

MINE ISSUE

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SWEDISH LINE TO RUN HERE

Nord Stjarnan Steamship Co. Proposes Service from Gothenburg via Panama—Sir Owen Phillips on Trade

The Swedish Nord Stjarnan Steamship Company is the latest concern to announce that it intends to establish a line to the North-Pacific coast via the Panama canal. The Swedish line will run from Gothenburg to Puget Sound, probably calling at Victoria, via San Francisco. It is proposed to follow the example of the Harrison-Direct and Maple Leaf lines and establish a service via the Straits of Magellan pending the opening of the Panama canal.

Sir Owen Phillips, M. P., chairman of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Line, which is announced to establish a line from Europe via the Panama canal to Victoria and Vancouver, and to send its Glen or Shire steamers across the Pacific to connect with the vessels from Europe in an interview said: "Direct communication between the eastern and western seaboard of Canada and America will be a godsend to those who suffer at present from the tyranny of railway freights."

The sea route from New York to China and Japan now lies through Suez, and the new canal will shorten that journey considerably. There can be no doubt that the Pacific coast of South America will be opened up to the commerce of the United States as it never was before, and we may expect a considerable increase in the trade between those regions and all North American ports."

Touching on the question of the canal's effect on British shippers, Sir Owen said there had been a good deal of loose talk about the toll rights of the canal. Under the treaty there was to be no differentiation in favor of the ships of any flag, but some Americans thought an exemption from all tolls might be granted to the American coasting trade. "This," said Sir Owen, "would include all vessels sailing, say, from New York to San Francisco, but as all the American coast trade is to be open by law to American bottoms, I fail to see how British shipping would suffer under such an arrangement any more than it does at present."

Mr. Making Ready "A place whose trade should profit considerably is Kingstown, Jamaica. Up to the present no preparation has been made to take advantage of the new conditions, but I sincerely hope the people of Jamaica will waken up before it is too late."

"Judged on the narrow view of the divided-yielding project," continued Sir Owen, "it can hardly be imagined that the canal will afford the United States an economic return for the seventy millions expended upon it. The real return will be in the increased trade which it must inevitably bring to America."

"This opens up the wider consideration whether a great waterway like the canal should be subject to tolls at all. Just as our roads and ocean highways are free to all, so there is a growing weight of opinion that great canals such as this should be thrown open to the commerce of the world."

Such a principle, said Sir Owen in conclusion, was only a corollary of free trade itself, and as the Americans stood upon their gigantic outlay, it was a question whether it would be a better policy to exact nothing except the actual upkeep of the undertaking, allowing the canal to be as free and devoid of exactions as the broad highways of the ocean itself."

The New York Chamber of Commerce has taken a stand in opposition to the chambers of United States ports on the Pacific, and opposes the granting of free passage through the Panama canal to United States shipping. The chamber recommends that a toll of \$1 per ton be charged on all shipping using the canal. The New York chamber contends that the United States cannot discriminate against foreign shipping without violating numerous treaty agreements, notably the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of 1850 with Great Britain.

It is also asserted by the New York chamber that the canal tolls should be fixed with a view toward meeting the interest on the bonds issued to build it, creating a sinking fund to retire the bonds at maturity, and paying for the upkeep of the canal. Enough revenue to do this probably cannot be raised by a toll of \$1 a ton at present, but the increasing volume of business through the canal in a few years ought to do so, it is claimed.

Suez Canal Charges The report points out that the Suez Canal, although owned jointly by England and France, charges the same rates to all vessels. This rate was first fixed at \$2 a registered ton, but has been steadily reduced until it is now \$1.20 per ton, which yields an immense profit, the cost of the Suez Canal having been trivial compared with the expense of the Panama enterprise. And the cost of operation much less.

It is estimated by the New York chamber that the interest on bonds issued to build the Panama canal will be \$11,000,000 annually, and the cost of upkeep will be approximately \$3,500,000 a year. At a toll rate of \$1 a ton, the canal would have to handle 14,500,000 tons annually to meet these charges. The best estimates of tonnage which will pass through the canal in the years immediately following its completion are about 8,000,000 tons a year, so that even the \$1 toll will not pay for the

MUCH DISCONTENT AMONG WORKERS

Rate of Wages in England Fails to Keep Pace with Increase in Cost of Living—Genesis of Strikes

LONDON, Feb. 10.—"A considerable number of the most efficient citizens who do the work of England are seriously proposing to throw down their tools and cease to do that work until their conditions are altered" says the Daily Express. "This intention is not confined to the men engaged in any one branch of industry; it is almost general. Clearly there is some explanation. It is the business of every one who is concerned with the welfare of his country to discover what that explanation is."

"We may dismiss at once the view of certain well-fed workmen that there are a set of lazy discontented scoundrels who never know when they are well off. It is the bulk of the able-bodied people of England who are in a state of revolt. To put it down to their natural blackguardism is to insult our country. So far as the alleged cause or method of any particular strike is concerned the men may be right or wrong; but to believe that the greater part of the people who carry on the work of England have taken leave of their senses is hiding one's head in the sand."

Among the working people there is general discontent. There is everywhere a feeling that they are not being justly treated. They see all around them evidence of increasing wealth increasing opportunities for leading a fuller and more leisurely life; yet in these things, to the creation of which they have so largely contributed they have no share.

"In the last ten years the national income brought under review for income tax purposes has grown from \$2,995,000,000 to \$5,055,000,000. Yet, during that same period the average money wage of English workers has slightly fallen. Man cannot, however, live on money. Money is worth what money will buy, and during these past ten years the prices of food, clothing, and almost all other necessities have increased to such an extent that a five dollar note today will buy not more and is worth no more, than \$4.50 in 1900. The price of bread has risen by 14 per cent, the price of bacon by 39 per cent, the price of sugar by one-quarter, the price of textile materials by 58 per cent, and prices are still increasing."

"The labor unrest of the present time has thus its origin in purely economic causes. Millions of people are finding themselves short of the bare necessities of life. To the blind revolt thus induced, the more thoughtful and better paid workers are not lightly to undertake and he realizes its consequences far more clearly than do most of his critics. But it is often his only weapon, and he is desperate. Moreover, in many an individual case the method of the strike will give him a victory, but it is very doubtful if any general improvement in the conditions of the workers can be effected by this means alone. In this trade and that trade a high money wage may be obtained; but, as we have witnessed in the case of the railway strike and the threatened miners' strike, this gain is not offset by the expense of the employers but at the expense of the community who are forced to pay high prices."

"Without its workers the nation cannot go on, and it is of vital national consequence that they should be raised to the highest point of physical and mental efficiency. The three things most necessary for the attainment of this end are these: First, a compulsory change in our whole system of education; second, shorter hours of labor and consequently more regular employment and more leisure for all; and third, what Mr. Bonar Law has declared to be the greatest of all possible reforms—a raising of the standard of real wages throughout the country."

Arrangements are in progress for the holding of a Shakespeare exhibition at Earl's court next summer, and it is hoped that it will help in practical fashion the scheme for the building of a Shakespeare memorial theatre. The original of the scheme is Mrs. George Cornwallis-Weir, a replica of Mr. Winston Churchill. A replica of the Globe playhouse is to be built in the Empire hall at Earl's court. The village of Stratford-on-Avon, with its streets and houses will be reproduced, as well as Shakespeare's house and Ann Hathaway's cottage. In the secluded Western garden there will be a Shakespeare club.

London consumed the enormous total of 223,536,884 gallons of water every day. This means that each of the seven million odd persons in the metropolis used 31.57 gallons a day, and that at each house 294.24 gallons were disposed of in the same period. The water delivered by the Metropolitan Water Board is derived from the rivers Thames and Lea from gravel beds in the Thames Valley, from Chadwell Springs in the Lea Valley, and from the wells in the chalk and green-sand formations. Thames water supply delivered from the springs and wells 129,853,411 gallons, from the Lea 52,724,327 gallons, and from ponds at Hampton and Highgate for non-domestic purposes 61,671 gallons.

It is quite possible that an attempt will be made to corner butter, and although importers are indignant at the suggestion that a "ring" of trust is being created in the market, there is nevertheless a feeling that the consumer is being made to pay exorbitant prices owing to the action of seven or eight wealthy firms who are buying up and hoarding supplies of butter. Danish and Colonial supplies are being cornered and put into cold storage, and then sent out to the retailer in small quantities, and at high prices.

Death of Rev. Dr. Fairburn LONDON, Feb. 9.—The Rev. Dr. Martin Fairburn, principal emeritus of Mansfield College, Oxford, died today. He was born in 1838.

Noted Preacher Dies PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 8.—Rev. Frank Dewitt Talmage died at his home here tonight of heart failure. He was 44 years old. His father was the famous divine, Rev. T. Dewitt Talmage. Mr. Talmage was pastor of the Chambers-Wylie Presbyterian church. He came here from Los Angeles, California. He also had occupied pulpits in Chicago and Pittsburgh.

Grass Hockey The Victoria hockey team will today clash with the visiting Vancouver British Isles public schools team at the Alibi rink grounds at 3 o'clock. The match is a British Columbia league fixture. It promises to be an interesting one.

REAL ESTATE IS STEADILY ACTIVE Few Sales Reported are Indicative of Movement Which is General and Which Promises Even Better

With the past few days a number of properties have been sold to advantage by local dealers. One piece of property abutting on Y. M. C. A. building on Blanchard street, and possessing a frontage of 30 feet, was sold for \$20,000, while another stretch on Burdette avenue but of somewhat greater proportions was sold for a similar amount.

Among the real estate operators who report general activity during the period under review is the firm of Knott Bros. and Brown, Limited. They report that the sales actually closed by them during the past few weeks aggregate in value the sum of \$175,000. Of this amount \$57,000 was paid for two lots on Yates street, which were purchased for eastern clients through a connection made by Mr. E. A. Brown, a member of the firm. The balance of the sum includes several smaller lots on Fort, Johnson and Fisguard streets, together with a number of residential properties in the "district" sections of the city.

Mr. James Cavanah, who recently arrived in this country from South Africa, purchased 40 acres of residential property in the Miller estate of Cedar Hill road, and is now looking out for other investments of a similar sort as he has every confidence that they will result readily when subdivided.

SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS ARE BEING MET

Deputation from Interior Points Receive Substantial Assurances from Government—Rhodes Scholars

During the week that has just passed, deputations have visited Victoria from all parts of the province with the object of impressing upon the minister of education the legitimacy of special grants to assist the several local authorities in the provision of improved educational accommodations. One of these deputations from the bustling interior city of Kamloops asked for \$36,000 for school and \$30,000 for hospital requirements, the city's representatives—Mayor Robinson and Messrs. S. C. Burton, F. E. Simpson, Dr. Irving and Dr. Bennett—advancing their arguments with such moderation and force as to elicit an immediate promise that the entire sum asked for would be included in the current year's estimates.

Another important application was from Cranbrook, in connection with the proposed establishment in that city of an independent manual training school, and also with regard to the provision of imperatively demanded increased general school accommodation. In this case also an immediate and satisfactory response was obtained from the government, Trustee Edward Elwell, who with Thomas Caven, M. P. P., interviewed the minister, wiring his home authorities on the conclusion of the conference as follows:

"The government has granted \$15,000 for new school and \$25,000 towards completion of present building, and statutory proportion of equipment for manual training school. We have got to thank Tom Caven. He is all right, and worked like a trooper."

Penticton has been assured a governmental contribution towards its school necessities of 60 per cent. of the cost of the new accommodations, it being expected that an outlay of from \$50,000 to \$60,000 will be involved. Provision is being made for eight class rooms, to accommodate forty pupils each, with recreation, dining and cloak rooms, lavatories, etc., while basements will be used for heating purposes, storage and indoor drill. The main new building will have a frontage of 89 feet by 70 feet depth, and be two stories in height, in addition to the full basement. The arrangements will include the provision of chemical apparatus for experimental research, models for the drawing classes, and all other modern equipment.

New Westminster is now making arrangements to erect a thoroughly modern high school on Tipperary Heights, and in this connection will probably approach the government with an application for some measure of assistance. Chilliwack is also taking steps to provide a first class new high school, and has asked the government for an assisting grant, representations in this connection being now under consideration by the minister. A grant of \$10,000 has been promised to assist the educational authorities of Ladysmith in the meeting of necessities there, and \$5,000 has been promised the city of Nelson on the district condition that not one dollar of this amount be applied to the payment of salaries or on maintenance account, the full sum going into the building fund.

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SEE CENTRE WINDOW DISPLAY TODAY

Advance Showing of Bewitching Spring Costumes

Being an express shipment forwarded by our Mrs. Campbell.

We devote today's advertisement to the announcement of our ADVANCE SHOWING OF BEWITCHING SPRING COSTUMES.

To the eye that admires beautiful things—to the mind that does not consider them less beautiful for being very moderately priced—the appeal of these charming forerunners of balmy days should be immediate and fascinating.

New Cutaway Jackets, Smart Skirts Tuxedo Collars

To be as brief as possible we would say that our ADVANCE SHOWING presents a panoramic view of the very newest creations of the world's cleverest fashion designers.

You will note the jacket introducing the new improved Tuxedo collar and the cutaway effect, and best of all, the unusual smartness in every line, so far above last spring's models.

To those desiring first selection, we would advise a call tomorrow, for there are but a few models in this ADVANCE shipment.



New lot of "Burberrys" in the Mantle Section.

Campbell

Also a lovely new lot of misses' and ladies' Dresses.

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MISCELLANEOUS

The dance which was to have taken place in the Metehosh Hall on the 14th inst. has been postponed till after Easter.

Investigation has shown that the method employed has in each case been similar. Apparently the criminal, a well-dressed, gentlemanly-looking man, sometimes fattened in a dress suit and immaculate white shirt and at others in a dark suit with flat-crowned, broad-brimmed bowler hat and light fawn overcoat of "New-market" cut, drives up to a block of flats in a taxi-cab during the early hours of the morning. He asks the night porter for a number, and instead of using the lift, prefers to walk upstairs. Next he cuts a panel out of the front door of the flat, and by this means gains an entrance, riding the rooms at his leisure.

The latest exploit occurred at Bickeshall Mansions, but he must have been disturbed, for when the servants put in an appearance the front door of a flat was found pierced through a leather bag of tools being found on the mat outside it. This bag contained a well-made brace and bits, a powerful jemmy, screw-driver, nail extractor, putty knife, and a peculiar shield handkerchief ornamented with red striped squares. The police have reason to believe the criminal is working in collusion with the driver of a taxi-cab.

ACROMEGALY Young English Afflicted With "Giants Disease" in Pitiful Fight—Cases Very Rare

LONDON, Feb. 10.—A case of "giants disease," or acromegaly, is reported from Low Moor, Bradford. The patient, Harry Faulkner, a man of thirty, states that he was a normal boy up to the age of fourteen, when his toes and jaw began to grow very large. He continued his employment on the railway at Bradford, but at twenty-one he had to cease work, as his frame had grown so much and he had become weak.

He was then seven feet tall and weighed over seventeen stone. The utmost caution had to be taken in walking as his limbs came out of joint easily. He is still growing, and his left hip has become so large as to prevent him from standing upright.

He is able to sit up for only a few hours each day, and is provided with a special chair of large proportions. He says that he is never free from pain, and has lost the sight of one eye. Mr. Faulkner's parents are an average medium height, as are his brother and sister.

"Giants disease," an uncommon and as yet little understood disease, says a medical correspondent, usually shows symptoms like the above at about the age of twenty-five. So far as known there is no cure, and the usual treatment, with thyroid extract, appears to have no influence on the progress of the disease. Persons exhibited as giants and strong men have sometimes become acromegalic.

Agricultural Education OTTAWA, Feb. 9.—A plan for extending the agricultural education of farmer boys and girls attending rural schools during vacations was unfolded at the closing session of the Canadian seed growers' association today, and will be locked into.

THINKS BARGAIN BAD FOR FRANCE

M. Pinchon, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Attacks the Franco-German Treaty—Morocco Heavily Mortgaged

PARIS, Feb. 8.—M. Pinchon, ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs, in the course of a discussion of the Franco-German situation in the senate today delivered a trenchant criticism of the treaty, the ratification of which he declared he would not vote for.

He described it as a bad bargain for France, which in exchange for the grave sacrifice, had got Morocco, but so heavily mortgaged as to be of little use. He took the gloomiest view of the future, and declared that the protectorate in Morocco would prove much more costly in men and money than calculated.

The change in Moroccan policy, continued M. Pinchon, is subjecting the existing relations between the great powers to a severe strain.

The first duty of the nation, said the ex-foreign minister, was to strengthen in every way its alliances and friendships, for he added, "we are far from being safe from tempests."

EXPERT BURGLAR London Criminal Adopts New Plan of Holding Premises in West End—Employs Taxidermy

LONDON, Feb. 10.—A novel method of breaking and entering other people's premises has been adopted by a man who is believed to be known to the police as an expert burglar. Recently complaints have been received that efforts have been made to break into a number of flats in the West End, and

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M. Pinchon, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Attacks the Franco-German Treaty—Morocco Heavily Mortgaged

PARIS, Feb. 8.—M. Pinchon, ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs, in the course of a discussion of the Franco-German situation in the senate today delivered a trenchant criticism of the treaty, the ratification of which he declared he would not vote for.

He described it as a bad bargain for France, which in exchange for the grave sacrifice, had got Morocco, but so heavily mortgaged as to be of little use. He took the gloomiest view of the future, and declared that the protectorate in Morocco would prove much more costly in men and money than calculated.

The change in Moroccan policy, continued M. Pinchon, is subjecting the existing relations between the great powers to a severe strain.

The first duty of the nation, said the ex-foreign minister, was to strengthen in every way its alliances and friendships, for he added, "we are far from being safe from tempests."

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