

FALSE REPORTS AS TO MANITOBA

Statements in Liberal Press Concerning Mr. Bourassa and Nationalists Are Without Foundation

OTTAWA, Feb. 27.—The opposition press has been publishing circumstantial accounts of gatherings of French Conservatives to make trouble for the government in connection with the Manitoba boundary bill. The essential part of the story was the circumstantial statement that Mr. Bourassa was in Ottawa taking part in and guiding the deliberations of the rebellious ones. The trouble with this statement is that it is not true. Mr. Bourassa is not in Ottawa, was not in Ottawa on Saturday and has not been in Ottawa for several weeks.

There may be no Canadian team at Bieleys this year. There will be none if the National Rifle Association does not change its attitude towards the Ross rifle. So said Colonel Sam Hughes today in the course of a debate.

Mr. Macdonald moved an adjournment for the purpose of discussing the treatment of the Canadian marksmen by the N. R. A. He reviewed the development of the N. R. A. rules since the Ross rifle made its appearance on the ranges at Bieleys, and he described it as a process of growing and pin pricks. The success of Canadian marksmen, he declared, was the secret of the whole change. The rule about sights was a mere pretext.

Mr. Hughes agreed that the Canadian riflemen had been subjected to annoyances ever since the Ross rifle had reached its present high standard. After the first success of that rifle at Bieleys the British marksmen ordered thousands of the new rifles. This alarmed the rifle makers of England and they were at the bottom of the charge. This new rule about sights capped the climax. Mr. Hughes next referred to the proposed new British rifle. As a result of the success of the Ross rifle, the British government had been experimenting with the new weapon. He understood that the calibre would be .276.

"This new rule," said the minister, "seems a very strange way to treat those of us who are interested in imperial affairs."

The Canadian government had offered to lend the N. R. A. 10,000 Ross rifles free of charge, but the offer had not been as yet accepted.

Mr. Northrup attacked the Ross rifle. He suggested that the interference was due to doubt, which many persons in England and in Canada felt, as to the certificate given by Sir Frederick Borden to the "Mark Two" double cross rifles. How many rifles of that character had been distributed to the militia at the date when Sir Frederick Borden certified that it was the service weapon in Canada?

Mr. Hughes rejoined. He had nothing to say as to the honesty of the Canadian government in issuing certificates, but he would have said that at the time the 1,000 rifles were made, nearly all of these were in the hands of the militia. "That was a higher percentage of the whole force than 10,000 would be in the British army."

"If British riflemen do not wish to use their own rifle and they don't," he continued, "the offer made to these people of 10,000 rifles may be accepted. The British riflemen will have an opportunity of competing on equal terms with Canadians."

If this conduct is continued, he continued, he doubted whether the Canadians will send a team and he doubted whether the Canadian riflemen would go. The subject was then dropped.

The house then went into committee on the grain bill.

SEEK TO END WAR

Great Britain, France and Russia Make Representations to Turkey—British Steamer Seized

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PREPARING FOR PANAMA CANAL TRADE

Unprecedented Activity Among Great Shipping Companies Says London Financial News

In consequence of the expected opening of the Panama canal before the end of next year, there is a busy activity among shipowners which is unprecedented in the history of the ocean-carrying industry.

ALL AWAITING MINERS' MEETING

Conferences in Connection with British Coal Dispute Are of Uncertain Result in the Settlement

LONDON, Feb. 26.—On the eve of the resumption of the conference between Premier Asquith and other cabinet ministers and the miners' representatives which marks the critical stage of the government's efforts to avert a general coal strike, the nation is kept actually in the dark as to what has been accomplished towards securing peace since the negotiations on February 22.

The miners then informed the premier that they were powerless to agree to anything until authorization had been obtained from the miners' federation, which meets here tomorrow. As a consequence subsequent conferences have been held with the coal miners alone.

CONFESSES CRIME

Willis Brown Says He Killed His Wife and John Alden With a Club in Tacoma Suburb

TACOMA, Feb. 26.—Eight hours after the discovery of the bodies of Mr. Willis Brown aged 28, and John Alden, also known as Jack Wilson aged 38, on a county highway near East Larchmont and 24 hours after they had been killed by blows on the head from a club, Willis Brown aged 64, the dead woman's husband, pleaded guilty in the superior court to murder in the second degree.

As there were no witnesses to the crime, the Pierce county prosecuting attorney's office contented in this procedure, after a case of murder in the first degree had been drawn up against Brown. Judge Chapman will pass sentence tomorrow, and Brown will likely be on his way to the state penitentiary tomorrow night, within 48 hours after the double murder. Mrs. Brown and Alden were together at a theatre in Tacoma last night. They were seen to leave a late suburban car and start up a path toward the Brown home. A colored woman heard several screams at 8.30 this morning a laborer on his way to town discovered the bodies in the road. An officer took Brown into custody, and statements by his two children that he and his wife had engaged in a bitter quarrel yesterday afternoon over Alden, and that he had been assisting in the night, led to vigorous questioning.

At 2.35 o'clock this afternoon, Brown confessed, saying that he had knowledge of the intimacy between his wife and Alden for over a year and had protested to both.

FISHING VESSEL IS LAUNCHED FOR SKEENA

Power Schooner Built at Vancouver as First of Fleet for Northern Fisheries—New Seattle Vessels

The first of a fleet of fishing vessels to be built for the Skeena river and its tributaries has been launched by the Vancouver Shipbuilding Company. The new vessel, which will be used from Hayport, is a schooner rigged, with auxiliary power in the shape of a 50-horsepower engine. Wolverine make. Seventy feet long by 16 feet beam by 8 feet 6 inches light draft. She will carry 75,000 pounds of fish. She is constructed of oak and fir, and instead of the usual heavy schooner rig she has leg of mutton sails, the object of these being mainly to steady her in a heavy sea as she will chiefly rely upon her engines.

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