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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL L. NO. 202 — VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY DECEMBER 1, 1908 — FIFTIETH YEAR

POWERS APPROVE OF AGREEMENT

Purposes of United States and Japan in Far East Are Good For All

HELP PEACE PRESERVATION

British, German and French Comments Unanimously Favorable

Washington, Nov. 28.—Cordial support of and sympathy with the ends sought to be obtained by Japan and the United States in the agreement respecting China and the Pacific, as outlined in the Associated Press despatches printed today, has been given by some, and it is believed will be given by all, the nations of Europe having interests in that section of the world. That it should receive the unanimous endorsement of every progressive nation was the sentiment expressed today, because the motives behind it are declared to be just, and make for the good of all countries. The status quo in the Pacific and the independence of China are pointed out to be of the highest importance, which makes the agreement second to but few that have been recorded in the later pages of the world's history.

Diplomatic Washington opened wide its eyes today when the full purpose of the agreement which was so much talked about recently became known.

The reticence of the state department on the subject permitted but comparatively little to become public of the negotiations, and this was confined to the announcement that there would be a re-statement of the positions of both countries regarding China, designed, it was said, to clear up any misapprehension that might exist in the matter. That the two countries ever contemplated going as far as they have, was never dreamed of, even by the most sanguine of those who favored a closer understanding in support of Chinese territorial integrity. That the negotiations have progressed to the point of actual signature of the agreement, thus indicating a tacit acquiescence in the course by the other nations having large interests in the far east, the diplomatic officials assert, a decided step in the gradual solution of the eastern question for so many years threatening the peace of the nations interested.

The American government fully sounded the nations of the world having interests in Asia as to their attitude on the subject on the new agreement. These included the governments who heartily gave their assurance to the "open door" policy, so warmly advocated and consistently urged by John Hay, while secretary of state. That all will heartily assent to the principles involved is not for a moment doubted, and so far as ascertained today, two of them already have indicated their sincere sympathy with the proposition for an agreement and have voiced the sentiment that it will contribute in a marked degree to a continuation of peace in the far east.

The principles forming the basis of the agreement were sent to the American ambassadors and ministers accredited to the countries which have aligned themselves in support of the "open door," with instructions to lay them before the respective governments. Replies already have been received from some of them. These principles are in exact accord with those stated in the Associated Press despatches.

Having reached an entire accord on the principles of the agreement, all that remains to be done is to agree on the text incorporating these principles. This work has made splendid progress and it was stated at the state department today that in all probability the agreement would soon be made public. Baron Takahira, he Japanese ambassador, called at the state department today and remained for some time in conference with Acting Secretary Bacon. When the text is finally agreed upon, the agreement will be formally signed by Secretary Root and Ambassador Takahira.

The agreement reached between Japan and the United States covering the policy of the two countries in the Pacific is the culmination of a long line of conventions, treaties and understandings between the two countries, dating back to the controversy over the Japanese school question in San Francisco, which for a time in the minds of some people threatened rupture of the friendly relations of the two countries. That was solved amicably. Later there was a copyright and trade mark convention, an arbitration treaty, a prompt answer to an invitation to Japan to participate in the Tokio exposition, and, last of all, the visit of the battleship fleet, the rapid succession of which events in the minds of the state department officials has but tended to strengthen the good feeling between the two nations, which is now vitalized by what some think amounts practically to an alliance.

British Comment

London, Nov. 28.—The reported agreement between the United States and Japan for the maintenance of the status quo in the Pacific and the guarantee of the integrity of China is given a prominent place in the afternoon papers of London, and is clearly considered to be of great importance. It was received too late for general editorial comment, but the Pall Mall Gazette says it will be heartily welcomed as a contribution to the security of the world's peace. It is not "an entangling alliance," but an agreement "that is all to the good from every viewpoint," as well as a most desirable complement to the Anglo-Japanese alliance. It should assist also this paper says, in the friendly adjustment of other questions between the United States and Japan.

German Opinion

Berlin, Nov. 28.—The Cologne Gazette prints an inspired Berlin dispatch in which it is stated that the American-Japanese agreement will be received with satisfaction everywhere. "So far as Germany is concerned," says the dispatch, "the principle of the 'open door' agrees fully with what Germany on various occasions has declared to be desirable. Moreover, it is an important fact that the United States and Japan will protect the integrity of China. This decision also corresponds entirely with the views of the German government, to which nothing can be more desirable than that China, thus protected from disquiet from without, should be able to devote herself to the task of internal upbuilding and the development of her slumbering energies."

At the same time the confirmation of the industrial and commercial equality of the powers in China is considered as further strengthening the policy of the "open door." Although the agreement is regarded as an important guarantee of constancy in the further development of political relations in the far east, the greatest advantage to be derived therefrom by China is that China can henceforth, without fear of external disturbances, proceed with these internal reforms which without exception, will benefit materially all nations having commercial relations with her. These reforms have been delayed up to the present time by the uncertainty of the political future.

The Berlin newspapers received the agreements as disposing of a number of dangerous questions in which Europe also was deeply concerned, and they camment favorably upon President Roosevelt's part therein.

The Tageblatt says: "The American nation will be able to say that President Roosevelt hands over to his successor a well-ordered house, not only internally but externally.

"The president scored a great success before leaving office by securing an agreement between the United States and Japan, which will be of extraordinary importance if it dispels the possibility of a conflict that for many months has made the world uneasy. First the Japanese immigration question was settled, and now the Philippines are guaranteed to America by Japan. Mr. Taft's visit to Tokio has borne fruit. The new agreement will be most advantageous to China, and the foreign policy of the United States has thus understood how to lay the ghost of the 'Yellow Peril.' We congratulate ourselves the new world has become such a good teacher for the old."

As Viewed in France

Paris, Nov. 28.—The terms of the American-Japanese agreement regarding the integrity of China, etc., were cabled here from Washington and duly published in the local press. The agreement is received with satisfaction in governmental circles not only because it is thought to convey credit upon a Japanese-American entente by establishing a basis of harmonious action in the Pacific, but because it is regarded as the crowning act necessary for the preservation of the status quo in the far east, the integrity of China and "the open door" for international trade there.

These objects are entirely in accordance with the policies of France, and they follow the lines of the Franco-Japanese entente of last year. The last clause of the agreement, which pledges the two governments to communicate with each other for the purpose of arriving at a mutual understanding before adopting any measures in the event of the status quo being threatened, is considered of immense importance here. It is likely to make the United States and Japan the arbiters of the future destinies of China. France, however, does not object; indeed, it is intimated in responsible quarters that she was confidentially advised prior to the publication of the agreement, and that she expressed her entire approval thereof.

GOVERNMENT FORCE SEVEBELY DEFEATED

Haytian Insurgents Victorious and Are Marching Upon Capital

Port au Prince, Nov. 28.—Government troops, under command of General Celestin Cyriaque, Minister of War, composed largely of young recruits, who were sent out to capture the leader of the new revolution, General Antoine Simon, have met with a severe defeat at the hands of the revolutionists.

The engagement took place at Anza Veau, which lies about fifty-five miles to the east of Jeremie, one of the disaffected ports, and after severe fighting the government forces were routed and driven back to Miragoane, about 20 miles distant. Miragoane is about 50 miles from Port au Prince. It is reported that General Celestin has taken refuge in the German consulate there. Some of the wounded were brought to Port au Prince by the Haytian gunboat Centenaire.

President Nord Alexis, who has always shown confidence in the ability of his troops to suppress the revolutionary movement, has decied to take the offensive with three divisions of disciplined troops, which have been concentrated here.

The United States cruiser Tacoma and the French training ship Duguay Trouin, have arrived here, and this has gone far towards reassuring the foreign residents. Reports have been current that the revolutionary army is marching on Port au Prince, but even if these reports are true, a considerable time must elapse before it reaches this city.

The insurgents have shown no signs of excitement, but the diplomatic corps has decided to prevent the entry of the revolutionists for the purpose of pillage, by having forces landed from the warships here.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 28.—The State department late today received the following despatch from Minister Furness at Port au Prince, Hayti: "The government troops have been defeated and the insurgents are marching upon the capital. Situation serious."

HOPE TO PROFIT FROM ELECTIONS

Japanese Expect Relaxation of Emigration Rules by the Government

EYES FIXED ON PRAIRIES

Paper Published at Vancouver Would Set Aside Lemieux Agreement

Vancouver, Nov. 28.—The Japanese of Vancouver, sincere in their belief that the Liberal party is more friendly to the interests of their race than to those of the white people of Canada, now that the elections are over, are urging Japan to repudiate the limitation of emigration to 400 coolies per annum, as called for by the terms of the Lemieux agreement. The Japanese paper published in Vanouver is leading the movement, and is calling upon the Japanese government to tear up its agreement with Canada regarding emigration. The question of any moral obligation on the part of Japan to observe its undertaking does not apparently enter into the consideration of the case by the Japanese.

The Canadian News, the Japanese newspaper published in Vancouver, contains the following article, which baldly states the hope of the Orientals to once more swarm into the Canadian west, this time to the prairies:

"Now that the general election is over, with the Liberal party clearly in charge of the government, we have nothing to fear for at least four years. The Lemieux agreement was only a temporary pledge, never openly published to the world. Should not our government now adopt a strong attitude, discard the Lemieux agreement and demand a return to the conditions previously existing? Or at least would it not be proper to demand a very great relaxation of the present rigorous situation?

"It is intolerable to abide under an arrangement which crushes out business enterprise and effectually bars the way to all progress and development.

"It goes without saying that Canada desires and needs immigrants. Japanese settlers are eagerly welcomed in the broad prairies east of the Rockies. If bigoted and senseless local opposition to Japanese settlers renders British Columbia unattractive to our colonists, let us lay our plans for entering the eastern plains, where a hearty welcome awaits us.

"Consul Yada has gone to Ottawa. It is not for us to say what important business calls him to the Dominion capital just now. But we cannot repress the hope that he will avail himself of the present favorable opportunity to discuss this matter with our consul-general and with the Dominion government.

GREAT MICA DEPOSIT

Immense Quantities of Mineral Found in Mountains at Big Bend of Columbia

Vancouver, Nov. 28.—One of the biggest mica deposits in the world exists at the Big Bend of the Columbia, ninety miles north of Revelstoke, according to James A. Moodie. The mineral is largely used in electrical plants, and commands prices, according to size and quality, varying from $2 to $18 per pound.

Mr. Moodie staked thirteen claims in various groups and has interested Calgary business men in the proposition. A company has been organized with a capital of $250,000. Mr. Moodie says that shipments will be made next year.

He expressed the belief that the supply on these properties was virtually inexhaustible. Surface weathering has detached tons of large white mica crystals which litter the sides of the mountain. The mineral occurs in a quartz formation, the country rock being mica-schist. Some of the specimen brought out by Mr. Moodie this fall measured 36 by 42 inches with a thickness of 12 inches. This is regarded as remarkable as crystals of that size would command the highest market prices. Mr. Moodie is confident that the mica industry of British Columbia will soon be producing millions of dollars worth of wealth.

Hales Acquitted.

Chatham, Ont., Nov. 27.—John Hales of Dresden, was today acquitted of the charge of attempted wife murder.

Lima, Peru, Nov. 27.—Work in Callao Bay is paralyzed as the result of a heavy storm which broke over that port yesterday. Enormous waves, the height of which had not been seen for thirty years, swept out the wharves and created a panic among the inhabitants of the town.

BOYCOTT IN TURKEY ON AUSTRIAN GOODS

Warning Circular Issued By Porte Has Little Moderating Effect

Constantinople, Nov. 27.—The Porte has issued a circular warning to customs officers that the merchants are not free to refuse Austrian goods. Government officials must not create difficulties or allow customs porters to refuse to handle these goods.

The circular, however, has practically no effect in abating the boycott, and Austria's loss is already estimated to have amounted to several million pounds sterling.

Killed by Explosion.

Parsons, Kas., Nov. 27.—Engineer F. F. Melville and Fireman F. F. Wolff were killed by an explosion on a Missouri, Kansas and Texas freight engine near Idenbro, Kas., six miles south of here today. C. E. Roe, brakeman, was fatally hurt.

Brutal Murder in Seattle

Seattle, Nov. 27.—Hugh McMahon, manager of the American cafe and a well known business man, was murdered in the front yard of a residence next door to his own home today. His face was battered to a pulp, his skull was fractured and a finger from which a $400 diamond ring had been wrenched was nearly torn off.

Fined for Shoplifting

Boston, Nov. 27.—After pleading guilty to a charge of shoplifting, Mrs. Milo W. Barney, wife of Representative Barney, of Swanton, Vt., paid a fine of $40, imposed by Judge Murray, in the municipal court today. Mrs. Barney was arrested on Tuesday in one of the largest department stores in this city. Her husband came hurrying to Boston, and by consent of the district attorney's office the fine was paid.

Balkan Situation Disquieting.

Berlin, Nov. 27.—The Balkan situation is considered here to have grown more disquieting. The Austro-Hungarian military preparations are taken to indicate that Austria-Hungary is determined to support her claims at all hazards, and that she will promptly crush any attempt on the part of Servia or Montenegro to disturb the peace. In the meantime negotiations for an international congress drag on.

Fears for Transport Dix

Washington, Nov. 27.—Considerable alarm is felt at the war department over the fact that the army transport Dix, en route from Seattle to Manila with a cargo of 200 horses and 250 mules, is six days overdue. It is feared that the Dix was caught in the same typhoon which disabled the hospital ship Relief near the Philippines. The Dix is the largest of the United States army transports.

NATIONAL SCANDAL INVOLVED IN CASE

Anti-Dreyfus Politicians Intent on Exploiting Steinheil Mystery

Paris, Nov. 28.—The possible developments on the political side of the Steinheil case can best be likened to a powder magazine, and the Dreyfusards are moving heaven and earth to explode it, absolutely regardless of the national scandal that may result. M. Breyay, Conservative, gave notice in the chamber of deputies this afternoon that he intended to present an interpellation on the matter.

The sensational afternoon papers are filled with the wildest rumors and the most minute recitals concerning the death of M. Faure. It has been predicted that Mme. Steinheil will be declared crazy and locked up in an asylum, and in this manner all further proceedings will be stifled. As a matter of fact, the experts agree that she is today a complete nervous wreck, even if she were responsible of the time of the crime. The newspapers pretend to know the name of the assassin of Steinheil and Madame Japy, as well as that of his accomplice.

At a late hour this afternoon the widower who admitted that he was the last lover of Mme. Steinheil came into Paris and voluntarily told his story to M. Andre, the examining magistrate. His name is Maurice Borderel. He is a rich merchant. His official testimony was practically a reiteration of what he had told the newspapermen, but he insisted that Mme. Steinheil could not have hoped to marry him, as he had distinctly advised her against securing a divorce at the same time declaring that he could never wed her, on account of his children.

"It is impossible for me to believe," he said, "that the woman who was so gay and lighthearted over the telephone in the morning committed these atrocious murders at nightfall."

Magistrate Andre tonight ordered that autopsies be performed on the bodies of M. Steinheil and Mme. Japy, on the new theory that they were poisoned before they were strangled. M. Coullaud testified that he saw Mme. Steinheil pour rum into the glasses of her husband and mother on the night of the crime—something which she had never done before.

Doctors who took the stand testified to the absence of any evidence that the victims had struggled or suffered during the strangulation, and suggested that a drug had been administered beforehand.

M. Coullaud also testified that since the murders Mme. Steinheil had ordered him to destroy various bottles in the family medicine chest.

"Contrary to custom," he said, "Mme Steinheil's attitude on the night of the crime towards her husband and mother was amazingly amiable."

INGENIKA GOLD

Two Men Come From Northern District Who Are Well Satisfied With Results

Vancouver, Nov. 28.—Messrs Stark and Stanier, owners of a group of bench claims on the Ingenika, near the mouth of McConnell Creek, have reached here with 57 ounces of gold, representing a clean-up of twenty-eight days of eight hours. They had no assistance. They were obliged to wheelbarrow the gravel to the river, where they washed it in a sluice box located on a little fall in the stream. They sold the gold to the assay office for $17.04 per counce.

The visitors state that they are satisfied with the camp all right. Unfavorable reports were scattered broadcast because owners of the creek claims had failed to sink to bedrock. Good values, they expect, will be encountered as soon as drifting is started. Gravel in creek claims, even near the surface, will pay well.

HUNDRED DROWN IN PHILIPPINES

Coasting Steamer Sinks and Many of Her Passengers Are Lost

BODIES WASHED ASHORE

Storm Keeps Liberty Men From Returning to Battleship Fleet

Manila, Nov. 28.—The coasting steamer Ponting, carrying a large number of laborers from Narvian to the rice fields in Pangasinan province, struck a rock and sank last night during a storm off the town of San Fernandino, in Union province.

It is estimated that a hundred of the passengers and crew of the Ponting were drowned. The steamer Visava rescued 55. A patrol of constabulary which was established immediately after the accident picked up fifteen bodies, and many were coming ashore. It is not known whether any Americans or Europeans were aboard the wrecked steamer.

The storm last night kept the liberty men from the United States Atlantic fleet ashore all night. The waters of the bay were exceedingly rough, and Rear Admiral Sperry sent a wireless message ashore that they should not attempt to return to the ships until weather conditions were better, and directed them to go to the halls of the local Y.M.C.A. and the Knights of Columbus, where provision was made to care for them.

All the stranded sailors were taken to their respective ships this morning in three large coastguard vessels. The storm kept most of the officers of the fleet from attending the reception given by Governor-General Smith, it being too rough for the launches to make the passage from the ships to the shore. About a dozen officers who were ashore before the storm attended today's features, which included a military hippodrome, football and basketball games and free theatrical performances, and concluded with a reception to the officers by the Army and Navy club.

SIX SUFFOCATED

Air Supply Cut Off From Men Working Five Hundred Feet Down in Salt Mine

Detroit, Mich, Nov. 28.—Six men were suffocated to death this noon in the village of Oakwood, outside the western outskirts of Detroit. They were at work five hundred feet down in a shaft being sunk for a salt mine when the canvas tube which supplied them with air became clogged and the shaft filled with gas. Four bodies have been recovered.

C. P. R. STEAMERS SAFE

Manitoba and Alberta Arrive in Port Arthur After Weathering Storms on Lake Superior

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Nov. 28.—After battling with wind, snow and waves on Lake Superior for nearly twenty-four hours, the steamship Manitoba, of the Canadian Pacific line, arrived here last evening. The Manitoba probably has weathered more hard storms than any other passenger steamer on the lakes during her many years of service.

Montreal, Nov. 28.—The reports which have been in circulation for the last two days, that one of the Canadian Pacific steamers was in trouble at Whitefish point, just beyond the Sault, in Lake Superior, is denied by the authorities of that company, as they have reports from all their steamers. The Alberta, which took shelter in Whitefish bay during heavy weather, and which was evidently the vessel referred to, arrived at Fort William at eleven o'clock this morning.

TINPLATE COMBINE

British and American Manufacturers Organize to Control Industry Throughout the World

London, Nov. 28.—The Iron and Steel Trades Journal states that English and American tinplate manufacturers at London today formed a combine which practically will control the industry throughout the world.

Pulp Mills Burned

St. John, N.B., Nov. 27.—The two modern pulp mills of the Englewood Pulp Co., at Misquash, were destroyed by fire this morning, with a loss of $22,000. They were insured at $13,000.

MANY NEW CARS FOR ELECTRIC RAILWAY

Great Increase in Rolling Stock for Victoria and Vancouver Lines

Vancouver, Nov. 28.—General Manager Sperling, of the B. C. Electric railway, today gave instructions for the commencement of construction of two hundred thousand dollars' worth of new street cars for next year. This is double the expenditure for any previous season. The cars are for Vancouver and Victoria, and will include eighteen of the "pay as you enter" type. There will be "Seeing Victoria" and "Seeing Vancouver" cars, one each.

To Be Fitted with Wireless

Vancouver, Nov. 28.—McKenzie's new steamer, Rupert City, will be fitted with wireless immediately on her arrival here.

Nova Scotia Veterans

Halifax, Nov. 28.—Nova Scotia veterans of the Fenian raid have organized themselves into a society with a view to secure grants of land in western Canada.

Postal Revenue Decreases

Ottawa, Nov. 28.—The postoffice department reports that as a result of the adoption of the one-cent drop letter rate in cities there has been a very large increase in the volume of mail matter for local city delivery, but in most cases this increase has not yet made up for the decrease in revenue consequent in the reduction of the rate.

Stock Yards Cleaned

Albany, N.Y., Nov. 28.—The cleansing and disinfection of the Buffalo stock yards, which have been quarantined on account of the outbreak of foot and mouth disease, has so far progressed, according to advices received today by Commissioner Pearson, of the state department of agriculture, that it is expected business may be resumed by Monday, if the railroads can furnish cars and if shippers think it is safe to furnish cattle for shipment.

ASLEEP ON TRACK

William Vianen, a Fisherman, of New Westminster, Killed By Car on Interurban Line

New Westminster, Nov. 28.—While lying asleep in the British Columbia electric railway interurban track near the Dominion Pipe works, shortly beliam Vianen, a well-known fisherman, liam Vianen, a wel-known fisherman, was killed almost instantly by being ground under the wheels of an incoming Vancouver car manned by Conductor John Donald and Motorman Arthus Brooks.

The prostrate man could not be seen until the car was almost on top of him, and although a quick stop was made the front trucks had passed over the body before the car was brought to a standstill.

Vianen's right leg was broken in two places and almost severed from the body, his forehead was gashed open and the frontal bone exposed and several other serious injuries sustained. Dr. Rothwell, who was early in the scene, could only pronounce life extinct.

The victim of the accident leaves a wife and four small children to mourn his loss. He was a son of "Dutch Bill" Vianen, a pioneer of this city, who died some months ago.

SIR PERCY LAKE

Had Been Offered Appointment of Quartermaster-General of the Indian Army

Ottawa, Nov. 28.—Announcement is made in today's Canadian Associated Press service from London that Major-General Sir Percy Lake has been appointed to succeed General Slater as quartermaster-general of the Indian army under Lord Kitchener. Upon enquiry here, however, it is learned that since this appointment was offered to General Lake in India he has been induced to remain in this country. The quartermaster-generalship in India is a much better post financially than Sir Percy occupies in this country, and might conceivably lead, as it did in the case of Lord Kitchener himself, to the command, but it is urgently desired that he should remain in Canada to help in carrying out the work of militia extension, which was begun some years ago.

MIGHT BE HELPLESS FOR LACK OF COAL

Admiral Cowles Points to Possible Plight of the United States Fleet

Washington, Nov. 27.—Had foreign complications arisen, or had a combination been effected between foreign shipowners, our fleet might have had to remain lying helpless in some foreign port, is the observation made by Rear Admiral W. S. Cowles, chief of the equipment bureau of the United States navy, in his annual report, in discussing the lack of colliers necessary to supply the battleship fleet with coal on its cruise around the world.

The total number of American vessels that might have been obtained by purchase or otherwise would not have been capable of carrying a sufficient amount of coal to supply the fleet on its voyage, and it was necessary to charter foreign vessels for this purpose.

He recommended that immediate steps be taken to supply an adequate number of colliers for the navy. There should be at least one for every two units, with sufficient capacity for supplying four vessels.

Admiral Cowles' report says that during the past year marked progress has been made in wireless telegraphy and its value in the scheme of national defence is proving more and more apparent. Recent developments warrant the establishment of high-powered long distance wireless stations. Besides the erections of such a station at Washington in the near future, the bureau contemplates the erection of such stations on the Pacific coast, Hawaii, Guam, Samoa and the Philippines, so that the fleet will be at all timse in direct communication with Washington wherever it may be, in the North Pacific, a greater portion of the South Pacific or part of the Indian ocean.

CHARGE WITHDRAWN

Miss Johnston Freed From Accusations of Theft of Money and Letters in Vancouver

Vancouver, Nov. 28.—The charge of theft of money and letters brought by Mrs. Fuller against Miss Mildred Johnston, of the Yiavi company, was withdrawn in the police court today.

NOT ONE SAVED OF MINE FORCE

One Hundred and Twenty-Five Killed in Colliery Near Pittsburg

A MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSION

Cage With Three Occupants Sent Through Roof of Shaft House

Pittsburg, P. A., Nov. 28.—The last ray of hope for the rescue of any one of the 125 or more miners who were entombed by an explosion at the Marianna mines, of the Pittsburg-Buffalo Coal company, shortly before noon today, was dispelled at 8.30 o'clock tonight, when the first rescue party reached the workings and found the dead bodies scattered about the floor of the mine. Few, if any, of the bodies are mutilated, and the men were undoubtedly smoothered by deadly vapors which followed the explosion. But two of the bodies in the mine, it is said, are those of foreigners.

No effort has been yet made to remove the bodies from the mine. Instead the rescuers and the mining experts are making a complete exploration of all the workings, to see if they are now safe. This work is expected to occupy several hours.

The workings in which today's catastrophe happened are known as the as the Rachel and Agnes mines, in realty a double mine with underground connections. Construction work was practically finished, and deputy mine inspector Henry Louttit, a few minutes before the explosion had completed a two days' inspection which had revealed no cause for apprehension. He and General Manager Kerr, of the company, came to the surface in the cage operated in one of the shafts a few minutes before eleven o'clock.

Mine Foreman Henry Thompson and two miners entered the cage, and it was started towards the bottom of the 500 foot shaft. There was an ominous rumbling, then a trembling of the ground, round about the mine mouth, as from an earthquake. An instant later there was a terrific report, and the cage was hurled up the shaft and through the roof of the shaft house, the mine foreman and the two men still in it. The bodies of the men were hurled through the top of the building, and far beyond it. Thompson was dead when picked up, while the others, although mortally wounded, were hurried to a hospital.

So great was the force of the explosion that shattered portions of the woodwork about the mouth of the shaft were blown into Ten Mile creek, two thousand feet from the shaft. Besides the three men in the cage, portions of at least two other bodies were blown from the shaft, and were found in the field nearby. The ventilating fans were put out of commission by the explosion, and for several hours, until repairs could be made, no air could be force into the mine.

Immediately following the explosion a dense volume of smoke issued from the shaft, and it was feared a fire was raging at the bottom of the mine.

A short time afterwards the smoke almost entirely ceased, but those on the surface were unable to tell whether the fire had been smothered out or the shafts so filled with fallen debris that the smoke could not escape.

Rescue work was immediately started. There was practically no hope from the first of any one of the entombed men being taken out alive, but this did not deter either officers of the company or volunteer rescuers from making the most strenuous efforts to hurry the opening of the mine.

The scenes were pitiful. Among the women many were hysterical, and their shrieks and cries were heart-rendering.

Speaking of the explosion, Deputy State Mine Inspector Henry Louttit said tonight: "I had been in the mine for the past two days. I was in No. 2 shaft less than half an hour before the explosion occurred. I had tested the cage and the safety valves, and was going to look at the engine at the surface when the explosion ocurred. The mine was in perfect order. It had gas, but no accumulations. All mines contain gas, but here I made a thorough inspection and found no accumulation in any part. I cannot advance any theory as to the cause of the disaster. I have been in every part of the mine in the last two days and I carried a safety lamp the same as the miners. There is a gas well in the interior, but it is surrounded by earth and coal for a fifty-foot radius, and I don't think the explosion resulted from it."

FIVE MEN KILLED

Collision Between Freight Trains on Seaboard Line Proves Fatal to Train Hands

Jacksonville, Fla., Nov. 28.—In a collision between two freight trains in a fog today on the Seaboard Air line near Silver Springs, Engineer Walker, Brakeman C. D. Smith, C. R. Philbrick and two negro firemen were killed. Both engines and eight cars were reduced to wreckage. Several other trainmen were injured, but not fatally.

QUATSINO TIMBER

Ten Claims Sold By Vancouver Man to Messrs. Bourdeau and Graham of Seattle

Vancouver, Nov. 28.—Yesterday, A. McLeod of this city disposed of ten timber claims on Quatsino sound, Vancouver island, for $5 cash per acre. The buyers were Messrs. Bourdeau and Graham, of Seattle. The tract comprises fir and cedar.