

PORT NELSON BEST TERMINUS

Opinions of Captains Bernier and Bartlett in Regard to Port Facilities at End of Hudson Bay Road

ANOTHER EXPEDITION TO MAKE EXAMINATION

Civil Service Deputation Tenders Request for Changes to Public Service Commission—Dominion Veterinary

OTTAWA, Feb. 13.—That Port Nelson is the best deep water terminal for the Hudson Bay railway was the substance of evidence submitted by Captain Bernier and Captain Bartlett, two of the best known Canadian Arctic navigators, at a conference with the minister of marine, minister of railways and minister of the interior in the house tonight.

The public services commission will shortly be in a position to make its first interim report to the government. A deputation representing the civil service association, covering the whole of the inside service at Ottawa, waited on the commission today and suggested a number of reforms by way of removing the abuses which have grown up under the legislation of 1903.

PORT GEORGE, Feb. 14.—Recognizing the needs as well as the opportunities of the district, the Port George citizens at a largely attended public meeting last week decided to go ahead with immediate preparations for the erection of a general hospital suitable to the requirements of the territory and to this end a temporary board of directors was appointed to approach the provincial government for the grant of a block of land within the city limits, together with the usual aid for such institutions.

WILL ENCOURAGE RUGBY

Berkeley, Feb. 14.—Chairman Gebert of the big "C" society of the University of California has appointed a committee of athletics to the university to send communications to the different eastern universities, telling them of the advance made by Rugby football on this coast since its adoption by Stanford and California some years ago.

BISHOPRIC OF KOOTENAY

Inland Diocese Likely to be Separated From Westminster Within Year.—Meeting of Synod

NELSON, Feb. 14.—That Kootenay was to have within a year a bishop of its own was the most important feature of the session of the eleven-day meeting of the synod of Kootenay, which began today, under the presidency of Right Rev. A. U. De Frensis, Bishop of Kootenay and Westminster, with 70 clerical and lay delegates.

Rev. F. H. Graham was re-elected clerical secretary and Fred Irvine lay secretary. Reports were read by Archdeacon Beer and Rural Deans Flewelling, Green and Graham.

ROSSLAND LICENSE CASE

NELSON, B. C., Feb. 14.—Mr. Justice Clement today on application of A. M. Johnson quashed the writ of mandamus recently issued by himself in Vancouver directing the license commissioners of Rossland to show cause why they refused the renewal of a license to the Collins hotel of that city.

CONTRACTOR IS TO BE OUSTED

City Will Order Mr. Thomas Stedham to Cease Operations at Smith's Hill Reservoir—Condemn Work

On the grounds that hardly in any particular have the specifications been lived up to, that the contract has not been finished within the time limit set, that the work has not been carried out as ordered and agreed upon, Mr. Thomas Stedham, who two months ago was awarded the contract for the repair of the Smith's Hill reservoir, and who has done considerable work thereon, will be immediately notified to discontinue work forthwith on the ground that he has not lived up to the terms of the contract, that the time limit has expired and that the corporation is not disposed to allow him to proceed further.

The above decision was arrived at at a special meeting of the city council held yesterday afternoon, at which several strictures upon the work as carried out by Mr. Stedham were made.

The step is one more in the long number taken in connection with the big basin and the council in so acting is proceeding upon the advice of Mr. E. H. Thompson, the Seattle expert who last week made an exhaustive report upon the reservoir. His report is not yet before the council but when here he was emphatic in his declaration that the first thing to do in satisfactorily repairing the reservoir was to "get rid of that contractor."

But what if Mr. Stedham refuses to stop work? This was the query put to the city solicitor by several of the aldermen.

The solicitor stated that in his opinion the city is amply justified in forcing Mr. Stedham to stop work, and if the latter refused to do so to secure the assistance of the police and "put him out."

Mr. Stedham contracted to build a wall through the centre of the reservoir nine feet high and line the walls of this wall and the walls of the reservoir with a cement dressing to the depth of one inch, besides making repairs to the floor where necessary. This work called for an expenditure in the vicinity of \$19,000.

FIGHT BEGINS ON HOME RULE

Subject Brought Forward Prominently in Government and Opposition Speeches at the Opening of Session

PREMIER REFERS TO GERMAN AFFAIR

Viscount Haldane's Visit to Berlin Due to Invitation from Germany—Hope of Clearing Up Situation

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The opening today of the parliamentary session which is to deal with home rule, Welsh disestablishment and electoral reform was marked by a statement of Premier Asquith that the visit of Viscount Haldane, secretary for war, to Berlin, was made at the invitation of Germany and that the conversations between the British war minister and the German authorities had proceeded on a desire on the part of both countries that the existing tension be relieved.

Interest in this statement completely overshadowed that in the government's huge legislative programme. Since Secretary Haldane's visit to Berlin, the English people have been prepared for the announcement that it had to do with the Anglo-German relations, but they hardly hoped that the conversations had proceeded as far as the Prime Minister's speech shows.

It is evident that Andrew Bonar Law and Lord Lansdowne, leaders of the opposition respectively in the house of commons and the house of lords, had been informed of the course of the discussion, for, although they spoke before the Premier, Lord Lansdowne assured the government of Unionist support in any move to secure a better understanding with Germany.

The speeches on domestic affairs dealt in a general way with the legislative programme. Mr. Bonar Law in a fighting speech promised to offer stubborn resistance to home rule and other measures. Lord Lansdowne intimated that home rule would meet its fate in the house of lords. It will therefore have to be passed by the House of Commons, as only passing reference was made to electoral reform and the possibility of woman suffrage.

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FORTY TAKEN INTO CUSTODY

Members of Official Staff of Ironworkers and Others are Arrested in Connection with Dynamite Case

SOME OF INDICTED HAVE DISAPPEARED

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 14.—The United States government today arrested almost all of the 54 men indicted in the dynamite conspiracy case. It took into custody within a few hours virtually the entire official staff of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Ironworkers, including the chief officers, the members of the legislative boards and about 20 business agents and former business agents. These included J. M. E. W. Butler, of Buffalo, the past vice-president, and Herbert S. Hoskin, the successor of J. J. McNamara as secretary and treasurer. Each of these men was required to give a \$10,000 bond for his appearance for arraignment here with all the other defendants on March 12.

More than forty of the men, chiefly labor union officials, who are charged with conspiring to destroy by dynamite bridges, tunnels, and other structures of iron or steel, were under arrest tonight and it was said the apprehension of all the others would follow within 48 hours.

KAISER'S SUGGESTION CAUSED BERLIN VISIT

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The Daily Mail understands that the suggestion for the visit of War Secretary Haldane to Berlin was made in the first instance by the German Emperor through Albert Ballin, director-general of the Hamburg-American Steamship Company.

WINTER NAVIGATION

QUEBEC, Feb. 14.—Amidst firing of guns from the Montcalm and the whistling of ferry steamers, the ice-breaker arrived in port this afternoon at 5:15 o'clock from her trip to Seven Islands, Anticosti and way ports. Hundreds of people lined the terrace and lower town wharves to witness her arrival. Congratulatory telegrams were sent by the Quebec board of trade to Hon. Messrs. Pelletier and Hazen on the success of the trip, citing the fact that it was an additional proof of the feasibility of navigation during the winter months of the lower St. Lawrence.

AMSTERDAM, Holland, Feb. 13.—The docks and warehouse of the Compagnie L'Océan burned this morning. The loss of goods stored in the warehouse is estimated at over \$400,000.

FIRE FIGHTERS IDEAL HOSTS

First Annual Ball of Department Held at Alexandra Club Last Evening Proves Unqualified Success

Ideal hosts and the members of the Victoria fire department prove to the first annual ball of the Benevolent Mutual Aid Association of the department held at the Alexandra Club last evening. The universal expressions of delight on the part of those who attended indicated in no unmistakable manner the entire success of the event. Hearty congratulations were showered upon Chief Davis and his men, and the hours proved all too short for the merry makers. It was a wise precaution on the part of the committee to limit the sale of tickets.

Victoria's youth and beauty were present in large numbers. The excellence of the arrangements left nothing to be desired. The floor was in perfect condition, the orchestra played the catchiest of music and the refreshments were none the less essential supper was excellent.

For weeks the fire fighters have been sparing no effort to make the function a success. It was the first annual event of the department, and some trepidation was felt. After last night's success the firm determination of the members of the force is to yearly repeat the occasion and on a larger scale.

SUCCESSOR TO EARL SPENCER

Baron Sandhurst is Appointed to Office of Lord Chamberlain—Censorship of Plays Cause of His Resignation

LONDON, Feb. 14.—Baron Sandhurst has been appointed Lord Chamberlain in succession to Earl Spencer, who resigned on February 1. The resignation of Earl Spencer as Lord Chamberlain was attributed to the widespread criticism of the conduct of the censorship of plays. His health was given as the primary reason for his resignation.

Charles E. G. Masterman, parliamentary secretary to the home office, has been appointed financial secretary to the Treasury to take the position vacated by C. E. Hobhouse, who succeeded to the chancellorship of the duchy of Lancaster last October.

SUN YAT SEN TO LEAVE OFFICE

Shanghai Report of His Resignation of Presidency of the Chinese Republic in Favor of Yuan Shi Kai

ASSEMBLY ASKED TO ELECT YUAN

Request Made for Foreign Legations for Recognition of Southern Republic—Tang Shao Yi Refuses Premiership

LONDON, Feb. 14.—According to a Shanghai despatch to a news agency here, Dr. Sun Yat Sen has resigned the presidency in favor of Yuan Shi Kai.

The Times' Peking correspondent says the foreign legations yesterday received a despatch from the Nanking government asking them to recognize the southern republic. The request, adds the correspondent, will be considered.

Tang Shao Yi has declined the proffered premiership, according to a Shanghai despatch to the Daily Telegraph. All parties in China, however, are insistent, and it is believed he will accept.

TOKIO, Feb. 14.—The Chinese revolutionaries have ignored the protest made by Japan against any violation of neutrality in the Kwang-Tung Peninsula. A regiment of infantry has been sent from Port Arthur to enforce the order.

WANT YUAN FOR PRESIDENT. NANKING, Feb. 14.—The assembly yesterday approved the edict of abdication. It will insist that the Emperor should have no voice in national affairs and that Yuan Shi Kai must come to Nanking to take an oath to abide by the provisional constitution.

DEVILS LAKE, N.D., Feb. 14.—The greater number of the 13 passengers who were seriously hurt on the Great Northern Limited near Doyon last night are still in hospitals here. Several of the injured were taken to St. Paul. The thirty persons less injured have gone to their homes. All are improving.

VIOLENT FREE SPEECHERS

Thirty-Night Imprisoned in San Diego Jail Make Attempts to Break Out—Guard Is Attacked

SAN DIEGO, CAL., Feb. 14.—Thirty-eight persons charged with violating the free speech ordinance made a desperate effort to overpower their keepers and escape from the city jail today. The break came a few minutes after the daily line-up took place. As the crowd was being marched to the main cell, J. D. Borden, who has constituted himself a leader of the crowd, struck Bailiff Conners and all but overpowered him. Conners pulled his club and beat the fellow back. Conners sounded the riot call and a reserve force of officers rushed into the corridor and by the display of their clubs drove the rioters to their cells.

AGRAHAT OLD AGE PENSIONS

OTTAWA, Feb. 14.—Sir Richard Cartwright in the senate said the worst enemies of the working classes were those who seek to pauperize or degrade them into being recipients of pensions they had not earned, and further that Canada should not make preparations to relieve the submerged tenth, but to see that no submerged tenth exists in Canada. Senator Loughheed thought old age pensions were a long way off in Canada.

WATER RIGHTS IN RAILWAY BELT

Swift Action Follows Handing Over of Control to Provincial Authorities—Claims to be Adjudicated

SWAMPY ISSUES. The official gazette of British Columbia will contain an announcement of the water branch of the provincial department of lands, which will bring gladness to the hearts of the many residents on the lands of the Dominion Railway Belt in British Columbia who during years past have been waiting and hoping for an adjustment of the complicated matters relating to water records and the utilization of the hundreds of streams within the ten thousand odd square miles of railway belt territory for irrigation, mining and industrial purposes.

The notice referred to enumerates in so far as they are at present known, the multitude of streams within the belt, and invites all who have claims pending for water rights, as well as those who may feel that they have interests prejudicially or otherwise affected in connection with such claims, to file their applications or objections at the earliest possible date with the provincial water authorities, who will, as soon as the claims have been received and classified, proceed to adjudicate upon them, it being both hoped and expected that rulings will be handed down in time for the water affected to be made use of during the present irrigation season.

The stupendous nature of the undertaking which has been undertaken by the provincial water branch in its assumption of the administration of water affairs in the belt lands may be approximately grasped when it is known that there are not merely hundreds but thousands of streams affected, and that these have never as yet been dealt with in any way. The Dominion machinery having provided no rules or regulations touching water rights within the Dominion lands in British Columbia. As a result many important undertakings and the adequate development of large areas requiring irrigation to make them fully productive have remained to date with their exploitation suspended, which otherwise should have become—and doubtless would have—important contributors to provincial agricultural and other products and appreciable factors in British Columbia prosperity.

Lossing No Time. That the provincial administration is losing no time whatever in relieving the situation, now that the administration of water in the Dominion belt has been transferred, will be appreciated by the scores of interested individuals and by the communities of which they are members, to a degree better imagined than to be described.

The work of adjusting the claims which today's Gazette invites, to be sent in to the chief water commissioner, is something of a titanic one, as may be gathered from the fact that in the Kamloops district alone there are no fewer than four hundred and fifty-one several streams affected, and this is but one district and by no means the largest.

COUNTRY BLEED FOR COMPANY

Finance Minister White States Facts in Connection with Laurier Government's Gift to Grand-Trunk Pacific

TEN MILLION DOLLARS DRAWN FROM TREASURY

Hon. Mr. Cochrane Shows that Transcontinental Road will Cost in All \$258,000,000, or \$143,000 a mile

OTTAWA, Feb. 14.—Today Hon. Mr. White put through a bill to pay the Grand Trunk Pacific ten million dollars subsidy for which the Laurier government, by its careless bargaining, let the country in. In moving it the finance minister put the duty of explanation up to the Liberals, who had a very bad time, while the Conservatives drove home the imprudence of the government in 1904. After this Hon. F. Cochrane revealed the fact that the transcontinental will cost \$258,000,000, or \$143,000 a mile.

In moving the second reading, Mr. White said that he wished to make it clear that responsibility for this heavy liability must rest with the Laurier government. The public had been shocked by the announcement, and the onus was on the members of the Laurier government to exculpate themselves.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that if blame there was to be, it should be attached to those who had been in office when the bargain was made. This was an incident in the creation of the National Transcontinental. He acquitted the present government of any responsibility in the matter. The whole difficulty was over the interpretation which had been in dispute for some years. The government at the time of the offer, the most able counsel available, Messrs. Newcombe and Shepley.

Mr. Middlebro asked why the government had not put in a clause making it impossible to be wise after an event, said Sir Wilfrid.

Mr. Middlebro observed that it had been pointed out that the clause might mean a cash subsidy.

Mr. Middlebro pressed the point that when it was pointed out that there was a possibility of such an interpretation it would have been well to insert an amendment to make the point clear.

Mr. Barker devoted some time to proving that the Conservatives had been favorable to the opening of the new railway facilities for the west under proper conditions. He went over the vacillations of the government policy in 1903 and into the circumstances of the Quebec bridge enterprise.

Mr. Oliver took the ground that this was a trivial matter compared with the acquisition of a new transcontinental line. He admitted that the railway had cost more than had been expected, but it was better than if it had cost half as much.

Mr. Meighen asked if the railway was better because the government was paying the ten millions, not the company.

"The money has gone into the road," answered Mr. Oliver.

"The government is not undermining the country in paying it."

Mr. Northrup held that there should be an accounting as between the government and the company. It should be ascertained whether there had or had not been collusion in the sale of bonds at so low a figure. There was a counter claim because of the delay in completing the railroad. One million loan of four years ago had been spent in Grand Trunk Pacific rolling stock which was used in Ontario and not on the Grand Trunk Pacific itself.