not come to an agreement that will not only assure peace, but clear away the suspicions leading to frictions which have existed for years. That negotiations with this object in view are pending seems possible, though definite official confirmation is lacking. Color is lent to the rumors that have been floating about by the recent frequent visits paid to the Foreign Office by the Russian Ambassador since his return from his holidays, a fortnight ago, and the fact that Foreign Secretary Lansdowne, who returned from his vacation to publish the text of the Anglo-Japanese treaty, has not resumed it. Count Benckendorff, the Russian Ambassador, had a long interview with Lord Lansdowne at the Foreign Office yesterday, and the latter left London immediately afterward for Balmoral, Scotland, where Premier Balfour is at present, as Minister in attendance to the King.

Of course the visits of the Russian Ambassador to the Foreign Office may have been connected with Emperor Nicholas' invitation to Great Britain to participate in the second peace conference at The Hague, but Great Britain has already answered His Majesty's preliminary invitation. It is thought here that the present is an opportune moment for reaching a better understanding between the two countries, both the British and Russian papers having strongly advocated it for the past week. The position of the British Government was clearly stated in a speech delivered by Gerald Balfour, President of the Local Government Board, yesterday, in which he said: "Great Britain has no intention of making aggressive movements in Central Asia. Our object is defence, and not defiance, and if the Russian Government desires to come to an understanding with us with reference to our respective interests in that part of the world, it will not find the British Government backward in readiness to consider any proposals which it might desire to put forward." The newspaper discussion has reached a much wider range, and includes suggestions for agreements which if carried out immediately would make Europe a family in which there would be no differences.

M'CURDY FAMILY HAD GOOD THING.

Enormous Profits Made Out of the Mutual Life.

President's Son and Brother-in-law Collected Over \$2,500,000.

How the Insurance Companies Overlook Legislation.

New York, Oct. 9.—That Robert H. McCurdy, a son of the president of the Mutual Life, and Louis A. Thebaud, the elder McCurdy's elder son-in-law, made enormous profits through the relation with the Mutual Company was disclosed today in the hearing before the Armstrong Insurance Committee.

Robert H. McCurdy, who is 46 years old, has been general manager of the Mutual Life since 1902, and is drawing at present a salary of \$20,000 a year. Prior to that time, in fact since 1893, Mr. McCurdy got a commission on all foreign business written by the Mutual Company, and he has, it was shown today, been getting that commission annually, even after his appointment as general manager. In some years the commissions have amounted to more than \$90,000, which is a sum almost as great as his father draws as president of the Mutual and considerably in excess of the amount which President Paul Morton, of the Equitable, is receiving.

Mr. McCurdy collected these commissions under a contract which he entered into with the Mutual Company back in 1893, when he went to Europe as the company's foreign manager. At that time the Mutual agreed to pay him 5 per cent. on all premiums from the foreign business. But the volume of business increased so rapidly that the amounts to which Mr. McCurdy would have been entitled assumed such stupendous proportions, that the commission was gradually reduced—he says, at his own request—until he is receiving now but 1 per cent. on the annual premiums of the foreign business. Even at this rate his income from this source amounts to more than \$80,000 a year, and the Mutual, according to its contract with Mr. McCurdy, will have to pay him these commissions until 1919. The Mutual had the right to terminate its contract with Mr. McCurdy at any time. The total amount which he has received as commissions in the last 20 years amount to almost \$1,200,000.

Other Profits. It was shown further today that during the greater part of the period in which Mr. McCurdy was collecting commissions on the foreign business from the Mutual Company he was also receiving large amounts—as profits—from the firm of R. H. Raymond and Co., who were the Mutual's general agents for the New York city district. Mr. McCurdy left this firm in 1902, and upon his retirement Louis A. Thebaud, his brother-in-law, made his appearance in the firm. This firm, it was shown today, has received from the Mutual as much as 80 per cent. of the premiums on first-year business written by the Mutual's contract, with equally advantageous terms as regards the percentage on renewal premiums. In one year the firm had a contract with the Mutual, by which it got 92 per cent. on the first year premiums. Out of the proceeds under this contract, however, the firm was obliged to pay about \$25,000 net for branch offices. Mr. McCurdy's net receipts from this firm since he went out to \$33,225, part of this being his

METHODIST MISSIONS.

Meeting of the General Board at London.

London, Ont., Oct. 9.—The General Board of Missions of the Methodist Church in Canada met today in annual session in Dundas Street Church. There was a full representation of the board present.

TRUSTED MAN DEFAULTS.

Prominent Educationist of Peoria Turns Out a Mere Thief.

Peoria, Ill., Oct. 9.—Newston C. Dougherty, for many years city superintendent of schools, was arrested today upon an indictment by the Grand Jury charging forgery. The arrest is the result of the examination by the Grand Jury of the books of the Peoria School Board. Within a comparatively brief space of time a shortage of \$75,000 was discovered, but the further discovery was made that the speculations have been extending over a long term of years. The shortage will reach hundreds of thousands of dollars. The crime for which he was arrested was forging a voucher for \$164.50 for coal alleged to have been delivered for school purposes, but which was not delivered.

I. WRIGHT'S DEATH.

INCERSOLL DOCTORS UNABLE TO EXPLAIN IT.

Evidence Given at the Inquest at Ingersoll—One Witness Describes a Merry Time on the Bridge Where Deceased and Prisoners Were.

Ingersoll despatch: At the inquest tonight on the death of Isaiah Wright, whose body was taken from the Thames River on Thursday morning, Sept. 28, Dr. McKay, who assisted by Dr. Cole-ridge performed the post-mortem, was examined at length. His evidence was to the effect that death was not the result of natural causes or acute alcoholism. He was, however, unable to state definitely what caused death.

Witness was inclined to the opinion that Wright was alive when immersed. He might have been insensible at the time, as there was no well marked indications of the deceased having struggled in the water. There were no marks on the hands from the finger nails, nor gravel under the nails, as is common in a case of drowning. The bruise on the back of the head might have been caused after death. A blunt instrument would cause such a bruise as was found. A man very much intoxicated, falling from the bridge in question and drowned in that way, might show the conditions revealed by the post-mortem.

while returning home on the night of September 22 he saw Wright in company of some of the men now in custody on the charge of murder. He met Ewart Bell and Wright near the bridge. He also recognized George Hartwell, Thomas Wilson and George Dennis. He could not say who the others were. The party had an accordion, and were having a merry time on the bridge. Just as witness was leaving the bridge Hartwell said he was going home.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Maj.-Gen. Corbin and wife sailed today for Manila, Australia, on a two months' leave of absence.

Provincial Treasurer McCormick, of Quebec, says the Government is convinced of the justice of the principle of the tax on commercial travellers, but may make some modifications.

Governor A. E. Mead, has offered a reward of \$1,000 for the arrest of the bandits who robbed the Great Northern train near Ballard, Wash., on Monday.

The tender of Foley Bros., Larsen & Co., Winnipeg, to build the branch of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway between Fort William and Lake Superior Junction, a distance of 219 miles, has been accepted.

Mrs. Catharine Albert Penfield, wife of Frederick Courland Penfield, a former American diplomatic agent and consul-general to Egypt, died on Wednesday of heart disease, at a hotel at New York. She was 60 years old.

The report of President C. D. Warren to the shareholders of the Lake Superior Corporation stated that the last Canadian property to remain in the receiver's hands, the Lake Superior Power Co., has been released and has passed into the full control of the corporation within the past few days.

ON TRAIL OF RED MEN.

A Detective Trying to Arrest Them on the Muncie Reserve.

St. Thomas, Ont., despatch Detective Minor is on the Muncie Reserve. He is trying to round up a gang of half-breeds and Indians who have been the terror of the neighborhood for the past three months. The trouble started when Sam Plain died about six months ago, and left an estate valued at about \$30,000. Plain left his estate to his supposed wife, Julia Waucush, and there has been considerable litigation over it. She bought a valuable horse, which was stolen from her stable.

When Miller went up to investigate he found the horse dead in a ravine. Mr. James Cousin, of Middlemiss, leased the estate of Sam Plain from the government, and last Saturday night his house was burned down.

Detective Miller has traced fifteen robbers to this gang, and he has warrants for all of them, but the weather is so fine the gang live in the bush, and so far have escaped arrest. He claims that he traces all these crimes to the fact that liquor is supplied to the Indians at a hotel in a nearby village.

This gang are all heavily armed and they also possess a number of rifles. Detective Miller thinks there may be serious trouble before they are all arrested.

WANT RECIPROCIITY.

MASSACHUSETTS REPUBLICANS HAVE A HOT TIME OVER TARIFF.

Boston, Oct. 9.—A factional contest upon the question of tariff revision, especially with reference to reciprocity with Canada, which involved the nomination of a candidate for lieutenant-governor and the presence of five aspirants for the nomination for attorney-general, gave unusual interest to the Republican state convention in Tremont Temple here today.

SHE WILL NOT EAT FOOD.

Surrounded by Luxuries, Baltimore Girl Starves Herself.

Baltimore, Oct. 9.—Miss Louise Cole, eighteen years old, the daughter of Joseph Cole, seems doomed to starve to death, although surrounded by the daintiest and most inviting luxuries. For more than two years Miss Cole has not tasted water, and has taken no nourishment save milk, ice cream, and these in small quantities. A week ago she refused to eat even the latter, and since that time has taken no material nourishment.

PLENARY COUNCIL.

Archbishops Discuss Proposals, But Action is Deferred.

Ottawa despatch: The annual conference of the Roman Catholic archbishops of Canada was concluded this morning. The archbishops discussed the proposals for the Plenary Council, but no definite action was taken. Mgr. Sharrett, Papal delegate, visited the archbishops, and had luncheon with them. Archbishop O'Connor has left for Toronto, and the others are to leave tonight.

SCOW FILLED AND SANK.

Gordon Donaldson, Aged 22, Drowned in Toronto Bay.

Toronto report: Gordon Donaldson, a polisher in the employ of the Palmer Piano Co., met his death a little before 10 o'clock last night in the bay at the foot of Spadina avenue. He was out with his brother-in-law, Albert Prince, a piano fitter, searching for their gasoline launch, which had left its moorings, when the scow they were using filled with water and sank.

U. S. CUTTER AFTER FISHERMEN WHO POACH IN CANADIAN WATERS.

Those Who Break the Law Will be Arrested and Their Vessels and Cargoes Confiscated.

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 9.—The U. S. revenue cutter Morrill left Detroit last night, having on board Collector of Customs Leach, of Cleveland, who will take a hand in of putting a stop to depredations of American fishing tugs in Canadian waters. The Morrill will cruise Lake Erie for several days, going as far east as Dunkirk. Collector Leach has a license to investigate the cargo of any fishing boat he comes upon. Any fishermen found guilty of violating the revenue law he follows to enter his catch in Canadian waters will be arrested, his cargo and vessel seized and proceedings of confiscation instituted by the collector. This puts the poachers between two fires, both Governments being arrayed against them. It is believed that the latest turn of affairs will largely put a stop to the wholesale taking of fish in Canadian waters by American fishermen. In his letter of instructions Secretary Shaw, of the Treasury Department, said: "The relations between the United States and Canada are of the most cordial character, and it is regretted that any of our people will violate both the law of their own country and that of Canada."

MRS. KYLE THANKS GOD THAT HER TRIAL IS OVER.

Says She Expected the Verdict and is Glad to be Back With Her Dear Husband.

An Ingersoll despatch: At her pretty little cottage on the Culloden road Mrs. Emily Kyle, who was acquitted last night at Woodstock of the murder of David Magee, was seen this morning by a reporter and congratulated on the verdict which made her a free woman. Mrs. Kyle was busily engaged in her household work when the newspaper man called, and was in splendid spirits. She showed signs, however, of the ordeal through which she had passed, but stopped work long enough to chat a few minutes.

"The verdict was just what I had expected," she said. "When a woman tries to do the right thing and be true to her husband, no other kind of a decision could be looked for. It would have been a great wrong had I been convicted."

"You have been under a severe nervous strain, Mrs. Kyle," suggested the reporter.

"Yes, I have, but, thank God, it's all over now, and I am back with my dear husband and family again. The papers have all been very good to me, and I am thankful to them for that. Judge MacMahon is a saintly old man, isn't he?"

"I can never begin to thank him for that address of his to the jury, and Mr. Robinette was splendid, too. I had the best that money could get, for a man will sacrifice everything he has for the wife he loves, and my husband has done that."

"The whole affair was very unfortunate," continued Mrs. Kyle, "and no one regrets it more than I do, but I thought my life and honor were endangered, and I had to save myself."

"Were there many at the car to meet you when you got home?"

"I didn't notice," replied Mrs. Kyle. "I shrink from publicity, and I came right home along with my husband. When we got to the house my brother, Mr. Andrews, of the Canada Cycle and Motor Co., Toronto, and some other members of my husband's and my own family were there, and we had a great rejoicing together. Though I had never doubted the result, I was very glad to get back to my little house and my little ones, the birds, the cat, and the flowers, which I was sure had been neglected when I was away. I couldn't have parted with them, they are all so dear to me."

Mrs. Kyle is a motherly-looking woman, about 35 years of age, pleasantly looking, and with a very pleasing and well modulated voice. She is receiving many callers to-day, who are offering their congratulations, and says that she never knew she had so many friends till she got into this trouble. Ingersoll people as a rule are very much pleased with the result, as Magee was a worthless character, and was quite capable of attempting almost any crime. Great interest was taken in the case, and to-day the favorable verdict is the sole topic of conversation on the streets.

SHOOTING OF HAUCH. NO LOVE FOR GERMANY.

FRANCE WAS NOT TO BE EITHER PERSUADED OR COERCED.

YOUNG SIMON HAMMER ADMITS PARTICIPATION IN IT.

Claims It Was an Accident, as He Was Unloading His Revolver at the Charivari—Jury Take the Same View.

A Tavistock despatch: East Zorra's tragedy is no longer a mystery. This afternoon at Cassel, a little hamlet six miles southeast of Tavistock, where the shooting was being conducted, Simon Hammer, a youth of nineteen, while tears streamed down his face, told of the fatal charivari, and intimated that his hand held the weapon by which John S. Hauch came to his death on September 10th. He claimed that it happened accidentally, and was so unnerved when telling the story that it was necessary for Constable J. F. Wilson to revive him with a glass of water before he could proceed.

The confession was anticipated by Coroner Holson, but was a great surprise to the public. When the youth's story led him to the words, "I had a revolver," the Coroner stopped him and said: "I want to be fair with you; you are not bound to answer any question that might be used to incriminate you."

"I will tell you the very truth; it happened accidentally," said the young man with great earnestness. "When the charivari at William Wagester's home was in process I stood beside Hauch, about three feet away. He fired three shots and I fired my revolver. When he was done with his I thought I had shot all mine off, and pointing the revolver towards the ground, I tried to remove the shells. As I was doing this the hammer went down and the revolver jumped up and Hauch was shot. If it had not jumped the bullet would have gone right into the ground."

The jury at 9.15 returned a verdict to the effect that J. S. Hauch came to his death by a bullet from a revolver, accidentally discharged while in the hands of Simon Hammer.

Simon Hammer is employed on the farm of John Pletsch on the fifteenth concession of East Zorra. His father is dead, and his mother, who has since remarried, is a resident of Tavistock.

Other witnesses included Charles Harbottle, the groom, George Junkers, Wm. Wagester, George Beaman, and Dr. M. Stool, who performed the post-mortem and removed the bullet from the body of the victim.

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THE ANGLICAN MISSIONS.

Annual Meeting in Wycliffe Convocation Hall.

A Toronto despatch: Thankfulness for past triumphs and hopefulness regarding the future were the dominating features of the annual meeting of the Canadian Church Missionary Society, held last night in Convocation Hall of Wycliffe College. The attendance was large. Mr. N. W. Hoyles, K. C. presided.

Rev. R. E. Welsh, of the Upper Canada Bible Society bore testimony to the earnest, faithful work of the C. M. S. workers.

Rev. T. R. O'Meara, Secretary of the society, said this special field was the seeking out, the accepting, the training and the maintenance of workers in the foreign mission field. Four mission-aries had been accepted this year and four others were under probation.

Rev. Arthur Lee, who is on leave after eight years of mission work in Japan, said the Japanese were a clever and progressive people and unless the Gospel was everywhere proclaimed to them they might undertake to crush on their affairs without Christ.

Miss Archer, who is returning to mission work in Japan, was introduced. Rev. W. J. Southam, of the C. M. S., Hong Kong, China, also spoke. The retiring Executive was practically re-elected, the committees for the Maritime Provinces, Quebec, eastern and western Ontario reappointed, and the standing committees selected.

JOHN EARL'S SUCCESSOR.

New Secretary-Treasurer of Freight Association is Appointed.

Montreal, Oct. 9.—The general quarterly meeting of the Canadian Freight Association was held here today. A large representation of the Canadian freight carriers was present. The president, Mr. J. H. Hays, of Toronto, presided over the body, which was presided over by Mr. Thomas Marshall, appointed in his stead. Mr. Marshall is vice-president of the Pacific Maritime Railway at

T H I S O R I G I N A L D O C U M E N T I N V E R Y P O O R C O N D I T I O N