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VOL 33

VICTORIA, B. C. TUESDAY, MARCH 23 1909

FIFTIETH YEAR

BRITAIN'S PANIC OVER ITS NAVY

Rapid Construction of German Dreadnoughts Causes Much Fear

PRESSURE ON MINISTRY

Public Meetings to Be Held Throughout Country For More Battleships

London, March 20.—The dramatic confession of the cabinet ministers in the recent debate on the navy in the House of Commons that Germany caught the British admiralty napping and has stolen a march on this country by so expediting the construction of Dreadnoughts that Great Britain will have little if any margin in the number of new battleships in 1911-12, has been followed by something like a panic throughout the United Kingdom. Even the so-called "Black Week" during the Boer war hardly furnished a precedent to the present scare, and there is no doubt that were Premier Asquith at this time to give the nation a chance to voice its opinion at the polls on the situation which the supremacy of the British navy is threatened, there would be little left of the present Radical party in the Commons.

The direct vote of censure which A. J. Balfour, leader of the opposition, will move against the government on Monday will bring the issue as to whether four or eight Dreadnoughts should be definitely included in this year's naval programme before parliament, although there is still a chance that the national outcry will cause Premier Asquith to give more definite assurances that those phantom Dreadnoughts will be laid down this year, in addition to the four provided for in the estimates which promise all the adherents of a big navy want, and they have planned a campaign over the length and breadth of the country in support of it.

The navy league, which presents no particular party in the front of this movement, is an organization today, at which Lord Elcho presided, the league decided to enter immediately upon a great campaign to arouse the people to bring the issue as to whether four or eight Dreadnoughts should be definitely included in this year's naval programme before parliament, although there is still a chance that the national outcry will cause Premier Asquith to give more definite assurances that those phantom Dreadnoughts will be laid down this year, in addition to the four provided for in the estimates which promise all the adherents of a big navy want, and they have planned a campaign over the length and breadth of the country in support of it.

COAL STRIKE LIKELY

Many Delegates to Scranton Convention Instructed to Vote For Tie-Up of Mines

Shamokin, Pa., March 20.—The election of 200 delegates from the local unions to the Scranton convention on the ninth district to the Scranton convention next Tuesday was reported to district headquarters here today, and of these about fifty per cent are said to have been instructed to vote for a general tie-up of the mines, and to grant concessions. About ten per cent is said, are instructed to vote against a strike.

Mahanoy City, Pa., March 20.—Believing that a strike or suspension is inevitable after April first in the anthracite coal fields, scores of foreign mine workers are leaving this region daily for Europe to spend the summer. It is a repetition of the exodus of 1902 when more than 2,500 left this city for their native countries. District board members of the miners' union report large accessions to the organization as a result of nightly meetings held during the past week.

Civil Service Salaries
Ottawa, March 19.—A deputation of members of parliament, including Ralph Smith of Nanaimo, waited upon Hon. Messrs. Fisher, Enderby, and Lomax this morning to urge the claims of the outside civil service for an increase in the scale of pay and for a general revision of salaries. Consideration was promised.

Russian Empress III
Berlin, March 20.—The Kreuz-Zeitung states on the authority of a distinguished personage, who recently was received in audience by Emperor Nicholas, that the Empress had expressed considerable apprehension regarding the condition of the Empress. Her Majesty has been unable to receive visitors. In explanation of the Empress' condition the Emperor said that since the accident to the Imperial yacht in Finnish waters, Her Majesty had suffered greatly from nervousness and had been unable to regain her mental composure.

Alberta Training Camp

Ottawa, March 20.—A militia order says the training camp for Alberta will be opened on June 29.

Rumor Denied
Winnipeg, March 20.—J. Bruce Water, commissioner of immigration, emphatically denies a statement published in T. Richardson, publicity commissioner of Portland, Ore., has been engaged by the Canadian government for three years at a salary of \$100,000.

Interested in Dredge
New Westminster, March 20.—This city was enthusiastically interested yesterday when the new \$300,000 dredge arrived from Germany for the purpose of clearing away the mud and sand which is accumulating in the Fraser river. A trial was made whilst coming up the river and the result was most satisfactory.

North Vancouver Ferry
Vancouver, March 20.—The signatures of the mayor and clerk of North Vancouver and the officials of the North Vancouver Ferry company were attached this afternoon to the papers forming the transfer of the ferry company's property to the city of North Vancouver in accordance with the terms of the recent sale. The city is stated, will take this ferry over on Monday and operate it.

Rosland, March 20.—The fire on the 400 foot level of Centre Star mine was extinguished at 10 o'clock this morning after a well directed, strenuous and difficult fight that lasted for about twenty hours, and Rosland land residents are breathing easily again.

Yesterday when the smoke and steam were rising about 200 feet above the collar of the shaft and a portion of the mine was ablaze it seemed as if the entire mine equipment, with its splendid hoists, would be annihilated in a common destruction. A conflagration once it got started in the timbers, might last for months, and perhaps for years. The Centre Star shaft is nearly 2,400 feet in inclined length, the deepest in Canada, and the mine is the largest producer of gold in the Dominion.

SUSPECTS ARRESTED BY ITALIAN POLICE

Men Mentioned As Dangerous Criminals in Petrosino's Papers

Palermo, March 20.—The authorities here made a careful study of all papers left by Lieut. Petrosino, and they have mentioned practically every person mentioned therein, as dangerous criminals. Three men whose names had been set down by the New York detectives, have, however, succeeded in eluding the police vigilance. They are Giacomo Ene, a tanner, 40 years old, Magnesco, a fruit vendor, aged 53, and Salvatore Deleo, age and occupation unknown. The flight of these has attracted suspicion to them, either as material instruments in the crime, or as accessories. The police also have searched carefully the houses of the men taken into custody, but have not discovered anything of importance.

The statement that the body of Petrosino was being conveyed to New York by the Slavonia was an error. It has not yet been decided by what vessel the body will be sent home. The Italian Lloyd has proposed to ship the body to New York on the steamer Roubette, sailing on March 25. The body is being closely guarded night and day, as the police have been warned that an attempt may be made to prevent embarkation.

KINRADE MYSTERY

Police Search for Revolver—Peculiar Circumstances Connected With School Teacher's Story

Hamilton, March 17.—The attempts of the detectives to find whether the alleged Kinrade revolver had been last met with success. A new witness has been unearthed who will furnish a clue to the whereabouts of the revolver while he was employed to work there.

A witness who thinks she saw Miss Ekinrade on walking about three o'clock on the afternoon of the crime says that it was at the corner of the street and Jordan street that she saw her. This point is a mile away from the Kinrade house.

The police today opened the sewer leading from the Kinrade house, but failed to find a revolver.

Members of the Kinrade family have apparently been advised by their lawyer not to talk to the newspapers. The police do not intend to interview them today meeting with the reply, "see Mr. Staunton." When Mr. Staunton was in the same seat with the school teacher, whose name is Isaacs, the man was talking about firearms, and he asked her if men in Canada carried guns. She said they were not allowed to, and his reply was that in Virginia men were shot down on the streets. This stranger got off at Hamilton, and the stranger part of it that he answered to the description of the murderer given by Florence Kinrade three days later.

Railway Bills at Ottawa
Ottawa, March 20.—The Commons has given the third reading to the bill respecting the Alaska and Yukon railway, the Athabasca Railway company, and the Canadian Pacific Railway company. The senate has given the third reading to the following bills: Respecting the Winnipeg and North-Western Railway to incorporate the Western Canada Life Assurance company, the British Columbia Life Assurance company, respecting the Burrard Westminster and Boundary Railway and Navigation company, to incorporate the Prince Albert and Hudson Bay Railway company.

MINE IN DANGER THROUGH FIRE

Hard Fight to Subdue Flames in Centre Star Property at Rosland

GOOD SUPPLY OF WATER

Strenuous Work Successful After Struggle of About Twenty Hours

Rosland, March 20.—The fire on the 400 foot level of Centre Star mine was extinguished at 10 o'clock this morning after a well directed, strenuous and difficult fight that lasted for about twenty hours, and Rosland land residents are breathing easily again.

Yesterday when the smoke and steam were rising about 200 feet above the collar of the shaft and a portion of the mine was ablaze it seemed as if the entire mine equipment, with its splendid hoists, would be annihilated in a common destruction. A conflagration once it got started in the timbers, might last for months, and perhaps for years. The Centre Star shaft is nearly 2,400 feet in inclined length, the deepest in Canada, and the mine is the largest producer of gold in the Dominion.

The first stream of water was laid on from the 250 foot level above the fire. This was augmented by placing a pump in Centre Star gulch, and laying 1,500 feet of pipe along the thirty foot level. From these two sources a large stream of water was poured down from the 350 foot level through a chute on top of the burning timbers.

The draft from the Idaho shaft, which is connected by levels with the Centre Star workings, gave the fire fighters air, and enabled them to get action with several lines of hose from below on the fire. Thus the conflagration was fought scientifically from above and below, and was finally subdued at 7 o'clock this morning.

The large tanks of the Consolidated company furnished the water for the hose line. Considering the many difficulties that were in the way, the subterranean blaze was suppressed in a comparatively short time. This result was accomplished owing to the energetic manner in which the mine office staff, the honest and the miners worked under the careful direction of W. H. Aldridge, general manager of the Consolidated company, and Mr. Stewart, superintendent of the Centre Star group. J. K. Crum, mine surveyor, and J. P. Jones, master mechanic.

Although several of the fire fighters have overcome momentarily the inhalation smoke, there was not one seriously hurt. The mine will resume operations on Monday.

OUTLOOK IN BALKANS IS MUCH IMPROVED

Austria Agrees to Proposal That Reply of Serbia Be Delayed

Belgrade, Serbia, March 20.—The alarm of the possibility of war with Austria-Hungary has been somewhat lessened today. The Russian minister here had a long conference with Foreign Minister Dobson yesterday, with the aid of a despatch to the Frankfurter Zeitung from Vienna. Dobson has expressed the wish that Austria-Hungary would delay answering Serbia's note in order to gain time for consultation among themselves and to permit further action at Belgrade. The Vienna cabinet is willing to act accordingly, says the despatch, and Count Forgach, the Austro-Hungarian ambassador to Serbia, is therefore expected to wait until the end of the month before handing over Austria's answer.

Decrease of Crime in France
Paris, March 20.—It is satisfactory to hear that the revival of public life in France has been accompanied by a decrease in crimes of violence in the capital, but there has been a storm of protest against the execution of certain of the papers reported the executions. It would almost seem, in fact, as if the opponents of public life were endeavoring to horrify the public into action, for on no other grounds can some of the papers be justified. In spite of the vigilance of the authorities, photographs of the executions are being circulated, and cinema-film clips are asserted to have been offered for sale in the United States. Fortunately, the disgraced and notorious accomplices of the first two executions were not repeated at the third one, though the occasion was made a pretext for a holiday, and crowds of trippers assembled from all parts.

BRITAIN AND RUSSIA CONSIDER ALLIANCE

Report From St. Petersburg Says Proposal is Received From London

St. Petersburg, March 20.—It is learned that among other things discussed at the special state council held at Tsarsko Selo last evening was an important communication from London which is tantamount to a proposal for a political and financial alliance between Russia and Great Britain.

Several members of the Orphus Male choir left yesterday for Seattle to assist in the development of the project. The money for the project has been raised by popular subscription among the business men of the city.

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No Earthquakes in Barcelona

Barcelona, March 20.—No indication has been received here of the reported earthquake shock in Catalonia province. There was no shock at Barcelona.

Mr. Coulson Surrenders
Winnipeg, March 20.—W. A. Coulson, former president of the Western Canada Retail Merchants' association, for whom a warrant was issued for embezzlement, walked into the office of the chief of the provincial police this morning and gave himself up. He was released on \$500 bail.

New Brunswick Local Option
Fredericton, N. B., March 20.—The legislature yesterday Premier Hazen announced the government's intention to amend the liquor license law by providing that local option may be taken in any city or municipality on application of one quarter of the taxpayers and the majority of the votes cast will decide the issue.

Queensland Loan Heavy
London, March 20.—The underwriters have had to take 84 per cent of the Queensland loan. The loan of £2,000,000 3/4 per cent, subscribed stock issued through the Bank of England at 97 1/2 per cent, allowing for interest, being 2 1/2 per cent. The result shows how low priced securities are in the market. Application has been made to the London stock exchange to list £200,000 of Winnipeg 4 per cent.

RAISING QUARANTINE ON NANAIMO HOUSES

Suspected Cases Grow Fewer—Death of Popular Native Son

Nanaimo, March 20.—The quarantine on suspicious cases in Nanaimo is now being rapidly lifted. Yesterday five houses were released, and no new cases have developed within a week. It is only a question of a few days until the town is entirely clear of anything that bears resemblance to smallpox.

The men who have been engaged at the whaling station here during the past winter are leaving shortly for one of the west coast whaling stations. This is the second year that the station has been so busy. Last winter a great many whales were caught in the gulf. This winter, however, the catch has been unusually small. The fertilizer industry here is in a very depressed state. The fertilizer which are now stored at the station ready for shipment. This fertilizer is much in demand by agriculturists, being very rich and productive of good results.

The funeral of the late Wallace Stewart, former vice-well known Nanaimo young man, whose death occurred from pneumonia at Leithbridge, B. C., on March 17, was held here yesterday and was very largely attended. "Wally," as he was familiarly known, was a popular young man, and was noted for his prowess in athletic sports. He was a member of the famous "Reds" of former champions of the Pacific coast, which went through several seasons without a defeat. He was a native son of Nanaimo, aged 27 years, and was a son of the late Chief Stewart, who was a well known member of the Victoria athletic association, is now having an office fitted up which in a few days will be opened permanently to carry on the business of the firm.

In a few days a competent paid secretary will be placed in charge so that the business of the firm in the development of Vancouver Island. The money for the project has been raised by popular subscription among the business men of the city.

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BUILDING ROAD TO HUDSON BAY

Government Proposes to Make Survey of Route to Port Nelson

PROGRESS OF ESTIMATES

Manitoba Ministers Talk With Premier on Boundary Question

Ottawa, March 19.—Over three million dollars was voted by the House of Commons today, for the Hudson Bay railway, and the right of way at the outset, and he had no difficulty in satisfying the opposition critics, with the result that in three hours he obtained \$2,000,000.

On the item of \$45,000, to provide for surveys of the Hudson Bay railway, Mr. Graham stated that the money was to be used for the survey to Port Nelson, as it was understood the harbor was better there than at Fort Churchill. There was no intention of abandoning the Hudson Bay railway, and it was hoped to commence construction as soon as circumstances permitted. This was one of the largest works that had been hampered by financial considerations. It was advisable to wait until the Port Nelson survey had been made.

Mr. Lake asked if the construction was to be a public work or was to be left to a private company. The minister replied that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had stated that the government would construct the railway. Beyond this he could not offer any assurances on the subject.

In the evening Dr. Pugsley had the right of way with the public works estimates. Harbors and rivers for navigation were included in the estimates, but when it came to Manitoba obstacles were encountered. The vote for works in this province has been largely reduced, and the opposition were inclined to believe that this was largely due to the fact that the government had declared against the construction of the Hudson Bay railway. Mr. Pugsley replied that he had done his best to make the money available for the construction of the railway without regard to politics, but the opposition members were somewhat reticent in their remarks. He took a long time to get the \$12,000,000 vote through.

St. Petersburg, March 18.—The foreign office is still hopeful that a collision between Austria-Hungary and Serbia is averted in spite of the fact that the latest advances are not reassuring. Emperor Nicholas today assured M. Souverin, editor of the *Nouvelles Nouvelles*, that the international negotiations now going on will tend towards the assembling of a conference of the powers.

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To Inspect G. T. Pacific

Montreal, March 20.—E. J. Chamberlain, president of the Grand Trunk Pacific, left for western Canada today via Chicago. It is understood to be his intention to make an inspection of the whole of the Grand Trunk Pacific so far built from Winnipeg to Prince Rupert.

In Labor Department
Ottawa, March 20.—C. H. Brown, for some years correspondent for Montreal, Toronto and western Canadian papers, has been appointed assistant deputy minister of labor. The position carries with it the duties of secretary to the deputy minister, formerly discharged by E. Ackland, the new deputy minister.

C.P.R. and Wisconsin Central
Montreal, March 18.—Sir Thomas Shaughnessy arrived in the city this morning from the western states where he had been engaged for the past week or more on business connected with the Soo line. Regarding the Wisconsin Central and the Soo line, Sir Thomas said that if the present plans were carried out, the former would be transferred to the latter in April. After that the policy in connection with the line will be determined, but until the transfer is actually made, he naturally did not want to say anything about their policy. Sir Thomas found a very buoyant feeling existing in the western states, and good crop prospects are already talked of.

Vienna, March 18.—The situation tonight in the Balkans is considered more hopeful. The emperor expressed his belief that peace could be maintained, and in the lower house the minister again denied rumors of mobilization. It is believed that the international negotiations now going on will tend towards the assembling of a conference of the powers.

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