

U. S. NAVY SHIP PANTHER LOST WITH 227 MEN?

Repeatedly Reported That Wireless Stations Had Received Messages Saying Ship Had Gone Down in Hurricane Off the Coast of South Carolina.

[Canadian Press.]

New York, Jan. 9.—Fears for the safety of the navy repair ship Panther, of which no news has been received since the great hurricane of last week, were renewed last night when the navy department had still failed to obtain word from her, and rumors, untraceable to any trustworthy source, began to circulate to the effect that wireless operators were hearing that she had gone down.

Reported Lost.

The rumors were to the effect that commercial wireless messages had been picked up in this city, which seemed to indicate that the Panther, on her way to Guantanamo, had gone down off Charleston, S. C. One message was either to or for the ship, and the other was from Philadelphia. All the operators could make out was that "Panther gone down off Charleston, S. C." At the navy yard in Brooklyn an official said that the battleship Wyoming was off Charleston looking for the missing ship, and that the cruiser Dixie was off Watling Island on the same errand. On orders from the navy department at Washington, wireless operators at the Brooklyn navy yard sent calls at frequent intervals yesterday to the Panther. She sailed from New York last Thursday and she was due at Guantanamo tonight or tomorrow.

The officials of the navy yard here believe that the fact that no news had been received from the ship is due to a breakdown in her wireless apparatus and not to any more serious accident. Throughout the night the operating officers of the navy department were besieged by anxious inquirers, however, and the uncertainty seemed to have begun to circulate to the effect that the two naval vessels carry in officers and men a total complement of 227.

Although orders had been issued to the wireless station at the Washington navy yard to keep vigilant watch for any stray signal from the Panther, officials declare none was received during the night.

Sonoma Turns Up.

Washington, Jan. 9.—The naval tug Sonoma, which left Hampton Roads with the repair ship Panther for Guantanamo, Jan. 3, arrived at the latter port at 1 o'clock this morning. No word had been received from the Panther, but the navy department officials insist that there is still no reason to fear for her safety, as the tug and her crew were doubtless separated by the bad weather, and each was obliged to make way into port alone. It is expected that something will be heard from the Panther during the course of the day.

MOTHER AND SIX CHILDREN FOUND STARVING AND COLD

Inspector Sanders Located a Case of the Most Dire Destitution in the South End of the City Today—Woman Is a Widow.

Inspector Joseph Sanders, of the Charities Organization, investigated a case of the most pitiful destitution in the south end of the city this morning, where he discovered a widow, with her six young children, practically without food or fuel. There had been no fire in the place for a considerable time, and with the temperature hovering close to the zero mark the case was particularly pathetic.

The mother had worked at different places about the city, but of late had been unable to find employment. None of the children are old enough to earn anything, and have been absolutely dependent upon the mother's resources.

The Charities Organization has provided for the seven members of the family for the present.

Inspector Sanders has commented upon the fact that there is little actual poverty in London this year, and there is plenty of work for all who seriously care to obtain employment. Only three men, all strangers in the city, have applied to him for help in securing work this winter, and these were readily accommodated.

The majority of those who have applied for assistance have reduced to their unfortunate positions because of illness, but even such applications are fewer than in former years.

HILL ST. LADY DIED, AGED 99; BORN IN IRELAND IN 1814

Mrs. Katharine Hyland Passed Away at a Ripe Old Age Yesterday.

One of the oldest residents of London—Mrs. Katharine Hyland, mother of Mr. Patrick Hyland, of 586 Hill street—died Wednesday afternoon at the home of her son, aged 99 years. She would have attained her centenary in a few months.

Mrs. Hyland was born in Ireland.

THREE YEARS IN KINGSTON FOR A LOCAL HORSE THIEF

P. M. Judd Sentenced William Rand, Who Stole an Outfit From S. E. Maloney.

Police Magistrate Judd this morning imposed a sentence of three years in the Kingston penitentiary upon William Rand, who was convicted a few years ago of having stolen a horse, cutter and harness from the stable of Samuel E. Maloney, of Chester street, Westminster township, just outside the city limits.

Police Magistrate Judd informed the prisoner that he had previously decided to inflict a five-year term upon him, but that the plausible story told of his life since his liberation four years ago had a mitigating influence.

Rand had been convicted in London of highway robbery in 1900, and after serving fifteen months in the Central Prison had committed a like offence in

Toronto, for which he was given five years at Kingston.

"My life has been straight for the past four or five years," Rand declared when asked had he anything to say as to his sentence. "I was all right until I started drinking again last November."

He accounted for himself since his release from Kingston and told of having gone first to Buffalo, thence to St. Thomas, to Neville, to Red Cross, Mich., back to Buffalo, and then to London. He gave the names of his employers in each of these places, and stated that he had been in London for the past year, and had worked steadily first with John Hayman & Sons, contractors, and later with McClary's.

The magistrate, after severely lecturing Rand on the seriousness of the crime of horse-stealing, imposed the three-year penalty.

Rand pleaded to be sent to the Central Prison rather than to Kingston Penitentiary, apparently believing that he would thus reach the prison farm at Guelph, but this was denied him.

CHIPMAN REPORT NOT READY YET

Adding of Suburbs May Change Storm Water Sewer Plans.

The report of Engineer Willis Chipman relative to storm sewers for London will not be presented to the council for some time. He commenced the work some time ago, but since the annexation of the suburbs, it has been deemed expedient to take a survey of those sections, as it might be possible to take care of the storm water with less expense, since the city's territory has been enlarged.

Engineer MacGregor is busily engaged in preparing the survey of the

new sections, and will have it ready in a few weeks.

Until that is completed, it is not at all likely that Mr. Chipman will give his final report on the question.

TRADE OF DOMINION IS GROWING RAPIDLY

The Growth Last Year Totalled Nearly Hundred and Ninety Millions.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Ottawa, Jan. 9.—Canada's trade is growing at a very rapid rate. It is now well over the billion mark. During the twelve months prior to last December the imports and exports of the Dominion totalled \$1,005,700,000. During the corresponding period of the previous year the trade totalled \$817,000,000. The growth last year was therefore \$188,700,000.

DUCHESS IN PAIN DURING THE NIGHT; MAY BE OPERATION

Gov.-General's Wife in Montreal Hospital Suffering From Peritonitis.

DOCTOR'S BULLETIN CAUSES ANXIETY

Distinguished Patient Is Today More Comfortable, According to Latest Report.

[Canadian Press.]

Montreal, Jan. 9.—That the Duchess of Connaught, who was rushed to the Royal Victoria Hospital here from Ottawa, where her royal highness was taken ill with peritonitis, had not passed a good night, but was more comfortable this morning, was the report obtained from the doctors attending the distinguished patient this morning.

The following bulletin was issued at 11:45 a.m.:

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught did not pass a very good night, but was restless and complained of considerable pain. This morning, however, the duchess' condition showed improvement.

(Signed) E. S. WORTHINGTON, M.D., "W. W. CHIPMAN, M.D."

The announcement that the duchess had passed a bad night caused much apprehension in the city, and the newspapers were besieged by inquiries. A rumor was started that the duchess was to be operated on this afternoon, but no confirmation of this statement could be secured anywhere.

The doctors and those in attendance on the duchess absolutely decline to give out information except in the form of official bulletins.

The quarters in the Royal Victoria Hospital where the duchess is situated, is most rigidly guarded so as to prevent her attendants from being interrogated by the newspapermen and sympathizers who visited the hospital this morning.

It was learned from Arthur Sladen, the secretary to the Duke of Connaught, that her royal highness slept most of the morning. It is understood that another consultation of doctors was held this afternoon, and the bulletin, which it is expected will give the party with regard thereto. He claimed that attitude had been consistent throughout. Premier Borden pledged himself over and over again to restore the lands, but during fifteen months in office he had done nothing to redeem that pledge.

BORDEN FAILED TO KEEP PLEDGE

Saskatchewan Has Not Yet Been Given Control of Province's Domain.

STATEMENT BY SCOTT

Says Province Must Not Beg From Ottawa What Is Hers By Right.

[Canadian Press.]

Regina, Sask., Jan. 9.—The question of the management of the domain of the province provided the main topic of discussion in yesterday's session of the Legislature. The discussion was opened by Premier Scott, who, in moving a resolution urging the necessity for the continuance of negotiations with the Federal Government until the lands are restored, reviewed the whole question of the lands and the attitude of himself and his party with regard thereto. He claimed that attitude had been consistent throughout. Premier Borden pledged himself over and over again to restore the lands, but during fifteen months in office he had done nothing to redeem that pledge.

There was full justification for the changed attitude of the people of the province in view of the changed conditions. When the Laurier Government decided to maintain federal control of the public domain it was with the distinct understanding that the immigration policy of the Ottawa Government would be conducted in a manner friendly to the newly-created provinces. But the reverse was the case today, and Saskatchewan's interests were being neglected. Saskatchewan today asked for these lands, as her right, and it was not for the Government of the province to go in the guise of a mendicant to Ottawa to ask for what justly belonged to the province.

Bradshaw, of Prince Albert, moved an amendment to Premier Scott's resolution, the purport of which was that Premier Borden's inaction in regard to the restoration of the lands to the province was justified by the vote of the people at the provincial elections of 1905, 1908, and 1912. He considered the Government at Ottawa would be justified in withholding the lands until such time as the people of Saskatchewan expressed a desire to have them handed over.

Reading the Law. Every clause is being scrutinized very carefully, in an attempt to discover anything that will apply to a situation similar to this.

There is one section that has to do with this question, and it seems to make the election of the aldermen legal, unless it can be shown that some of the defeated candidates have suffered from the irregularities who are admitted.

The section is very lengthy, but, in brief, it provides that any irregularities which may occur during the election, cannot void the election unless it can be shown to the county judge that any of the defeated candidates have suffered from the irregularities who are admitted.

If no steps are taken to show that such is the case, of course, the election is valid, and the fifteen declared elected are entitled to their seats in the city council. No act of the Legislature is necessary to validate the election.

Mayor Graham stated today that the council would do nothing. They were satisfied that the election was legal, although possibly it might be considered irregular.

"We will meet on Monday as usual," declared his worship. "We have heard nothing regarding legal proceedings being taken, and I am of the opinion that none will be taken."

SANK IN HARBOR

Crew of British Ship Manage to Reach a Haven.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 9.—The British ship Evelyn, 2,300 tons, salt laden, was ashore at St. Esprit yesterday morning during a snowstorm. Her crew succeeded in getting the ship off and made an attempt to get to Louisbourg. The Evelyn arrived at the entrance to Louisbourg harbor this morning, but sank there. Her crew of 22 were saved.



DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT.

Drop Food Tax Platforms

London, Thursday, Jan. 9.—Tariff reform, so far as it involves the taxing of food, is on the eve of final disappearance as a plank in the Unionist policy, according to a statement published in this morning's Chronicle.

A representative meeting of Unionists was held in the House of Commons yesterday, with the object of healing, if possible, the dissensions in the Unionist party created by the recent proposal to impose taxes on food imported into the British Isles, and restoring the unity of the party.

A memorial was drafted, it is stated, and addressed to Andrew Bonar Law, leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, advocating the policy of abandoning the food taxes at the next general elections.

According to the authority quoted the memorial was signed by a majority of the Unionist members. The Unionist newspapers make no mention of the meeting in this morning's issue.

CITY COUNCIL WILL MEET ON MONDAY

Aldermen Are Acting Under Instructions From the City Solicitor.

ELECTION ACT STUDIED

It Would Appear That There Will Be No Reason to Attempt to Upset the Voting.

In accordance with the usual proceedings, the city council will organize on Monday morning next at 11 o'clock, provided, of course, that no injunction is issued in the meantime to invalidate the election.

The striking committee will meet on Friday night to arrange the various committees and do the preliminary work.

The aldermen are acting under instructions from City Solicitor Meredith and he is taking the necessary steps to protect them.

During the next few days the municipal act is being studied more closely than ever before.

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FORCE APPEAL TO COUNTRY

Toronto Globe Says Feeling of the Country on Naval Question.

Toronto, Jan. 9.—A significant editorial in today's Globe advises the Liberals to force a general election on the navy question. It says in part:

"If upon reassembling at Ottawa the Liberal members decide to insist upon a general election there is nothing to prevent them from bringing it about. Mr. Borden and his followers blazed the trail in the spring and summer of 1911. There is no 'closure' of debate in the Canadian Parliament, and a far less resourceful and numerous opposition than that under the leadership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier could secure either the abandonment of the navy bill or an appeal to the country upon it. The Globe is strongly of the opinion that the Liberals in the Commons should take upon themselves the duty of preventing the passage of the measure rather than leave it to the Senate to reject the bill. Already anticipating the possibility of action by the Senate, certain Conservative papers are expressing the opinion that the rejection of the bill by the senators would not necessarily involve a general election, but would be made the occasion for an attack by the Borden Government upon the Senate.

Would Be Good Tactics. "A decision by the Liberal party to prevent the passage of the bill through the Commons would therefore be unquestionably good tactics. There would be no possibility of raising side issues, nor any way of evading an appeal to the electorate short of the abandonment of the bill."

The article further says a redistribution bill should be put through.

"There is no reason why the navy issue should not be settled by the people early in April. Mr. Borden declared vociferously two years ago that it must in the end be placed before the electorate. The opportunity to make good his pledge may be at hand. And the issue stripped of all irrelevances, will be: shall Canada take measures for her own defence on sea as well as on land, or shall she hire her naval defence by a policy of contributions to the British navy?"

FIRE AT MUSKOGON. Muskogon, Mich., Jan. 9.—Fire late last night destroyed the Elks Temple, a four-story structure at the corner of Western and Second streets. The loss is estimated at \$150,000. The flames started in the basement, their origin being unknown.

AGED WATCHMAN WAS STRUCK BY G. T. R. TRAIN AT RIDOUT ST.

Harry Mahon, of 59 Wilson Ave., Seriously Injured at 8:30 This Morning and Rushed to Victoria Hospital—Was Hurled to One Side and Rendered Unconscious.

Harry Mahon, of 59 Wilson avenue, an elderly man, employed by the Grand Trunk as crossing watchman at Ridout street, was struck by an incoming freight train from the west while on duty at 8:30 this morning, and is now in Victoria Hospital in a precarious condition. He sustained severe injuries to his head and body and one leg was broken in two places.

Mr. Mahon, whose shanty is on the north side of the crossing, lowered his gates as a freight approached from the east, outward bound. He crossed safely in front of this train to get on the south side, and was struck by the train on the south track.

Rendered Unconscious. While the freight was moving slowly he was hurled a considerable distance and rendered unconscious. Employees of a lumberyard adjoining rushed to his assistance and had him removed to the office of Dr. D. H. Hogg, from which he was taken to the hospital in the police ambulance.

The bones of his left leg were very badly smashed and protruded through the flesh. He sustained several severe gashes about his head, his body was badly bruised, and a deep wound was inflicted on the left arm below the elbow.

It is impossible to tell as yet whether or not Mr. Mahon suffered internal injuries. His condition is quite critical, and the shock may prove fatal to a man of his advanced years. At present, however, he is resting fairly well.

Family Scourged.

Three of Mr. Mahon's sons have been the victims in fatal accidents. Thomas, a brickman, was killed several years ago at Stoney Creek, Ont., and Henry met death while a member of a section gang. James, an elevator inspector, was killed in an accident on the American side over four years ago.

Mr. Mahon is about 65 years old, and has practically lived all his life in West London. His wife, two sons and two daughters comprise the living members of the family. Their names and places of residence are: David, Battle Creek, Mich.; George, Chatham; Mrs. John Hodder, 243 Fall Mill street, city; Mrs. William Foster, of Detroit, but who is at present living with her parents at 59 Wilson avenue.

JAMES ADAMS IS INSANE; WILL BE SENT TO AN ASYLUM

Youth Who Fired a Farmer's Barns Is Not Accountable For Action.

James Adams, who was tried on a charge of arson last Monday, appeared before Judge Macbeth this morning for sentence, but upon the report of the examinations made of the prisoner by Dr. MacArthur and Dr. Robinson, the judge remanded Adams to jail until he is transferred to an institution, where he will be given the proper care that such a case deserves. He is declared to be insane.

The evidence submitted by the crown at the trial on Monday clearly

showed that Adams set fire to the barn of John R. Waters on Dec. 18. Both the doctors stated that the condition of Adams' mind was such that he could not realize the magnitude of the crime that he had committed. This morning Adams stated that he had been confined to the Hamilton asylum some years ago and had "skipped out."

The county police think that Adams is the same man who set the barn of Mr. Beattie, of Pond Mills, on fire some three years ago. The county police were informed of the crime at that time, and a description of the man who had been employed by Mr. Beattie was given. No trace of him could be found, however. The police stated this morning that the description given of that man also fits Adams.

It is likely that Adams will be sent to the Hamilton asylum.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS SHOW A BIG INCREASE

Figures For 1912 Are Far in Advance of Those For Previous Years in the City of London—1913 Will Undoubtedly Break All Records.

The real estate returns for the year 1912 show a marked increase over the past four years, both in number and in value. The activity in land is marked at the present time, and it appears that the present year will see the greatest movement in very many years in London.

The total transfers reached high-water mark during the year, 1,112 pieces of property changing hands. The consideration was nearly \$2,000,000, while the assessments were \$152,340, a 68.5 per cent. increase over the year 1910.

The month of December was rather quiet, in fact, the quietest in the past four years. The explanation was that the majority of real estate men held off in order to discover what would become of the federal square proposition. The consideration for the 30 pieces of property changing hands was \$112,335, as compared with \$195,240 in 1911, \$129,936 in 1910, and \$128,765 in 1909.

There have been many transfers dur-

ing the present month, some excellent prices having been realized. A number of real estate men are now picking up desirable property, and many big transfers are likely to take place in the immediate future.

The following are the transfers for December during the past four years:

The transfers for the past four years are:

There have been many transfers dur-



HON. SAM HUGHES, Minister of Militia, Who Will Speak at the Canadian Club Tonight.

NO IMPORTANT MATTERS BEFORE LEGISLATURE

Premier Roblin, While Not in Good Health, Will Lead House.

[Canadian Press.]

Winnipeg, Jan. 9.—With the usual ceremonies, the third session of the thirteenth legislature of Manitoba was opened at 3 o'clock this afternoon by Lieutenant-Governor Cameron, in the midst of a large gathering of members and others. Premier R. P. Roblin, while not in the best of health, was present, and will lead the House during the session. T. C. Norris, Opposition leader, has just returned from a trip to British Columbia. He says the Liberal members are in excellent trim. The speech from the throne forecasted no new legislation of importance, and was principally devoted to routine matters. The hope was expressed that in the near future Winnipeg would be linked up by a provincially-owned railroad with the new line to Hudson's Bay.

EIGHT MONTHS FOR LOUISA AND MAY

Militant Suffragettes Heavily Punished for Destroying the Mails.

ONE LADY IS A CRIPPLE

Letter Boxes Throughout London Were Damaged By Means of Acids, Varnish and Ink.

[Canadian Press.]

London, Jan. 9.—Long sentences were passed today on two of the militant suffragettes, many of whom in recent months have engaged in a campaign of destruction of the mails. May Billingham and Louisa Gay, two of the first to be arrested in connection with these outrages, were brought up for trial at the Old Bailey today and condemned to eight months' imprisonment each.

May Billingham, who is a cripple, and is unable to get about except on a tricycle, already had been imprisoned on several occasions in connection with the suffrage campaign.

The evidence given today showed that letter boxes throughout the centre and the West End of London had been damaged, together with their contents by means of acids, sticky fluids of various kinds, varnish, ink, and, in some cases, inflammable materials, such as rag soaked in lamp oil, had been inserted through the slots in the boxes for the admission of the mail. Many valuable documents had been destroyed in this way. These included money orders, contracts, checks and bank notes.

It was a matter of difficulty to capture the perpetrators of the outrages, in the act, as in most instances the destructive fluids were passed into the boxes in uncorked bottles contained in ordinary envelopes.