

The Semi-Weekly Colonist

VOL. L. NO. 416.

VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1910.

FIFTY-THIRD YEAR.

Scripts Will Be Issued
Required Amount.

Books were
than last
ne of the

.....90¢
.....\$1.90
.....\$2.90
.....73¢, per lb. 10¢

Clothing

Jackets at low prices.
Various shades of green,
to match. Monday's
eat patterns of brown,
each \$3.75
peaches. Prices range
.....\$2.50
Combined, in heavy
terms. Monday, \$4.75
fancy cloths. Prices,
.....50¢
and.....\$2.50

Days

Designs, both conven-
securely bound. Sizes
.....\$2.50

and

Many Prices
Helmets, Guitars,
es and Balls, Teddy
ing Tops, Shooting

Drumboys, Accor-
s, Choral Humming
s complete, Skittles,

bove mentioned list,
Carved Work Boxes
ts, Nine-pins, etc.

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Lams, etc., in all
.....25¢

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BURIED UNDER FALLEN WALLS

More Than Score of Firemen
and Policemen Meet Death
While Fighting Fire in Phil-
adelphia Block

TWENTY BODIES TAKEN FROM RUINS

Others Seen in Debris Cannot
be Recovered at Present—
Danger Seen But Could Not
Be Escaped

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22.—More than a score of lives were snuffed out last night as the result of a fire which destroyed the leader goods factory of D. Friedlander, 1118-1120 North Bodine street, and as many more were injured, many of them fatally.

While the firemen were fighting the flames from the roofs of adjoining buildings, the south wall of the factory collapsed, burying nearly two score of firemen.

As soon as the extent of the calamity became known, policemen were hurried to the scene in an effort to save those who were still alive in the debris by tearing down the north wall, which was tottering, and a body of policemen had scarcely got to work when the north wall crashed upon them.

At the time of this second fall, between 25 and 30 policemen and firemen were at work directly under the huge mass of bricks. When the second crash came, 16 of them managed to rush to safety, but others were crushed beneath tons of bricks and girders.

Twelve dead policemen and firemen have been taken from under the north wall and the debris. Others were seen under the debris, but the work of rescuing them is necessarily slow, owing to the ice-covered beams and bricks, which are hard to handle.

Unable to Escape.
The men on the houses saw their danger first and called to their comrades on the ladder, but so sudden was the collapse of the wall, that no one was able to escape the rain of bricks, twisted beams, and girders. With a roar, the five-story mass crumbled, carrying either death or injury to everyone who was in the way. The debris was piled so high that it was impossible to dig out anyone.

The scene which followed was sickening. Thousands of gallons of water already had been thrown into the burning building, and there was at least two feet of ice on the ground. Their heads were crushed almost beyond recognition. A few moments later the body of Charles Erderman was pulled from the debris. He was a fireman, and his body was found beneath the debris they were ministered to by the priests who had rushed to the fire from St. Peter's German Catholic church, two blocks away.

While the injured were being removed from one side of the building, the groans of other firemen could be heard at the other end of the burned structure. William Glesler, of engineering company No. 8, and Harry Erdole of chemical engine No. 2, who were pinned by heavy girders, were able to talk with the rescuers and direct their work.

In the meantime a great disaster was threatening the men buried in the ruins. The north wall, which had remained standing, began to totter and fears were entertained that it would crash down upon the firemen at any moment.

Superintendent Taylor hurried 300 policemen to the scene, with instructions to tear the wall down at all hazards to prevent it from falling upon those of the frozen and seriously injured men who were alive, and further bury the probable dead.

When Glesler was rescued from beneath the debris he was almost frozen. Erderman, whose body was beneath him, was frozen stiff. The ice had crusted on his face, forming a perfect mask.

Plague's Ravages in China
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Every report from the north of China bearing on the epidemic plague indicates the rapid spread of the disease and adds to the magnitude of the affliction. A telegram received from the legation at Peking today says no less than two and a half million people have been plague-stricken in the province of Anhui alone.

Guests Narrowly Escape
HAGERSTOWN, Md., Dec. 22.—Fire broke out shortly after midnight in the Franklin hotel and burned so rap-

idly that guests barely escaped with their lives. The flames spread to the Foreman and McConnell buildings, both of which with the hotel were destroyed. The Knott building, part of which is an apartment house, also was in flames. The firemen were unable to fight the fire because of the lack of water. The damage is estimated at \$200,000. At 3 o'clock the fire was under control, having been confined to the buildings named.

Western Business Increases
WENNEPIEG, Dec. 21.—The Canadian Pacific, Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific report the year's business in the west shows an increase of twenty per cent over last year.

Gift for University.
SEATTLE, Dec. 21.—A gift of \$30,000 to the University of Washington from the late Abraham Schwabacher and Sigmund Schwabacher, of San Francisco, was accepted by the board of regents of the university yesterday. This is the first large donation of money given to the state university. The gift will be devoted to the establishment of a child welfare bureau in the department of education.

Elevator Compromises
OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—The Canadian Grain Growers and the Canadian government have reached a compromise on the terminal elevator question. A bill which Sir Richard Cartwright will introduce in parliament will provide control of Canadian terminal elevators by a commission of three, with the widest powers to deal with grain in transit and to punish mixing frauds. The measure also will give the government authority to suspend elevators by purchase or expropriation. This authority will not be exercised until the commission plan has been given a thorough trial. The bill will be dropped and the government will take over the elevators.

His Majesty Leaves Today
For Sandringham—Final
Count Increase Liberals and
Nationalists by One Each

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Premier Asquith, who is expected to leave for Sandringham today, had an audience at Buckingham Palace today. It lasted only three-quarters of an hour. It is understood that his Majesty wished to be fully advised as to the premier's views and the cabinet's plans for the future, now that the election is over. The final standing of the parties in the new parliament is given as follows:

Unionists, 272; Liberals, 272; Laborites, 47; Nationalists, 74; Independent Nationalists, 10.
The votes cast were: Unionist, 2,149,949; Liberal, 2,230,783; Laborites, 24,221; Nationalist, 128,715.

Three Men and Girl Hurt Through
Street Car Running Away and
Leaving Track

NELSON, B. C., Dec. 21.—Three men and a girl were seriously injured this morning in the first accident to Nelson's new street car service, which has just come into operation. The car ran away, backwards, in spite of brakes, power, and hand, while climbing a steep grade. At the foot of the hill it met a sharp curve, left the track, hit a telephone pole, overturned and was smashed to splinters.

At the time of the accident the car contained two passengers, a boy and a girl. Superintendent Ingram, Motor-man Goby and Conductor Franklin. One of the passengers the boy was unharmed while the girl was thrown through a lower window as the car overturned, and escaped from the falling car by a few inches. Ingram had a broken leg and is badly cut. Motor-man Goby, who was pinned under the car, had his foot badly crushed and Conductor Franklin has severe internal injuries.

Students Fight
WITH POLICEMEN
Meeting at Odessa University
To Protest Against Cruelty
To Prisoners Ends in Savage
Encounter

ODESSA, Dec. 21.—An attempt by the police today to disperse a students' meeting in the precincts of the university led to a serious riot, in which one student was killed, three were wounded and others received slightly injuries. Several police were severely hurt. In the course of the meeting the police requested the students to withdraw.

In answer a shot was fired in the street. Thereupon the dean called upon the prefect and a strong detachment of police and Cossacks surrounded the university building.

The prefect while mounting the steps was greeted with a volley of revolver shots from windows of the institution. The police replied with two volleys. Two hundred and thirty-five students were arrested.

Movement Widenspread
ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 21.—Not only in St. Petersburg, but in all the scholastic centers of Russia, students continue to hold meetings of protest against the barbarities suffered by political prisoners. Arrests, fines and imprisonment seem unavailing to suppress the movement.

Three thousand students of the women's university assembled yesterday, and sang revolutionary songs.

KING CONFERS WITH PREMIER

Mr. Asquith's Audience at
Buckingham Palace Lasts
For Three Quarters of an
Hour—Sees No Colleagues

ANXIOUS FOR PEACE AT CORONATION TIME

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For Sandringham—Final
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RAILWAY STRIKE ALMOST CERTAIN

Labor Commissioner Neil Ad-
mits That Relations Between
Companies and Engineers
Are Severely Strained

SIXTY-ONE ROADS IN CONTROVERSY

Grand Chief Stone Telegraphs
for Members of Brotherhood
Executive—Neither Party
Concedes Point

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Labor Commissioner Neil admitted that labor conditions between the western railroad managers and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers are becoming so strained that an open rupture may take place soon. The engineers of sixty-one railroads have threatened to strike unless granted a wage increase.

Commissioner Neil has held daily sessions with both engineers and members of the railroads' committee for nearly a week, but neither side has conceded a point, nor has been willing to yield anything toward harmony.

Warren S. Stone, grand chief of the members of the executive committee of the engineers' order and declared the likelihood of a conciliation small. It is said that if a strike is called, it will not affect all the roads at once, but will begin with some of the most important and continue until all the roads are tied up.

Three roads in the west not involved in the wage controversy are the Denver & Rio Grande, the Colorado Midland and the Western Pacific.

Oil Company Raided
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21.—The office of the Cleveland Oil Company, operating in Kern county oil fields, was raided by state officers late today. W. J. Batchelder, secretary, and G. G. Gillette, said to be interested in the sale of stock, were arrested, charged with using the government with regard to the release of bonds of \$5,000 each.

Bank General Manager Arrested
TORONTO, Dec. 21.—W. R. Travers, vice-president and general manager of the Farmers' Bank, which suspended payment yesterday, was arrested today, charged with making false statements to the government with regard to the affairs of the bank. The penalty for the offence is seven years imprisonment. The arrest followed the examination of the bank's books by the auditor.

Corpse Mystery
IS SOON SOLVED
Body of Man Stolen from Grave
At Jarvis, Ont., Packed in
Barrel and Shipped to
Montreal

MONTREAL, Dec. 21.—The finding of the body of an elderly man packed in a barrel at a cold storage here today led to the discovery of a mystery that was a late hour tonight the police had been unable to solve. The body, clothed only in a cheap suit of cotton underwear, was found in a barrel which had been placed in the barrel not long after death. There were no outward marks of violence, and until the body was taken out, which will take 48 hours, the coroner's physician will be unable to determine the cause of death.

The barrel was marked for shipment to "Janitor, Bishop's College, Montreal." That college went out of existence several years ago. According to the police he never received the barrel and knows nothing of its subsequent shipment to this city.

Double to Make Delivery, the railroad company opened the barrel to dispose of the poultry it was supposed to contain in order to cover freight charges. The head of the body was tied down between the feet with ropes. There was no identification paper or label upon the body, which evidently is of a man about 40 years old.

Case of Body Snatching
JARVIS, Ont., Dec. 21.—The history of a body shipped from here in a barrel, first to Toronto and then to Montreal, turns out to be a case of body snatching. Tonight provincial officials arrested John McSorley, consignee of the barrel.

The body is believed to be that of a man named Johnson who died on November 15, two days before the body was shipped. John McSorley said tonight that when the barrel consigned to Toronto left here it contained turkeys. He denied that he had anything to do with the shipment from Toronto to Montreal.

THREE HUNDRED CAGED IN MINE

Nearly All of Miners at Work
in a Lancashire Colliery
Thought to be Killed by Ex-
plosion of Gas

FEW RESCUED MEN ARE BADLY INJURED

Slight Hope of More Being
Found Alive—Rescue Work
Hindered by Fire and Falls
of Rock

BOLTON, Eng., Dec. 21.—More than three hundred men lost their lives today in the explosion in the Little Bolton colliery of the Hulton Colliery company located a short distance from this city. The explosion occurred early this morning, soon after the miners had entered the pit. Its force was terrific, and later investigation showed the lower passages had been blocked.

Efforts were made by rescue parties all day, but a fire which followed the explosion prevented the rescuers from penetrating beyond 400 yards into the workings.

At 2:30 o'clock tonight the rescuers were recalled out of the mine and a conference was held, at which Government Inspector Gerrard, the engineers and the mine managers were present.

Small Chances of Escape.
Inspector Gerrard issued a report, after making a descent into the pit, in which he said it was impossible that any of the miners are still alive. He added that nothing could be done except to bring up twenty bodies found after the shaft. This report was communicated to the anxious crowds around the pit mouth, where within the hour a scene in the open air and the people slowly dispersed.

No explanation is given as to the cause of the explosion, which completely wrecked the mine. This is the second great mining disaster in England this year, an explosion having occurred in the Wallington colliery, at Whitehaven, Cumberland, on May 12, in which 185 miners were killed.

The explosion today resulted in the temporary disablement of the machinery whereby the cages are lowered and drawn to the surface, and it was a considerable time before the first rescue party reached the bottom of the pit. In all, they brought out eight men, still living, but the majority of these were in a serious condition from the advance of gas. Ten bodies also were recovered, and twenty additional holes were found partly covered by heavy falls of coal.

Glimmer of Hope.
Late tonight the colliery fans were again started and the air was found to be fairly good. Arrangements were made for relays of rescuers to go down every three hours throughout the night. Toward midnight two more miners were found alive. They were terribly burned, and are in a critical condition. It was announced that forty bodies had been collected at the bottom of the shaft and would be brought up as soon as possible. A flicker of hope still animates the rescuers that more men may be found alive. Doctors, nurses and ambulances are still in the scene, and relatives, mostly women, are lingering in the vicinity.

Among the incidents was the death of a rescuer, who, anxious to reach his two sons, who were entombed, got in advance of his comrades and forfeited his life.

King George has sent a message of sympathy.

DIVORCE WHOLESALE

Thirty-three Granted in Three Hours
in Seattle Court—Makes Record
For Speed

SEATTLE, Dec. 21.—Thirty-three divorces granted in three hours set a new record both for continuity of performance and for speed in the superior court today. In view of the fact that not less than two witnesses were heard in each case, the average time of five minutes and 27 seconds is considered remarkable by local attorneys.

"I do not ascribe the unusually large number of divorces cases to any further loosening of former laws," said Judge A. W. Foster, in whose court the thirty-three cases were tried.

"However, there is altogether too much of it, and this condition is antagonized by our peculiarly lax divorce laws."

"It was an effort of the last session of the legislature to have the law made more stringent as to statutory causes, and I shall endeavor again at this session to have the legislature up on the subject."

Fourteen marriage licenses were issued today, which is a measure repaired the matrimonial damage.

INQUIRING INTO CANADIAN TRADE

Australian Government Takes
With Dominion—Intervention
in Carriers' Strike

MAKES LONG FLIGHT

French Aviator Remains Aloft for Six
Hours and Gets Award for
Distance

PAU, France, Dec. 21.—M. Legoux, the French aviator, established a new record in the Michelin cup competition here today, remaining in the air from 8:45 o'clock this morning until 2:45 o'clock this afternoon and covering 616 kilometers, or 383.4 miles.

The Michelin cup is awarded annually to the aviator making within the year the longest sustained flight in a close circle, and exceeding the record of the previous year. The winner receives a premium of \$4,000.

The prize last year was won by Henry Farman, who made 188 miles. The best previous effort this year was by Maurice Taboulet, who, in October, flew 238.74 miles.

Lumber Plant Burned
WALLACE, Idaho, Dec. 20.—The entire plant of the Idaho Idaho Pine Lumber Company, except the planing mill, situated at Lane, on Coeur d'Alene Lake, was destroyed by fire last night. The loss is about \$50,000, covered by insurance.

With Dominion—Intervention
in Carriers' Strike

MELBOURNE, Dec. 19.—The proposal for reciprocal trade conditions with Canada, which is likely to take practical shape in the Dominion, if, according to the cabinet accord, the government will consent to the Ottawa parliament next month is adopted, has been taken up by the Commonwealth government. The trade department is at present collecting information as to the state of trade with the Dominion and as to what it might become in the event of the establishment of reciprocity. It is gathered that early action in regard to the question is probable.

Extensive customs frauds perpetrated by motor car importers have been discovered by the customs authorities here. Cars have been systematically undervalued. When the frauds were brought to light one firm was ordered to pay four thousand pounds shortage, and it agreed to this. At the same time penalties were inflicted for breach of the customs law. A number of other firms will be brought before the courts on like charges.

Government Intervenes
The intervention of the government in the carriers' strike at Adelaide has been brought about by the pressure of public opinion. The labor ministry has been compelled to instruct the police to prevent the molestation of free laborers and to secure the delivery of foodstuffs. The premier has been advised that the union must be prosecuted for breach of the arbitration law.

Charges of Wife-Murder
A foundry hand, named Smart, in Perth, was convicted of bigamy. During the hearing of the case, it developed that the first wife of the accused had disappeared mysteriously. The theory of murder was suggested to the police by this fact, and working along these lines a clever detective made some discoveries which set the police to work to dig up the ground around the home of the convicted man. They brought to light scraps of clothing. Then on another clue they dug up the ground around a disused shed near the foundry, where the accused had been employed. Here was discovered the first wife's body, the head of which had been battered in. Smart thereupon was arrested and charged with the murder.

Russian Papers Confiscated
ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 20.—Saturday editions of the Rich and four other daily newspapers were confiscated, and their editors will be prosecuted for lese-majeste, for publishing against the speech made in the Duma by M. Furlahavitch, in connection with an interpellation as to the behavior of the police on the occasion of the recent student meetings held in protest against the alleged cruelties inflicted on political prisoners. The offense of lese-majeste is punishable by a term of eight years in the galleys.