

## The Evening Times &amp; Star

VOL. IX. No. 92

ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1914

TEN PAGES - ONE CENT

## ERROR BY CAPTAIN

Cobequid Commander Says Misjudgment Was Made

COMBERS JUST AS HE ALTERED THE COURSE

Was Steering to Bring Steamer Three or Four Miles South of Trinity Light—Was Making Six or Seven Knots at Full Speed—Lead Showed 26 Fathoms—No Papers Saved

(Special to Times.)  
Halifax, N. S., Jan. 20.—"I want it understood that I was steering and altered my course to bring me about three or four miles south of Trinity Light. I was not steering up to sight the ledge. I only thought to get up that far to see the light and I hoped to see the Forcher light, and the Lurche light, and therefore did not alter my course too soon to sight the Lurche."

"A misjudgment on my part in regard to the distance put me three or four miles off the course. Just as I altered my course a moment later I saw combers breaking over the reef."

Captain Howson, R. N. R., who was in command of the steamer Cobequid when she grounded on Trinity Ledges on the way to St. John on last Tuesday morning made this statement at the conclusion of his evidence at the enquiry into the disaster yesterday afternoon.

Another important fact brought out at the hearing was that none of the ship's papers were saved. The chief officer said that the only paper saved was his certificate. The log book and many other valuable papers stored in the chief officer's room were swept away by heavy seas which came over the ship on the day she grounded.

Captain Howson said that when the steamer struck she was going at full speed, although she was not making more than six or seven knots. "I was going full speed after midnight in order to get an even speed," he said. "From 8.30 o'clock on the day that the steamer grounded soundings were taken every half hour and the least was twenty-six fathoms were recorded each time."

Captain Howson said that the only lights seen after the commencing of the disaster were the Trinity Light and Seal Island and Blond Rock. He did not see a light on Trinity bar. When the ship struck the ledge it put the grapple in the compass out of commission.

"Did you have a book showing the lights?" asked the commission.  
"It had the ordinary book of lights," he said.  
"It was not a local one?"  
"No."  
"When did you see the buoy on Trinity Ledge first?"  
"Just after daylight, about eight o'clock, I guess."

The S. O. S. signal was first sent out at 6.15 and no answer was received from Cape Sable until 6.34. Communication, according to the captain, was next established with Kron Princess Cecilie. Captain Howson was briefly examined on many other points such as what was done to attract attention of passing steamers, to save the passengers in the event that the worst came to the worst, whether the life boats could have been properly manned and whether they were ready to be lowered, whether the passengers were given every consideration, and what was done to get in touch with other steamers after the wireless gave away.

**First Officer's Evidence**  
At the resumption of the enquiry this morning Chief Officer Kirby was recalled at the request of H. Melish, counsel for Captain Howson. He was questioned in regard to the time of watch and when he knew the exact location of the ship. At the time she struck he did not know the ship's location but did soon afterwards.

(Continued on page 7, sixth column)

**DEATH OF NOTED FRENCH POLITICAL WRITER TODAY**

Paris, Jan. 20.—Francis De Pressensé, an eminent French political writer, died today, in his 61st year. One of his most important works was a history of the Union of England and Ireland.

**WEATHER BULLETIN**  
Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis—An area of low pressure which now covers the low hills and middle states is likely to move slowly to the Atlantic, with the pronounced high pressure over the western provinces and northward will probably spread south-eastward, bringing lower temperature throughout western Canada.

Still Cold  
Maritime—Northerly winds, fair and decidedly cold; Wednesday, northeast winds and continued cold.

DREADFUL HAVOC WROUGHT BY ERUPTION OF THIS VOLCANO



Details are beginning to come in showing the awful havoc wrought by the eruption of this volcano, which is situated on a small island in the Gulf of Kagashima, Southern Japan. The island of Sakara was almost destroyed. The estimates on the number killed are placed in the thousands.

## THOROUGH DEMOCRATIZATION OF HOUSE OF LORDS PROMISED

(Canadian Press)  
London, Jan. 20.—Postmaster-General Samuel announced in a speech at Henly last night that within a year the premier would submit to parliament a proposal for the complete elimination of the hereditary peerage principle and the thorough democratization of the House of Lords.

## CHINESE BANDITS RAVAGING AGAIN

Missionaries Driven From Station, One is Wounded—Revolutionary Leader Stabbed to Death

Hankow, China, Jan. 20.—Mr. Lillie, a missionary of the American Lutheran mission, was wounded in an arm on January 16 in fighting at Kwang Chow, in the Province of Honan. An army of bandits under "White Wolf," who has been devastating the district, on that date captured and looted the mission house and took refuge in a country farm house belonging to Chinese Christians.

The brigands are now ravaging the southeastern portions of Honan as they have done the southwestern portions. London, Jan. 20.—A Tien Tsin despatch to the Daily Mail says that after the arrival of the express from Peking on Monday, the body of a man who had been stabbed to death, was found in one of the carriages. He was identified as a revolutionary leader, Jung Kweshing, who was implicated in the murder of General Sung Shiao Jen, ex-minister of education in Shanghai in last March.

**NEW PASTOR TO REBUILD ST. ANDREW'S, MONTREAL**  
Sum of Sixty Thousand Pounds at Disposal of Rev. Mr. Duncan

(Special to Times.)  
London, Jan. 20.—Rev. G. S. Duncan, who has been called to St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Beaver Hall Hill, Montreal, preached his farewell sermon on Sunday evening in St. Catharine's Parish church, Edinburgh. He said that the Montreal call appealed to him primarily as the scene of his early ministrations. Further the call came unanimously and was unlooked for by him, whilst the congregation had agreed to place a sum of £60,000 at his disposal for the purpose of rebuilding the church.

**PORTLAND SUNDAY SCHOOL.**  
The management of the Sunday school of the Portland church held their annual meeting in the school room last evening with a large gathering. Addresses were made by the superintendent, R. T. Hayes; Rev. H. Pierce and F. S. Thomas. The report of the secretary showed the school to be flourishing and greatly advanced since the last annual meeting. William McIntosh referred to the work of the Sunday school in being able to provide a new room for his class, which has grown too large for its former quarters. The girls of Mr. McIntosh's class provided an elaborate supper for those present. The entertaining committee was in charge of Mrs. A. B. McInnes and Miss Evelyn Ewing, who were assisted by Miss Jessie Cunningham, Mrs. Smyler and Mrs. J. Rowler.

## JUDGES TAKE OATH OF OFFICE

Were Sworn in Today—Three Will Have to Come to St. John to Live

At the opening of the January sitting of the Supreme Court, Chancery Division, this morning the judges recently appointed to the Court of Appeal and Chancery Division were sworn in. The oath of office was administered by J. Howe Dickson, clerk of the executive council in the presence of a large number of barristers and others. Among those present were: Sir Frederic E. Barker, Mr. Justice White and Mr. Justice Grimmer, the other judges of the Court of Appeal and Chancery Division also replied to Mr. Barker's address and Judge Grimmer expressed a wish that he would have the consideration of the bar as an assistance to him in carrying out the duties of his new office.

Each of the speakers also eulogized Sir Frederic Barker and paid tribute to his excellent record. Sir Frederic made a brief but feeling reply, saying that he would miss the court rooms and chambers which had become a second home to him, having occupied them for the last twenty years, and he would feel keenly his severance from the bench and bar.

It is interesting to note in connection with these matters one section of the new act which came into force on January 1 of this year, as follows: "The judges of the court of appeal and two judges of the King's Bench Division shall reside in the city of St. John (Continued on page 7, sixth column)"

**HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR SOUTH AFRICA**  
(Special to Times.)  
London, Jan. 20.—The London correspondent of the Glasgow Herald, discussing the question of the appointment of a successor to the late Sir Richard Solomon, says that all desire to see the appointment of a South African high commissioner who is able to foster the growing commercial interests between Britain and the union.

"Canada," he adds, "has not only a leading commercial representative in Lord Strathcona, but a picturesque high commissioner."

The names before the union government in connection with the appointment are John X. Merriman, J. W. Jagger, and Sir F. DeWail.

## SHOOTS WIFE IN BANGOR; TURNS GUN ON HIMSELF

Wm. Crane Called on Her And Demanded Money

SHOT WHEN SHE REFUSED

Husband Had Been Drinking—Bullet Hit Wife in Arm—She Will Recover But He Is Likely To Die

(Special to Times)

Bangor, Me., Jan. 20.—Angered by alleged infidelity on the part of his wife, Alice, and craving for liquor, William Crane of Bangor shot and attempted to murder her in the Silver House in this city yesterday. After firing one shot at the woman, which took effect in her arm, he turned the revolver on himself and tried to commit suicide. The bullet penetrated his right side and he is not expected to live. His wife's injuries are not serious and she will recover.

According to the story told by the woman, who is employed as a cook in the Silver House, Crane entered the kitchen and demanded money from her. She refused on account of his condition, and ordered him to go out. Then she says he shot her.

After he was taken to the police headquarters and before being removed to the hospital, Crane admitted the shooting and accused his wife of infidelity, naming an acquaintance of hers.

"I ruined my life," he said, "and I intended to put an end to it all."

**LORD STRATHCONA IS NEAR THE END**

Reported Dying—Became Unconscious at Half Past Four This Afternoon

(Special to Times.)  
London, Jan. 20.—Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, high commissioner for Canada, is dying. The physicians in attendance reported that he became unconscious at half-past four o'clock this afternoon.

London, Ont., Jan. 20.—(Special)—A London special cable says: "Lord Strathcona, who has been suffering from a long illness, is reported to be near the end of his life."

His greatest romantic career, his overwhelming personality are told this morning in every underground train, every bus, every luncheon room. The star, quick moving figure has been prominent and admired in London for years.

"If the hand of death lays hold this time, his face and form will be missed from the hub of the empire. It is recalled that his face lost its usual glow some months ago, but it was assuredly coming."

**WHITNEY IS NEAR THE END OF LIFE**

Doctors Do Not Think Premier of Ontario Can Live Another Day

Toronto, Ont., Jan. 20.—Sir James Whitney is growing hourly weaker and it is hardly expected he can survive another day. The premier had a very bad turn at ten o'clock this morning, when for a few minutes the doctors thought the end had come. The use of stimulants revived him, however, and for a time was conscious.

"We are just keeping him alive with heart stimulants," said Doctor McPherson, with ominous shake of the head. The doctor holds out practically no hope of recovery.

**UNION OFFICIAL ROBBED OF PAPERS ON HIS WAY TO MINE MEN'S CONVENTION**

(Canadian Press)  
Clarksburg, W. Va., Jan. 20.—J. Olden who said he was a union labor organizer of Hagerstown, Md., on his way to a convention of the United Mine Workers of America in Indianapolis, was robbed of valuable papers on a Baltimore and Ohio railroad train near Morgantown and Kingston railroad junction early today. His assailants escaped and Olden, guarded by a local detective, continued his journey.

Olden said he was playing cards in a room with a stranger when he was knocked down from behind. When he recovered consciousness, three men, one of them his companion, were bending over him. "Get down," he said, "or we will be back here. When the train was stopped by a hot box the men jumped and escaped."

## SEVEN KILLED IN GUN BATTLE IN PRISON OUTBREAK

Desperate Dash For Freedom By Three Convicts

ALL GO TO THEIR DEATH

Three Officials and a Visitor Also Slain and Telephone Girl, Carried as Shield by Outlaws, Is Wounded

(Canadian Press)

McAlester, Okla., Jan. 20.—Quiet prevailed today at the state penitentiary where, last night, seven persons lost their lives during a battle between guards and three convicts who attempted to escape. The bodies of three prison employees and three convicts were in the penitentiary morgue; while in the city, a few miles distant, the body of Judge John R. Thomas of Muskogee, a visitor at the prison, and killed by a convict's bullet, awaited final preparations for shipment to relatives.

In the prison hospital suffering from bullet wounds, were Miss Mary Foster, telephone operator at the prison; John Martin, turnkey, and C. L. Wood, guard. The bodies of H. D. Dwyer, head of the Bertillon department; Patrick Oates, assistant deputy warden, and F. C. Godfrey, a guard, will be held for word from relatives.

**The Break for Liberty.**  
Pistols, smuggled into the prison, and reaching to hands of Charles Koonz, China Reed and Tom Lane, the convicts who gave their lives in their dash for liberty, were the cause of the tragedy.

Armed with their pistols, Reed, Lane, and Koonz, when labor ended for the day in the tailor shop, made their way (Continued on page 7, seventh column)

**EASIER MONEY**

Local Bank Manager Speaks Of Good News From Abroad

From indications in the English market and the tone of prominent financial journals, local bank managers are becoming more optimistic with regard to the money situation. The Bank of England is the chief director of affairs in the commercial world, and from it are regulated conditions throughout banking circles, so that it is the sign of how the "wind blows" when its rates are lowered. Recently they were reduced from five to four and a half per cent, and there is a possibility of still further decrease to four per cent, on Thursday.

The action is expected to be reflected generally, and its effect will be felt in Canada as elsewhere. One prominent manager said today that it could hardly be thought that Canada's commercial centres would feel the effects of the easier situation in London, Berlin and elsewhere on the continent for at least a couple of months, but it was assuredly coming.

**HORSEMEN DECIDE ON SEVERAL MEETS THIS SEASON ON MOOSEPATH**

The St. John Matinee Driving Association last evening decided to stage several meets this winter on Moosepath. The general opinion seemed to be that this branch of sport was on the boom in St. John, judging by the number of good horses that are to be seen on the Marsh road speedway.

The meeting was held in the office of George A. Clark, with the president, John Jackson, in the chair. The following were elected: Secretary, Fred W. Kelly; treasurer, Raymond Baxter; assistant secretary, F. T. Mullin; managing and classification committee, William Brown, F. W. Kelly, John Glynn, W. A. Reid, Fred Emery, William Brickley, Alexander Long and George A. Clark. All races will be under National Trotting Association rules.

**I. C. R. MEN AGAIN GATHER IN MONCTON TO MEET MR. GUTELIUS**

(Special to Times)  
Moncton, N. B., Jan. 20.—The joint committee of the I. C. R. C. and B. of R. T. has again assembled in Moncton to conclude the recent schedule negotiations with F. P. Gutelius, general manager of the I. C. R. C. Among those here are H. T. Ward, A. E. Brown, and A. E. Logan, of St. John, and N. G. Gendron, of Fredericton.

R. G. Gendron, of Moncton, has been appointed electrical and signal engineer for the I. C. R. C. It is understood the position of superintendent, formerly held by H. G. Rolfe, will be abolished and the work done under Mr. Gage.

The first accident on Moncton's new open air rink occurred last evening, when Lee Metcalf fell on the ice and broke his nose.

Rev. Dr. W. W. Weeks, a former First Baptist pastor, now of Springfield, Mass., passed through Moncton en route to Sydney on a visit to his old home. He will preach in the First Baptist church pupil here on next Sunday.

## Whole Plot To Free Krafchenko Is Told Of

Buxton Says Desperado's Lawyer and Policeman Reid Engineered It

Tells Royal Commission in Winnipeg That He Secured Rope and Revolver—Talk of Wealth Which Prisoner Had Hidden Away

(Canadian Press)

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 20.—"I've defended a good many murderers, and none of them was ever hung, and I don't want this one to hang. If we can't get him on the street one way, we will have to try another."

According to John H. Buxton, under arrest for assisting in the escape of Krafchenko, testifying yesterday afternoon before the royal commission, Percy Hagel, who Buxton says, engineered the whole plot for escape, had no other motive than to get Reid out of it, and had tried to warn Reid that it could never be pulled off, but Reid, he said, was insistent that it was worth the chance.

Although admitting at first that Hagel was the prime instigator of the whole plot, Buxton's later evidence tended to show that Reid had taken the most active part in planning the details.

**Holt Forced Into It**  
Buxton was followed on the stand by Frank Holt, a young fellow of good character. He was arrested in the afternoon, and is held as a material witness. He was worked into the plot involuntarily. He is an employee of the Security Mortgage warehouse and helped Krafchenko in one of the upper stories, as he said, in fear of his life. Thrice in the story, he mentioned his "girl friend" telling how he took her to Zion church on Sunday night and how in his predicament he had made a clean breast of the story to her, receiving in return an insistent demand that he reveal the whole story to the police.

The most striking feature of the two stories was the fact that all who were implicated were acting apparently without any compelling impulse. To all of these, who assisted Krafchenko, he was almost a complete stranger. All say there was no promise of reward. They seemed to be hypnotized by the personality of the hand.

From Buxton's statement Reid appears to have been the prime mover. It was he who made the arrangements with Krafchenko, but Buxton was so much afraid that this could be traced if Krafchenko were caught, of his attempt at escape failed, that he prevailed on Reid and Hagel to give it back when he succeeded in having the other one stolen from a store. It was the stolen revolver that was given to Krafchenko and it was the same revolver which was found in a waste paper basket in the room where the bandit was captured on Sunday night.

Buxton detailed at length the various meetings with Reid and Hagel when he was in the plot.

**CARSON SAYS HE WILL GIVE COMMAND WHEN TIME COMES**

Belfast Unionists Renew Pledge Not To Submit To Home Rule

London, Jan. 20.—Sir Edward Carson, in a speech in Belfast on Monday evening, said:  
"I am most tired of speaking. I long for action. Come what may, I will see this fight through. When the time comes, whatever be the consequences, I shall not hesitate to give the word of command."

He went on to say that he and his followers would prostrate themselves before the throne and ask the king to save them, assuring him that none of his subjects were more devoted to the sovereign, and he did not believe that this appeal would fail. They would also kneel to a higher power and ask Him to guide those governing them, in the faith that a righteous cause must prevail.

The meeting, amid much enthusiasm, passed a resolution reaffirming the covenant and pledging themselves to stand together under Carson, to maintain Ulster's present position in the United Kingdom, to do their utmost to defeat the home rule "conspiracy" and to ensure that home rule will never be established in Ulster.

**ROYAL GOVERNOR SENDS HUNT TROPHIES TO UNION JACK CLUB**

(Special to Times)  
London, Jan. 20.—The Union Jack Club in the Waterloo Road, has received from the Duke of Connaught several trophies of the governor-general's shooting trips. The gifts include several fine moose head and other horned specimens of the time he has been much admired and appreciated by the members.

**HEARST SAYS HE HAS NOT BOUGHT MONTREAL HERALD**

New York, Jan. 20.—According to the Sun this morning, William R. Hearst, who returned yesterday after a week's pleasure trip in Canada, said that reports that he had bought the Montreal Herald were unfounded.

He said he had not thought of buying any Montreal newspaper and did not see "why such silly rumors were sent out from that city."

## "Moulting Time" In the Stores

January is the season when the stores go through the process of cleaning stocks—a natural and healthy business transaction. They plan to get out all the winter merchandise they can and get ready for spring.

Believing in the adage that "Trade follows the price," they act accordingly. What the advertising at this season of the year may lack in literary quality it more than makes up in pocket-book appeal.

Glance through the advertising in today's Telegraph and Times and you will see the passing of the seasons.

The new goods are knocking at the doors and you find the whippers of spring creeping in with the passing of winter.

As they "take stocks" most of the merchants are making their business plans for 1914. If you asked them what the most important part of these next years plans were, they would tell you: Provision for advertising in the newspapers!