Revolt Of The Peasants

Fear Movement May Spread to Seven Millions of Poles.

Subversion of National Language and Economic Questions the Grievances.

Daily Murderous Attacks on Police Cause Anxiety to Authorities.

WARSAW, Feb. 27.—According to reliable information reaching Warsaw today, the Poland peasants' revolt—in view of the fact that the peasants number 7,000,000 out of a total population of 10,000,000—will, if it spreads, result in disorder far greater than anything that has risen during the present agitation. The peasants hitherto have not figured to any great extent in this agitation, which is confined to the two million of workmen in the cities and towns. The Socialists recently sent emissaries into the country districts to stir up the villagers. According to reports, they met with speedy success. As the peasants are unable to read, they were easily led away by the Socialistic oratory.

The movement began at Pruseka and extended at once to Plotsk. It first reached serious dimensions in the district of Yedle, where a majority of the Greek Catholics or Uniats reside. Embittered by religious persecutions, they quickly joined in the agitation and approached the landed proprietors with a demand for an increase of 50 per cent in their wages. Their demands being refused, they promptly struck. In many instances the peasants resorted to violence. Disturbances have been reported from nearly fifty villages, where the strikers burned government alcohol shops, the authorities making no interference.

Peasants' Grievances.

The peasants' real grievances are in connection with the language and economic questions. They smart under the methods of the local bureaucracy in making obligatory the use of the Russian language, which they do not understand. It is stated that already 130 villages have declared that they will not receive official proclamations in the Russian language. While there appears to be no danger of the real peasant revolution, a revolt against the compulsory use of the Russian language is feared and the situation is regarded as far from reassuring.

The police in three districts have demanded an increase of pay, which was granted. The authorities are instructing the military in police duty in order to be prepared for further disturbances, and consequently most of the policemen are accompanied on their beats by soldiers.

Murderous Attacks Daily.

Murderous attacks occur daily on solitary policemen or small patrols in the streets of Warsaw, causing the gravest anxiety to the authorities, who are at a loss to know how to protect the policemen. The force of police, which is entirely inadequate, consists of only 1,000 men to a population of 800,000, of whom at least 40,000 are known to be criminals of the most desperate class. Reports are current today that the murders will continue until the number of policemen killed equals the total number of persons killed in the January disturbances.

The employees of the suburban tram railroads have struck and the city firemen announce that they will strike on Saturday unless given higher wages. The grave-diggers of the Jewish cemeteries have made similar demands.

TALE OF A THIRST.

Soggy Soldiers and Their Doings While Transporting Large Bundles.

Sodden with beer, two soldiers of the garrison piled up a list of offences, for which the military court will demand satisfaction, now that the military police have taken them from the lock-up where they were held for safekeeping.

A soldier had bought a new bicycle. He valued the bike. The two who drank more schooners than they could carry, stole the wheel and rode toward Esquimalt, taking turns. The wheel, carrying the weight of the man and the load he carried, wobbled, and finally, having more to put up with than a respectable wheel could stand, it broke—badly broke.

The soldiers, unable to get it to go, and having all the cargo they could handle without putting a wheel atop, gave it away to some children.

Now the owner wants his wheel, and the soldiers, having slept off the bundle of the previous night, cannot recall the circumstances, nor find the children.

When the couple reached Government street they had spent all their money, but their thirst remained. It was a long thirst which refused to be assuaged. Like a fiend the thirst cried for beer—and bartenders do not give beer without nickels, so they began peddling the long boots they wore to all and sundry, offering the long boots belonging to King Edward and Hon. Mr. Brodrick for two round Canadian dollars—forty drinks. What cared they if they did go barefoot; the climate was not so bad as the stay-at-home Britisher thinks—and they could have forty long "tubs" with foam atop.

There were also other offences—all, culminating in a noisy celebration, during which the military police patrol located them, and, after a strenuous time—for they showed fight—lifted them into the patrol wagon and they were held for safekeeping until yesterday.

A bluejacket also had trouble in assuaging a deep thirst. He was begging for ten cents—"Just to get home to Esquimalt, Mister." His story was that he had rented a cabin and bought a pair of blankets, which he had left with a barkeeper for safekeeping. When he returned for the blankets the keeper refused to know anything about them, and he had his choice of going back to the ship or sleeping on the boards. He wanted ten cents to get back to the ship. He got several ten-cent pieces — likewise several schooners of beer, and was last seen making a circuitous course toward Esquimalt.

There were also two fights on Sunday, in each of which bluejackets were parties; one fought with a street car conductor and was hammered with the fare box; another exchanged a few blows with a civilian in an affray over the smiles of a lady—which the constable, ignorant of the rules of the old days of chivalry, quickly stopped.

THE LADY AND THE LAW.

New York, Feb. 27.—A writ of habeas corpus, calling for the appearance of Nan Paterson, the show girl accused of the murder of Caesar Young, before Justice Gaynor in the Supreme court in Brooklyn, was issued to counsel representing Miss Paterson today, on application to Justice Gaynor. At the same time the justice granted an application by Miss Paterson's counsel for a writ of certicrari to be issued in her case before she is deprived of her constitutional right to speedy trial. Miss Paterson is now in the Tombs prison pending another trial.

THE RED CRUSADE.

Ithica, N. Y., Feb. 27.—At the invitation of President Schurman of Cornell University, Commander Miss Booth of the Salvation Army, will conduct a special "red crusade" here next Sunday, when nine services will be held, the last in the evening in one of the large university buildings.

JAPAN'S DOMESTIC LOAN.

New York, Feb. 27.—Mr. Uchida, the Japanese consul-general, received notice today that a domestic loan of $49,000,000 was announced in Tokio today. The bonds will bear 6 per cent., will be payable in seven years, and the issue price will be 90.

PETITIONS TO PARLIAMENT.

Toronto, Feb. 27.—At the close of the services in the Church of Christ, Cecil street, last night, a large number of those present signed a petition to parliament against the establishment of separate schools in the Northwest provinces.

CARDS AND THE REVOLVER.

Toronto, Feb. 27.—As the result of a shooting affray over a game of cards Saturday night, Lugi Raimondi is in the hospital, probably fatally injured, and Leonard Montecarlo, who did the shooting, is under arrest. Both men are Italians.

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS.

Last Supply Measures at Washington Carries Total of $31,322,259.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The general appropriation bill, the last of the annual supply measures, was completed today by the house committee on appropriations. The measure carries a total of $31,022,259.

The Senate today passed the naval appropriation bill. The bill carries a total appropriation of $100,300,000.

WHO HATH EARS TO HEAR

May Now Enjoy Church Worship by 'Phone in Calgary.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 27.—At the Methodist church in Calgary last evening, Rev. Mr. Kirby inaugurated his telephone system by which members unable to attend could listen to his sermons by means of a large receiver placed in front of the pulpit and connected with the central office, which proved a great success, a number of citizens taking advantage of it.

SAN DOMINGO CONGRESS.

President Morale's Message Generally Satisfactory to Petite Republic.

San Domingo, Feb. 27.—Congress was opened in ordinary session by President Morales today. The president said the American-Dominican convention will be submitted for the approval of congress. In his message to congress President Morales recommends the establishment of civil government in the place of martial law; the enactment of sanitary laws; the opening of roads to assist agriculture; and provision for assistance to agriculturists; he also declares that diplomatic relations between Santo Domingo and all other countries are cordial, and that quiet prevails in the republic. The message was well received.

FISHERMEN MISSING.

Boat in Which They Started for Victoria Washed Ashore at Mill Bay.

Two fishermen who set sail from Cowichan for Victoria during the gale of Friday the 17th, in a strongly-built Columbia river fishing boat, are believed to have been drowned. The boat in which they set sail was washed ashore on Tuesday last at Wilkinson's ranch at Mill Bay, and no trace has been found of the fishermen who were occupants of the craft. The names of the two men were not learned, though it is understood that one was known as "Louis the Fisherman," he being of short stature, while his companion was a tall man. The boat, which has since come ashore, was marked H. A. 635 at the bow, while at the stern was F. 10. It is now on the beach at the Mill Bay ranch.

A REMARKABLE VOYAGE.

British Steamer, With War Stores for Port Arthur, Has Strange Luck.

New York, Feb. 27.—The British steamer Carlisle, chartered by the Russian government, lost her propeller when 300 miles from Vladivostok, resorted to sail, drifted before the contrary winds and currents to the Philippines and anchored on February 10 in San Miguel Bay off the southern end of Luzon, whence it was towed into that port today. At the time of her arrival in San Miguel Bay the vessel was 85 days out from Vladivostok with supplies for Port Arthur.

A Russian super cargo is now in charge of the Carlisle, whose cargo consists of powder, shells and other munitions of war.

Customs officers have sealed down the hatches and the Carlisle will probably be detained until the conclusion of the war.

HIS PRIVATE OPINION.

Paris, Feb. 27.—Dr. Mandelstamm, one of the Russian counsel during the North Sea enquiry, writes as follows: "Regarded from the view point of humanity alone, the commission's work has immense importance. The admirals' report is the result of common efforts and mutual concession to save mankind from the horrors of a general conflagration. The names of the rulers and the ministers who brought it about, and of the commissioners who weighed the evidence, deserve entry in the golden book."

President Loubet entertained the North Sea commissioners and officials at lunch at the Elysee today.

JAPANESE CROSS SHAKHE.

Drive in Russian Pickets, but Reinforcements Stop Advance.

Mukden, Feb. 27.—The Japanese crossed the Shakhe river last evening, having driven in the pickets of the Russian vanguard. Russian supports came up and stopped the Japanese advance. On the right flank all is quiet, but the movements of the Japanese indicate an intention of attacking the Russia centre, at least in the form of a demonstration.

Heavy firing continued today to the eastward.

Soldiers of the Tsinkhetchen division are in good spirits in spite of the heavy losses they have sustained and the necessity which compelled them to retreat. They are encouraged by the execution they wrought upon the Japanese, whose bodies were piled in heaps outside the redoubts at the Beresneff hill and the trenches at Tsinkhetchen.

Yesterday evening there was a violent storm of heavy and wet snow. The temperature during the night moderated.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 28 (2:15 a. m.)—According to the Associated Press Mukden despatches, the Japanese, Sunday evening, crossed the Shakhe river, but the place of crossing was eliminated by the censor. The advance was checked by Russian reinforcements. This is the most important news from the scene of war tonight. Fighting is continuing on the Russian left flank, with indications that the Japanese are planning a demonstration against the centre, but the Russians believe their positions are impregnable.

GORKY REARRESTED.

Unfortunate Russian Released on Bail and Immediately Arrested.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 27.—Maxim Gorky had but a short glimpse of liberty today. Released on $5,000 bail, he was immediately rearrested and conveyed to a place of confinement pending deportation to some distant city or province, where his continued residence, it is thought, will be less dangerous to the welfare of the government than it would be here.

The release of M. Gorky was effected by order of Governor-General Trepoff, who after the friends of the writer had overcome obstacle after obstacle and won the grudging assent of hierarchy and officials, signed the mandate admitting him to bail. The arrest was the act of an all-powerful governor-general, who is unwilling to allow such a firebrand to be at large in the capital of which practically he is the supreme ruler.

M. Gorky knew nothing of the governor-general's decision when the doors of the cell which had been his home for the past five weeks swung open. His disappointment, therefore, was pitiable when, just as he was passing out of the great gate of the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul, he again was arrested.

Health Has Suffered.

His appearance indicated that his health had suffered from the effects of his confinement, even though the rigors of prison life had been relaxed in his favor.

In the custody of two officers of the department of secret police, which is charged with the protection of members of the Imperial family, M. Gorky was placed in a closed carriage and conveyed to the headquarters of the secret police, in a house formerly belonging to the poet Pushkin, where he will spend the night, pending the receipt of orders assigning his place of future residence.

Disappointed as was M. Gorky at the outcome of the day's business, he was no more sad than were his wife and children, who, having been informed of the decision to release him on bail, awaited his return home for hours.

When the Associated Press tonight visited the apartments occupied by the author's family, the windows were brilliantly lighted in honor of the anticipation of his appearance. Madame Piesakoff was at the door of an adjoining room. She concealed her disappointment bravely when informed of the rearrest of her husband, and forced herself to smile as she discussed the probable place of his exile, saying she hopes it will be where the climate is such that her husband's health will not suffer, as it did in his former exile, when he was forced to appeal for permission to change his residence to the milder climate of the Crimea.

Thirteen Dead In Church Ruin

Flooring of African Methodist Mission Collapses With Fearful Results.

Congregation Awaiting Funeral Procession When Accident Occurs.

Hundreds Are Precipitated Into Basement and Many Are Mangled.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—Thirteen persons were killed and upwards of fifty others injured, some fatally, by the collapse of the flooring of the Fleet street African Methodist Episcopal Zion church at Brooklyn tonight. Of those killed ten were women, two men and one child. The building was an ancient, ramshackle frame structure, erected sixty years ago in the heart of the colored section of the city, in Fleet street near Michael avenue.

Arrangements had been made tonight to hold the funeral services of Sydney Painter, one of the older members of the church, and the auditorium, which is on the second floor of the building, and the ground floor, being used by the Sunday school was crowded with an audience of upwards of 300 persons, of whom the majority were women.

Collapse of Auditorium.

The congregation was waiting in silence for the arrival of the body, and Pastor James was standing at the altar awaiting the summons to meet the funeral procession at the door, when a sharp cracking of timbers was heard, and in an instant the half of the auditorium nearest the door collapsed, carrying down more than 100 persons, who were crushed in the wreckage of the flooring.

A great volume of dust for a few minutes hid the view of the victims. The remainder of the audience finding themselves cut off from the doors and expecting every instant that the rest of the floor would collapse under them, fought madly to reach the windows, and in some instances persons leaped from them and sustained serious injuries.

Firemen Hew Out Victims.

On the arrival of the police and firemen the work of rescue began. Those remaining uninjured on the portion of the floor remaining intact were taken from the windows by means of ladders. Those lying in the mass of wreckage on the floor could only be got after the firemen had hewed their way to them with axes. Out of the wreck ten bodies were recovered and taken to a station house and about thirty removed to the Brooklyn hospital, where three women died soon after being admitted.

All the ambulances in Brooklyn were called out and about a score of those hurt were able to get home after their injuries had been attended to. Heart-rending scenes were witnessed in the station, which was thronged with relatives and friends who came to identify the dead.

Those killed were: Bertha Green, Teresa Ellis, Samuel Chisholm, Anna Bean, Anna Sullivan, Louisa Smith, Mary Scott, four unidentified women, one unidentified child and one undentified man.

The cause of the collapse was the decayed condition of the beams and supports of the flooring.

A WICKED WOOING.

Chicago Policeman Meets Refusal to Marry With a Fatal Bullet.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 27.—Daniel Herman, a policeman, shot and instantly killed a school teacher, Miss Minnie Mulveil, on the street today. Miss Mulveil was a teacher in St. James' parochial school. While walking home from school she was approached by Herman. The two spoke together for some time. Finally angry words were heard. Herman was seen to draw a revolver, point it directly at the teacher, and fire. Miss Mulveil fell dead on the sidewalk. Hermann escaped. It is said Miss Mulveil had refused to marry Herman.

SENSITIVE AS TO COLOR.

Former Victoria Drayman Attempts Life Because Mistaken for Negro.

Word has been received from Dawson of the attempted suicide of Charles Bennett, a Peruvian, making his home in this city four years ago and employed by a local truck and dray company. Latterly he has been engaged as cook, three years on Yukon river steamers and during the past four months working for the police barracks on Dominion Creek.

In the Yukon country, as here, Bennett's swarthy complexion caused him much annoyance. He was frequently mistaken for a negro, and resented the imputation with all the hot pride characteristic of the Latin and South American races.

The frequency of the occurrence of the mistake induced melancholia, and Bennett finally sought to end his troubles with the bullet of a .38-calibre Smith & Wesson aimed at his own heart.

The bullet touched without piercing the cardiac organ, and at last advices Bennett was yet alive, although recovery was regarded by Dr. Bell as quite impossible.

GUY BOOTHBY NO MORE.

London, Feb. 27.—Guy Newell Boothby, the novelist, is dead from complications following an attack of influenza. He was born in 1867.

The late writer of romances was a native of Adelaide, South Australia; the son of Thomas Wilde Boothby, some time member of the House of Assembly, and grandson of Mr. Justice Boothby. He had traveled much and in 1891 crossed Australia from north to south. He was the author of "On the Wallaby" and "In Strange Company" (1894), "The Marriage of Esther," "A Lost Endeavor" and "A Bid for Fortune" (1895), "Beautiful White Devil" and the "Dr. Nikola" stories (1896), "The Fascination of the King," "Sheilah McLeod," "The Trail of the Snake," etc. All his novels show an imaginative and creative power of high order, with magnetic—almost hypnotic—skill in psychological analyses. His work had all the charm of weirdness handled with compelling and convincing skill. The deceased author leaves a widow, the third daughter of William Bristowe of Champion Hill, England.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

Quite a number of Mainland delegates arrived last night to attend the meeting of the Farmers' Institute today. Their names and the institutes they represent are: Mr. De Hart, Osoyoos; Donald Matheson, Spallumacheen; James Evans, Okanagan; Andrew Noble, Kamloops; N. T. Baker, Kent; W. J. Harris, Maple Ridge; W. J. Brandrith, Burrard; M. Gillanders, Chilliwack; W. Towlaw, Matsqui; H. Harris, sen., Langley.; Samuel Shannon, Surrey; A. D. Paterson, Delta.

The convention will open at 11 o'clock a. m. in the rooms of the deputy minister of agriculture. Two or more sittings will be held each day until the business is concluded.

The following, among other propositions, are slated for consideration:

That the spring meeting of the institute be held in March instead of April; that spraying of orchards be made compulsory; that horses for service should be licensed and inspected; that the minister of education allow the use of school houses for institute meetings where other places are not available.

In addition the convention will consider proposed amendments to the School Act, and in this connection will discuss a proposal with reference to High schools, that the pupils shall have the choice between the commercial, scientific and art courses, instead of being compelled to study all three branches. The questions of pure seeds, cheap powder, good roads and other matters will also be dealt with.

DIDN'T HAVE TO.

"He doesn't know enough to come in when it rains."

"I notice he knows enough to swipe umbrellas."

EXTRADITION FOR FRAUD.

Salem, Ore., Feb. 27.—Governor Blaine today issued a warrant for the extradition of Louis Lauer, arrested in Pendleton, Ore., and wanted in Delaware county, Ohio, where he is charged with sending a letter by means of which it is alleged $6,000 was obtained by fraud from W. H. Williams of Buffalo, N. Y. Lauer, it is charged, fraudulently represented that he had eight carloads of cattle for sale.

EMPEROR WILLIAM'S NEW CATHEDRAL

KAISER WILHELM — THE NEW CATHEDRAL AT BERLIN

Berlin, Feb. 27.—Emperor William's Mecca for Protestant souls, the Evangelical cathedral, was consecrated today in the presence of a most brilliant assemblage, among whom were delegates from all the Protestant nations. The service was simple and stately, and was enriched with wonderful music.

The nave was filled with hundreds of well known personalities, including the ambassador and diplomats of lesser rank, members of the cabinet and foreign clergy. Among the latter were Bishop of Ripon, the Right Rev. William Boyd Carpenter, Swiss ministers and Scandinavian preachers, the latter wearing white ruffs around their necks, after the fashion of the time of Gustavus Adolphus. Behind those were placed, according to precedence, a great number of senators and academy officials.

The Emperor and Empress were present, having upon one side of them Prince Arthur of Connaught, and on the other Crown Prince Frederick of Denmark, with thirty-two Princes and Princesses of German states.

Somewhat in the shadows, in the side aisles and corners on banks of benches, were several hundreds of men and women of the parish.

One quiet figure for whom the Emperor had caused a special place to be reserved was Dr. Luther of the Berlin health department, one of the last survivors of Martin Luther's race.

The ringing of bells in all the Protestant churches of the city announced that the Emperor had arrived and that the dedication was beginning. The Emperor, standing in the vestibule, took a key from the chairman of the building committee and handed it to Dr. Dryander, the chief court preacher, who opened the principal door in the auditorium. The Imperial party ascended to the reserved gallery to the music of Handel's "Halleleujah" chorus, by the organ and band.

A simple service then began by the choir chanting the ninety-fifth Psalm. The congregation sang the hymn, "To God Alone on High Be Honor," and then Dr. Dryander made the dedicatory address aluding especially to the presence of Protestant delegates from other countries and to the message from the American clergy which testified to the spiritual unity of Protestants throughout the world. Dr. Dryander's dedicatory prayer, with thirty Lutheran clergymen kneeling on each side of him in the chancel, was short and simple. Two double choirs then chanted Bach's "Sing to the Lord a New Song." The congregation sang Luther's "A Firm Fortress Is Our God" and Dr. Keytzinger preached. The entire service lasted an hour and three-quarters.

COAL FOR THE FAR EAST.

Morning Post.

It is significant of the remarkable secrecy with which the negotiations for the purchase of Welsh steam coal have lately been carried on by the belligerents that without any perceptible disturbance of market conditions, over seventy vessels, carrying altogether between 250,000 and 300,000 tons, have cleared at Cardiff and Newport for the Far East since the first week in December. In the early stages of the war the placing of an order either on Japanese or Russian account became known on the market almost immediately, but this proved disadvantageous to the buyers, and by purchasing circuitously they are now able to obtain practically all they want at current market figures. It is only through the customs clearance returns that one is able to obtain any clue as to what is taking place, and an examination of those returns discloses the surprising fact that between the beginning of December last and the end of January 38 steamships cleared at Cardiff and Newport for Hongkong, 13 for Shanghai, 6 for Singapore, 6 for Colombo, 4 for Batavia, and 2 each for Saigon, Sabang, and Bangkok. Included among these vessels were 41 British, 14 Norwegian, 6 German, 2 Swedish and 2 Italian. In the absence of information it is impossible to select how many of these vessels are engaged in ordinary trade, but it is safe to say that they are very few in number, and that the great bulk of the tonnage has been taken up for the transport of coal intended for the Japanese. In not a single instance, however, has a vessel been cleared for a belligerent port. A week or two ago a vessel was chartered on the Cardiff market for Vladivostock, but this week she has cleared for Hongkong, and in this, as in all other cases where the coal is intended for a belligerent, the ship's papers have been filled nominally for a neutral port.

STRATHCONA'S BENEVOLENCE.

Winnipeg, Feb. 27.—Lord Strathcona has given $1,000 to the Royal Jubilee hospital at Rat Portage.

GREATLY EXAGGERATED.

Theodosia, Kaffa, Feb. 27.—The recent disturbances here have been greatly exaggerated. One Jew died as the result of street fighting growing out of anti-government demonstrations on the part of Jewish strikers.

INTERVENTION IS ASKED.

New York, Feb. 27.—Attorneys for the New York and Bermudez Asphalt Company today represented to the American state department that they have received advices showing that the receiver for the company's property in Venezuela had despatched another shipload of asphalt from the mines to New York. They point out that this makes 13,000 tons of asphalt which has been taken from the company's mines under President Castro's orders, which asphalt is valued at a minimum price of $11 per ton. The company asks what the state department intends to do to prevent this spoliation of its property.

FOR BREAKING PAROLE.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 27.—Yielding to the demand of the United States, Russia has not only ordered the officers of the cruiser Lena who violated their parole to return to San Francisco, but has reduced them one grade as punishment. The only excuse offered was their youth.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The announcement that the Russian government has directed the three naval officers who broke their parole and escaped from the Lena at San Francisco to return to that ship, was received with gratification at the United States navy department, principally because the Admiral McCalla will be relieved of abridging the shore leaves of the Lena's officers and crew in future. The state department is relieved from apologizing to Japan for permitting a breach of neutrality.

WIRELESS CUTS RATES.

To Transmit Victoria-Seattle Commercial Messages at One-third Off.

A special wireless despatch to The Colonist from General Manager A. L. New of the Pacific Wireless Telegraph Co. states that beginning tomorrow the rate for commercial messages over the Pacific Wireless Co.'s system between Victoria and Seattle will be 25 cents for the first ten words and two cents for each additional word, in place of the existent rate of the wire-using companies of 40 cents for ten words or less, and three cents for each extra word.

This shows a reduction by the wireless of the present tariff amounting to about 33 per cent.

"It is," says General Manager New, in his message, "out intention to render a first-class wireless service, and by making the reduction in rates mentioned we believe we are entitled to a good share of the Victoria-Seattle business."

TRIAL JUDGE SUSTAINED.

Full Court Dismisses Appeal in Brown vs. Spruce Creek Power. Co.

A judgment in which great interest will be taken by residents of the Northern mining districts of the province was that handed down yesterday in the Full court here, in the appeal in Brown vs. the Spruce Creek Water Power Company, the appeal being dismissed with costs. The subject matter of this appeal has been in litigation for many months and involves certain important questions of water rights in Atlin. The original trial was before Judge Henderson, in Atlin, and resulted in a judgment for the plaintiff Brown. From this judgment appeal was taken by the defending company, it being yesterday dismissed with costs, and the verdict of the trial judge sustained. Mr. A. D. Taylor (Vancouver) appeared for Brown; Mr. A. L. Belyea, K. C., for the company.

FACTS ARE FAR ASTRAY.

Acquired Island Timber Lands Liable to Taxation and Export Duty.

A party of three gentlemen identified with the Everett Timber and Land Co. and the Inetrnational Lumber Co., who recently acquired from the Dunsmuir interests large tracts of fir timber in townships 1, 2, 3, 4 and 9, Comox district, and in Alberni, Newcastle, Dunsmuir Cowichan Lake and Bright districts, are now in Victoria, making preparations to send working parties of special cruisers into the field as soon as weather conditions are wholly favorable. The timber of which they have secured possession is stated in trade papers to include some of the best left standing on Vancouver Island, and the price paid, it is learned from the same source, averages about $7.50 an acre.

To quote the British Columbia Lumberman: "The purchasers have made no announcement as to their intentions with regard to their newly-acqured property, but it is generally supposed that they will simply hold it until such time as they can sell at a large profit, or until an increased demand for lumber causes a material advance in prices. On the other hand, it is stated that they will put in a large modern plant at a central point on their property and manufacture on a very extensive scale, to meet the demand which the building of the Grand Trunk Pacific is sure to create, besides securing a share of the Oriental trade. There are others who express the opinion that the new limits will be used as a feeder for the Washington mills, in which case the benefit to British Columbia will be practically nil, instead of this latest transaction a timber marking a new era of prosperity in the lumber business, it will be a positive detriment. The export tax on logs will not apply to this property, and consequently if the owners wish they can tow the logs over to Washington, cut them there, and then ship them back to Canada, in the shape of rough lumber, and undersell our local mills. That is the cheerful outlook presented to British Columbia lumbermen if the Dominion government ignores their prayer for protection, for the case just cited is by no means a solitary one. The eagerness with which the crown granted timber lands of Vancouver Island are being bought up by big United States capitalists has aroused a suspicion—amounting almost to conviction—in many minds that the United States Lumber Trust, having secured all the timber worth having in their own country, are now quietly assimilating all the most available tracts of Canadian timber, so that in the near future they will absolutely control the lumber markets of North America and regulate prices as arbitrarily as the Standard Oil or the Beef Trust."

It will be noted that the Lumberman, or to speak more accurately the correspondent of the Lumberman here—for the matter printed above appears under a Victoria dateline—is purely speculative as to the intentions of the new owners of the timber lands in question. He brings himself into disrepute, however, when he comes to statements of alleged fact.

For example it is stated that "the export duty on logs will not apply to this property," etc., from which it is argued that the sale is likely to be extremely hurtful rather than beneficial to the lumbering interests of this province. The article was shown yesterday to Hon. R. F. Green, chief commissioner of lands and works, and to Deputy Commissioner Gore, both of whom directly and positively contradicted the statement of supposed fact upon which rests the pessimistic argument.

Not only does the export duty apply to logs cut upon the acquired tract, they say, but the lands also become liable to taxation in the same manner as other timber lands alienated from the crown; and therein an important contributor to provincial revenue.

Day's Doings At Ottawa

Liberal Organizers Anxious to Manipulate Boundaries of New Provinces.

Number of Constituencies Will Be Referred to Judges of Supreme Court.

Union Label Bill Limited to Organizations That Are Incorporated.

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA, Feb. 27.—There seems to be grounds for the report that Mr. Oliver, M. P. for Edmonton, is desirous of manipulating the boundaries new provincial constituencies of Alberta. It is stated that Mr. Scott, M. P. for East Assiniboia, is not unwilling to try his prentice hand upon the constituencies for Saskatchewan. The government is well aware what a storm of opposition will be evoked if they were parties to any such scheme, and it was stated tonight that they have given their Liberal friends in the West, who were anxious to manipulate the boundaries to suit themselves, to understand that they cannot permit any such proposals. It is stated with great positiveness that the question of dividing the two provinces into twenty-five constituencies each will be left to the present judges of the Supreme court.

Premier Haultain's Future.

Much interest attaches to Premier Haultain's selection of the province with which he will be associated hereafter. Hon. Mr. Haultain has represented the Macleod district in the Northwest legislature for many years but has made his home in Regina since he became territorial premier. In October, 1897, it is fully expected that he will elect under the new order of things to cast in his lot with the province of Saskatchewan. It is understood that Mr. Oliver will be entrusted with the task of forming a provincial government for Alberta, and while Mr. Scott would not be unwilling to perform a similar office in Saskatchewan, it is difficult to see how Lieutenant-Governor Forget can ignore the present premier. Therefore it is quite on the cards that Mr. Haultain will be asked to organize a government for the province of Saskatchewan.

Sabbath Observance.

The Supreme court today handed down its judgment in the reference to it with respect to the Sabbath observance case. The substance of the judgment is that the legislation regarding the observance of the Lord's day rests with the federal parliament rather than with the provincial legislatures. It is expected that in view of the above judgment the Lord's Day Alliance will now renew its application to the Dominion parliament for a bill embodying its suggestions as to limitation of Sabbath work.

Paardeberg Dinner.

Bishop Dontanville Westminster is here en route home from Rome.

The usual Paardeberg dinner was held at government house tonight. During the evening the following telegrams were read:

"London, Feb. 27.—Earl Grey, Ottawa: I am glad to hear that you are giving a dinner on Paardeberg day to all officers who served in South Africa. I hope and believe that for all time and if need be against mightier forces, Canadian soldiers will fight side by side with those of the Mother Country in defence of the safety and honor of the empire. (Signed) Lyttelton."

"Johannesburg, Feb. 27—Wish I could be with you to greet the Canadian officers who fought for South Africa. Their services will never be forgotten by their fellow-citizens in this corner of the empire. (Signed) Milner."

"London, Feb. 27.—Paardeberg dinner guests: Best wishes to you all. (Signed) Minto."

"London, Feb. 27.—Please convey my warmest and most kindly greetings to all officers present with you this evening and day. I shall never forget the good work Canadians performed in South Africa for the empire and for me especially on the 27th of February, 1900. (Signed) Lord Roberts."

No Remedial Legislation.

Premier Laurier, replying to Maclean, said it had never been contemplated to give remedial legislation to Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson said the blockade on the Intercolonial has been raised, but still it existed on the Prince Edward Island railway.

Ralph Smith's bill respecting labor union labels was amended, limiting its operation to incorporated unions only. The division stood 49 for 13 against. Mr. Smith spoke strongly against it. The bill then was read a third time.

Hon. Mr. Fielding took his seat this afteroon amid applause from both sides.

ALONE AND FRIENDLESS.

Aged Woman Comes to Victoria Seeking Cousin.

At the police station yesterday was an unfortunate lady, Mrs. Nelington, seventy-five years of age, ill and without friends or funds. She is the widow of a former British army captain who was stationed for eleven years in India and served for some years before he died as an officer of militia in Lancashire.

The unfortunate lady arrived on Sunday by the steamer City of Puebla from San Francisco and went to 142 Yates street to seek a Mrs. Barnes, wife of a ship carpenter, whose cousin she is. She had come to San Francisco from New Zealand on a sailing ship, having when she landed $115, with which she proposed to pay her passage to England in the event of not finding the Barnes family, but she has lost the money. She does not know if it was stolen; probably she lost it, forgetting the little bag in which she carried it.

Failing to find her relative, she walked the streets, alone and friendless on Sunday evening until she found the police station, where she asked shelter. She is ill, suffering from a tumor, and without funds, seemingly also without friends. And she says she has never known want before. When her husband lived she had her servants—now she is destitute.

Last evening a conference respecting the case was held, and it was decided that the unfortunate woman should be returned to San Francisco, where possibly her money may be recovered. She was accordingly taken to the outgoing steamer Senator, which bears her back to California.

BURGLAR WAS BUSY.

While Residents Went to Church, Dishonest One Broke in to Steal.

While the occupants were at church on Sunday evening last a burglar broke into the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Martindale, No. 66 Kane street, and stole two rings. Entrance was effected by a window at the rear of the building, and the thief went through the residence systematically.

Whether or not he was disturbed is not evident, but he only took two rings, leaving other valuables untouched. After looting the rings the burglar closed the window through which he had entered, and left by the front door.

He left no trace which would aid the police to locate him.

Provincial Legislat

Nothing But Routine in Yesterday and Little of That.

Notices of Motion. More Coming Down This Week.

Monday, Februar

The House assembled at 2 and after the reading of pray Rev. W. Leslie Clay, the follow the order of business.

Petitions.

Mr. Munro presented a petiti J. H. Collinson and others oppo bill to incorporate the Sumas I ment Company.

A petition from J. F. Helliw others opposing the bill to inco the Institute of Accountants of Columbia was received.

Bills Introduced.

Dr. King introduced a bill t porate the Fording Valley I Company; also a bill respect Kootenay & Cariboo & Pacific I Company.

The Attorney-General introd bill to amend the Replevin Act.

Hon. Mr. Green introduced a amend the Bridges Act.

Questions and Answers.

Mr. Evans asked: "Is it th tion of the government during t ent session to introduce a bill with the superannuation list, ac to promise made last session?"

The Premier replied in the n explaining that the governme considering the advisability o ducing legislation dealing with t service generally.

County Court Act.

The bill to amend the County Act was committed, Mr. Pate the chair.

Mr. Macgowan pointed out tha the section dealing with Rules o power was given to the Lieu Governor-in-Council to make th of fees. He argued that the fees be definitely stated in the bill.

Mr. Oliver ennunciated similar The point was noted by the A General, who was in charge of

Mr. Ross proposed to form county court district, to be kn East Kootenay, comprising the d districts of Fernie, Cranbrook a lumbia. This suggestion was a

After considering a number of of the bill the committee rose ported progress.

The bill to amend the Land I Act was committed, Mr. Cam the chair. Progress was report

Company Mortgages.

The Attorney-General moved ond reading of the bill to provide registration of companies' mo He explained that the measu practically a copy of the English

The House adjourned until 2 tomorrow.

Notices of Motion.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow gives notic bill to amend the Farmers' In and Co-operative Act; also a bil the municipality of the City of

Mr. Tanner gives notice of a regulate the manufacture, im and storage of explosives.

The Attorney-General gives n a bill to amend the Provincial E

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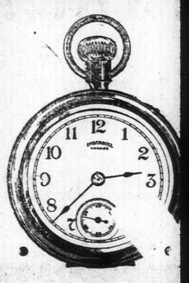
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