WARSHIP COMES TO ESQUIMALT

Sloop Algerine is Ordered to Join the Shearwater and Egeria Here

IS COMING FROM CHINA

Vessel Will Sail For This Coast Some Time During Next Month

(From Saturday's Daily)

H. M. S. Algerine has been ordered to Esquimalt from Hongkong to augment the British warships maintained here by the admiralty since the withdrawal of the Esquimalt squadron following the inauguration of Sir John Fisher's policy of concentrating the effective warships of the British navy and retiring the older fighting craft. Advices were received at Esquimalt yesterday that H. M. S. Algerine, a twin-screw sloop of war of the type of the Shearwater, but larger and more efficient, has been ordered to commission at Hongkong in January with volunteers from the China squadron, and will be made ready to start across the Pacific, probably by way of Japan and Honolulu, by the end of next month. The Algerine, which was used by Rear-Admiral Moore, the retiring commander of the China squadron, as a despatch vessel, has a speed of 17½ knots an hour. She is a vessel of 1,050 tons—the Shearwater's tonnage is 980 tons—and has 3,100 indicated horse power.

The complement to be carried by the Algerine will be 150 men, to be made up of volunteers chosen from those serving in the squadron stationed in Hongkong. The complement is expected to be completed within a week, and the vessel provisioned and ready to leave by the end of the month, being due here about March or April.

H. M. S. Shearwater, Commander Allgood, will be the flagship of the new Esquimalt squadron, which will be composed of that vessel, the Algerine and Egeria, which, according to a despatch received yesterday from London, will be recommissioned for further service at Esquimalt when her commission expires in April. The Algerine will relieve the Shearwater of much of her arduous work, and it is expected that she will make the annual cruise to Bering sea to carry out the sealing patrol.

Like the Shearwater, the Algerine has been struck off the effective list of the British navy, and is classed in the navy list as among the vessels available for subsidiary services, but, like the Shearwater, her armament has not been removed. The Algerine carries eight five-inch M. L. guns, percussion firing, and is fitted with four torpedo tubes. She has a square rig on her forward mast and is bark-rigged aft.

The ordering of the Algerine to Esquimalt is considered by navel men to mean that the admiralty does not intend to re-establish the Esquimalt naval station with an efficient cruising squadron, as has been reported from time to time. On the other hand, persistent reports are being received that the station will again be established, and color is lent to this by the fact that, despite the strenuous efforts being made by the Dominion government to secure control of the naval yard at Esquimalt, the Admiralty still retains hold.

The special correspondent of the Chicago Daily News, cabling from London under Monday's date, said:

"The newspapers insist today that the admiralty is committed to the project of a strong cruiser force with its base at Esquimalt. Inquiries by the Daily News correspondent indicate that this is likely, but that the object of the departure, so far from being to spike America's strategic guns in the Pacific, is to form the nucleus of a British fleet in that ocean sufficiently large to calm Canadian and Australian minds and to assure Britons at home that an undue preponderance of Japanese sea strength will not be permitted."

Since the withdrawal of the fleet from Esquimalt some of the duties previously undertaken by the British navy in the Pacific have been abandoned, and probably with the reinforcement of the local service by the sloop Algerine some of these may be resumed. It was the custom of one of the Esquimalt vessels to proceed on a southern Pacific cruise yearly, and it was also the custom to despatch one of the warships from this station once a year to renovate the monument to Capt. Cook at Kealakekua bay, Island of Hawaii, distant about 170 miles from Honolulu. Now the United States government, by arrangement with the admiralty, carries out this office, and the United States tug Iroquois went in November, under orders of Rear-Admiral Very, the American naval commander at Honolulu, to renovate the monument to the great navigator. The undergrowth in the enclosure was all cut down, the lettering of the inscription re-blackened and the cannon and chains surrounding the monument repainted by the United States bluejackets. The monument marks the place where Capt. Cook was killed in 1779.

Australian Line Subsidy.

Vancouver, Dec. 27.—A meeting of the council of the Vancouver board of trade yesterday discussed the question of the cancellation of the subsidy to the Canadian-Australian line of steamers. The following telegram was ordered to be sent to Premier Laurier, the seven members for British Columbia, and the secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers' association:

"In the general interest of Canadian trade, the Vancouver board of trade strongly protests against the discontinuance of the subsidy to the Canadian-Australian line of steamers."

Good Holiday Trade

New Westminster, Dec. 27.—The general consensus of opinion among the merchants of the town seems to show that the Christmas shopping this year was heavier than in 1906. Then the harvest lasted for the few days immediately preceding Christmas, this year people have been purchasing weeks in advance. The heavy trade was made up of small purchases, few individual sales of any size being reported, except in the case of furniture, of which a higher grade of goods was disposed of at this season.

PRINCE RUPERT EVENTS

Notes of Progress in G. T. P. Terminal —A Chinaman Violates the Health Act

A Chinese, named Willie Lung, who has been living at Metlakatla with Peter Robinson, an Indian constable, was brought to Prince Rupert by acting constable Crippen, charged with practising medicine contrary to the provisions of the Medical Act. When arraigned before B. R. MacDonald, J. P., he pleaded guilty, and explained that he had been granted a permit to practice medicine among the Indians by the five chiefs at Kincolith, for which he paid $5. He said he did not always make a charge for his services, merely charging the Indians for the medicines, as they were not able or willing to pay for his services. He was fined $50 and $10.50 costs or thirty days in jail.

Collector of the Port MacDonald was kept fairly busy this week entering and clearing deep-sea steamships that carry freight and passengers between British Columbia ports. The Venture, Princess May, Camosun and Princess Beatrice arrived during the week. The William Joliffe, a powerful tug owned by the Bullens of Victoria, was here on Saturday. She is engaged in placing buoys and doing other work that the Quadra usually looks after. The Native, Constance and several other boats, engaged in towlogs and lumber-laden scows, also entered and cleared.

N. J. Coulter, so it is reported, has decided to build his halibut receiving warehouse at Port Simpson, and not at Prince Rupert as was reported in The Empire last week. The reasons for the change, it is claimed, are that he would have to depend almost entirely on Indians for the fish, and those he could make arrangements with preferred to deliver fish at Port Simpson, where they live, and that halibut can be caught close to Port Simpson. Mr. Coulter, so it is reported, has ordered lumber for the warehouse.

Cliff, Wadhams & Co., of Port Essington have entered into a contract with the Grand Trunk Pacific railway for the delivery of 2500 piles, from 40 to 100 feet long. They expect to get them on Porcher island, where a member of the firm has timber limits. This week they took a donkey engine belonging to the railway company from Prince Rupert and will use it in the work.

Several changes in locations are likely to be made among the provincial constables in Skeena district. Constable Prescott, who was stationed at Port Simpson, will go to Jedway, and C. L. Cullin, who was at Jedway will be put in charge of the territory between Kitimat and Kitselas. John Conway takes Mr. Prescott's place at Port Simpson.

The Falcon, Capt Copp, will make Prince Rupert her home port during the winter months while engaged in patrol work watching the halibut fisheries.

W. B. Stevenson, Jr., the manager of the Seal Harbor sawmill, got things going on Monday. The mill is in operation and a new logging camp, in charge of J. E. Bresnahan, has been started. Mr. Stevenson is from the Brunette mills at New Westminster where lumber is made.—Prince Rupert Empire.

A Miscreant's Work.

New Westminster, Dec. 27.—To any person who will supply information that will lead to the conviction of the parties guilty of the outrage committed at Mount Lehman, a reward of $150 will be paid, $100 being offered by the Matsqui council, and $50 by M. D. Morrison, the owner of a valuable horse which was slashed with a sharp knife in such a cruel manner than the animal had to be killed the following day.

CONSULAR OFFICES TO BE DISCONTINUED

Agencies at Rossland, Nelson and Fernie to Close at Year's End

Vancouver, Dec. 27.—Orders were recently received from the United States department of state to the effect that after Dec. 31 the consular agencies now existing at Nelson, Fernie and Rossland should be discontinued. The result of this announcement caused a strenuous protest to be made from the upcountry point, Nelson in particular objecting on the ground that $4,000,000 worth of goods had been invoiced at that point for shipment to the United States during 1906. In response to these protests a wire was received by United States Consular Dudley this morning stating that he was authorized to continue the agency at Fernie for the present.

Col. Dudley said he was not advised of the reason of his government for the promulgation of the order to discontinuing the upcountry agencies, they had all been established since his coming to Vancouver, Rossland being established in 1897, Nelson in 1899 and Fernie in 1903. The order would mean additional work for his office, inasmuch as where the business with the States was done at points where a local agent could not be reached the Vancouver office would have to undertake the work at long distance range.

If the plan of abandoning all the upcountry points is maintained by the United States government, the only States representatives in the province will be those at Vancouver, Victoria and Cumberland.

STORK ON TRAIN

A Baby Born to Woman Passenger Traveling From St. Paul to Winnipeg

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—When the express from the south arrived at the station this morning, it carried one passenger which the train did not have to stop for.

On the way up from St. Paul, the stork arrived, and to Mrs. Jones H. Jackson was born a little baby. Fortunately for the mother and child, there was a doctor aboard, who attended the patient.

When the train arrived at the station, Mrs. Jackson was fixed up in a cab and taken to the home of some friends whom she was on the way to visit. A wire was sent ahead and the friends had the cab at the station. A wire was also sent to the husband in St. Paul, acquainting him of the facts.

BOUNDARY OPERATIONS

Heavy Logging Contract—Fruit Culture and Cattle Raising Enterprises

Grand Forks, Dec. 27.—Geo. Taylor has secured a big logging contract from the Yale Columbia Lumber company. The agreement calls for the clearing of all the timber on three ranches some miles up the north fork of the Kettle river. The ranches are supposed to contain about three million feet of saw logs.

An important real estate deal has been put through here whereby A. D. Morrison becomes the possessor of eleven acres of land adjoining the city limits on the west and runs as far west as the Franche Bros. green houses. The land is ready for trees and it is the intention of Mr. Morrison to plant it out with fruit trees in the spring. While the purchase price has not been made public it is understood that it was very reasonable.

The question of a government grant for a public building in Grand Forks is a very live question, and the local liberal association has taken the matter up.

H. J. Bosworth, a rancher in the district has purchased 600 acres of grazing land near Cascade, on the international boundary line.

Had Eye Knocked Out

Macdonald, Man., Dec. 27.—George Armstrong, a well-known farmer of this district, had his eye knocked out by a horse while at work in the stable of his brother's farm. He is suffering great agony, but under medical aid, is doing well as can be expected.

Bishop Reeve Comes West.

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—Bishop W. D. Reeve, formerly bishop of Athabasca, and now assistant to the Archbishop of Toronto, spent Christmas in the city, leaving for the west last night.

Washington, Dec. 27.—John Chanler Bancroft Davis, for the last twenty-four years reporter for the United States Supreme Court, formerly United States minister to Germany and at one time secretary of the United States Legation at London, died here today. He was born in Worcester, Mass., Dec. 29, 1822. By profession Mr. Davis was a lawyer.

THREATEN STRIKE FOR LOWER RENTS

Movement Against Grasping Landlords on New York East Side

New York, Dec. 27.—Real estate agents from Brooklyn went into the crowded house district on the East side of Manhattan today and tried to do missionary work in their own interests by urging the tenants who are now engaged in a crusade for lower rents to move to Brooklyn, but the sympathy of the outsiders did not seem to scare local real estate agents. One of them said that the east sider is a "homish" person and likes to associate with the friends and neighbors whom he had known since his arrival from Europe.

At the Socialist party headquarters on Grand street, it was learned today that the evictions that have been made since the recent rent strike was decided upon, have no real connection with the movement. Such evictions are for failure to pay rent for the present and past months. The crucial point will come if at all, when the collectors make their January calls.

There were tenement house meetings in almost every block tonight. For the most part, they were impromptu gatherings, without any attempt at organization, but they were marked with many declarations of war against the landlords. Many of the tenants, were of the opinion that their end would be best accomplished by resisting attempts at collecting present rents and affording shelter to persons evicted. There were others who favored more drastic measures, and many tenants discussed a combined stand against the marshal in the event of eviction.

RACES AT WAR

Burning of Negro Shack Starts Trouble Between Whites and Blacks In Oklahoma

Henrietta, Okla., Dec. 27.—With every available fighting man sworn in as a deputy and only 1,200 rounds of ammunition in the town, Henrietta is fearing a deadly race war as the result of the lynching of James Garden, a negro.

The firing of a small negro shack owned by a white man near the Frisco station yesterday, caused a call to arms.

Within five minutes after the fire alarm was given, nearly 100 armed men were prepared for an attack. Three citizen patrols have been established. Thirty-five negroes heavily armed passed through Wild Cat yesterday inciting the blacks to revolt. They are camped on the river within ten miles of Henrietta. More than 30 armed blacks have gone from Wild Cat one of the thickest negro settlements in the coal fields. About fifty stands of small arms were purchased in by negroes.

Cholera in Arabia

Constantinople, Dec. 27.—The cholera is committing great havoc among the pilgrims to Mecca, the deaths at Mecca, Medina and Yembo averaging one hundred a day.

Says It Was Accident.

Brampton, Ont., Dec. 27.—John David Terrace, accused of murdering William Curry, today stated he did not intend shooting the victim. He said he playfully pointed the gun at James Curry, not thinking it was loaded, and the latter made a grab at it and the weapon was discharged, the shot entering the body of Wm. Curry, killing him. Terrace's story is believed to be true by a number of local men.

Premier Gouin to Wed.

Montreal, Dec. 27.—It is annpnced here today that Hon. Lomer Gouin, Prime Minister of Quebec, will be married in a short time to Madame Thibaudeau, a wealthy widow lady of Three Rivers, and that the Premier and his bride will spend a few weeks in the City of Mexico, returning in time for the opening of the session at Quebec, which will be called some time in February.

RUSSIAN EMPRESS SERIOUSLY ILL

Condition Ascribed to Regimen Adopted to Reduce Her Weight

ANXIOUS ABOUT CHILDREN

Will Not Try Southern Climate Because of Fear of Separation

St. Petersburg, Dec. 27.—No official announcement was made today concerning the condition of Empress Alexandra, which leads to the presumption that there have been no new alarming developments in her ailment.

For some time her majesty has been suffering from a slight attack of influenza. Previously she consulted a specialist and submitted to a severe regimen to reduce her weight, and her present affliction is ascribed to this.

Information reaching the Associated Press from Tsarskoe Selo is to the effect that the health of the empress is extremely bad, and that she is still confined to her bed under care of Prof. Eugene Botkin.

A recommendation that she should go to the Riviera for a change of climate met with strong objection, the empress being unwilling to receive a suggestion, the adoption of which would mean separation from her children. This feeling is especially strong in the case of the heir apparent, Grand Duke Alexis Nikolaievitch, for whose safety the empress is so anxious that practically she never permits him to be taken from her.

Toronto City Analyst.

Toronto, Dec. 27.—Dr. Fleming has been appointed city analyst, in succession to Prof. Shuttleworth.

A. D. C. to King.

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—News has been received here of the appointment of Capt. Frederick Charles Doveton Sturdee, of the Royal Navy, as an aide de camp to the King. Capt. Sturdee is a Canadian, native of St. John, N. B.

Halifax School Damaged.

Halifax, Dec. 27.—Compton avenue school, one of the best school buildings in the city, was badly damaged by fire tonight.

Franchise for Women.

Toronto, Dec. 27.—The council today decided to ask the legislature to enact that married women owning property in their own right should have the municipal franchise.

Coal Miners' Wages.

Halifax, Dec. 27.—At a meeting of the grand council P.W.A., today it was decided to submit the matter of wages of miners employed in the Dominion Coal company collieries to a board of conciliation, under the Lemieux act.

Killed by Whiskey.

St. Stephen, N.B., Dec. 27.—On Christmas Eve a number of boys playing about the railway station at Bonny River, found some whiskey in transit, and John Maxwell, aged 19 years, obtained possession of a quantity of it and drank it. He became ill and died on Christmas Day.

Woman's Sad Fate.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 27.—At an early hour this morning Mrs. Edward Chisholm was found in a dying condition by people who had taken her in and given her shelter on Thursday afternoon, when she applied for aid for herself and her three-year-old baby. She was under the influence of drink at the time. The cries of the baby brought the inmates of the house to her bedside early this morning. She died before daylight. The woman's husband went west, and for the past three months she has been drinking heavily.

Miss Maloney's Adventures.

Philadelphia, Dec. 27.—Martin Maloney today, through a personal friend issued the following statement bearing upon the affairs of Helen Maloney, Herbert Osborne, who caused a sensation by eloping with Samuel Clarkson, a young Englishman, three months ago, after having married young Osborne, who at the time was a Princeton student: "Mr. Martin Maloney's daughter Holen is with him at the city residence in West Chelten and Square. Beyond saying that the rumors about the precarious condition of his daughter's health are unfounded, neither Mr. Maloney nor any member of his family has anything to say for publication. No other statement or information will be given out by the Maloney family, either now or in the future."

BROWNSVILLE CASE BROUGHT TO COURT

Endeavor Made to Test Legality of President Roosevelt's Action

New York, Dec. 27.—United States District Attorney Henri L. Stinson said today that he had been served with the papers filed in the United States District Court by counsel for Oscar Reid, a member of the battalion of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, which was disbanded by executive order following the rioting at Brownsville, Texas.

The plaintiff sues the government to recover pay lost through his discharge from the army, but the attorneys in the case had admitted that they were retained by "wealthy gentlemen of New England," whose real object is to determine the legality of the president's action in discharging the colored soldiers "without honor."

The district attorney added that he had not decided what he would do in the matter. He might, he thought, demur to the complaint, or possibly waive that right, and if he was convinced that he was right in accepting service of the papers, try the case upon its merits.

AXMEN WANTED

Engineer Green of Prince Rupert Sends Order for Thirty to New Westminster

New Westminster, Dec. 27.—J. M. Wise, proprietor of the Depot hotel has received a request from Construction Engineer George Green of Prince Rupert, to supply him with thirty axmen for work on the clearing of the Prince Rupert townsite, the men to be hired and shipped out immediately. Green is offering 37½ cents an hour, and board is to be charged at the rate of $5.50 a week, washing not included. In a letter to Mr. Wise, Green states that the work of clearing the townsite is to be pushed forward with as much rapidity as possible, and that as soon as this task is completed, the axmen will be set to work on the clearing of the right-of-way for the Grand Trunk Pacific.

Dominion Supreme Court.

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—The supreme court has adjourned pro forma until the mid-winter session, in February, and no judgments will be given out until then.

Heavy Sentence

Vancouver, Dec. 27—An unusual sentence was imposed today in the police court. James McNair, charged with the theft of $1, got eighteen months.

Mica Business Affected.

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—Owing to the failure of several large houses in the United States, which formerly bought their supplies of mica from Gatineau Valley dealers, the latter in some cases have been forced to close their doors, and in other cases their stocks are being sold by auction.

Road Repair Requested.

New Westminster, Dec. 27.—A petition praying the government to put the New Westminster-Port Moody road in fair condition is being circulated in this city for signatures. This road has been in a deplorable condition for years past, and many representations have already been made, but so far with no result. As this is one of New Westminster's most important feeders, the matter will be pressed to a successful issue this time. The distance between the two towns is about six miles.

LOVE AND ENMITY DISTURB GYPSIES

Three Tribes in New York's Vicinity Wind Up in Prosaic Police Court

New York, Dec. 27.—A story of strife which disrupted the amalgamation of three Gypsy tribes and of a romance which brought them together again, but was ended with the three factions farther apart than ever, was told in the police court here today, in the presence of bejewelled and gaily garbed members of the three tribes. When the story was finished the King of one of the tribes and eight of his followers were sent to prison cells in default of $1,000 bail each for further hearing on a charge of grand larceny.

According to the story told by Queen Dora Parse, the complainant, up to three weeks ago the three camps were located in Westchester, all under the leadership of Queen Bess Stanley. Then came internal strife and the tribes separated, Queen Bess continuing to reign over the original camp, while the other tribes moved away a short distance and established themselves under the leadership of Queen Dora and Princess Bell, respectively.

In the days of pleasant relations between the tribes, it appears that a warm attachment had sprung up between Prince John Kruse, of the Kruse Parse camp, and Princess Ethel Stanley, of the mother camp. An intermediary finally succeeded in gaining the consent of the parents of the young lovers to their marriage. A temporary truce was arranged for last night to celebrate the announcement of the engagement. Queen Dora told the court today that after some hours of merry-making, when she led the assembled party to the tent where the money and jewels were kept to be bestowed on the bride-to-be, her dowry and the marriage jewels and chain, she found that everything had been carried away by the others. She accused Stanley and his follows:

After the hearing, the magistrate ordered the jewelers to furnish bail in $1,000 each and directed them to appear later in the week for further hearing on the charge of grand larceny. When the call for bail was made, a score or more of Stanley's followers rushed to the desk of the clerk and threw a shower of gold ornaments before him. They left the courtroom in tears when informed that only real estate would be accepted as security. Stanley and his followers were taken to the cells.

DIED ON THE TRAIL

Gilbert McDonald, Operator on Yukon Telegraph Line, Apparently Victim of the Cold

Hazelton, Dec. 27.—A sad death is reported from Kuldo, the second station north of here on the Yukon telegraph line. Yesterday morning Gilbert McDonald, the operator at the station, was found dead on the trail. He was returning from the north refuge cabin, where he met Operator McIntosh from Third Cabin on Tuesday morning. He left McIntosh in apparent good health, and should have arrived at Kuldo early on Wednesday. His not arriving at the time he was expected, caused lineman Hunter Corner at the station to become anxious, and at 2 o'clock on Thursday morning he left the station and took the trail in search of McDonald. He found the body about two miles out, and carried it on his back to the station. Coroner Hicks-Beach was notified by telegraph, and he has made arrangements to have the body brought to Hazelton.

The body when found was frozen, and death resulted from natural causes, as there are no signs of violence on the body. There were marks in the snow thirty feet apart where McDonald had fallen before death resulted. It will be eight or nine days before the body can reach Hazelton, as there is no snow north of here for several miles.

So far, the authorities have been unable to locate his relatives or find out where he was born. He was a member of both the Commercial Telegrapher's union and the Order of Railway Telegraphers.

POLICEMAN STRUCK

Vancouver Officer Gets Savage Blow From Thug While Making Arrest

Vancouver, Dec. 27.—While in the act of slipping handcuffs on the wrists of Fred Simons in a house on Canton Alley last night, Officer Latimer was struck on the head by his prisoner with a murderous "knock-out" 16-inch piece of garden hose, which had a galvanized iron bolt firmly tied to one end of it with part of a handkerchief. Simons showed fight when about to be arrested, and quickly wrenching his right hand free, pulled a piece of hose out of one of his pockets and struck savagely at the policeman. Officer Latimer quickly shot in a hard left, dragged Simons outside and then took him to the station. When searched, a false moustache was found in one of his pockets.

Officer Latimer's attention was attracted by a row going on in the house on Canton alley and at once proceeded to investigate. He found that Simons had hit one of the girls on the head with his weapon, and inflicted a severe cut, and stolen a $50 bill from her. She claimed that Simone and a pal of his took the money, but the second man managed to get away. Simons said that he came from Ottawa.

Officer Latimer deserves much credit for making the arrest for he received a nasty blow on the head, which raised a big lump. He acted promptly, however, and overcame Simons by sheer physical strength. Simons will have to face the charges of robbery with violence and assaulting an officer.

Simons had $13 in his possession, and it is thought he must have passed the $50 bill to his companion, who, up to an early hour this morning had not been captured.

LOST IN WOODS

A Bellingham Mill Owner Wanders Across the Line Into British Columbia

Bellingham, Wash., Dec. 27.—Lost for forty-eight hours in the wet woods without fire or food, and finally coming to human habitation across the boundary line in British Columbia is the experience related by Elmer B. Smith of this city, owner of the Buffalo Shingle company's mill near Lynden. Smith tells a graphic story of his long, lonely hike, the discomforts of which rivaled those of a mariner marooned on an uninhabited island.

He was visiting a shingle-bolt cutting near his mill, he states, and on his return became confused and wandered off the trail. The more he tried to find the mill the more thoroughly lost he became, and finally, totally at fault, he plunged off on a straight line, trusting to eventually find some logging camp or ranch. For a whole day he walked, and when he was forced by darkness to stop, he made a hungry, fireless camp. To add to his miseries the rain commenced falling soon after nightfall, and he was drenched before morning. The next day, continuing on his course, he came to a ranch, and was told to his astonishment, that he was across the boundary and on British soil. He was directed to a railroad, and returned to his mill last evening.

Prairie Grain Marketed.

Winnipeg, Dec.—The amount of grain marketed at C.P.R. points on Dec. 26 was 68,000 bushels of wheat and 31,000 bushels of other grains, as compared with 81,000 bushels of wheat and 15,000 bushels of other grains on the same date last year. The total amount marketed since Sept. 1 is 23,572,000 bushels of wheat and 4,677,000 bushels of other grains.

TIMBER RESERVATION LARGELY APPROVED

Opinions Expressed on the Subject Among Mainland Operators

Vancouver, Dec. 27.—The action of the provincial government in placing under reservation for an indefinite period all crown timber lands, came as a great surprise to the general public and also to the majority of timber men. Because of street rumors last week to the effect that the government was considering the question of reserving these lands, and that such action had been advocated by the delegation of men interested in timber which waited on the government, there is a belief that the reserve did not surprise all timber men.

The subject of the reserve was one of general discussion among timber owners and brokers today, and the consensus of opinion was that the move was a wise one and in the interests of the people. Whether this general belief is not fostered by more or less selfish motives is a question not much discussed because of the unanimity of approval of the government's action.

There is some anxiety in the minds of those who have staked timber limits and are now advertising them pending application to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for licenses. The question has been raised whether the reserve will cover those lands now being advertised. It is the general opinion that all transactions looking to the acquisition of timber which were undertaken prior to last Monday will be recognized as legal by the government.

Dr. Judson F. Clark, general secretary of the B. C. Timber & Forrestry Chamber of Commerce, in speaking of the placing of the reserve and its effect on the movement for the extension of the life of the licenses said today:

"The position of the timbermen regarding the two petitions prayers is not affected by the reservation which simply prevents the aggravation of an impossible situation which is the economic lumbering of the timber already under license within twenty-one years. This reservation disposes of two objections which have been made to the time extension. The first of these was on the score of monopoly, and the second excessive location under a forty-two-year renewal period this latter was not serious as the merchantable timber is already largely under license. This area now under license will be between seven and eight million acres. There is possibly one hundred billion feet under license about one-half of which will be marketable under forced logging as required by the twenty-one-year limit of renewal.'

AGITATION GROWS AMONG CHINESE

Dowager Empress Gives Orders to Adopt Suppressive Measures

BRITISH SUPPORT NEEDED

Fears in Some Quarters That Unrest Will Hurt British Trade

Pekin, Dec. 27.—The dowager empress has given verbal orders to the interior department and to the police to suppress all public meetings in Pekin, and there is reason to believe that this order will be extended to the provinces.

The popular agitation along the lines of "Right Recovery" is growing in a phenomenal manner. The question of provincial as against federal sovereignty enters largely into the matter. Women's societies, schools for boys and for girls, the family newspapers and the political press all are participating in the agitation, and for a month past the government here has been receiving telegrams in increasing numbers expressing the strong desire of the sendors that the rights which have been alienated from them by foreigners be restored to the Chinese.

The movement has reached such magnitude that the government is thoroughly alarmed, and it is today striving to find a conciliatory position between the revolutionary agitators and those who consider themselves to be aggrieved.

The agitation embraces the question of the patrol of the West river by Great Britain, in an effort to put an end to the piracy there, and leading Englishmen here apprehend that the present popular hostility will result in injury to British trade. The government is relying on the support of Great Britain, whose insistence upon China's maintenance of the original position has produced an apparent solidarity among the Chinese ministers. The pressure of the British government is strengthening the position of Yuan Shi Kai, whose security and influence in Pekin is regarded by foreigners as essential to the safety and progress of China.

It is declared here that the foreign agitation in the matter of the attitude adopted by Great Brian with regard to Manchuria and the warning of Russia concerning the annulment of the telegraph convention, have led the British foreign office to take action, and it is understood that this has been in the form of representations to the Tokio government. China, it is stated here, considers the attitude taken by Japan to be based upon impossible claims, and Japan, it is averred, is taking advantage of China's complications with Great Britain, in order to postpone the negotiations regarding Manchuria.

Travelers arriving here complain of what they call the organized incivility, and in some cases, the brutal conduct, of the Japanese trainmen and guards on the Manchurian railway.

CONSUL NOSSE

Japan's Representative Denies Report That He is Going Home in Angry Mood

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 27.—Before leaving last night for his native land the attention of Japanese Consul-General Nosse was called to a despatch which appeared in the Winnipeg papers of Monday alleging that he had charged the Dominion government with a breach of faith in the immigration question and that he is in a "royal rage" with the authorities at Ottawa.

Mr. Nosse characterized the despatch as fabrication from start to finish. He remarked: "I have never said to a living soul that the Canadian government has been guilty of any breach of faith. My relations with the authorities at Ottawa at all times have been of a most friendly character. I am not in a 'royal rage.' On the contrary, at this joyous season of the year I have nothing but feelings of good will towards all men. I am leaving Ottawa tonight for a visit to my native country and in doing so shall carry with me the kindliest feeling for the people and the government of Canada, realizing at the same time that I have made many friends in the Dominion during my many years' residence. I hope in future as in the past to continue my efforts to promote closer relations between Japan and Canada, commercially and otherwise. To all my Canadian friends I offer the Japanese farewell, 'Sayonora,' which may be interpreted as 'Au Revoir, but not good-bye.'"

Professor Clark Resigns.

Toronto, Dec. 27.—Rev. W. Clark, professor of English literature in Trinity college, has resigned, his resignation to take effect September 1 next.

Buffalo Fire.

Buffalo, Dec. 27.—Fire tonight did $50,000 damage in the wholesale produce market at Elk and Michigan Sts. D. M. Wattles and Son and Gleason and Ecker were burned out.

Clergyman's Sudden Death

Chatham, Ont., Dec. 27.—Rev. Robert McCosh, rector of Christ church in this city for the past fourteen years, dropped dead from heart failure shortly after partaking supper last night. He was about 58 years of age.

Revolver Accident.

Petersboro, Ont., Dec. 27.—Frank Blackwell, of the Bank of Montreal, Newmarket, was struck in the eye with a shell which flew back while he was target shooting with a revolver today. His eye had to be taken out.

Intercolonial Employes.

Moneton, N. B., Dec. 27.—General Manager Pottinger of the I. C. R. has issued a circular with reference to employes and municipal elections. It states that the minister of railways has decided that only in very exceptional cases in which the minister may determine that the public interest can be served without the interest of the railway being prejudically affected, shall employes be permitted to offer for and accept such offices.