

## TELLS LONDONERS OF TRIP THROUGH CANADA

George Briggs, Who Visited Victoria Last Summer, Lectures on His Return

The following report of a lecture on Canada, given before the United Wards club, with which the mayor and aldermen of London are closely identified, by George Briggs, a member of the London county council, who during the past summer spent some time as the guest of David Spencer, sr., in this city, appears in the issue of the City Press of December 7, that paper being the organ of the club as well as of the mayor and aldermen:

### Canada for Ever

The dining hall at Salter's hall was filled to its utmost capacity on Wednesday by the members of the United Wards club on the occasion of a lecture delivered by Mr. George Briggs, C. P. R., a past president of the London experiences during a holiday tour in Canada. Mr. Green (the president) and Mrs. Green received the members and their ladies in the saloon. The address—so versatile a description of the great continent of Canada could not be described as a lecture was illustrated by a number of slides and lantern slides. The president, in calling upon Mr. George Briggs, remarked, amid loud applause, that that gentleman needed no formal introduction to the members. Mr. Briggs then, by means of his own graphic descriptions, and with the aid of the lantern slides, soon transformed his large audience into a company of tourists viewing the wonderful scenery of the Canadian lakes, rivers, and forests, and also the terrible grandeur of the Rocky mountains. All these were vividly pictured and illustrated. The lecturer spoke with great enthusiasm of the present and future of the great Dominion, and made a powerful appeal to the imperial instincts of his countrymen to weld together the common bond of union between Canada and the mother country.

He then took his hearers in imagination along the route Mrs. Briggs and he recently followed, explaining with a wealth of detail the principal features of the country in its agricultural, mineral, and physical aspects, while he touched in jocular and genial terms upon the social characteristics of the Canadians, interspersing his narrative with pleasant little personal episodes which indicated his observations with the spice of kindly criticism. By means of the lantern slides, the audience was able in some degree to grasp the tremendous natural and physical forces of the vast continent into which Mr. Rudyard Kipling has said the British race should be "bumped" as hard as possible. Mr. Briggs later on pointed out that point in remarking that the government of this country must be "up and doing," and see to the proper peopling of that grand Dominion. Otherwise, as the older generations died out, there might arise a race which did not care to know a motherland, or to recognize the duties of citizenship. Britishmen and Scotsmen who had helped in former days to make Canada what it was today, and what it would be tomorrow, (Chairman) He advocated eloquent terms imperial federation with Canada, and the populating of the country by the English-speaking races. At the close of the lecture, the dress, which was punctuated with applause, and listened to with rapt attention from start to finish, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Briggs, the vote being proposed by Mr. W. V. Huxtable, who referred to the valuable services that gentleman had rendered to the club in the past. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harry Bird, C. C., and adopted with enthusiasm. Mr. George Briggs, in acknowledging the thanks, expressed his warm acknowledgments to the Canadian Pacific railway company for the loan of the beautiful lantern slides. The interesting picture showed that thanks to the president, the Salter's company for the use of their hall, and Mr. Rowland Smith for his skilful manipulation of the lantern.

### New Mill Manager

New Westminster, Dec. 31.—W. S. Rogers, lately with the Weyerhaeuser Lumber company at Everett, has been appointed manager of the Fraser River Sawmills Company, Ltd., succeeding W. P. Fowle, who has resigned.

### Fruit and Mineral Displays

Vancouver, Dec. 31.—The new fixtures for the displaying of the fruit exhibit from the experimental farm at Agassiz are now being placed at the Vancouver Fruit association. There are several hundred jars of various fruits and nuts ready for the shelves and when the display is complete, it will be a most interesting collection. Secretary Rowe has returned from Victoria, and says that within a few weeks the display of minerals of the province will be ready to be placed in the local show rooms.

### Some Changes Made

Some changes have been made in the schedule of the Blue P. R. line, which has maintained its position from Liverpool. The new schedule, which was announced by the Blue P. R. line, shows that the service will be maintained as before, but with some changes in the times of departure and arrival. The Blue P. R. line, which has maintained its position from Liverpool, is now being replaced by the new schedule, which was announced by the Blue P. R. line, showing that the service will be maintained as before, but with some changes in the times of departure and arrival.

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## KILLED BROTHER OFFICER

German Military Circles Startled by a Captain's Confession of His Guilt

Allenstein, East Prussia, Dec. 31.—Captain Von Goeben, a distinguished officer in the artillery branch of the German army, has caused a sensation in military circles by confessing that he is the author of the mysterious murder of Major Von Schoenebeck, a brother officer, who was shot dead on Christmas Day.

Von Goeben will be tried by court-martial, and if found guilty he will be executed by shooting in his own garison.

Major Von Schoenebeck, returning home at a late hour on Christmas night, heard some one descending the stairway leading from his wife's room. He went down, and found the intruder and tried to shoot him. The revolver, however, missed fire and Von Goeben then killed the major and made off without leaving any trace behind him. He was subsequently arrested upon suspicion, and confessed at the preliminary examination.

Captain Von Goeben served formerly with the Macedonian army, and he fought on the side of the Boers in the South African war.

The wife of Major Von Schoenebeck has been arrested on the charge of being implicated in the murder.

### Belleville Isolation Hospital

Belleville, Dec. 31.—The city council has closed a contract for the erection of an isolation hospital, which will cost about \$9,000. The work will start in the spring.

### Typhoid in Hull

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—Despite the efforts of the Hull waterworks committee to clean out the water mains and to improve conditions generally, typhoid is still far from extinct in the city. One doctor has twenty-three cases on his list, and states that during the last weeks the number of cases has not decreased.

### Winnipeg Merchant Dead

Winnipeg, Dec. 31.—Francis W. Rimer, of the firm of Kilgour, Rimer & Co., wholesale boot and shoe dealers of this city, died today. He was a prominent member of Christ church, was sixty years of age, and leaves a wife and a young son.

### Parcel Post Convention

Washington, Dec. 31.—The desire of the governments of France and the United States to conclude a parcel post convention, whereby parcels may be sent through the mails, has been the subject of much discussion. The convention was one of the most important features of the conference, and was considered at today's cabinet meeting.

### Many Chinese Pay Head Tax Here

Two Hundred and Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars From This Source

During the year just closed 450 Chinese who paid the head tax of \$500 entered at this port as compared with less than thirty during the previous year, the high wages offered for labor, the high wages offered for labor, however, by which the Chinese that the realization was not as great as the anticipation, with the result that those who have come have largely advised their friends not to do so and the incursion is slackening off. The 450 arrivals paid \$225,000 at the local customs house. There were 870 return Chinese during the year, the greater number, as usual coming in June. It is noticed yearly that in September they begin an exodus of Celestials, who go home for the annual New Year holidays, the majority coming back during June and the subsequent two months. The number of Chinese who left this during the year to the total 1,498, the majority going during the last four months of the year. In October 694 left as compared with 10 in February of 1907.

### Head Re- Out- Lapses

January 3 30 10 5  
February 3 30 10 5  
March 3 30 10 5  
April 3 30 10 5  
May 3 30 10 5  
June 3 30 10 5  
July 3 30 10 5  
August 3 30 10 5  
Sept. 3 30 10 5  
Oct. 3 30 10 5  
Nov. 3 30 10 5  
Dec. 3 30 10 5  
Totals 450 870 1498 159

### STEAMER TRANSIT SAILS

Popular Mexican Liner Carries Full Cargo of Southbound Freight

(From Wednesday's Daily)  
Joseph K. Smith, general manager of the British Coast Steamship company, returned from Puget Sound ports in the Governor yesterday afternoon. The British Coast steamer Transit sailed yesterday from the sound for Mexican ports, carrying a record cargo of one million two hundred thousand bushels of wheat for the Mexican railways, and a considerable assignment of orange cases. The orange boxes will be used in the shipment of Mexican oranges and seedling oranges for the Eastern Canadian market. The northbound shipment of oranges will be delivered at Vancouver B.

### About Hundred Tons of Half-Ground Evaporated Mexican Salt

will be loaded aboard the Transit for her return from Mexico to Canada. This salt will be received at the Mexican salt island, leased by Joseph K. Smith, while recently in Mexico. The passenger accommodations have been improved, and several passengers are making the southbound trip.

### Committed for Trial

Toronto, Dec. 31.—Paul Law was committed for trial at the preliminary hearing of the Law-Russell conspiracy case tonight. His bail was raised to \$30,000.

### Preston's revenue last year was \$25,002.12, and expenditure \$35,081.57.

1908 770 276 12 1203 606  
1907 770 276 12 1203 606

### TO ALTER CHARTER OF GRAIN EXCHANGE

Manitoba Grain Growers Get Promise From Provincial Government

Winnipeg, Dec. 31.—The members of the provincial government were in conference today with the executive of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, and when the conference ended the grain growers stated that the government had promised to introduce a bill at the ensuing session of the legislature to amend the charter of the grain exchange so that it should provide that no restriction by law, resolution or otherwise shall be imposed by the members, or any of them, in any way respecting the price that shall be paid for grain, or the terms of any commission to be paid on grain, or any other agreement or arrangement to be entered into by such members, or any of them, as agents or employees, nor the terms of such agreement. This clause will remove one of the chief grievances of the grain growers, and will be a most important matter which came before them at their convention here.

Another clause provides that all disputes between the public and the exchange shall be referred to the arbitrator named in the charter, and that the prices shall be posted up in full view of the public. The bill will also provide that the exchange shall be open to the minister of agriculture or whoever he may appoint, and that the exchange shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the minister of agriculture or whoever he may appoint. The bill will also provide that the exchange shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the minister of agriculture or whoever he may appoint.

### Any reputable person is to be admitted to membership in the grain exchange on the payment of a fee of \$100.

Any member who is expelled from the exchange shall be liable to a fine of \$100, and the fine shall be paid to the treasurer of the exchange. The bill will also provide that the exchange shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the minister of agriculture or whoever he may appoint.

### The matter of the government ownership of elevators in the interior was also included in the conference, but no statement was made as to the conclusion arrived at in this respect.

### Torpedo Boat Flotilla

Para, Brazil, Dec. 31.—The United States torpedo boat flotilla, which is following the battleship fleet to the Pacific coast, arrived here yesterday. The flotilla consists of five torpedo boats, and is commanded by Commander R. H. Woodruff, a St. Catharines millionaire.

### Woodruff in 1894 transferred to his four sons property in the United States. In 1902 he made a settlement of his Canadian property on his sons.

For instance the cars of the street railway company in the year which closed last night carried an average of 1,000 passengers a day. In 1906, as is shown by the following table:

### Passengers carried, 1905, 3,092,538; 1906, 3,429,000; 1907, 3,781,000.

Similarly the large number of new buildings erected has resulted in a great increase in the number of electric lights used. The increase amounting to 10,000.

### Permanent lights, 1905, 49,857; 1906, 56,118; 1907, 66,000.

Improvements which will total over \$200,000, are projected. During the year just ended the following expenditures were made:

### New rolling stock, \$30,000; Extension to lighting and power, \$35,000; New bridge, \$15,000; Car barn extension, \$8,000; Sundries, \$6,000.

Total, \$100,000. In addition to this the company has made great extensions in its gas mains and since acquiring the plant has nearly doubled the present terminal facilities. The company took hold there but 10 miles of mains in the city, the year following 6 miles were laid, and during the year just ended 10 miles were added.

### In addition to this it is now announced that the company has let the contract to the firm of Dely & Fowle of Philadelphia for the doubling of the capacity of the large holder. This work will be undertaken in May or June.

Seven million five hundred thousand cubic feet more gas was used last year than in 1906. The figures are: Gas consumed, 1906, 23,000,000 cubic feet; 1907, 25,500,000 cubic feet.

### MINE EXPLOSION

Killed Twelve Men

A New Mexican Colliery, the Scene of the Latest Disaster

Albuquerque, N. M., Dec. 31.—At least nine miners were killed and three fatally and two seriously injured in an explosion of gas and coal dust today in the Bernal mine at Saraghe, New Mexico.

Oil Wilcox, an American mine boss, among the dead. The others were Mexican and half-breed.

Had not the explosion occurred during the noon hour, the death list must have been larger.

The clearing of the right-of-way between Nanos bay and Alberni is proceeding most satisfactorily. Three gangs of men are working upon the first section of the road, and the contractors for the balance of the clearing have already been let. The plan is already upon the scene and work will be rushed as soon as possible.

With the clearing of the right-of-way completed, grading will be immediately commenced.

### Petroleum For Fuel

Washington, Dec. 31.—Possibly the fact that California produces great quantities of petroleum inclines Secretary of the United States Navy, Mr. C. D. Bailey, to favor the use of that fuel in the navy where it can be beneficial. Therefore plans for the new torpedo boat destroyer tender to be prepared will probably include a requirement that they be equipped for burning oil. The fact that the newest British boats of the navy have attained the extraordinary speed of forty miles an hour, are oil-burners has influenced the United States Navy department in favor of the adoption of liquid fuel.

### Trains Taken Off

Winnipeg, Dec. 30.—The C. P. R. express train from Winnipeg to Calgary will be taken off Jan. 5th. All Spokane flyers also come off.

## MR. CARLYLE RETURNS

Former Manager of Le Roi Mine at Rossland Said to Have Been Appointed Consulting Engineer

Rossland, Dec. 31.—The Le Roi quotation is very low, 14s being asked for it and 13s bid. One reason for the low quotation is the small earnings of the company in the year 1907, which amounted to only \$2,300 against \$27,000 in 1906. It is understood that W. A. Carlyle, formerly manager of the Le Roi and other British American Corporation properties, has been appointed consulting engineer for the Le Roi Mining company, and will come here shortly from London for the purpose of looking over the affairs of the mine. Mr. Carlyle for seven or eight years was the manager of the famous Le Roi Tinto copper mines in Spain, which position he recently resigned for the purpose of becoming a consulting engineer in London. Before Mr. Carlyle became manager of the Le Roi, he had been a professor of mining at McGill university. As he has been in the Le Roi Tinto mines, he should be able to do considerable for the Le Roi.

Below is given the bank clearings for each month of the past year, as compared with the corresponding month of the previous year:

January ..... \$3,905,509 \$3,517,434  
February ..... 3,750,822 3,888,017  
March ..... 4,059,507 3,873,215  
April ..... 4,554,411 3,275,238  
May ..... 4,852,411 3,820,781  
June ..... 4,848,161 2,992,569  
July ..... 5,208,912 3,849,657  
August ..... 5,028,571 3,791,456  
September ..... 4,422,859 3,874,997  
October ..... 5,304,684 5,678,017  
November ..... 5,030,519 4,024,506  
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Total ..... \$55,330,558 \$46,615,615

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