

LUMBER MILL BURNED

Hastings Property at Vancouver Becomes a Ruin in a Few Minutes.

Yards and Ships Saved by Hard Work of Fire Brigade and Bluejackets.

Two Hundred and Fifty Men Idle by Destruction of This Pioneer Industry.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Oct. 26.—The Hastings Lumber Mills in this city were destroyed by fire which was discovered about 2:10 this morning.

The fire started in the mill and spread rapidly. The fire brigade and bluejackets worked hard to save the yards and ships.

No one in Vancouver will wonder at the world wide reputation British tars enjoy for bravery in the face of danger.

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As is known, the banks are very largely interested in the Hastings Mills property and it was at the banks that the information was sought regarding the loss.

The following is the insurance carried: Phoenix of London, \$10,000; Liverpool, \$5,000; Hartford, \$15,000; Scottish Union and National, \$5,000; British American, \$2,500; Royal, \$11,000; London and Lancashire, \$15,000; Manchester, \$2,500; Guardian, \$2,000; National of Ireland, \$5,000; Norwich Union, \$2,500.

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VANCOUVER'S BUDGET

Liberation of a Prisoner Because of Ill Health—Robbers make Good Bail.

Chinaman Run Down in Station Yard—Westminster Man's Narrow Escape.

Tom Creek Sale Off, the Englishman Buying Rich Chinese Property Instead.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Oct. 26.—Barrier W. J. Bovey received word from Ottawa that the release of a prisoner because of ill health has been granted.

The Chinaman was run down in the station yard. A Westminster man narrowly escaped.

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CAUSE FOR THANKSGIVING.

Six Thousand United States Officers Whose Evil Day Was Postponed by the War.

Washington, Oct. 27.—It is understood that a million corps were ordered on last night to man all the forts guarding the approaches to the harbor.

Three of the fleet ordered to Halifax at full speed have arrived, and others are on the way.

By Associated Press.

Sodus, N. Y., Oct. 27.—A terrible affair occurred to-day at noon about five miles northwest of Sodus on Lake Ontario, when the three-masted schooner St. Peter, of Cape Vincent, laden with 700 tons of coal, sank with all on board, save one, the captain, who was rescued in an unaided condition.

The schooner showed signals of distress early in the morning as she drifted past Charlotte. The tug Proctor, after a little delay, put out to her, but after cruising about for four hours returned without getting a glimpse of the distressed vessel.

During the forenoon the people at Pulleville sighted the St. Peter, and immediately telegraphed to Sodus Point that help be offered. The tug Cornelia, Captain Henry Bury, started for the rescue, but the great seas shortly swamped the boat and the Cornelia was finally compelled to return to the harbor.

Word was sent to Charlotte that the vessel had been sighted near Pulleville, and the tug Proctor started with the life-saving crew for the second time. When within a mile of the St. Peter the crew of the Proctor were surprised to see the distressed ship sink.

In five minutes the tug was cruising about the spot where she sank. The captain of the St. Peter was picked up in an unconscious condition. After spending half an hour looking for the other members of the ill-fated vessel's crew the tug started for Sodus Point, where medical assistance was secured.

At this writing he is still unconscious, so it is impossible to learn the number of men who met death. It is known, however, that the wife of the captain met a watery grave. Eight or ten perished, but the exact number is not known.

Clean Jolley and Jacob Vosburg, of this town, were standing on the shore when the St. Peter went down. They saw two men standing at the mast when the water swallowed them. The two men claim that the boat was not more than half a mile from shore.

It is thought the St. Peter lost her rudder and that the heavy seas caused her to spring a leak.

KILLED IN AFRICA. Death of Canadian Officer in Service of Royal Niger Company.

Toronto, Oct. 27.—(Special)—A. H. Keating, general manager of the Toronto and Montreal railway, has received intelligence of the death of his son, a lieutenant in the British army. He was attached to the Royal Leinsters in service in Africa.

On July 12, accompanied by 70 native soldiers, he started on a 200-mile march in the territory of the Royal Niger company to quell a mutiny of the company's black troops, and it is supposed it was the performance of this duty he met his death.

HALIFAX EXCITED. The Admiral's Assistant Secretary Despatches Fleet to the French West Indies.

Halifax, Oct. 26.—Great activity prevails in naval circles on this station. The admirals Pallas and Talbot had just arrived and the officers of the ships expected that after their busy season in the South they would at least have a respite of a few days. They were, however, disappointed, for hardly had the vessels dropped anchor when they were ordered to the dockyard to take on supplies.

The evacuation of this move is apparent to all eyes, and it is not surprising that there was something important on hand with which stores of all kinds were being handled.

LOST ON LAKE ONTARIO

Coal Laden Schooner Sinks With All Hands While Help Swiftly Approaches.

Distress Signals Sent for Many Hours But Rough Water Prevented Relief.

The Captain Alone Rescued From the Water—His Wife Among the Perished.

By Associated Press.

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HALIFAX UNDER ARMS.

Militia With the Regulars Manning Forts Against Approach of Experimental Fleet.

Halifax, Oct. 27.—(Sp'd)—The Leinster regiment, a Royal Artillery contingent, and the militia corps were ordered on last night to man all the forts guarding the approaches to the harbor.

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NEWS OF THE CAPITAL

Montreal Colonel Exploits Militia Department With Profit Rivaling Klondike's.

Minister Sifton's Puffery Bureau Idea Made in Germany for Bismarck.

Washington Conference Further Postponed—Crow's Nest Pass Railway Inspection.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Oct. 27.—A curious story is afloat in connection with the sale of Snider rifles, tenders for which were received a few weeks ago. Col. Cole, the commanding officer of the Second Regiment of Artillery, of Montreal, was the highest bidder, and 30,000 Sniders have been sold to him at 30 cents each, together with a large quantity of ammunition, of which the department had some 6,000,000 rounds on hand.

Col. Cole is now retailing the Sniders at \$3 each, so that he stands to make a good thing out of his venture. The Colonel paid cash for only half the quantity purchased, and after his bid was in, the department of militia reduced the amount of his offer, thereby putting a substantial sum in his pocket.

Mr. Sifton's puffery bureau in this city it appears, was suggested to him by a gentleman in Manitoba who formerly was connected with the English department of Bismarck's public opinion bureau in Berlin, of which full particulars are given in Busch's recent life of Bismarck.

As the ministers have important engagements in Ottawa next week, they will be absent from the capital during the Washington conference to November 10. The railway committee of the privy council is called to meet on November 5. A hitch has occurred in connection with the winter mail contract. The Allans want certain clauses modified, where the Richesons are unwilling to give way. Accordingly all the steamship men have left for Montreal to talk the matter over with their principals.

Collingwood Schreiber returned today from his trip over the Crow's Nest Pass at about 10 o'clock. He has considerable ballasting will have to be done.

Ottawa, Oct. 26.—The cabinet was in session for seven hours today, during the session programme being under discussion. The ministers are anxious to call parliament together early in the new year, but everything is contingent upon the progress made by the international commission at Washington. The meeting of the committee will be held on the 15th of the month. The idea of the Capital for some weeks. The idea is that the other ministers, in the absence of the three stars, knowing the details of the policies, would work out the details of the measures after their colleagues have gone, and also prepare the estimates for submission to parliament.

The papers in connection with the two year mail contract, which was signed by Mr. Sifton's mismanagement, are being reviewed by the cabinet, but a decision has not yet been reached, and will not be until details of the contract have been worked out. The ministers are naturally greatly troubled over Mr. Sifton's mismanagement of the mail contract, and the appointment of Mr. Ogilvie to investigate the allegations of official corruption in the predecessor, does not satisfy the public, and a judicial inquiry may yet be ordered.

Cable advices from England to-day state that the syndicate headed by Morris Catton is the head, and which got a charter from the Dominion parliament last session, was immediately commenced the construction of a telegraph line to Dawson. The first portion will be a cable to Skagway.

The office of chief of police inspector is to be abolished. An order in council has been passed, permitting the canal to remain open on Sundays for the remainder of the season.

Local courts of the Independent Foresters are up in arms against the action of the supreme court in imposing a capitation tax on members to extend the order. Members claim that the expenses of management are too heavy already.

LONG RANGE ELECTRICITY. Tesla Schemes to Project Niagara's Power Through the Air Without Use of Wires.

New York, Oct. 26.—Nikola Tesla, the electrician, describes in to-day's issue of the Electrical Review his scheme for electric power transmission. His inventions for transmitting electricity at high pressure over long distances have been successfully applied to many natural sources of power. Probably the most important of these plants in the United States is at Niagara Falls, which supplies electricity to many large factories, and supplies electric power for running the trolley lines of the city of Buffalo, 26 miles distant.

The announcement is now made that by employing apparatus which he had invented there may be transmitted electrical pressures vastly in excess of any heretofore used. Located at natural sources of power, the current can be conducted to a terminal maintained at a distant point where the energy is to be used commercially, to maintain a second terminal at about the same elevation to attract and receive the current and to convey it to the consumer by the natural medium for transforming and utilizing it. With the article an illustration is presented, showing streams of electricity issuing from a small terminal, striking British Columbia on the substantial majority given for the cause.

The Electrical Review comments on Mr. Tesla's novel idea as follows: "Tesla now proposes to transmit, without the use of wires, through the natural medium of the earth and the air, great amounts of electricity to distances of thousands of miles. This will appear a dream, a tale from the Arabian Nights, but the extraordinary discoveries Tesla has made during a number of years of incessant labor, makes it clear that his work in this field has passed a stage of laboratory experiments, and is ready for a practical application in the industrial scale. The success of his efforts means that power from such sources as Niagara will be available in distant parts of the world, regardless of distance."

WHO PAYS FOR CUBA?

General Repudiation of the Debt Introduces New Element in the Situation.

If Spain Is Unduly Forced Her Creditors in Europe Must Be Sufferers.

By Associated Press.

Paris, Oct. 26.—The meeting of the peace commission to-day lasted one hour and five minutes and was adjourned till to-morrow. Both the Spanish and the American commissioners were more reticent after this session than ever before. The Americans fully appreciate, not only their own serious responsibilities, but also the delicate position of their Spanish colleagues, to the burden of whose duties here, is now added the critical political situation at Madrid, which may compel the president of the Spanish commission (who is also president of the Spanish senate), Senor Montero Rios, to leave Paris.

The Madrid correspondent of the Temps in confirming the report that Premier Sagasta and the Queen Regent have prevailed upon the minister of war, General Corcua, to indefinitely postpone his resignation pending the completion of the peace negotiations, says that they represented to the General that his withdrawal might entail not only the fall of the cabinet but cause the resignation of certain members of the Spanish peace commission, in recalling Senor Montero Rios, and thereby greatly compromise the issue of the peace negotiations. The correspondent adds: "The net result is that the most delicate crisis seems to have been avoided until the conclusion of the treaty of peace. In any case this has done away with the necessity for an international government which was lately suggested as likely to be the only solution of the present difficulties."

London, Oct. 27.—The Paris correspondent writes: "At to-day's sitting the Spanish peace commissioners presented a new counter memorandum declaring their readiness provisionally to accept an article of a preliminary treaty stipulating that Spain shall relinquish all rights to sovereignty in Cuba without formulating any other claim, and to leave in suspense all remaining questions, especially the Philippines."

"The Americans asked time until to-morrow to reply to this new memorandum. They are regarded as favorable sign, being a slight relaxation of the rigidity the Americans had hitherto shown."

"They are perhaps aware that the Cuban and even the Spanish bondholders are becoming alarmed at the strange turn of the financial side of the discussion, in which Spain, and the United States and Cuba with extraordinary rapidity, are carelessly all repudiate the Cuban debt."

"Nobody will be able to force Spain to accept a debt apart from bankruptcy, she could only meet the liability at the expense of her foreign bondholders, who, by a strange anomaly would thus have to pay for the independence of Cuba."

"It is not likely that either the United States or any other power can or will force Spain to run herself by meeting the Cuban debt and it will either be repudiated or Europe or paid by the Spanish bondholders."

"If in these circumstances an agreement cannot be effected, America will be wise to refer the question to the arbitration of impartial men entirely disinterested in this delicate matter."

EXPENSIVE GUN-FIRING. Not long ago some startling figures were published as to the bill which a man-of-war could run up for ammunition in half an hour's brisk fighting. It is stated that in a detail of 12-inch guns, firing at a consumption of 500 pounds of gun priming powder, costing from 30 to 40 cents per pound. At the lower figure the single discharge costs in powder \$168. The common 12-inch shell is supposed to cost \$14.65, but the armor-piercing projectile is not made for less than \$418. Cartridge bags, primers, etc., run the cost of the shot discharge up to \$226.63, and that of the armor-piercing projectile to \$588. As the average gun is discharged about twenty-five times in an hour, the operation of one gun in that time may cost the government about \$14,167.50. Each of the 12-inch guns costs about \$85; the 12-inch rapid fire, \$93, and the 6-inch breechloading shot gun, \$110. The 12-inch gun is estimated to cost \$5.70 and a 1-pounder \$112. The representative cost of Whitehead and Howell torpedoes is \$2,500 and \$2,200 each.

Dr. Chase's New Receipt Book, cloth bound, 500 pages, regular price \$1.00, sent to you for 75 cents. It is a receipt of 60 cents and this coupon. Edman, Bates & Co., Toronto.

APPEAL FOR REVISION PRESENTS NEW FACTS OF THE CONSPIRACY AGAINST HIM.

What If He Pines on Devil's Island So That High Personages Are Shuffled.

By Associated Press.

Paris, Oct. 27.—Before the court of cassation to-day, in presenting the case of the Dreyfus appeal for revision, M. Bard spoke of the many efforts made to obtain such revision, referred to the denunciation of Major Esterhazy, and reviewed the Omicine country, where he purchased for San Francisco capitalists 24 half-mile leases with water rights on Manson and Germain creeks. Mr. Bard says: "The English syndicate buying Vitel creek from several Chinamen instead. The Chinamen had been made aware of the developments of the case. Mr. Bard says the Omicine is a very rich hydraulic country and new discoveries are continually made, the largest of which is an entirely new and very rich creek by one A. Yonostin, who was for a long time president of the Omicine, and 16 miles from Manson and is called Evan's creek."

USED DAILY GIVES HEALTH. The daily use of Abbey's Effervescing Salt will keep you in good health. Recommended by medical journals and endorsed by physicians. Sold by druggists everywhere. Contains a large bottle. Trial size, 25 cents.

HE CUBANS RESTIVE.

Army Declares for Evacuation of United States But Also Hints for Ratios.

Santiago de Cuba, Oct. 26.—Major Pettit, in command of the United States troops, has received from the governor of the city, telegraphed to-day that the Cuban General Rios offers 2,000 armed men to assist the Americans in preserving order, merely asking ratios in return. General Wood sent the following reply: "Only the United States authorities are to be given the complete disarmament and disbandment of Cuban extremists here. Later Capt. Bard cited further facts favorable to the revision, and expressed astonishment at the manner in which the whole affair had been conducted."

He referred to the fact that the residence of Colonel Picquet had been searched, while the residence of Major Esterhazy, who was directly accused, was not searched. He also severely criticized Major Savary's report on the charges against Major Esterhazy, and he further said that the handwriting experts were ignorant, whose testimony was unreliable. After referring to the fact that the experts who examined the Bordereau differed widely in opinion, M. Bard concluded with expressing the hope that if the Bordereau was the principal factor in the conviction of Dreyfus on the testimony of experts, his condemnation ought to be revoked."

Great stress was laid by M. Bard on the fact that the Bordereau was written in 1896, and that it was not until 1897 that the probability of Dreyfus' guilt, including the impossibility of Dreyfus' procuring the plans and projects for the movement of troops which he had written, was established. M. Bard also cited inter alia the fact that Colonel Picquet had written to General Billot and Gonze, and says: "With the proofs in my hands, I have established the innocence of Dreyfus."

To his General he replied according to the letter of the minister of justice: "What is it to you if Dreyfus is on Devil's Island?" "But he is innocent."

General Gonze: "You know Merleth (former minister of war) and Saucier (former minister governor of Paris) are mixed in this case. Do you wish to compromise them?"

The letter then continues that on leaving General Gonze, Colonel Picquet declared that he was not in the United States and he proposed to fight the matter and repeat what he knew. These statements upon the part of M. Bard caused a sensation in court.

STIXTY JAPS DROWNED. Two Steamers Come Into Collision and One Sinks in a Few Minutes.

Kobe, Oct. 24.—The Japanese steamer Midzuling was sunk almost immediately after being in collision with the Japanese steamer Kishin Maru. Sixty Japanese were drowned.

A VERMONT FIRE.

Bristol, Vt., Oct. 26.—A fire broke out in the grocery store of Ira Sturt in the Union block here to-day, and destroyed the entire block, and the adjoining post office building. The total loss is estimated at \$50,000.