

SCANDALOUS IF TRUE.

Westminster Council Said to Be Holding Fire Relief Fund for Municipal Purposes.

Families Allowed to Go Hungry With Twenty-One Thousand Dollars Left.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Jan. 26.—The scandal over the fire relief fund of Westminster, mentioned in the press periodically for the past month, has reached the stage where some of the Westminster citizens have invited the outside press to take it up.

There is \$21,000 in the hands of the relief committee, while families are in absolute want, the money being held by those who have brought on the deadlock to be applied to public improvements instead of to charity.

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BERESFORD SAILS.

On His Way Home From China via the United States.

Yokohama, Jan. 25.—Rear Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, who has been visiting Chinese ports, sailed for the United States to-day on his way to England.

In an interview previous to his departure the Admiral laid emphasis upon the necessity of an understanding between Japan, Germany and the United States and Great Britain in order to prevent war in the Far East.

Those at Kingston Penitentiary Refuse Work Because Soup is Too Thin.

Kingston, Jan. 24.—(Special)—Forty convicts at the penitentiary refused soup at dinner yesterday and also refused to work because the soup and other food was too light for them.

The food is said to be prescribed by the inspector. The ring-leaders were imprisoned, and the rest were made to work when told that their grievances would be considered.

Former Attorney-General of United States a Victim of Apoplexy.

Washington, Jan. 26.—Former Attorney-General of the United States was stricken with apoplexy while addressing the United States Supreme court at within ten minutes.

Mr. Garland had just resumed an argument in a case which had begun yesterday. He read from a law volume, and had followed with the sentence, "This year honors is your contention," when the fatal stroke came.

British Ship on the Rocks—Pilot and Two of Crew Drowned.

Margate, Eng., Jan. 26.—The British ship Hawkesdale, Capt. Steele, from Hamburg for Melbourne, is ashore on Long Sand. The Margate life-boat saved seven of her crew, and another life-boat saved 17 more.

Three of those who were on board the Hawkesdale, including the pilot, were drowned by the capsizing of one of the ship's boats. She was a steel ship built at Londonderry in 1880.

She registered 1,723 tons, halled at Liverpool, and belonged to P. Redale & Porter, of that port.

Chatham, Jan. 26.—Jerry McCarthy, who of Chatham's well-known citizens, dropped dead yesterday.

Guelph, Jan. 26.—Dr. George S. Herod, the oldest physician in the city, died of pneumonia, after a short illness, aged 92.

Toronto, Jan. 26.—B. Homer Dixon, consul-general of the Netherlands, is dead, aged 80. He was brother-in-law of Goldwin Smith.

Halifax, Jan. 26.—William Dunbar, ex-mayor of Halifax, is dead. He leaves an estate of \$50,000.

DOMINION NEWS NOTES.

Ladies' College Banking at Soap Works—Father Chiquigny Forbids Expensive Casket.

Hamilton, Jan. 26.—Dr. John Reid, M.P. for South Grenville, was married at St. Mary's church to-day to Ephie LaBatt, daughter of the late Ephraim LaBatt, of London.

Bradford, Jan. 26.—The safe of the Bradford Soap Works has been broken, and about \$200 belonging to the young ladies' college stolen.

Corwall, Jan. 26.—Dutton, alias Carney, implicated in the Cosgrove murder case, was caught by two boys in the act of robbing the resident and wife of Wm. Colquhoun last night and arrested.

Montreal, Jan. 26.—The butchers' association have decided to raise the price of beef from one to two cents per pound, claiming they are losing money.

A clause in the late Father Chiquigny's will provides that his casket is not to cost more than \$10.

FATAL SNOWSLIDE.

Two Miners Buried Near Sandon but One Rescued Uninjured.

Sandon, Jan. 26.—(Special)—A slide occurred at the Ajax mine at four o'clock yesterday, but one was rescued uninjured. A large force are digging for the other, who is variously reported to have been Sidon, a Californian, or one Madison.

ROSSLAND'S CARNIVAL.

One Thousand Visitors at the Opening and the Prospects Good.

Rossland, Jan. 25.—The Rossland mid-winter carnival opened to-day. About 1,000 visitors arrived from surrounding points and many more are expected to-morrow.

To-day was devoted to the great hoop race, the honors being divided between Rossland and Nelson. The weather is rather soft but in other respects the carnival is a great success.

MANTOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Blizard and Extreme Cold to Welcome the Spirit Wrestlers.—The Dauphin Railway.

Winnipeg, Jan. 26.—(Special)—The Doukhobors are expected to reach Winnipeg to-morrow morning on special trains. Preparations are made for the accommodation of six hundred in the immigration hall here.

The weather last night and this morning was exceptionally cold, the mercury being below 30, while a terrible blizzard raged. The gale subsided to-day.

Wm. Mackenzie, of Toronto, states that the Dauphin railway line will be known in the future as the Canada Northern line.

F. L. Clarke, an old Winnipeg newspaper man, laid to-day to take up his residence at Victoria, where he will join the staff of the Globe, the new evening paper.

C. P. R. PROSPERITY.

Montreal, Jan. 24.—The Canadian Pacific railway traffic receipts for the week ending January 21 were \$448,000, for the same week last year they were \$396,000.

NEWS OF THE CAPITAL.

Million Dollar Railway Job to be the Feature of the Coming Session.

Army Medical Department Mooted Seven Thousand French Canadians Coming From States.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Jan. 26.—The creation of an army medical department is mooted and as preliminary thereto a stretcher corps will be formed in each city and battalion of infantry. A special court of instruction will be given to the bearer sections by regimental medical officers.

Interior department officials say that 7,000 French-Canadians now in the States will be re-patriated this spring.

It is said here that the Canada Eastern railway as a branch of the Intercolonial will be pressed by the government for the extension of the water system. It is said to be \$1,000,000, although the Canadian Pacific refused to take it at \$800,000.

Militia orders are to be issued daily from the 1st and sent bi-weekly to the officer commanding each military district.

VANCOUVER AND VICINITY.

Waterworks Extension Loan—Leander Coming Back—Matrimonial.

Vancouver, Jan. 26.—(Special)—On Thursday next the citizens of Vancouver will vote on a by-law to raise \$1,000 for the extension of the water system, by laying an additional main from the dam to the Narrows.

R. D. Hobbs has been appointed assistant master mechanic of the Pacific division of the C.P.R.

"The Mikado," produced by the Grand opera company was pronounced the best of their productions to date.

H.M.S. Leander has been ordered back to Esquimaut and will sail to-day.

Mr. T. T. Shelton, known as the "Big" large circle of intimate friends in Vancouver as "Major," was united in marriage yesterday at Seattle to Mrs. Gladys Elise Walker. They will reside at home in Vancouver on their return from the honeymoon.

ABANDONS THE CAUSE.

Guelph, Jan. 26.—(Special)—At a Young Liberal club banquet last night, Solicitor General Fitzpatrick referred to the Manitoba school question, and said that while he wanted to have his fellow Catholics enjoy the same measure of liberty that he would give to men of other religions, still he thought it would be idle under existing circumstances to attempt to take Manitoba by the throat, as it was attempted to do, and it was idle for them to have any hope that the result of any such attempt would have been beneficial to the minority in Manitoba.

ODD FELLOWS' HALL BURNED.

Kingston Lodge Suffer the Loss of a Splendid Building.

Kingston, Jan. 26.—(Special)—The Odd Fellows' hall was burned last night, and was an immense structure, built in 1891, and was one of the highest in the city.

The hall was occupied by Oley Bros., grocers, whose stock is estimated at \$20,000. The second floor was occupied by the Dominion Business College and the Odd Fellows' Relief Association. The third floor was occupied by the A.O.U.W. and other fraternal societies, who lost everything.

The building was erected by a syndicate of Odd Fellows, but was afterwards taken over by Kingston lodge. It cost \$25,000 and was insured for \$20,000.

The fire was caused by a gas leak in the kitchen of the oldest in Canada, has lost all his valuable records, documents and beautiful lodge room furnishings.

INGERSOLL'S NEW LIGHT.

He Realizes the Necessity for a Piece of Future Punishment.

Carlinville, Ill., Jan. 26.—Col. Robt. G. Ingersoll lectured here at the opera house last night. Just before he appeared his manager informed him that the manager of the opera house had disappeared with all the receipts except those from the box office and reserved seats. The Colonel proceeded with his lecture, but remarked: "If there is no hell there must be one."

NEW COLONIAL GOVERNOR.

Earl Beauchamp to Succeed Viscount Hamden in New South Wales.

London, Jan. 25.—Earl Beauchamp has been appointed to succeed Viscount Hamden in succession of Viscount Hamden, governor and commander-in-chief of the colony since 1895.

INSURANCE CHANGES.

Prospective New Manager for the Canada Life Company.

Toronto, Jan. 25.—(Special)—It is rumored that the headquarters of the Canada Life company will shortly be removed from Hamilton to Toronto, and that Mr. Ramsay, it is said, is to receive a retiring allowance of \$12,000. His salary at present is \$17,000.

PERILS OF THE GLACIER.

A Number of Men Frozen Coming Out From Copper River.

The Cottage City, which left Skagway on January 20, reached Victoria early this morning, bringing a batch of some 25 miners from the Copper river, and a mingled tale of gold finds, hard luck and death on the Valdez glacier. W. C. Rice, an old Hamilton man, but now of Skagway, came out with his party, Heber Smith, of Chicago. He reports that some 4,000 men spent the season on copper river, and coming out in the middle of the summer over the Valdez glacier, quite a number of deaths occurred from men being frozen to death.

Among these were Harry Cohen, formerly a New York jeweller, who with nine companions started for the coast by the steamer City of Seattle, and perished to the cold. Another one of his companions, named Smith, tried to get to the coast, but died from his injuries. Another young man whose name could not be learned, froze to death, and a Hungarian, George Polovich, who came on the Cottage City, lost part of each foot from frost-bites.

WAR INSURANCE.

Marine Underwriters Announce a New Agreement on the Subject.

London, Jan. 26.—At a general meeting of Lloyd's to-day a resolution was adopted that henceforth policies or agreements of insurance upon vessels or cargo shall be deemed and warranted free from capture, seizure and detention and the consequences thereof or from any act of war, unless such a declaration of war, unless provision to the contrary is contained in the agreement and signed by the underwriters. It was further resolved that the resolution passed at the meeting on June 18, 1898, dealing with the matter of war risks be rescinded.

MUNICIPAL FRAUDS.

Provincial Audit Has Reduced Them Very Considerably in Ontario.

Toronto, Jan. 24.—(Special)—The beneficial effect of the establishment of the provincial municipal auditor's department is already manifest. For 1897 the defalcations on the part of municipal officers totalled over \$100,000. For the year just closed they did not come to one-quarter of that amount.

A CLEAR & BURL.



WEILER BROS., VICTORIA, B.C.

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ASKING FOR ROADS.

Westminster District Delegation Want Improvements Made.

There was quite a deputation of Westminster district residents waiting upon the government yesterday with the object of pressing for assistance for a road from Harrison to Vancouver. The deputation, which was presided by Mr. C. E. Dixon, consisted of Messrs. J. H. Blackstock of Maple Ridge, Atkins of Cowichan, Mayor Gairden of Vancouver, and Mr. McGee of Nicomen Island.

There were two propositions—one for a road via Port Moody, and the other following the river to Westminster, and thence to Vancouver. The cost is understood to be in the neighborhood of \$100,000.

Mr. B. Garrett, of Stevenson, wants the Richmond road to Vancouver improved, and told the government so yesterday. The government hearse to the requests, and made the usual answer that the requests would have their most careful consideration.

GREENWOOD CITY'S WONDERFUL GROWTH—RAILWAY LABORERS STRANDED AT CRANBROOK.

Personal Assessments of the Kootenay Cities—Victoria Envy-prise at Nelson.

RAILWAY MEN'S PAY—H. H. Bullock Webster of the provincial police, returned last night from Cranbrook, where he was sent on Monday last to investigate troubles among the workmen on the town was found to be a great state of excitement, the cause of the men being as follows: Last week 150 Canadian Pacific Railway Company men between Cranbrook and Wardner were discharged the pay-car and returned wages. On their arrival at Cranbrook no pay-car was there, nor did it arrive for six days.

In the meantime, the men, who were without money, provisions or shelter, became impatient at the delay and threatened to help themselves to the Canadian Pacific Railway stores and other provisions they could find in the town. The pay-car arrived in Cranbrook on Wednesday, and instead of paying the men pay by the November time-check, the paymaster asked, when he would return, the money check, and instead of the information that the workmen had only a few dollars coming to them for November, owing to loss of time, hospital and medical fees, and other expenses, and were pending on their December checks to claim them out of the country. They claimed that they were told by the company that they would be taken back free of charge, but now a fare of five cents was demanded. When Mr. Bullock Webster learned the matter, he was well, but as soon as their money was hurried it is feared that there will be further trouble.—Nelson Tribune.

GREENWOOD CITY—J. A. Odell, who was returned to Spokane from a trip to Greenwood, Col., is mining on the Boundary Creek district, and is enthusiastic over its prospects and its present activity. "Every hotel in Greenwood City is filled," he said, "and they turn people away every day. I know of no more pay-car activity. A man could undertake that to put up a first-class hotel in that town. The business is there. The snow running charge \$2.50 per day and the accommodations are not the best. On the way out we met almost a continuous string of teams going in with supplies. It is the most active of all the hay and oats in the country last fall. He is reaping his harvest. Hay is selling at \$5 per ton, and about \$5 more than would be necessary to land it in camp from the outside, and, therefore, it is a good business. The railroad building is going on steadily, and large crews of men are working in the snow under great difficulties, but steady work is being done from Greenwood to Midway."

VICTORIA IN KOOTENAY—Improvements made and under way indicate Nelson's importance as a distributing point for Kootenay. Of the warships from the North on the steamer Rosalie, in charge of Capt. C. Harris, the steamer made port shortly after 11 o'clock, and landed only one other day's provisions. Capt. Harris, and this was Col. Reichenbach, who made the trip out over the trails with Capt. Harris, leaving the Yukon metropolis on December 17, several days later than previous arrivals. Their trip to the coast was made in good weather and was uneventful, but the weather was a barren of all sorts of interest.

Among the Rosalie's passengers were five shipwrecked sailors belonging to the halibut fishing schooner St. Lawrence, of Seattle, which was wrecked on December 28 last on a small island near Piper Bay. The sailors were D. C. McDonald, C. Foss, and Messrs. Abbott, Ericson and Jones. Capt. Calder, who was in charge of the schooner, remained at Wrangle, where the other members of the crew were shortly after 11 o'clock, and landed only one other day's provisions. Capt. Harris, and this was Col. Reichenbach, who made the trip out over the trails with Capt. Harris, leaving the Yukon metropolis on December 17, several days later than previous arrivals. Their trip to the coast was made in good weather and was uneventful, but the weather was a barren of all sorts of interest.

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