

MOUNTED FORCE IS NOT IN VIEW

Provincial Police System and Government Policy Combine to Produce Gratifying Low Average of Crime

Referring to a report revived during the past few days in the mainland press that the provincial government has under consideration the advisability of organizing a corps of mounted constabulary for this province, as a new and important department of the British Columbia police, Attorney-General Bowser said yesterday that this project is not at present obtaining serious consideration, the police work on the whole proceeding very satisfactorily, and results being excellent.

The mounted constabulary proposals were energetically championed by the late Major Husband, of Vernon, who at the time of his death recently was in fact visiting the east in order to take a special course calculated to peculiarly fit him for the possible assumption of command of such a force if organized.

As illustrating the efficiency of the existing provincial police system, Hon. Mr. Bowser points to the high significance of the present low average of crime throughout the country. Although there are many hundred miles of railway just now under construction, and many thousands of men of all nationalities except Asians engaged thereon, the indictments to be presented at the assize courts this spring are less numerous and less serious than in years past.

This happy condition of affairs, the attorney-general attributes in very large measure to the policy adopted by the government in refusing to authorize or permit the sale of liquor along railway construction lines, and to the general disposition on the part of licensees in construction territory to strictly obey the law.

No liquor being obtainable from the licensed houses at the week-end after 11 o'clock of the Saturday night, and no more than a single bottle of liquor being purchasable by an individual customer, the railway navvies as a rule devote their Sundays to washing up, reading, etc., instead of carousing, and the result is that an unusually large percentage of the workers are refreshed and ready for their labors on the Mondays and throughout the week.

SIDNEY WANTS TO INCORPORATE

Board of Trade Takes Action With View To Solving Water and Sewer Problems of District

Coming events cast their shadows before," says the old adage, and while it may not be quite infallible it certainly has its examples. The most recent of these is to be found in the wonderful agitation that has taken place in and around Sidney, which agitation, centering largely around the real estate values of the district, has at last culminated in the suggested incorporation of the town.

Just the evening before last Hon. A. E. McPhillips, M. P. for the Islands, met with the Sidney board of trade to discuss the position of the residents in regard to the installation of water, sewer and other improvement systems. After hearing an explanation of the present condition of things from the members, Mr. McPhillips stated that the provincial government had appropriated a considerable sum for the purpose of improving the roadways, etc., of the district, and he did not see how the government could establish a precedent for providing sewer and water systems without having a number of other localities, similarly conditioned, making the same request.

As an alternative he advised them to incorporate either as a city or as a municipality, and in the event of their doing so, he promised to do all in his power to further the scheme. Thereupon the board of trade decided to adopt the suggestion and incorporate, and plans were immediately made for the carrying-out of the necessary preliminary work in connection with the same.

Col. Payne of New York, a recent arrival on the Island, and a heavy investor in Sidney property, was present at the meeting, and endorsed the proposition thoroughly.

CLEVER ENGLISH GIRL ATHLETE

One of the most interesting competitors in the forthcoming Olympic games at Stockholm will be a fifteen-year-old English girl, Helen Prece of Fulham road, London, who has entered for the cross-country ride of 4,000 metres, a ride over a course of 5,000 metres, a swim of 300 metres, fencing with epee and shooting with a revolver at a target twenty-five metres distant. Already she has won a wide-world reputation as a horse-woman of the highest skill and daring, and America has awarded her the palm as the greatest girl rider in the world. At the New York horse show last year she won the Durland gold cup in open competition with girls of all nations. At last year's show at Lexington she won three first prizes for riding, and recently at the pony polo show at Lexington she carried off three first prizes and a special prize for the best individual performance.

New Auto Record

SAN JOSE, Cal., April 20.—Louis Disbrow, driving a 90 horse power Simplex, established a new world's record for 15, 20 and 25 miles on a circuit dirt track at the San Jose driving park. The meet was sanctioned by the American Auto association, P. J. Walker, a member, refereeing.

33.31; 20 miles in 17.57; 25 miles in 22.26. On the 15 mile run the same events were 12.41, 18.15 and 22.47. Disbrow's feat was accomplished on a track which had become damp through rain last week and was not in the best condition.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL IS TO BUILD HERE

Hon. Mr. Bowser Acquires Fine Residential Site and Will Erect Handsome Home

Hon. Mr. W. J. Bowser, attorney-general of British Columbia, has purchased one of the finest scenic residential sites in Victoria city, comprising some two and a half acres of what is known as the old Dumbleton estate on Terrace avenue, near Rockland, upon which he will shortly erect a stately residence, the grounds at the same time being laid out by an eminent landscape architect in keeping with the attorney-general's future handsome home, from which an incomparable view of the Straits and distant Olympics will be obtainable. Mr. Weeks, a recent wealthy arrival from Edmonton, has also purchased adjacent land and will likewise proceed to build right promptly.

INTER-CITY PAVING IS A LARGE ORDER

Proposed Improvement of Vancouver-New Westminster Road—Outlay of Two and a Half Millions

Hon. Mr. Thomas Taylor, provincial minister of works upon his return from the mainland yesterday, received a communication from the municipality of Burnaby, suggesting the date of the 74 instalment for the proposed conference between the government, the municipalities of South Vancouver and Burnaby, and the motor clubs of Vancouver and New Westminster as to the proposed paving of the inter-city highway between Vancouver and the Royal city.

As the minister will be absent from the city during the greater part of the week this date is found unworkable, and Hon. Mr. Taylor will probably confer with the interested municipalities during his stay on the mainland, to which he goes again tomorrow on official business tomorrow.

The inter-city paving scheme as it has been recently developed would seem to be a more ambitious undertaking than can at the present juncture be endorsed by the government, no less than thirty miles of paving and boulevard construction being contemplated, at an aggregate cost of something like \$2,500,000.

The government is in thorough sympathy with the idea generally, but of the opinion that for the present it should be more modestly and economically developed.

MAY TAKE CONTRACT FROM THE COMPANY

City's Consulting Engineer Will Submit Report to Council on Sooke Lake Development Work

That the Westholme Lumber company, the successful contractors for the Sooke Lake development scheme, should have their contract cancelled and be requested to give up the work, is understood to be the gist of a report which Mr. Wynn Meredith, the city's consulting engineer, will submit to the meeting of the city council tomorrow evening.

As a result of a very conference yesterday afternoon between Mayor Beckwith, Aldermen Porter, Baker, Dilworth and Anderson, Water Commissioner Raymur and Engineers Meredith, Hartwell and Carpenter, the council will be called upon to consider the engineer's report tomorrow night.

Under the contract, with that company, it was stipulated that six per cent of the work should be done within three months of the signing of the contract. Mr. Hartwell has reported to the water commissioner that since the contract was signed on January 16 but thirty-seven one-hundredths of one per cent has been done. The company has had engaged about 165 men in construction work along the line of the proposed pipe line putting in certain works and locating bunk houses, but according to the engineers the work, as called for under the contract, has not been carried out. The contract figure was \$1,169,000 and should the city decide that the Westholme Lumber company must give up the work new tenders will have to be called for its completion.

Another bylaw to provide for the completion of the widening and extension of Pandora avenue from Chambers street to Oak Bay avenue will shortly be brought before the council. The original estimate of cost, as prepared by the city assessor, was \$162,000. The claims put in to date by property owners affected by the improvement scheme is \$269,000. Of the treaty owners affected but two will accept the figures as set by the city assessor. The greatest difference between the assessor's figures and the claim submitted by an owner is \$77,216, and it is a foregone conclusion that before the claims are settled arbitration proceedings must be resorted to.

MR. HANINGTON IS NAMED COMMISSIONER

To Investigate Conditions and Management of the Vancouver General Hospital—Inquiry Proceeds

Mr. Robert Whitmore Hanington, a member of the Vancouver legal firm of Hanington, Burt & Hanington, has been named by the provincial government as a royal commissioner to inquire into and report upon conditions prevailing in the Vancouver general hospital, which have recently been the subject of specific complaint.

Mr. Hanington will enter upon his duties as a special investigator almost immediately.

The charges preferred are generally of mismanagement, inadequate supervision of the cleanliness of the hospital and an unsatisfactory standard of food supplied to patients.

Investigation was asked for by the authorities almost as soon as these charges were publicly preferred.

Larger Than Titanic Two larger steamers than the lost Titanic are under construction, the Aquitania of the Cunard line and the Imperator of the Hamburg-America line, and one still larger was proposed by the White Star line.

GARDINER CITY HAS COLLISION Barkentine Returns to San Francisco Under Jury Rig After Striking the Schooner Alert

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—The well-known coast barkentine Gardiner City, which left San Francisco April 6 for Port Gamble, returned to port here yesterday after a jury rig as a result of a collision April 17 with the schooner Alert. None of the crew was injured.

THINKS HOME RULE WILL PASS COMMONS

English Visitor Puts the Subject in New Light—In Favor of the Principle But Not the Method

"What about Home Rule?" "Well, what about it?" "Is the country going to stand for it?" "The country is standing for it with all its feet. It has never had a chance to do anything else. The real question is, will it fall for it? So far its opinion has not been asked, and I doubt if anybody is in a position to say whether it will stand or fall for it, but however it may be inclined there can be no doubt that in the House of Commons there is a feeling that it will go through."

That is the tersely expressed opinion of Mr. John G. Grierson, of London, England, who is at present in Victoria for a few days in connection with a number of old country investments which he has been entrusted with.

"Home Rule means very little to me as I am only a citizen and not a politician," he continued. "And I believe, too, that in the end it will mean very little either for Ireland or for Great Britain. What has Ireland to gain by Home Rule or what has England to lose by granting it. The day is long past since there was any real object in the cause of Home Rule. There was a time, I believe, when Home Rule meant everything to Ireland, but now it is difficult for me to see exactly what advantage is to be gained by it, although I would not dream of opposing it either on imperial or parochial grounds."

"Home Rule is not a thing to agitate about now. It is a stale issue and but for the presence in the British parliament of that most unrepresentative of bodies, the Irish party, there would be no kick in it. Home Rule is a thing of the past. The people of Ireland have as much say in the government of their affairs today as they will have tomorrow, assuming that the legislative assembly is removed from Westminster to the Dublin overland. As a matter of fact, the ardent Home Rulers will probably have less, because their power in the British legislature, which is the only power they can ever wield independently, will be gone for ever and they will find themselves faced with a power at home as great as, if not greater, than their own."

"To convince England that Home Rule is a good and necessary thing, while it has taken many years, has not taken a tithe of the time that will be necessary to convince Ireland itself that Home Rule is a good and necessary thing. Home Rule for Ireland and Home Rule for the regular run of Great Britain are two entirely different things. However, as things appear to be going, the wish of the Irish people, or that section of them in parliament, will be gratified very shortly unless, of course, and it is always possible, Premier Asquith crashes on the same rock or divided opinion that wrecked Mr. Gladstone at the height of his fame."

"I am constrained to admit that in the interval the attitude of Great Britain in regard to the question has undergone a change. The tremendous opposition to Home Rule that characterized the Gladstonian era has passed away, excepting in Ireland itself. Scotland, England and Wales all want Home Rule, but not in the same form. They do not see any sense in merely shifting their legislative representatives from Westminster to their respective capitals. They want Home Rule in their cities and municipalities, and in order to get it they are clamoring for an extension of the rights of the cities, counties, and municipalities."

"That is Home Rule, and to my mind

it is a much more effective manner of getting than the Irish method. The Irish idea is merely a transference of Irish members from Whitehall to Dublin. To the Irish people it means little or nothing beyond the traditional glory of having won something, however valueless and impractical. It has the disadvantage of centralising power instead of distributing it, which states courts to like to be the true meaning of Home Rule."

"However, every man to his own opinion. Not that I think Home Rule in the sense that it is about to be applied will do any particular harm. Far from it. As an experience it will do Ireland a great deal of good. It will do England, Scotland and Wales good also, because it will afford their representatives an opportunity of at last getting down to a discussion of their own affairs. The idea is all right; it is the application of the idea that is wrong to my mind."

There have been so many tons shot this year that the police department admit frankly that it has lost track of the fatalities. Eight in this city alone was the estimate. There were three separate affairs in San Francisco alone tonight.

In the Chinese Methodist Episcopal church a pitched battle was fought. At least 30 shots were fired. One man was seen to be wounded in the neck and another in the leg, but their friends hid them from the police. See Wing, a Sing Suey man, and Louie Wing, a Bing Kong man, were arrested. Larry Look, a Bing Kong man was shot four times while hiding in a lodging-house close by. He will die. His murderer escaped.

Chin Sing, also a Bing Kong man and part proprietor of a saloon, was shot while standing near his place of business. Three of the bullets perforated his abdomen. His assassins were seen but fled up a narrow way known as "Murderer's" alley, and escaped.

It was gossip in Chinatown here tonight that the shooting had been engineered from Stockton, where the Tories had quarrelled over gambling debts. Two men were killed in Stockton. One man was killed in Fresno.

The schooner Alert is a vessel of 548 net tons, built at Hoquiam in 1902 and owned in Seattle. She carries 800,000 feet of lumber.

The Gardiner City, owned by R. Swayne, is a vessel of 461 net tons. She was built in 1889 at North Bend, Ore., and is 168 feet long, 33 feet beam and 12 feet depth. She has capacity for about 575,000 feet of lumber.

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THREE KILLED AND TWO MORTALLY WOUNDED—PITCHED BATTLE IN FRONT OF SAN FRANCISCO CHURCH

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—War between the Bing Kongs and Sing Suey gangs was started anew today in San Francisco, Stockton and Fresno. Three killed and two mortally wounded were added to the tally.

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OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA LINER HAD ROUGH PASSAGE—MANY STRIKES IN PROGRESS IN JAPAN WHEN MESSENGER LEFT

The steamer Chicago Maru, Capt. Goto, of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha line, which reached the outer wharf yesterday morning and landed 223 tons of general cargo here, encountered heavy weather for the first few days of her passage. Big seas flooded the forward well and broke over the vessel, which had to be slowed down. The vessel sustained no damage. There were 9 saloons and 117 steerage passengers on the Japanese liner, including M. Komada, an official of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. From Tacoma the steamer had 2,000 tons of general freight, including 800 bales of raw silk.

News was brought by the Chicago Maru that the big volcano on Yribe Island, at the entrance to Tokyo bay, which has been quiet for forty years was in eruption when she left and a big pillar of fire was seen for quite a distance at sea. Molten lava and rock was flung up to a height of 200 feet.

An epidemic of strikes was reported from Japan by arrivals on the Japanese liner. At Kobe naval yard 4,500 men in the government arsenal went on strike for higher pay, and the strike soon spread to nine large factories, from which over 6,000 workers went out. Large forces of police were sent and many arrests were made. The strikers ask an increase of thirty per cent. At Osaka 2,000 weavers and men engaged in the dyeing works went out.

Few further particulars were received regarding the murder of the American, Rev. C. E. Hicks in the Yangtze Gorges, of which news was cable. The American who was killed and the two others who were wounded are not missionaries, but American teachers in the university in Chengtu, where they intended to return. The attack took place on March 23 at Wushan in the province of Szechuan near to the frontier of Hupeh. The news of the outrage was first made known through the humanity of a consular telegram from Ichang, and the lack of an adequate contract under which brick has been late been purchased, the new terms will be recommended by the engineer.

City Solicitor Robertson will advise the council that the recent court decision whereby the city was ordered to grant a building permit to the trustees of the Khales Dewan religious society, for the erection of a Hindu temple on lot 289, Hildale extension, "C" Ward estate, should not be further opposed. Application was recently made to the building inspector for a permit, which was refused. The matter came before the city council, which supported the stand taken by the building inspector. The case was carried to the courts, which ruled that the permit should be issued.

In view of the decision of the city solicitor, he has advised the council that the permit should issue. Hari Singh, Narain Singh and Bachan Singh, as trustees of the Khales Dewan religious society, brought action against the city.

ROUSE INTEREST IN GOOD ROADS

Work of the Canadian Highway Association Is Having Speeded Results—All Along Coast

The progress and activity of the Canadian Highway Association is drawing to itself considerable interest wherever its work is known. Ever since its inception, not so many months ago, this organization has shown itself to be imbued with vigor and enthusiasm of the practical sort. Already its results are practically assured, although of course, it means probably five years of more work before the entire scheme can be realized.

The latest plan emanates from the president, Mr. W. J. Kerr, and is especially framed to interest the growing generation of young Canadians in the good roads movement. As a result of the invitation the headquarters of the association is flooded with papers from aspirants for honors.

As an encouragement to the children

HEAVY DAMAGE FROM TORNADO

Number of Persons Killed and Many Buildings Demolished in Kansas and Oklahoma—Four "Twisters"

ANTHONY, Kansas, April 20.—A tornado that followed a path two miles long in the vicinity of Waldron, ten miles southwest of here at 4 o'clock this afternoon brought death to one person, injured eight others, and did damage through loss of farm buildings and live stock amounting to \$25,000.

ATCHISON, Kansas, April 20.—Two women reported perhaps fatally injured by a tornado which visited Kingham county, 60 miles west of here late today. The property loss will be heavy.

OKLAHOMA CITY, April 20.—Fifty houses were demolished at the town of Hennessey. Two women were killed.

At Perry, one man was killed and 20 persons were injured, several of whom probably will die. Twenty-five buildings, including a stone business structure and a school house, were wrecked completely.

Four distinct "twisters" formed simultaneously between Yukon, Dover, Kingfisher and Hennessey, according to advices from Yukon. They merged near this town and swept to the northeast. At telephone and telegraph wires north of Guthrie where the storm is believed to have taken the heaviest toll, are out of commission.

MARCONI INVENTS WIRELESS COMPASS

Will Permit of Navigators Establishing Their Position by Triangulation During Thick Fog

Mr. Marconi has invented a "wireless compass." According to an interview published at New York his invention is to be tried on the liner Mauretania when next she leaves Liverpool. The employment of this apparatus, it is stated, will remove the perils of fog at sea.

Mr. Marconi smilingly refused to explain his secret until after the Patent Office had sent him his papers, but he took a piece of paper, and with a pencil, drew what the compass is meant to accomplish.

The drawing consisted of a series of lighthouses on shore, and a series of ships off shore at various intervals. "Now, we suppose," said Mr. Marconi, "that all these lighthouses, and all these ships, are sending out wireless flashes in the dark fog or terrific storm. You know the confusion your skipper is in today. We are going to supply exactly the lacking element. By means of the new wireless waves, which will be used exclusively in this kind of work, we are going to give him all sense of direction. You can work out the rest of the problem for yourself."

"It is merely a matter of triangulation," Mr. Marconi continued. "Your skipper picks up a lighthouse to his right and another to his left; he triangulates, and estimates. He knows just exactly where he is. He picks up a ship at sea in connection with the light-house. He figures that into his triangulations, and he knows just how near he is to it."

PRINCESS PATRICIA IN NEW SERVICE

Will Make Double Daily Trip Between Vancouver and Nanaimo After Beginning of Next Month

The steamer Princess Patricia, which is being converted into an oil burner at the Victoria Machinery Depot, is to commence service on the Vancouver-Nanaimo route on May 1st, and it has been arranged that the schedule will provide for a double daily service during the summer months. Capt. W. J. Troup, manager of the C.P.R. steamship service, has addressed the following letter to the Nanaimo board of trade, regarding the new service:

"Replying to your question as to the schedule of the Princess Patricia between Nanaimo and Vancouver, I beg to say that we have not yet definitely decided on a schedule, but we have in mind for the summer two trips a day, leaving Nanaimo at 7 a. m. and again at 3.30 in the afternoon. Returning, we propose leaving Vancouver at 10 o'clock and at about 6.30 at night.

"Our idea is to, if possible, induce during the summer, large numbers of Vancouver people to spend a portion of the day in Nanaimo, where they can have their picnic parties, etc. Also to give the Nanaimo business man a full business day in Vancouver.

"If the Nanaimo board of trade has any suggestions to make, we would be glad to have them. It should be remembered that the Princess Patricia will be an expensive boat to operate, and she must carry large numbers of passengers to justify the expense."

RIGGED JURY SAILS

Disabled Schooner on Way to San Francisco With Sails of Awnings and Hatch Covers

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—Capt. James Curtis, of the Union Oil Company's tanker Oleum, bound here from San Francisco, reported having passed the disabled tanker Argyl, which arrived here in tow of the tug Sea Rover. The Rover had the Argyl in tow when she was intended to carry much sail, but the Argyl, after the breaking of the tailshaft, contrived the most wonderful collection of wings that ever scared the gonyeys. The people on the Oleum declare that the Argyl had a spread that included everything but the cabin tablecloth. On spars and stays and awnings Captain Dickson had stretched such few sails as were aboard, and numerous jury sails improvised from awnings and hatch covers. The effect was weird, but every sail was drawing when the Oleum went by. Captain Dickson reported that with his hatchwork wings he had been able to work the Argyl two miles further off shore than the vessel was when her tail