

TELLS OF RETURN OF
FLEET TO ESQUIMALTSpecial Cables From Old Country
Regarding Admiralty
Plans

The following is the full text of a special cable to the Montreal Gazette, in which they were published Saturday last, telling of the return of the British squadron to Esquimalt next spring.

London, Dec. 20.—(By Marconi Wireless Telegraph.)—For some time past, coincident with news of the return of the American battleship fleet to the Pacific, reports have been current that the British admiralty is planning a new naval distribution, and it is now announced that the Pacific squadron will be constituted in May next, with Esquimalt, B. C., as the probable base. The new squadron will consist of six cruisers of the county class, and the present fourth cruiser squadron, which comprises the three first-class armored cruisers, *Curlew*, *Buryalus*, and *Hogue*, and the third-class protected cruisers *Indefatigable* and *Brilliant*. Though it would be a mistake to exaggerate the importance of this move, it possesses some significance as an indication of the British admiralty's view of the changed situation which the cruise of the American battleship fleet will bring about.

London, December 27.—(Special Cable Service.)—The Standard prints conspicuously a statement that Great Britain has decided to establish a new naval squadron in the Pacific. The paper says it will be composed of the present fourth cruiser squadron and six cruisers of the county class, so-called because the ships are named after the counties of Great Britain. The squadron, which will be called the Pacific and North American, will, it is expected, have its base at Esquimalt. The scheme will become effective in May, 1908.

It will perhaps be recalled that an explanatory statement of the navy estimates for 1907-08 contained the announcement that the naval headquarters at Esquimalt and Esquimalt would be transferred to the Dominion Government, subject to the condition that they be available for repatriation. His Majesty's ships and that the Admiralty would be free to resume possession whenever naval interests required it. The Standard says it does not know how Canada will be affected by the new scheme. The fourth squadron, which consists of the *Curlew*, *Buryalus*, *Hogue*, *Indefatigable* and *Brilliant*, cruises periodically in North American and West Indian waters. The *Indefatigable* is stationed permanently there. The *Brilliant* is employed in Newfoundland waters during the fishing season. Of the county class of vessels there are now in Chinese waters, two in the Mediterranean, three in home waters, and two are used as training ships for cadets.

YUKON MEN RIVALS
TO LUTHER BURBANKCross Different Varieties of Potatoes
and Get Great Yield as a Result

Dawson, Dec. 10.—Ninety sacks of potatoes, weighing five tons, is the splendid result secured by McCuskey Brothers of Clear Creek, from their farm at the head of that creek, a few miles below Dawson. The potatoes matured this fall and are being marketed by the owners for the spring market. They are as sound and as firm and meaty as any from the north, and owners declare, as any potatoes ever brought to this country from the outer world.

The place where the potatoes were grown is a black schist, with two or three inches of soil over the top. By crossing the Rochester Rose and the Golden Coin varieties of potatoes one season, and following the result the next year, the McCuskeys obtained a phenomenal potato. The first cross sent up two shoots, one yielding a pink potato and the other a white. The second year, when the pink potato was crossed with the Golden Coin, a dark blue spud was the result. The dark blue fellow was grown this year. The McCuskeys think they have something which will make a fortune for them, and promise after this to have the world sitting up to spuds of any shade. McCuskey will be happy when he gets the emerald-spud spud. He paints vivid pictures of the beauties of potatoes served red, white and blue, and with the emerald layer for a finishing deck.

From one potato which was cut up and planted in this year, the McCuskeys raised 150 pounds of potatoes on their Clear Creek farm. All kinds of vegetables such as turnips, cabbages, lettuce, carrots, and onions and the like are grown there with great success.

Yukon is beginning to raise quantities of potatoes and some predict that the Yukon yet will get a figure in the world's alcoholic production from spuds as well as raise all the potatoes needed in the northland. Many other Klondiggers also are turning out fine spud crops this year.

Work is being done this winter on Eagle, Myers, Fork, Stonehouse, Napoleon, Franklin, Walker, Fork, Jack, Wade, Chicken, Lost Chicken, Canyon and other streams.

On the ground on Lost Chicken owned by McMahon, Heffron and partner two lays are being worked. Six men are on the ground. The properties have been of considerable value for several years.

The freight on the Forty-Mile is such now that teams are able to take supplies right from the Forty-Mile post over the ice to any of the gold streams along the river.

Row in Penitentiary.
Kingsford, Ont., Dec. 27.—It has leaked out that there was a lively time all Wednesday night at the penitentiary. For some reason the convicts, when they were placed in the cells, began singing about Deputy Warden O'Leary. "We'll Hang O'Leary on a Star Apple Tree." They kept up all night, in face of the combined efforts of the guards to prevent it. The result was that 27 men were marked by the warden, and as there are only eleven cells in this department, the prison of isolation had to be reopened to receive the surplus violators of prison discipline.

A bonus of \$10,000 is required by the promoters who want to start a cement works in Markdale.

PRIZE LIST FOR
NEXT ROSE SHOWThird Annual Exhibition of Society
Will Be Held Friday,
June 19

The prize list for the third annual rose show of the Victoria Horticultural society, which will be held on Friday, June 19, 1908, has been prepared. Full particulars may be secured at any time from the secretary, James A. Blane, 556 Toronto street, Victoria, B. C.

The prize list is as follows:

Class A—Professionals

Trade exhibit of roses.

Class B—Amateurs

Collection of roses, 12 varieties, one bloom each, shown singly, named: First, \$3; second, \$2.

Hybrid perpetuals, 6 varieties, one bloom each, shown singly: First, \$3; second, \$2.

Hybrid teas, 6 varieties, one bloom each, named, shown singly: First, \$3; second, \$2.

Tea, 4 varieties, one bloom each, named, shown singly: First, \$3; second, \$2.

Decorative basket of roses: First, \$3; second, \$2.50.

Best bowl of roses, own foliage, grown by exhibitor: First, \$3; second, \$2.

Best vase of roses, grown by exhibitor (prize donated by D. W. Hanbury):

Glorie de Dijon, three blooms: 75c.

Papa Gontier, three blooms: 75c.

General Jacquemont, three blooms: 75c.

La France, three blooms: 75c.

Caroline Testout, three blooms: 75c.

Petit Karl Druschki, three blooms: 75c.

Maman Cochet, three blooms: 75c.

White Munster Cochet, three blooms: 75c.

Ulrich Brunner, three blooms: 75c.

Kaiserin Augusta Victoria, three blooms: 75c.

Rainbow, three blooms: 75c.

Hybrid Perpetual, red, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Hybrid Perpetual, white, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Hybrid Perpetual, pink, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Hybrid Teas, dark pink, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Hybrid Teas, white, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Hybrid Teas, salmon, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Hybrid Teas, flesh, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Hybrid Teas, red, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Tea, white, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Tea, dark pink, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Tea, yellow, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Tea, flesh, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Tea, copper, three blooms, one variety, named: 75c.

Best bloom in show (Hybrid Perpetual), amateurs: Bronze medal.

Best bloom in show (Hybrid Teas), amateurs: Bronze medal.

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APPOINTMENTS MADE
OF COLLIERY BOARDSThose Who Will Pass on Fit-
ness of Men for Coal
Mines

Notice is given in the current issue of the B. C. Gazette that the following constitute the boards of examiners for the various collieries during the year 1908.

Cumberland Colliery.

Appointed by the owners—Charles Matthews; alternates, David Walker, David Neil.

Appointed by the lieutenant-governor in council—John Kealey.

Appointed by the miners—Joseph W. Horbury; alternates, Alexander McNeil, Thomas Leeman.

All persons interested may obtain full information by applying to the secretary of the board, John Kealey, of Cumberland, B. C.

Extension Colliery.

Appointed by the owners—Alexander Bryden; alternates, Alexander Shaw, William Jones.

Appointed by the lieutenant-governor in council—W. G. Simpson.

Elected by the miners—James Glen; alternates, Thomas Doherty, William Anderson.

All persons interested may obtain full information by applying to the secretary of the board, W. G. Simpson, Ladysmith, B. C.

Nanaimo Colliery.

Appointed by the owners—George Wilkison; alternates, Charles Graham, John Newton.

Appointed by the lieutenant-governor in council—Thomas Budge.

Elected by the miners—John Carr; alternates, George Moore, Daniel Livingston.

All persons interested may obtain full information by applying to the secretary of the board, Thomas Budge, Nanaimo, B. C.

Michel Colliery.

Appointed by the owners—John Bastian; alternates, Joseph Thomas.

Appointed by the lieutenant-governor in council—Robert Middelton.

Elected by the miners—Thomas George; alternates, Frank Campbell, Charles Fuchs.

All persons interested may obtain full information by applying to the secretary of the board, Robert Middelton, Michel, B. C.

Coal Creek Colliery.

Appointed by the owners—David Martin; alternates, John Hunt, Harry Mitchell.

Appointed by the lieutenant-governor in council—John McMillen.

Elected by the miners—John Adamson; alternates, Joseph Lane, Abraham Brown.

All persons interested may obtain full information by applying to the secretary of the board, John McMillen, Coal Creek, B. C.

News has been received by the provincial mineralogist, W. F. Robertson from Montreal that W. F. Dick, a student in the faculty of science, McGill university has been awarded the second prize in the annual competition for student members of the Canadian Mining Institute. Mr. Dick is a son of Mr. Dick, inspector of coal mines at Nanaimo, who is a highly creditable. The subject of his thesis was the Cariboo Consolidated Hydraulic company, Burn, B. C. Mr. Dick was educated at the Nanaimo High school and has since his matriculation put himself through college. He is now in his final year at McGill. The judges making the awards were F. H. Robert, editor of the American Mining Journal and T. O. Going.

German Consul at Winnipeg.

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—Information was received at the German consulate, acting German vice-consul, had been selected to succeed Hon. Wm. Hespeler, who will retire January 1 from the position of German consul, which he has occupied so many years. Mr. Carsten is editor of the Northwest.