

## PREMIER M'BRIDE'S MISREPRESENTATION

**Dominion Did Not Attempt to Convey Indian Lands to G. T. P. Over Head of Province.**

(From Thursday's Daily.)

The papers brought down yesterday to the legislature by the Premier relative to the Teimpham Indian lands contain for the most part information which is not new. On the debate in the speech in the early stages of the session Premier McBride laid great stress upon the fact that it appeared that the Dominion government had decided to convey by patent to the Grand Trunk Pacific the 13,000 acres of reserve lands sought by the company. The Premier tried to arouse the House by declaring that the Dominion government was practically saying that in spite of the province the intention of the Dominion was to convey the lands to the Grand Trunk Pacific over the heads of the province.

The correspondence tabled by the government yesterday entirely contradicts the statement taken by the Premier, and the impression which he wished to convey to the members of the legislature. A message sent by the Premier to Ottawa on March 8th of this year, previous to his inflammatory language in the House, asked if the Dominion government had issued patents conveying the land to the Grand Trunk Pacific. The reply from Hon. Frank Oliver, dated the following day, conveyed the information that no such patents had been issued, so that Premier McBride was aware of the facts when he spoke as he did in the legislature.

The return brought down contains in addition to the papers directly passing through the hands of the local government offices also those which were brought down by the Dominion government during the present session at Ottawa, and which give the dealings between the Dominion authorities and the Grand Trunk Pacific and also the arrangements entered into by the railway company with the Indians on the reserve. These papers also bear out the statement contained in the message of Hon. Mr. Oliver and contradict the contention of Premier McBride. By letter dated July 15th, 1906, the Grand Trunk Pacific accepted the agreement

which the Dominion government made regarding the lands in question upon the direct conditional understanding that there should be no recourse against the Dominion in the event of the establishment of any reversionary interests by the province.

From the standpoint of the province perhaps the most important of the recent papers containing each of the conditions is an order in council passed only on Tuesday of this week, in which the government puts up its formal claim to the lands and declares that they are now vested in the province. This claim is based upon the action of the Dominion government in assuming to convey these lands in order that they may be sold to the Grand Trunk Pacific. This surrender is construed as allowing the lands to become vested in the province.

The greater part of the information conveyed in the papers brought down has been given to the public before and is not new. The documents are in fact over two years old, and contain a record of the negotiations made with the Indians by E. G. Russell, representing the Grand Trunk Pacific, and the final confirmation of the arrangements entered into at that time. The sum of \$750 an acre was the price agreed upon, and by arrangement with the Indians in equal proportions among those of 21 years and upwards, male and female; the interest accruing from the funded remainder to be divided as follows: Two hundred dollars each to the Indians, male and female, as they attain their majority, as a first charge, the balance to be paid annually through the Dominion government for medical improvements, maintenance, and other works.

tonwood grows in the bottom of the Peace River valley. With regard to minerals, a large deposit of talc was found in the Middle river. Two small veins of anthracite coal were also discovered near the forks. This is evidence of coal everywhere in the Peace River district on the south side. There is also gold in the gravel bars of the river, but the short period for which the river has been taken out and the other difficulties are such as to discourage the miner.

The climate is thoroughly endurable. The summers are not too hot nor the winters too cold as in Manitoba and Ontario. The extreme low temperatures of Manitoba and Ontario are not reached in the Peace River country. During 1906 there was a fair distribution of rainfall on the lower Peace river from Vermilion to Dunvegan, but the rainfall above Dunvegan was deficient. During the year 1906 there was a heavy snowfall, but last year the contrary was the case.

Under the head of ranching, Mr. Macdonnell reports that hay grew abundantly over the entire Peace River district, affording good pasturage wherever the open prairie existed. Throughout the growth of timber hay also grows, but not sufficient to be relied upon as regular pasturage. About four or five months' supply of hay should be provided to carry cattle through the winter, and about three tons for horses. Pigs are easily raised, running wild during the summer and living principally on roots and by grazing.

On arriving at Fort St. John on May 8th, 1905, Mr. Macdonnell proceeded to plough, cultivate and plant land for an experimental farm. He started planting potatoes on May 27th, and sowed radishes, lettuce, turnips, carrots, parsnips, beans, peas, corn, onions, pumpkin, cucumber and other vegetables. The turnips and potatoes grew splendidly, also the beans, radishes and lettuce; the corn matured and ripened. The peas ripened, but were destroyed by chipmunks.

The lettuce and onions grew well, but the pumpkin, cucumber and squash were not a success, although during occasional seasons they have been grown successfully on the Hudson's Bay side of the river. Cauliflower was not a success. The corn matured and was uninjured by the succeeding frost. Some of the potatoes grown on the Hudson's Bay side of the river weighed seven pounds; in fact, this was the weight of the majority selected from a growth on half an acre.

Flowers also grew wonderfully well. During last year the outcrop was remarkably developed over the entire country, and caused much destruction of garden stuffs.

The party did not have any cereal stuff seeds, so no experiments along that line could be conducted. The natural life is represented in the district by moose, black bear, cinnamon bear, wild cat, coyote, wolf, etc.

In the Peace river fish are somewhat scarce, but the most common being the squaw fish. Trout are found in abundance in the tributaries, and pike and white fish in the lakes.

—Owing to the Pacific Northwest championship meeting being held on the Spokane links, on the 22nd May, and following dates the Victoria Golf Club have changed the date of their spring meeting to Friday, the 29th inst., and following days. The programmes will be issued shortly. It is possible that the ladies' competition may open on Thursday preceding Good Friday.

## THE LUMBER INQUIRY.

An Understanding Between Manitoba and Coast Associations Regarding Prices.

Ottawa, March 20.—H. P. Wells, secretary of the Mountain Lumber Manufacturers' Association, was further examined before the lumber combine committee this forenoon and gave such evidence as established the wisdom and necessity of holding this investigation. He said that there was an understanding between the Mountain Lumber Association and the Coast Association as to prices. The association was advised by Mr. Taylor, a barrister of Nelson, B. C., that they were working under by-laws that were illegal, and on January 15th, after this investigation had been ordered, new by-laws were arranged, and it was under these they were now working.

## BURIED ALIVE.

Birmingham, Ala., March 20.—A telephone message from Bessemer says that the lining of a tunnel of the Woodward Iron Company at Woodward, which has been undergoing repairs, fell in today and buried a number of workmen. Five dead bodies have been removed from the tunnel, and the remaining four and four negroes are the known victims.

## PROMOTION FOR LOCAL MANAGER

**H. B. MACKENZIE IS TO GET GOOD POST**

**Representative of Bank of British North America Transferred to Winnipeg.**

(From Thursday's Daily.)

In view of the rapid filling up of the Prairie provinces with settlers, and the development going on there, the directors of the Bank of British North America have decided to appoint a local superintendent, with headquarters in Winnipeg, for the district stretching from the Great Lakes to the Rocky mountains.

Mr. H. B. Mackenzie, now manager of the Victoria branch of the bank, has been selected for this position, and will leave to assume his new duties about the beginning of May.

It will be gratifying to Victorians to know that Mr. Mackenzie's successor is to be Mr. David Doig, who for some years past has been the bank's manager in Dawson. Mr. Doig is well-known here having been in the Victoria branch for many years before leaving for the north, and he has through periodical visits kept well up to date on business conditions in this city, and the affairs of the local branch.

In appointing Mr. Doig to represent the bank here, the directors have chosen not only a gentleman of proved business ability, but also one whose local knowledge will enable him to manage take over the reins of management.

On the other hand, the selection of Mr. Mackenzie is a distinct recognition by the head office of his merit and the realm of finance. Mr. Mackenzie came to Victoria to succeed W. T. Oliver when that gentleman was transferred to the joint management of the New York branch. It is noteworthy that both Mr. Oliver and Mr. Mackenzie have been promoted to high positions from the Victoria branch, which is regarded as one of the plums of the bank service.

Mr. Mackenzie, who formerly occupied the position of inspector, has since his arrival in Victoria made a host of friends, not only for himself but for the bank which he represents, having identified himself closely with the life of the city.

## ASSOCIATION WILL HOLD OUTDOOR MEET

**Y. M. C. A. Arranges for Athletic Carnival at Oak Bay—Sporting Activity Evincd.**

(From Thursday's Daily.)

The main business transacted by the physical committee of the Y. M. C. A. at their meeting last night was to arrange to hold a big outdoor meet on the 8th of June. This will be held at Oak Bay and will be open to athletes affiliated with recognized associations. It is expected that great interest will be aroused by the announcement of this meet, and that entries will be received from all over the Sound, as well as from Vancouver and other cities on the Mainland. This athletic carnival will probably be the largest of its kind held in the capital this year, and it is hoped that all the well known exponents who are going to compete at the indoor meet at Seattle will find their way over to Oak Bay.

It was further decided at the meeting last night to organize a basketball club, and, if possible, to arrange for local matches. The question of aquatic festivals was also mooted, and it is likely that exponents of the nautical art will have a full season's programme during the coming summer. It has been decided with the commencement of the warm weather, to get together a water polo team and to arrange a schedule of matches.

A junior meet is also in process of arrangement. This will be held on the 10th of June, and will be open to all the younger members of the association, but entries will also be received from junior athletes in the district, and these need not necessarily belong to an affiliated club. If the present programme of the Y. M. C. A. is carried out in its entirety the members of that institution will have a period of almost uninterrupted activity during the present spring and the coming summer.

## LABOR COUNCIL OBTAINS REPORT

**DENIES ALLEGED SCARCITY OF LABOR**

**Routine Business Was Transacted at Last Night's Regular Session—Endorse Proposed Bill.**

(From Thursday's Daily.)

The following report from the special Committee of the Trades and Labor council of this city was rendered last night on the alleged shortage of labor in this province:

Victoria, March 20th, 1907. Secretary Victoria Trades and Labor Council:

The committee appointed by the T. and L. Council to inquire into labor conditions in the province, particularly as to whether or not the claim advanced that the scarcity of labor was working hardships to many industries was based on good foundation, beg leave to report. We entered into communication with central bodies in Seattle, Vancouver, Greenwood and Penticton, receiving the answers appended to this report. In every case they take the same position, that is, that no scarcity of labor exists. A great deal has been said in the daily press relative to the shortage of labor, and we are given to understand that a system of assisted immigration should be inaugurated by the Salvation Army, financially assisted by the provincial government, with the object of relieving the shortage. That is the claim to be affirmed or denied to the community which is in the nature of things, the committee are not in a position to either affirm or deny the claim. We are suffering for want of help, but we are firmly of opinion that a system of assisted immigration should be undertaken only as a last resource.

Such growers of the province have claimed that they are greatly handicapped in picking season by want of help. Such conditions exist all over the province, but surely it is not necessary to assist the immigration of laborers from other parts of the world for the purpose of helping fruit growers for two or three weeks in the year.

As far as can be ascertained the interests of all concerned to have a large immigration into this province from the British Empire, and it is not necessary to assist the immigration of laborers from other parts of the world for the purpose of helping fruit growers for two or three weeks in the year.

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## 'FRISCO SENSATION.

Rumors of Confessions of Graft by City Officials.

San Francisco, March 20.—All kinds of rumors are in circulation to-day about alleged confessions by city officials of graft, and about moves and counter-moves by the prosecution and defence, but verification is in almost every instance impossible. Among the reports in circulation to-day are those that negotiations have been opened by the accused men with D. M. Delmas, the attorney who is defending Thaw, in New York, and that Mayor Schmitz has been or will be confronted with the written confessions of the supervisors and has been promised immunity if he will add his confession to theirs. This, it is said, will be done by the prosecution in order to reach the bribe-givers.

## ROBBERS REPULSED.

Sharp Fight in Johannesburg Bank—Two Men Wounded.

Johannesburg, March 20.—An attempt was made by two masked men to rob the National Bank on Harrison street this afternoon, but it was foiled by the employees and the police. The robbers, who were armed with revolvers, were met by the bank's security force and a sharp fight ensued. Two of the robbers were wounded, and the others escaped.

## THE TRANSVAAL LEGISLATURE

**FORMALLY OPENED BY EARL OF SHELBORNE**

**Recently Disallowed Ordinance Excluding Asiatics From Mines\* Will Be Re-enacted**

Pretoria, Transvaal, March 21.—The first parliament of the Transvaal colony under the newly granted constitution opened here this morning in the hall in which the late President Kruger presided for so many years over the sessions of the Upper Volksraad of the South African republic.

In a speech at the opening of the legislature the Earl of Shelbourne, high commissioner for South Africa, said: "My ministers have resolved that the employment of Chinese in the mines shall cease at the earliest possible moment. As to the Chinese already employed there, my ministers will not take any steps to prevent their repatriation at the end of their indentures unless they are convinced that such repatriation will be to the detriment of the country. They will therefore make an effective substitute, either in the form of unskilled labor or improved mechanical appliances, has been found."

The disposition of the new government of the Transvaal to exclude all Asiatics from work in the mines is shown by the fact that the Asiatic ordinance recently disallowed by the Earl of Elgin, secretary of state for the colonies, after it had passed the late legislature, is again published in the official gazette here indicating that among the first acts of the new parliament would be the re-enactment of this measure in spite of the opposition of the Imperial government.

Asiatic Exclusion. London, March 21.—The papers say the Asiatic ordinance which the Transvaal parliament proposes to re-enact although at the present time aimed especially at the British Indians, who are ousting the small white traders from the Transvaal, is equally intended to exclude the Japanese or other Asiatics who are immigrating to South Africa in increasing numbers.

Mr. Herbert Parker, who represents the Colonies in the House of Commons on this question, is quoted to-day in an interview as saying: "If, as I am sure I will, the Transvaal parliament re-enacts the Asiatic ordinance, the Imperial government will hardly venture to disallow it again as over ninety per cent. of the whites in South Africa thoroughly appreciate it."

Richard McBride. The executive committee reported that in connection with the move made by the Laborers' Protective Association they had waited on the government and had secured the necessary resolutions passed by the council and the various unions with regard to the alleged shortage of labor. The government had also been asked to consider and had promised to look into the matter.

Painters' Union, local No. 5, and Typographical union each sent checks for \$10, to be applied to the Sanatorium fund. The Garment Workers' Union sent a second contribution of \$10 also. The Vancouver Trades and Labor council wrote to inform this council that the Vancouver body had sent strong protest to the attorney-general against the Dominion government's "Lord's Day Observance Act."

A. Johnson and John Fraser, two delegates who were present at the last meeting of the labor council, desired to state that they did not vote for the motion of protest passed against the Lord's Day Observance Act. The press committee was instructed accordingly.

The council unanimously endorsed Bill No. 14, by Parker Williams, M. P. C. A., entitled "An Act Respecting the Payment of Wages," and the secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Williams that the bill had been passed.

By a three-fifths vote the local option bill as introduced by Mr. Williams was defeated. The bill was defeated by a vote of 104 for and 72 against. On the motion of Richard Tweedie, a laborer, it was moved that the bill be referred to the committee on liquor.

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## MAY ENFORCE COASTING LAWS

**TO FOSTER TRADE IN CANADIAN WATERS**

**Shippers and Merchants Anxious That Freight Should be Carried in British Ships.**

(From Thursday's Daily.)

In view of the coming activity which is foreshadowed in Northern waters, and notably with the port of Prince Rupert, shippers and merchants both in Vancouver and Victoria are now agitating for the enforcement of the coasting laws. The question is a grave one, and in it lies the moot point as to whether the United States will continue to have equal rights with Canada in Canadian Pacific waters.

The regulation which is now enforced and the enforcement of which is necessary to ensure the future welfare of Canadian trade along the British Columbia coast reads as follows: "Except as otherwise ordered goods in transit from one part of Canada to another, wholly or partly by water carriage through the United States, shall be transported in British registered vessels under customs manifests, and the transfer of such goods from car to vessel and vice versa shall be made in the presence of a special officer of the Canadian customs and be certified by him."

It will be noticed that the above regulation should be enforced except when otherwise ordered. This order can alone emanate from the Governor-General in Council. The regulation in this effect in the customs tariff reads: "The Governor in Council may from time to time make regulations to declare what shall be coasting trade, or inland navigation respectively, and how the same shall be regulated in any case or classes of cases, and for relaxing or dispensing with any of the requirements of this act as to vessels engaged in such trade on any conditions which he sees fit to impose."

As far as can be ascertained the Governor in Council never made any order which would abrogate the regulation dealing with the carrying of Canadian freight in part transit from one point in Canada to another, in which it states that such freight must be carried in British registered vessels under customs manifests. As matters stand Canadian bonded freight may come from eastern ports, and be carried on American railroads, and may then be shipped from Seattle or Vancouver to the coast, and there be reloaded on any other American port in American vessels, and by them brought to its destination in Canada.

Although such privileges are allowed American vessels there are no reciprocal privileges of a like nature on the other side of the line. American bonded freight carried over a Canadian railroad and reaching a Canadian port, can only be carried from that port to its American destination in a United States vessel.

The present non-enforcement of this coasting regulation is, therefore, obviously an injustice, and it is an error.

Pending the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway line through Canada, and while the shipping to the coast is being gradually increased, the non-enforcement of this regulation will be especially severe. At present the Grand Trunk Pacific obviously has an agreement, if not something more, with the railway which runs across the northern portion of America to carry freight to Seattle and Portland and to have the goods shipped from there in American vessels to Prince Rupert. It will be seen that the freight thus carried will in no wise benefit either Victoria or Vancouver, it will mean that practically all the traffic having an eastern origin and bound for the Grand Trunk Pacific terminus, will, at least for the next few years, benefit America from a carrying standpoint almost exclusively.

About the time of the Klondike rush an effort was made to enforce this regulation. The effort was made by the boards of trade both in Victoria and Vancouver. The enforcement did not last for very long, however, and was stated at the time that there were not sufficient vessels plying on the coast to cope with the freight situation. An effort was made to enforce this regulation, but it was not successful.

Enquiries show that beyond the brief period above mentioned the coasting regulation was never enforced. Since it was first drawn up it was a dead letter law. Time was when its effect was infinitesimal, but with each succeeding day that effect is becoming more far reaching.

Both the Victoria and the Vancouver boards of trade have passed resolutions asking the Dominion government to put the coasting regulations into effect.

Is An Outrage. He should be sent to an insane asylum. Under the law I have not been able to show that he is insane. I am bound by the legal aspect of the case and the moral side of it I am not allowed to enter into.

No. 2 Company, Fifth Regiment, at its recent annual meeting, decided to hold a rifle shoot at the range on Good Friday. It was further decided to hold a 500 tournament on Wednesday next. A meeting will be held on Friday evening to discuss the places for the coming year. The following officers were elected: President, Capt. Winship; vice-president, Capt. Booth; secretary, Mr. Ware; treasurer, Corp. Schroeder; committee, Corp. Thompson; Mr. Winship, Mr. Duncan, Bombardier Neill, Corp. Kinloch and Corp. Rolle.

PEASANTS FIRE TOWN. Number of Them Killed or Wounded in Encounter With Troops.

Rucharest, March 20.—Peasants yesterday again invaded Botocash and set fire to different parts of the town, especially the Jewish quarter. Troops intervened and several peasants were killed or wounded.

SHIPPING DISASTER. Twenty-one Lives Lost Through Sinking of German Steamer.

Lubeck, Germany, March 20.—The German steamer Horn, of 138 tons net, has been sunk in the North Sea, with the loss of 21 lives.

## THE QUESTION OF THAW'S SANITY

**INQUIRY SEEMS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION**

**Defence Will Fight Hard to Prevent Judge From Appointing a Commission.**

New York, March 24.—That Justice Fitzgerald will appoint a commission in lunacy to inquire into the present mental condition of Harry Thaw seems a foregone conclusion. This afternoon he will hear arguments of counsel on both sides of the famous case, and he plainly intimated yesterday that he would appoint a commission.

That this commission will find that Thaw is now insane is the opinion of most of those who have closely followed the trial. Dr. Allan McLane Hamilton, one of the country's most famous alienists, has openly expressed his opinion that Thaw is now insane and incapable of conducting his own defence. Dr. Macdonald and Dr. A. Flint, also noted alienists, have expressed the same opinion.

Affidavits are Expected from all three as well as from the doctors who are familiar with the history of the Thaw case and with the insanity which is said to have been present in both sides of his ancestry.

The appearance of Dr. Allan Hamilton in the case yesterday and District Attorney Jerome's appeal to the "conscience of the court" came like a bombshell. It was expected that the testimony would be finished yesterday, and that the summing up would begin. It was the general expectation that the case would go to the jury not later than Saturday, but Mr. Delmas called Dr. Hamilton to the stand. The shadow of a doubt was cast on the large in the background ever since the case began. It was known that he believed Thaw to be still insane, and neither side was anxious to call him. The defence apparently

because of his belief in Thaw's present insanity; the prosecution could not call him because of relation to Thaw was that of a physician to patient, and he could not be compelled to testify without a specific waiver of the privileges created by those relations. The defence attorneys for the defence will make a hard fight to prevent the judge from appointing the commission when the court sits this afternoon. It is presumed from the first that the fight had been to secure an acquittal, and it is not probable that it will be given up so long as there is the slightest chance that it may be successful.

On the other hand Mr. Jerome is convinced that Thaw is now insane, and he will fight just as hard for the appointment of the commission.

To-day's session being informal the rules of law and evidence will not be enforced, and each side will play for service of evidence that it desires to show the

Mental Condition of the Defendant. The jury will not be present, and the sole object of the proceeding is that the judge may be informed on all points of the case and decide whether or not he will stop the trial until a legal commission has decided whether Thaw is in such a condition to permit his case going to the jury.

The law of New York state specifies that the only insanity that can excuse a crime is a mental derangement which renders the accused incapable of knowing the nature of his act when it is committed and incapable of knowing that it is wrong. This law, which is in force in England also, is far behind the times, according to alienists. Many a man, they say, has

an Overpowering Impulse to commit crime, an impulse which he is unable to conquer and which forces him to commit crime, but if his mental state is such that he realizes that he is doing wrong, the law does not take into account the insane impulse which he is unable to overcome.

A case in point is that of Aran Taschlian, an Armenian, who has just been transferred to the hospital for the criminally insane after ten days in Sing Sing prison, where he was sent on a conviction of murder of the second degree for killing his brother and cutting the body to pieces. Drs. Macdonald and Flint, both of whom have been witnesses for the prosecution in the Thaw case, testified as experts for the prosecution in the Taschlian case. Both were convinced that he was insane, but were not able to swear that his insanity was such that he was incapable of knowing his act was wrong.

"I believe the Thaw case and the Taschlian case to be exactly parallel," said District Attorney Jerome last to-day. "Both are insane and both are suffering from paranoia. The trial of Thaw case, testified as experts for the prosecution in the Taschlian case. Both were convinced that he was insane, but were not able to swear that his insanity was such that he was incapable of knowing his act was wrong.

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