

One Semi-Weekly Collierist

FRIDAY 17

VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1911

FIFTY-THIRD YEAR.

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OTTAWA MISSION IS SUCCESSFUL

Provincial Ministers on Return From Dominion Capital Express Satisfaction with Results of Visit

FEDERAL MINISTERS ARE SYMPATHETIC

Action Assured in Regard to Asiatic Immigration, Better Terms and Other Provincial Questions

VANCOUVER, Nov. 15.—Attorney-General Bowers and Hon. W. R. Ross, provincial minister of lands, returned to British Columbia today, well pleased (and with good reason) as to the outcome of the mission upon which they accompanied Premier McCreach to the federal capital. That the mission has been eminently successful—that realization of the long-desired re-adjustment of financial arrangements with the Dominion upon a basis more equitable to British Columbia, is near at hand—and that the interests of the Pacific province henceforward are assured more sympathetic consideration and support at Ottawa, as the interests of a most important portion of the Canadian Dominion, may be said to epitomize their report on their home coming.

Hon. Mr. and Mrs. McBride left the premier's colleagues at Ottawa, proceeding thence to Montreal for a conference with Sir Thomas Shaughnessy and homework by a leisurely round-trip visit to New York, New Orleans and San Francisco. They should reach Victoria on Monday.

Messrs. Bowers and Ross returned to Vancouver by the Canadian Pacific and the minister of lands will arrive in Victoria tomorrow afternoon. Mr. Bowers will go over on Sunday, being just now engaged in preparations for a transfer of residence. With the multiplication of official responsibilities incident to the session, and the session itself, he finds that residence at the capital has become essential, and he has accordingly taken leave upon the residence on Rock Island avenue of G. H. Edwards, M. P., of which he and his family will take possession immediately, removing from Vancouver on Sunday next.

Domination Ministers to Come

While emphasizing the extreme and invariable cordiality of their reception at the national capital and the courteous solicitude displayed by Premier Borden and all his colleagues to make their short stay in Ottawa pleasant as well as profitable to this province, the just returned ministers give out the very gratifying news that the members of the Dominion cabinet intend coming to the Pacific coast during the new year, to thoroughly familiarize themselves at first hand with British Columbia's conditions and special problems, and to form a closer and more sympathetic acquaintance with the people.

Hon. Mr. Monk, the minister of public works, intends taking a special car bringing with him all the principal responsible officials of his department. Hon. Mr. Hazen will probably spend a few little bits in this province, while he informs himself thoroughly on all matters bearing upon the protection and development of the fishing industry, necessary for the extension of wireless telegraphic facilities. etc. Postmaster General Pelletier, Hon. Dr. Bell, the new minister of customs, and Hon. Mr. Rogers, head of the important department of the Interior, are very much to be expected in connection with demands from the far west upon their respective services, and are determined that their personal knowledge of all related matters shall be such that their official courses may be consistently and unintermittently in the direction of promoting growth and prosperity in this very richly endowed and important portion of the Canadian Dominion.

It was an outstanding and conspicuous feature of the visit, the provincial ministers to note the keen and active interest in British Columbia and the sympathetic concern for all the special requirements of this province displayed by Premier Borden and each of his colleagues—as well as their very marked desire to learn more, when addressed in connection with special western matters.

Asiatic Question.

Notably was this demand for comparative information evidenced in connection with the live question of Asiatic immigration and its necessary restriction, the French-Canadian members of the cabinet in particular pressing voluntary requests for fullest particulars of British Columbia's conditions and entering thoroughly and sympathetically into this question with both the premier and the attorney-general. In this matter of Asiatic labor, (Continued on Page 2.)

SNOWDEN'S STORY

His Statement as to Murder of Mr. Urquhart Is Given in Court—Committed for Trial

VANCOUVER, B. C., Nov. 15.—Watson Snowden, charged in court today with the murder of William Urquhart, a wealthy liquor dealer, told a dramatic story after his arrest in Nanaimo to a Vancouver detective.

According to the latter's statement in the court today, where Snowden was committed for trial, the accused described one of the wounds on the murdered man, and even told where he must have been standing at the time he was shot. Snowden then asked for a pencil, and drew a sketch plan showing the interior of the shop.

Snowden had returned to the scene of the murder some time after 11, and had engaged a constable with the dead man's son, asking him details of the crime. He had also made a statement to a woman of his acquaintance in Nanaimo, where he was arrested, that led her to believe he was the murderer. He will come up for trial at the assizes in January next.

Violating Immigration Law.

VANCOUVER, Nov. 15.—A Corteski, an Australian who had landed in Canada in defiance of the orders of the local immigration authorities, was sentenced by Magistrate Shaw yesterday to nine months imprisonment. J. H. McGill, immigration officer, said that it was absolutely necessary to make an example of someone if the orders of the department were to be respected.

CANADIANS BUY PACIFIC ISLES

Powerful Montreal Syndicate Secures Fanning and Washington Islands for Coaling Depots on Opening of Canal

Fanning and Washington islands have been purchased for \$350,000 by a powerful Canadian and British syndicate headed by C. N. Armstrong, of Montreal. A representative of the Montreal concern was a passenger on the steamer Zealandia from Victoria to meet Father Emmanuel Rougier, who was awaiting his arrival at Honolulu when the R. M. S. Marana, which arrived yesterday, left that port on November 8th. Father Rougier had chartered a schooner to take the agent to inspect the islands. Arrivals by the Marana stated the impression prevailed that it was the intention of the purchaser to establish a coaling depot, and probably arrangements were made for a British naval base at Fanning island in view of the early opening of the Panama canal.

Interviewed at Honolulu the vendor, Rev. Father Rougier, who bought the islands at an auction sale held by the Supreme court of the high commissioner for the South Pacific at Suva, Fiji islands, in 1907, for \$135,000, said: "It might be the central station of that long-shadowed 'All-Red line' that would ply in the Pacific after the Panama Canal will be opened.

"The fact that Fanning is already the central station of the British Pacific cable syndicate adds to the value of the island, and in the minds of many it is hard to say who is to be the most compensated, the vendor or the purchaser—perhaps both of them."

Canadian Flag

After talking of the facts above, Father Rougier said with a smile: "Soon you will see the Canadian flag waving in competition with your stars.

"This will be the first Canadian possession in the Pacific. Nature has done her small but valuable part. Is not Fanning nicknamed the Gem of the Pacific?"

Being asked on what circumstances he thought vessels could find it to their interest and advantage to go to Fanning instead of Honolulu, Father Rougier replied: "If there was only one station, Honolulu, in the center of the Pacific, think of what would happen if for one reason or another war, plague, strikes, etc., should break out. If that station was shut, do you not see the amount of business and trade paralyzed in this part of the Pacific?"

"Now, do you not realize that your port is and always will be a difficult port on account of your many regulations concerning aliens, diseases, quarantine and customs? Latin and all yellow races will certainly find it to their advantage very often to avoid Honolulu and to call at a 'free' port like Fanning."

Route across Pacific

"Again, why should vessels going from South America to Hongkong or Japan or vice versa, or from Panama to the Straits, leave the bee-line to come 1,000 miles out of their way to call here, when they could find coal and oil in a nearer harbor?"

"Do you not think, too, that men-of-war, British especially, would prefer coaling in their own territory, in touch with their own cable?"

"For these reasons I believe the step is a most probable one, and also a plan in the right direction—to maintain and develop the British trade on this side."

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CONSERVATIVES STILL GAINING

Opposition in Nova Scotia Legislature Captures Two Seats Formerly Held by Government Supporters

LIBERALS LOSE IN P. E. ISLAND

Defeat of Premier Palmer and One of His Prominent Supporters Ensures Overtown of Government

HALIFAX, N. S., Nov. 15.—The Conservatives captured two seats where elections were held in Nova Scotia today for the provincial legislature, Digby and Lunenburg.

In Digby, H. H. Marshall, Conservative, was elected by a majority of about 500 over A. E. Watt, Liberal. In Lunenburg, C. C. Zwicker, Conservative, has a majority of nearly 200 over William Duff, Liberal.

The opposition in the Nova Scotia legislature will now number 13, the government strength being 25.

P. E. Island

CHARLOTTE TOWN, P. E. I., Nov. 15.—The results of two by-elections in this province today ensure the defeat of the Liberal government. In Augustus district, Premier Palmer is beaten by Dr. Dewar, Conservative, by 223 majority. In Belfast district, Prof. Alex McPhail, independent, is victorious over Editor Nash, by about 200. Before these elections the parties in the house stood 16 Liberals and 14 Conservatives.

CAPTAIN LOGAN ON FISHERIES

Suggests Protective Fleet of Gasoline Cruisers to Rid the Coast of Poachers Now Stealing Millions of Dollars

Captain W. H. Logan, special agent of the London Salvage association, said yesterday that he was surprised to find how little British Columbians seemed to understand the immense extent of the fisheries of this province and the urgency of providing quickly for an efficient fishery patrol to prevent the depletion of the rich fishing grounds by poaching vessels from United States ports. He suggested that a fleet of small gasoline vessels with two parent vessels, tug-boats of the type of the William J. Guller or the Lorne, be provided and the coastline patrolled in districts, say of 60 miles in length to each vessel, the patrol craft going over the area in which they work three or four times a day and reporting to the vessel engaged on the adjoining area, similarly as the British coast guards meet at the extremes of their territory.

COURTMARTIAL IN NOBE CASE

Lieutenant Lord Alliston Graham Is Found Guilty of Causing Suffering Through Stranding of Vessel

IS SENTENCED TO REPRIMAND

HALIFAX, N. S., Nov. 15.—Lieut. Lord Alliston Graham was today found guilty by a court-martial for causing suffering through the stranding of H.M.C.S. Niobe on July 30 on a dangerous ledge off Cape Sable. He was sentenced to be reprimanded.

Lieut. Alliston Graham was officer of the watch up to fifteen or twenty minutes of the time when the cruiser went ashore. While the evidence seemed to show an absence of deliberate negligence on the part of accused, it developed the fact that he had not been as attentive to duty as he should have been.

Lieut. Graham's reprimand means nothing more than a black mark for him.

Immediately upon the conclusion of the first case, that against Lieut. White, navigating officer, was called but was adjourned until tomorrow.

Murdered by Yaquis.

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 15.—Three Americans have been killed in Sonora, as a result of an uprising of the Yaqui Indians, according to a letter received today by El Imperial from Hermosillo.

Western Union Free Delivery

NEW YORK, Nov. 15.—Officials of the Western Union Telegraph Company announced today that the free delivery limits in which telegrams may be delivered without charge will be extended within the next few days to include, with a few exceptions, the corporate limits of all cities and towns where independent telegraph offices are established.

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SEIZURE OF EDRIE

Owners of Fishing Schooner Appeal From Order for Confiscation—Argument of Counsel

VANCOUVER, B. C., Nov. 15.—Argument in the case of the seizure of the head today in the provincial appeal court. The confiscation of the vessel for illegal fishing had been ordered by the Admiralty court, and the owners, the Chilcooke Fish Company, of Seattle, appealed.

Counsel for the defendants argued that there was no evidence that the Edrie was fishing within the three-mile limit. The captain of the Rainbow stated only that she was within the limit when the gun order was served. She was fired at 11:15 p.m. on February 27, but she was not taken into custody until she was outside the limit. Even then they admitted that she was only 350 yards within the three-mile limit when sighted.

He pointed out that Commander Stewart of the Rainbow stated that one of the bearings by which they determined the position of the Edrie was taken at a distance of fourteen miles. They did not take angles, though they had a sextant, and a range finder on board. Bearings were always unreliable, because there may be a deviation. The hearing will probably occupy about two more days.

AVIATOR'S FATAL FALL

Berlin, Nov. 15.—Herr Pletschman, an aviator, fell while making a flight over the Johannisthal field today, and was killed. His neck was broken.

ONE MAN ACCEPTED MORE ASSAULTS MADE BY TURKS

Italian Troops Called Upon to Meet Two Assaults on Their Position—Both Are Easily Repulsed

WAR VESSEL SHELLS ARAB FORT

Rumors That Porte Wishes to Treat for Peace in View of Failure Attending on Military Operations

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—The state department has heard from Turkey or Italy nothing that would suggest an extension of the good offices of the United States to terminate the present war since the notification from the Italian government of the annexation of Tripoli. That notification was accompanied by an intimation that the good offices of one of the signatory powers of the Hague convention would be welcomed. As it was conditioned upon the acceptance as a fact of the annexation of Tripoli, the state department did not feel free to take the matter, for any such overtures by the United States to Turkey would fall within the category of intervention, which the state department has positively refused to undertake.

Despatches received from Tripoli at the Italian embassy today say that a battalion of Turks attacked the Italian troops yesterday, but was repulsed, leaving five dead on the field. The Italians reported two wounded. A second assault was repulsed by the Italian troops without loss of life.

Today the Italian man-of-war Bardo shelled Fort Alfora, on the western coast. At Benghazi, Derna and Tobruk, where new troops have arrived, the situation is reported as unchanged.

LONDON, Nov. 14.—A special dispatch from Athens says several Constantinople telegrams received there affirm that the Porte is disposed to treat with Italy with a view to peace. It is now beginning to be admitted in Constantinople that Turkish troops and their allies, the Arabs in Tripoli, despite desperate attacks, have been everywhere repulsed with heavy losses and that prolonged resistance is useless.

MAYOR PLANTA ON CIVIC PROBLEMS

Nanaimo's Chief Executive Advocates Government by Commission and Censures Interference with Officials

IN THE CASE OF Mayor Planta this year's president of the Union of Municipalities' convention, government by commission has several advantages over the present system of local administration. Interviewed at the Empress yesterday, the Mayor of Nanaimo was at first disinclined to express any opinions on the subject up for discussion at this year's convention of the province's municipal legislators. Though claiming to be fully alive to its disadvantages, Mayor Planta claimed that, generally speaking, the commission form of administration was preferable to that by council, if only for the fact that it would prevent the harassing of competent officials by mayors and councillors who did not possess that technical knowledge and experience that could alone justify criticism.

"At present," he said, "our councils are constituted largely of men inexperienced in municipal work and entirely deficient in technical knowledge. They, nevertheless, undertake to direct things in work they are not themselves conversant with. As a consequence, there is constant waste of public money. In Nanaimo, for instance, I am open to confess, that on more than one occasion, results have shown that our expenditure has not always been judicious. To every municipality, cases will recur to the memory where money could have been saved and better work done had the council acted on the advice of officials, instead of opposing it."

The mayor and council officials who would be paid good salaries for their services. As paid officials, they would be liable to recall by the people. It would be up to the electors to choose the men best equipped for such administrative responsibilities, men of known probity, and independent position, and men of reputation, as engineers, lawyers, architects, or other experts with experience that would qualify them to act as supervisors and directors of public works.

"It would not be so bad if members of the council would be advised by their executive officers, and follow that advice. Instead of this, they often tie their officials' hands, and then blame them for their own mistakes."

Mayor Planta said that he claimed no expert knowledge himself, and in any case he would not presume to say anything about Victoria. But in his own city of Nanaimo, they had recently made a serious mistake involving heavy additional expenditure, by insisting on a uniform street grading, which in one place alone had meant cutting through four feet of solid rock unnecessarily.

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YUAN ACCEPTS PREMIERSHIP

Makes Condition That He Be Guaranteed Practically Free Hand in Managing China's Affairs

WILL FORM CABINET IMMEDIATELY

Supposed Preparations for Removal of Imperial Family to Jehol—Rebel Leader Demands Republic

PEKING, Nov. 15.—(1:35 a. m.)—Yuan Shi Kai has accepted the premiership and will assume office probably today (Thursday). Yesterday's official gazette contained an expression of thanks from Yuan Shi Kai to the throne for his appointment, but the truth is that he did not undertake the task without receiving guarantees that he would have practically a free hand in conducting affairs while he retained his official position.

The new premier received several foreign ministers yesterday, including the United States minister at China, Willia Calhoun, who returned here only recently.

In conversation with a foreigner, Yuan Shi Kai said he intended to form a cabinet immediately and endeavor to carry on the government by gaining the support of as many provinces as possible, allowing the remainder to retain their independence for the time being. It would be his endeavor also gradually to win back their allegiance to the throne.

Another important development in the capital was the issuance of an edict yesterday ordering Wal Liang, formerly viceroy of Manchuria, to assume command at Jehol, where the summer residence of the emperor is situated, in place of Pa Ting, the Lar to the Belle in certain quarters that the court may retire to Jehol, leaving Yuan Shi Kai as chief executive until the opportunity arises for the court to resume a measure of authority.

San Pao Chi, the viceroy of Shantung, has been elected president of the republic which has been proclaimed in that province. His acceptance is in accordance with the government advice. Several other viceroys have gone with the people, in the hope of influencing the provinces later to renew their allegiance.

The provincial assembly of Chi Li has (Continued on Page 2.)

IS WEARER OF VICTORIA CROSS

Man Arrested in San Francisco Believed to Be Wanted by British Authorities for Murder in Bloemfontein

ARREST DUE TO LOVE OF CHILDREN

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 15.—Devotion to two natural children, whom he refused to abandon through years of adventure in various parts of the world, led to the arrest here today of John R. Swann, warper of the Victoria Cross, believed to be a fugitive wanted by the British government for murder committed in Bloemfontein, South Africa, in December, 1901. Swann is also accused by the police here of having killed two men in Alaska three years ago.

Papers found in Swann's possession show that John R. Swann was a member of the British Royal Marine Artillery, enlisting from Kirkcubright, Scotland, and that after repeated mentions for bravery in the dispatches to the home government he was awarded the Victoria Cross.

A police circular, printed at Johannesburg, also found among Swann's effects, gives a description of a man wanted for murder, and offers \$1,000 for his arrest. The description, according to the police, fits Swann in the minutest detail, the most definite marks of identification consisting of tattoo marks on various parts of the body. A full-rigged ship, described in detail as covering the back of the right hand, did not appear, the hand showing a recently finished design of the Union Jack. A microscopic examination made at the bureau of criminal identification showed that a tattooed design had been removed, and the place covered with the Union Jack. A closer examination showed traces of the outlines of the ship still existing. Other tattoo marks, described minutely in the circular, were found on Swann's back and knees.

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