

PUBLICA WAS STORM BOUND

DISCO LINER HOVE-TO TWICE ON TRIP

Release Operator on Board Heard Pachena Seven Hundred Miles Overland

(From Saturday's issue.)

The longest in her long service, the Steamship Company's ship of Publica came to the rescue of the Dominion government station at Gonzales hill, the Publica ran a terrific hurricane on Thursday off Cape Blanco and on the morning of the 21st she was blown to the north and east for several hours, was blown to the eastward at 10 p. m. Capt. Shea and his crew were kept continually on duty, the Publica started north again, a light delay of seven hours saw the Publica started north again, blowing a little over half her usual speed against the wind.

At 5 p. m. last night the wind again shifted to a hurricane and the steamship was once more blown to the westward, until 8 p. m. night long the Publica fought with elements, and it was not till 4:45 this morning that she passed to the westward into the shelter of the straits. The officers characterize the trip as a rough one in their experience, and hold in their praise of Capt. Shea his coolness and judgment. The conduct in the ship's officers prevailed among the passengers and there was no alarm at the exceptionally severe weather that was met with.

The advantages conferred on the ship by wireless telegraphy were admirably illustrated on the trip. Mr. Lytle, the masse operator on the Publica, keeping the agents in Victoria and Seattle posted on the vessel's whereabouts. Where anxiety might have been felt for the steamship, assurance of her safety were given to agents and the public.

Mr. Lytle was the first operator to be stationed at Gonzales hill, he was at that time operator on the station. It was also the first operator to be stationed at Gonzales hill, he was at that time operator on the station.

"I was on board the Publica she was lying at the anchorage in San Francisco last Monday about 7:30 o'clock," Mr. Lytle said. "The call was unexpected and I was surprised to find the message. This is the Dominion government station at Pachena, and as the first message sent out from there and I was astonished to find the message came as distinct, in messages from the Frailers, just out of San Francisco. The message was over 700 miles, mainly across land. I think that the clearness of the signal dispels the belief that long-distance messages over mountains are seldom successful. I find that the messages from the Frailers are excellent both in receiving and sending messages. At the time that Mrs. Spence spoke to me the power was out, and I was unable to send a message of congratulation to the Frailers."

The Publica brought a fairly large amount of freight, and after discharging sixty tons of it at the outer wharf, the Publica sailed for the Sound. One hundred and some passengers came up on her, from twenty departed here in the saloon passengers landing here for Victoria—W. B. Fletcher, E. Hawley, R. Angus, E. Wood, C. P. E. O'Connell, J. F. Robinson, Elsie Murray, For Vancouver—W. Arbuthurst, W. Naismith, Donald Hunt, Miss M. McIntosh, Miss Hunt and Mrs. Elsie Murray.

BERMAN COURT SCANDAL.

More seeks information at Secret Session of Harden-Von Moltke Trial.

Dec. 20.—Emperor William, in following the evidence taken in Harden-Von Moltke trial sent with utmost attention, to-day sent to courthouse Lieutenant Proemel Von Froede, of the Frailers, as a representative in order to secure a fair and impartial report of the proceedings.

Judges decided to permit the defendant to remain in court when the remainder of the public was excluded, he was thus enabled to obtain the details of the trial which he had heard and the public from the exclusion of the press, and the public from the exclusion of the press, and the public from the exclusion of the press.

BRITISH IMMIGRANTS.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—English immigrants was the subject of debate by St. George's Society to-night. A resolution was passed and sent to the English Society expressing confidence in British immigrants for farm work, but deprecating interested agents and winter shipments of indiscriminate immigrants.

VITROL VICTIM.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—The contents of a vitrol were thrown in the street by John Clancy as he was leaving a building house at 101 DeGee street to-night. His fall is badly injured, he is unable to see yet. This is the third assault of this kind that has occurred on Clancy.

LOSS OF LIFE IN DARR DISASTER

THIRTY BODIES HAVE BEEN RECOVERED

Over 200 Miners Entombed by Explosion—Riotous Scenes of Debauchery Among Survivors

Jacobs Creek, Pa., Dec. 20.—Of the 200 or more miners who were made prisoners in the Darr mine of the Pittsburgh Coal Company yesterday by a terrible explosion, the bodies of thirty were this morning in the main entrance, where they were laid during the night by the rescuers until they can be brought to the surface. Some of the bodies are dismembered and mangled, and all are distorted by the agonies of violent death and disfigured and begrimed with the concussion and the smoke and dust of the explosion.

Some May Have Survived.

A faint hope is cherished by rescuers and friends and relatives that some of the men have survived the explosion and are awaiting release far back in the mine. For this reason the rescuers did not take time to bring out the bodies as they were found, but pressed forward to open a passage to and explore every section of the mine.

Disgraceful Scenes.

The foreign miners who escaped the disaster made night hideous in their little village. They had suspended work because of the holiday and most of them followed the holiday custom of drinking to excess. Many were intoxicated before the catastrophe, and afterwards they put themselves in worse condition, some drinking in celebration of their escape and others drinking to drown grief over the death of relatives or friends. All night there was carousing and disorder, at times bordering on rioting. The calling to the mine of a troop of the state constabulary, as well as steps to stop the further sale of intoxicants, are being seriously considered.

Temporary Morgue.

The Pittsburgh Coal Company arranged to provide burial for all the victims. A large number of coffins were ordered from Pittsburgh last night. The blacksmith shop of the mine has been converted into a temporary morgue and undertakers are being brought here from surrounding towns to promptly care for the dead as they are brought out.

Majority Americans.

It is believed that a majority of the victims are Americans. Such of the foreigners as belong to the Greek Catholic church did not go to work yesterday morning that they might celebrate St. Nicholas day, an important holiday in their church calendar.

Rescue Work Slow.

The rescuers report that the interior of the mine is badly damaged. As they advance they are compelled to rebuild much of the bracing that has been blown out, and a great deal of bracing is necessary to allow ventilation in remote sections. There is a shortage of many of the supplies needed for such conditions and the work of the rescuers will of necessity progress slowly.

The distance from the mouth of the mine to the most remote section is said to be about three miles, and it is thought many of the bodies will be found nearly at the end of the workings.

Many Bodies Located.

Up to 11 o'clock to-day six bodies had been removed from the Darr mine, the scene of the yesterday's explosion. Many more had been located, and the work of the rescuers is progressing slowly with the fans working and no fire in the mine, it is thought the recovery of the bodies is merely a matter of hours.

The number of men entombed when the explosion occurred is still uncertain, but there is no reason to change the earlier estimate of at least 200. Six members of troop "A," of the state constabulary, who arrived during the morning, were at once placed on duty at the mines to keep back the crowds which began to gather at daylight. No other explanation than that the explosion was due to gas has been advanced.

DROWNED IN CABIN.

Captain and Wife Victims When Ocean-Going Barge Sank in Hudson River.

New York, Dec. 20.—The ocean-going barge Annie B. Neville sank in the Hudson river just off the Battery yesterday. Jerry Van Halen, captain of the barge, and his wife, were drowned. The bodies were taken from the cabin last night.

CHINESE MURDER CASE.

Winnipeg Mystery Continues to Baffle the Police.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 20.—Despite the denial of rumors in circulation to the effect that the legs of the two murdered Chinamen, Lee Chow and Look Wing were tied at the time the bodies were found, the story is given credence in Chinese circles and every Celestial in the city believes the crime to have been committed by a white man.

Kim Lee, a Chinaman, of Notre Dame avenue, is a cousin of Lee Chow and came to Winnipeg with him. He states that he has known Lee Chow for many years and never knew him to have a quarrel with anyone. However, the dead Chinaman was a high spirited person and used to enjoy having a good time now and then, and might have got into trouble at one of these times.

According to Kim Lee, Lee Chow had been here five years and Look Wing about six months.

Lee Wing, a groceryman on McDermott avenue, is a cousin of the deceased. The police state that there are no new developments in the case, and that a Chinese interpreter or detective has not yet been employed.

MOB CHASES NEGRO.

Columbus, O., Dec. 20.—A mob of armed men including mounted policemen after a negro who assaulted Mrs. W. B. C. Hersey, wife of the president of the Excelsior Seed Company. He seized her while she was in the cellar, and stuffed a rag in her mouth. She was found by neighbors, unconscious.

DEPRESSION IN DIAMOND TRADE

De Beers Consolidated Has Restricted Work in Kimberly Mines—Outlook Unfavorable.

London, Dec. 20.—The deferred dividend of the De Beers Consolidated Mines, Limited, the diamond syndicate, was passed to-day. Owing to the unfavorable outlook in the diamond trade the restriction of purchases in America and the dumping of large quantities of stones in recent months before the agreement with the De Beers company demoralized the market, the company decided that it is necessary to maintain its reserve in order to maintain prices.

A telegram from Kimberley to-day says the company has ordered work in the mines to be restricted to five days a week.

DYNAMITE VICTIM.

Kenora, Dec. 20.—Another fatal dynamite accident occurred yesterday afternoon when one man lost his life. J. C. Dutton, employed as a tanner, was killed by the explosion of a loaded hole when the explosion occurred, killing him instantly. He was about 35 years of age and came from the United States about twelve months ago. He had been in the employ of Dutton & McArthur since that time.

NOSE BROKEN BY HORSE'S KICK.

Domination City, Dec. 20.—A painful accident occurred yesterday when Jas. Spence, of Greenidge, was kicked in the face by a horse. His nose was leading the animal from the stable when it kicked over the partition, striking the unfortunate man fairly in the face. It is almost sure that Mr. Spence's nose is broken.

CARGO OF GOLD.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 20.—The steamer Corodina which arrived from Southampton and West Indian ports to-day, brought \$1,950,000 in gold for the second National Bank of this city.

EMIGRANTS SHUN UNITED STATES

Cunard Steamers Sailing From Hungary Ports Have Empty Steerages.

Alume, Hungary, Dec. 20.—The remarkable falling off in the immigration trade from this port to the United States is well illustrated by the empty steerages of the Cunard steamers that left Alume during the past week for American ports.

Instead of the customary two or three thousand emigrants on each vessel, the Corodina carried only 300 steerage passengers, while the Carpathia had on board less than fifty. These later will be transferred to another ship at Liverpool.

FIGHTING THE SMOKE.

Winnipeg, to Adopt Strenuous Measures to Eradicate Nuisance.

Winnipeg, Dec. 19.—The civic authorities are about to institute a determined campaign for the extermination of the smoke nuisance in Winnipeg. Acting on instruction from the city council, the health department will send an inspector to every firm and individual burning soft coal in large quantities. The inspector will present each offender with a copy of the by-law and inform that neglect or refusal to comply with the measure will result in an information being laid against him. The penalty for infringement of the by-law is \$50 and costs, or not exceeding twenty-one days in jail.

KILLED BY YARD ENGINE.

Barrie, Dec. 20.—Joseph H. Moss, a car repairer, 24 years old, and married, was killed by a yard engine while at work yesterday.

JAPAN WILL LIMIT EMIGRATION

CANADA TO RECEIVE VERBAL ASSURANCE

Hon. R. Lemieux Will Return to Dominion by Siberian Route.

Tokio, Dec. 20.—Negotiations between the Canadian minister of labor, Hon. Rudolph Lemieux and the Japanese government, which have been delayed by a hitch over the details, will be concluded within the next few days. It is understood that Minister Lemieux has finally agreed to accept Japanese assurance that she will undertake the self imposed task of limiting emigration to Canada. The exact method of limitation, will be left entirely in the hands of the Japanese government.

It is stated that the hitch arose over the desire of the Canadian government to secure a definite promise in writing, outlining the undertakings. This was positively declined by Japan, because it would entail a sacrifice of treaty rights.

Minister Lemieux also desired to secure from the Japanese government a note giving the exact number of laborers that the government proposed to allow to emigrate to Canada. This was also refused.

There is reason to believe that Canada will receive a verbal assurance identical with that given the United States. The Japanese government, declining to surrender any rights claimed by its treaty of alliance with Great Britain, is preparing a programme of administration under which the promise of limitation can be fulfilled. Minister Lemieux will probably leave for Canada next week going by way of Siberia and thence to London.

DON'T WANT MILITARY TRAINING

Toronto, Dec. 19.—A deputation representing the Dominion Grange Association waited on Premier Whitney this morning and protested against the introduction into the schools of Ontario of military training on lines suggested by Sir Frederick Borden, which are similar to the system in vogue in Nova Scotia schools.

PRIESTS INTERVENE IN PERSIAN CRISIS

Opposing Factions Are Dispersed With Promise of Solution—Sultan Forms Cabinet.

Teheran, Dec. 20.—Another quick change in the situation at the Persian capital has been brought about by the intervention of the priests, who, with the promise that a satisfactory solution of the crisis will be found, have induced the opposing factions to disperse a second time. Consequently Artillery square has been vacated and the villagers have returned to their homes. The tents on Artillery square, however, are left standing so as to be ready for use in case of a sudden recall to arms.

The Sultan has succeeded in forming a new cabinet with himself as premier. The men who held the positions of finance minister of the interior, the minister of foreign affairs and the minister of education in the last cabinet, retain their portfolios.

Russia Will Not Interfere.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 20.—The present crisis in Persia is followed with the deepest interest in St. Petersburg, and it is considered to preface a condition of complete anarchy in that country. At the foreign office which is in receipt of lengthy dispatches from M. Hartwig, the Russian minister to Persia, no surprise would be felt if the struggle between the Constitutionalists and the reactionaries should lead to the overthrow of the present monarch. The Russian minister of foreign affairs said yesterday that Russia was taking every measure to protect her own interests, but that she would not attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of the Persians. Even should extreme changes come about in Persia, Russia would have no cause for apprehension.

DIPLOMAT'S DEATH.

Norway's Minister to United States Met His End While Snow-Shoeing.

Christiania, Dec. 19.—Mr. Hague, the Norwegian minister to the United States, died to-day while on a snow-shoeing trip. Mr. Hague left here alone this morning, expecting to return early in the afternoon.

As he did not return a searching party was sent out and found his body lying in the snow. Physicians made every effort to revive him, but failed. His death was due to heart failure, probably brought on by over-exercising.

Wrecked C. P. R. Vessel.

Montreal, Dec. 18.—It was stated at the chief offices of the C. P. R. this morning that reports from the men who examined the steamship Mount Temple, now hard on the rocks near Bridgewater, N. S., indicate that there is little possibility of saving the vessel, at any rate this winter. If she weathers the winter all right, an effort will probably be made to get her off in the spring. A very large portion of her cargo has been saved, and a good deal of it injured. The vessel has now been abandoned to the underwriters.

ENGINEER WAS HERO.

Ill and Faint He Guided Train to Destination—Stepped From Cab to Die.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 20.—Engineer Frank Krag, fifty years old, of Buffalo, N. Y., though ill and faint, stayed at his throttle till he brought his fast Lake Shore train safely into Collingwood yesterday when he stepped from his cab and in a few minutes was dead.

Krag was in his usual health when he took his train out of Buffalo. His illness came after the train had left Erie. The engineer had hardly strength enough to lower himself from his cab at Collingwood.

FISHING BOUNTIES.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 20.—The return brought down the House of Commons shows that fishery bounties for the year 1906-7 totalled \$155,106.75. Of this \$68,208 was paid to owners of vessels and \$86,897 to owners of boats and their crews.

WHITELAW REID IN NEW YORK.

New York, Dec. 20.—Whitelaw Reid, the United States ambassador to Great Britain, arrived here to-day on the steamer Marueta.

COFFIN MYSTERY WILL BE SOLVED

GRAVE OF T. C. DRUCE AT HIGHGATE CEMETRY

Home Office Gives Exhumation Order Which May Settle Great Fight for Millions

London, Dec. 20.—The home office has consented to the opening of the grave of T. C. Druce in Highgate cemetery, and shortly after Christmas the question whether the coffin contains a body or a roll of lead should be definitely answered.

Prof. Augustus J. Pepper, of the University of London, will attend the exhumation on behalf of Scotland Yard.

London, Dec. 20.—The London authorities decline to say definitely whether or not they will ask for the extradition of Robt. Caldwell, who appeared as a witness for the prosecution in the Druce case, and who later left London, while under surveillance for America. It is believed, however, that no such request has been made up to the present and that the authorities still have the question under consideration.

TO REPRESENT GOVERNMENT.

Premier and Other Ministers Will Attend Funeral of Late Hon. I. Tarte.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—Sir W. Laurier, the Hon. L. P. Breder, and the Hon. W. S. Fielding will represent the government at the funeral of the late Hon. I. Tarte to-morrow morning at Montreal. Many old-time friends of the ex-minister of public works will attend from Ottawa.

BANK STATEMENT FOR NOVEMBER

Returns Show Shrinkage in Volume of Business Handled in Canada.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—The November bank statement issued to-day shows a large decrease in current and call loans in Canada and elsewhere. There is a shrinkage of deposits payable on demand and a heavy withdrawal of savings on deposit. There is a decrease of \$1,600,000 for the month on call and short loans in Canada, and of \$6,740,000 on short loans abroad.

Current loans in Canada were shortened last month by nearly nine millions, while current loans abroad were decreased by one million and three-quarters.

There is a shrinkage of \$19,648,000 in the total assets. Deposits on demand show a decrease of \$9,968,000 and savings a shrinkage of \$7,588,000. The total liabilities show a net decrease of \$20,626,000.

CANADA'S TRADE IN EIGHT MONTHS

Large Increases in Exports and Imports—Depression Felt During November.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 20.—Imports for the eight months of the current fiscal year to November 30th totalled \$259,495,184, as compared with \$231,722,500 for the same period a year ago.

Customs duties for the eight months totalled \$41,112,455, an increase of \$5,676,546.

Imports, including coin and bullion, totalled \$191,873,393, a decrease of \$4,923,291 compared with the same period a year ago.

Exports of domestic produce, animals and their products, decreased by nearly \$13,000,000, while exports of mining, agriculture and manufacturers increased by over \$9,000,000.

For the month of November imports decreased by over \$2,000,000, and exports by over \$2,000,000. Customs collections decreased by over \$400,000.

PALERMO RENT BY EXPLOSION

NINETY THREE KILLED IN MAGAZINE DISASTER

Houses Collapsed and Fire Added Terror to Catastrophe in Sicilian Capital.

Palermo, Sicily, Dec. 20.—A terrific explosion occurred here last night in the military powder magazine, where a large quantity of dynamite was stored, and was followed by a number of lesser explosions, the whole town being badly shaken and the people thrown into a panic.

Almost immediately flames shot high in the air and spread to the ruins of houses that had fallen, adding greatly to the terror of those who were in the immediate neighborhood of the disaster.

It is estimated that about ninety-three persons were killed and a hundred more or less injured.

With rumors followed fast upon the explosion, placing the number of killed and wounded into the thousands, and troops were ordered out to aid the firemen in clearing away the wreck and succoring the wounded.

Several houses that stood above the magazine partially collapsed, and their destruction was completed by the fire. One of these was an emigrants' lodging house, and a number of emigrants were killed.

It is known that up to the present time ninety-three persons met their death and no less than 100 were injured by the terrific explosion. The work of rescuing the wounded was continued until daylight and under conditions of the greatest difficulty. After the fire had been extinguished the troops used an electric searchlight. The lodging house for emigrants which was destroyed by the flames had given the largest contingent of victims.

UNPARLIAMENTARY.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 19.—Immediately after the house adjourned to-day Representatives John Williams of Mississippi and Representative D'Armond of Missouri became engaged in a personal encounter on the floor of the house. The men closed in and dealt each other a blow. Friends rushed to separate them. Mr. Williams' face was streaming with blood.

PROFESSOR SEEKS REMEDY FOR CANCER

German Who Has Devoted His Life to Study of Dread Scourge.

Berlin, Dec. 20.—Professor Ernest Von Leyden, who recently devoted himself entirely to the study of cancer, from which they say 3,000 persons die yearly in Germany, has made a pressing appeal to the government, and to private sources for the foundation of an institute of research.

Prof. Von Leyden recommends the formation of an international association in order that an exchange of results in investigation in the various countries might be had. He gives some hopes of eventually finding a remedy for the cancer by means of liver fermentations developed into a suitable injection through the inoculation of sheep. He reports success in several mild cases of cancer by means of this treatment.

ORIENTAL IMMIGRATION.

British Labor Members Will Stand by Canadian Trade Unionists.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 20.—Speaking at a meeting last night of the district labor council, Gene Hodge, M. P., for a division of Lancashire, and secretary of the British Stevedores' union, iron and tin plate association, said that Japanese immigration should be restricted, and added that the Labor members of the British House of Commons would certainly stand by Canadian trade unionists in this matter.

With regard to the immigration of mechanics from England Mr. Hodge said many of them had been misled by false statements as to the demands for labor in Canada.

DIED PROTESTING INNOCENCE.

Columbus, O., Dec. 20.—Howard West, alias Frank Earl, was electrocuted in the annex at the Ohio penitentiary early to-day for the murder of Wm. Legg, a butcher, of Sydney, Ohio, on April 20, 1907. Earl protested his innocence to the last. The condemned man faced death calmly.

WILL OVERHAUL VICTORIA.

The steamship Princess May, which arrived in port from Skagway last night, will take the place of the Princess Royal on the Seattle run to-morrow morning and Sunday morning. The Royal will replace the Princess Victoria for two trips on the Vancouver ferry while the flyer is overhauled.

The Princess May reported a fast passage from the Alaskan port, good weather being experienced except in Queen Charlotte Sound, where a heavy gale was met with. Seventy-five passengers came down from Alaska and a good number from way ports. The trip was uneventful. The May sails north again on the 25th inst.

There are no newswomen in Spain; women sell newspapers in the streets.

TYPHOID IN PHILIPPINES.

San Juan, Philippine Islands, Dec. 19.—An epidemic of typhoid fever has broken out at Taguigan, and the situation is alarming. Governor Post has personally inspected the town and found 115 cases within the limits and outlying districts. He has given orders to construct a temporary hospital to segregate the sick and to disinfect or burn all houses where the fever has been found. The department of education has ordered all American school teachers to leave the infected district. The outbreak is due to contaminated water arising from unsanitary conditions.

PREMIER TO FIGHT DUEL.

Buda Pest, Dec. 20.—As a result of an allegation of political dishonesty made against him yesterday, during the sitting of parliament, the Hungarian premier, Dr. Wekerle, has challenged ex-duel with Justice Polonyi to fight a duel with pistols. The seconds have been appointed, and a meeting will take place very shortly.

KILLED FEMALE DEER.

Rosthern, Sask., Dec. 19.—For shooting a female deer, David Neufelt was fined fifteen dollars and costs. He pleaded guilty.

On Tuesday evening Jacob Janz was fined ten dollars and costs for keeping a female deer in his possession.

At Nague, Frank Heinrichs and Edward Ruhe were fined fifteen dollars and costs for shooting female deer. They pleaded guilty.

DEVELOPMENTS IN STOESSER TRIAL

Count Witte May Appear on Witness Stand—Will Refute Testimony of Kuropatkin.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 20.—Irritated at the testimony given at the trial of Gen. Stoeser by General Kuropatkin yesterday, Count Witte has addressed a letter to the court begging an opportunity to appear on the witness stand.

General Kuropatkin's testimony was to the effect that before the war with Japan he had recommended the abandonment of Port Arthur, and the restoration of the Kwang Tung peninsula to the Chinese, who were to pay \$125,000,000 for it, and that he considered that the opening of Port Dalny destroyed the strategic importance of Port Arthur.

NEW ARCHBISHOP CREATED.

Rome, Dec. 20.—The ceremony of imposing the Pallium upon the Right Rev. W. H. O'Connell, coadjutor to the archbishop of Boston, was performed here to-day by Cardinal Francesco Semina. The new archbishop was represented by Monsignor Tamplin.

PROVINCE ON STRIKE.

Santiago, Chile, Dec. 19.—The strike of the nitrate laborers is growing, and has already spread over the entire province. The nitrate plantations are shut down, and business is completely at a standstill.

HUGHES OUT OF COURT.

New York, Dec. 19.—By an almost unanimous vote the Republican committee of New York county to-night refused to adopt a resolution endorsing Governor Hughes for the Republican presidential nomination.

RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 20.—Mayor Scott, of Ottawa, and F. R. Latchford, D. K. C., former minister of public works in the Ross government of Ontario, are now named as two likely new railway commissioners.

CALLED LEOPOLD "ROYAL GALLANT"

Socialist Attacked Belgium's King—Said Perpetual Scandal Was Attached to His Name.

Brussels, Dec. 19.—M. Ebers, Socialist, created a scene in the Belgian senate to-day by endorsing the attack upon King Leopold delivered recently before the chamber of deputies by M. Vandervelden, the Socialist leader in the chamber. M. Ebers declared that the country was tired of the perpetual scandal in connection with King Leopold. He characterized the king as a "royal gallant" who was always on his way to visit a new family in France.

The speaker intimated that the king might make an attempt to change the Belgian succession to the throne. Several ministers were Republican senators rebuked M. Ebers, declaring that the person of the king should be respected.

BREAKS DOWN IN MID-ATLANTIC.

London, Dec. 19.—(Via Fastnet).—The Cunard liner Lusitania, when in company with the wireless telegraphy with Fastnet at 6:10 this evening, signalled that she had been in communication with the steamer Empress of Britain, from St. John, N. B., for Liverpool, which reported that she had spoken to the British steamer Cambrian, from London for Philadelphia, in latitude 50, longitude 30, with her shaft broken. The British steamer William Cliff, from New Orleans for Liverpool, was standing by and rendering all assistance necessary. The Cambrian left London December 7th, and was almost in mid-ocean.

TO TEST THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS

SEEKING A REVISION OF THE VOTERS' LIST

Application Will be Made to Have About Four Hundred Names Struck Off.

A new phase in the municipal election situation will develop to-morrow morning when Frank Higgins will move, at the Court of Revision on the municipal voters' list, to have the names of between four and five hundred females struck off on the grounds that they are not entitled to vote.

Mr. Higgins has been retained by the Victoria Property Owners' Association, which at its annual meeting on the 10th inst. decided to test the city barister's decision saying that females who make no contribution to the city's revenue, but who now qualify as householders, are entitled to vote.

Mr. Higgins will move for the removal of all females' names from the list who have not paid any taxes during the current year, and should the Court of Revision refuse to comply with the motion, the matter will be taken to the courts. If the names objected to by the Property Owners' Association are removed upon Mr. Higgins' application, it is generally anticipated that a considerable difference in the tenor of the coming election will be made.

The principle upon which the association is taking action is that each woman holding a vote without paying a tax has the power to nullify the vote of an elector paying a large sum into the city treasury. This, it is contended, is distinctly unfair and represents "universal suffrage" women without any privilege for the male electors. The association believes that the suffrage should apply to both sexes, or that the females in question should be deprived of their votes.

The definition of householder is given in the Municipal Elections Act, revised statutes of British Columbia, 1906, as follows:

Section 2 of chapter 21 of the statutes of 1906 is hereby amended by striking out all the words after the word "following" in the fourth line thereof and by substituting therefor the following:

"Householder shall mean and include any person of the full age of twenty-one years who occupies a dwelling, tenement, hotel or boarding house, and who shall, unless exempt by statute or municipal by-law, have paid directly to the municipality rates, taxes or fees of not less than two dollars for the current year."

Mr. Higgins will contend that the females objected to are not exempted by any existing statute or by-law as required by the above definition, and that they have therefore no right to a vote. The only exemption provided by statute is that applying to officers and men of the Canada militia, which is given in section 117 of the Municipal Clause Act, where road tax is dealt with. The females who pay taxes, Mr. Higgins will argue, fulfill the requirements of the act in its definition of householder, but in regard to the others no exemption is made because the act has no power to tax them for road tax in the first place. The statute does not render these women liable for the payment of road tax, and since there is no liability, it is contended that there can be no exemption in the strict meaning of the latter term.

Several important points will be brought out in the action, and the progress of the contest between the association and the civic authorities gives additional zest to the coming election.

CATTLE DRIVING INCIDENT.

Irish M. P. Sentenced to Six Months for Commenting on Situation.

Dublin, Dec. 1.—Lawrence Gunnell, member of parliament for Northwest Meath, who has been prominent in the cattle driving campaign in the west of Ireland, was sentenced to-day to six months imprisonment for contempt of court. Mr. Gunnell committed his offence in a recent speech in which he commented upon the cattle driving trials.

TEN VICTIMS OF TRAIN WRECK.

Disaster Occurred in Ecuador—Two Cars Demolished.

Guayaquil, Ecuador, Dec. 19.—A northbound passenger train was derailed near Latacunga to-day. Two cars were totally demolished. Ten persons were either killed or seriously injured.

HOLD-UP IN VANCOUVER.

Man Set Upon and Beaten With Revolver—But—Robbed of 75 Cents.

Vancouver, Dec. 20.—A Denver was held up and robbed early this morning in Alexander street by masked men. The robbers took only 75 cents, but inflicted a bad wound on their victim's head with the butt-end of a revolver.

FLAX MILL GUTTED.

Forest, Ont., Dec. 19.—Forest's best industry, the flax mill, was totally destroyed by fire this morning. Thirty hands were thrown out of employment. The fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. The loss will be \$4,000, which is covered by insurance, to the amount of \$2,000.

SOUTH HURON VACANCY.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—A. Helbert, M. P., may resign his local seat to contest South Huron for the Commons, vacant through the death of E. B. Gunn.

GERMANY'S HUGE GOLD EXPORT.

Berlin, Dec. 20.—The gold export of Germany for the month of November amounted to \$20,000,000. This is the biggest in the history of the country.