

## SWEDISH LINE TO RUN HERE

Nord Stjarnan Steamship Co.  
Proposes Service from Go-  
thenburg 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-Deane and Maple Leaf lines and establish a service via the Straits of Magellan pending the opening of the Panama canal. The company is now preparing to buy or build steamers for this line. With the opening of the Panama canal it is anticipated that thousands of immigrants from northern Europe will come direct to the ports of the North Pacific coast, and the Swedish company proposes to get into line to bid for a share of this traffic as well as the cargo trade.

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 one 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 shipping, 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 at present confined 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."

**Not Making Ready**  
"A place whose trade should profit considerably is Kingston, 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 \$1,000,000 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

canal and its maintenance for the immediate future, but when business increases sufficiently, these charges will be paid and a sinking fund provided as well.

D. R. Dearborn, president of the American Hawaiian Steamship Company, which is the largest shipper at present using the Tehuantepec route in an authorized interview several weeks ago declared that American shippers could afford to pay a reasonable toll through the canal, as they are protected by law in the exclusive right to handle cargoes and passengers between American ports. The contention of commercial organizations on the Pacific coast, in the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, has been for free tolls to American shipping, which would act as a subsidy to encourage shipping in American vessels not only between American ports, but in all trade that passes through the canal.

**Death of Rev. Dr. Fairbairn**  
LONDON, Feb. 9.—The Rev. Dr. Martin Fairbairn, 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-Wyke 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 Albert cricket 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 Indic-  
ative of Movement Which is  
General and Which Prom-  
ises 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 the 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 \$15,000. Of this amount \$57,000 was paid for two important sites 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 Port Johnson and Fisgard 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 off Cedar Hill road, and is now looking out for other investments of a similar sort as he has every confidence that they will sell readily with a profit. Mr. G. S. Hunt reports a brisk movement in Strawberry Vale, South Saanich, several large transactions having been put through on Holland avenue, the purchasers being people from the prairie provinces. With the prospect of a tram line running through this district in the near future the outlook for property is distinctly bright.

As an indication of the "cosmopolitan" nature of the real estate operator's work the following list of sales made during the past by the Stinson Real Estate company, Sayward block, should be of interest:

Lot, Oswego street, James Bay, \$2,500; residence, Woodland road, Fairfield estate, \$5,250; four lots, James Bay, Superior and Michigan, total, \$9,500; lot 3, Richmond avenue, \$1,050; lot on Foul Bay waterfront, \$1,250; six lots on Shelbourne street, each \$550; a small ranch at Mount Tolmie, \$4,000; three lots on Dunlevy street for \$2,550; one lot on Dunlevy street, \$1,050; two lots on Heron street, \$1,700; two lots, Olympia avenue, \$2,000; two lots, Faithful street, \$3,000; two lots, Cambridge street, \$2,100; one lot, Trutch street, \$3,000; one lot, Olympia avenue, \$1,050; 30 feet with garage on Yates street to an eastern man, \$12,500; double corner, Vancouver and Sutcliffe street, \$4,500.

**Six-Day Bicycle Race**  
BERLIN, Feb. 9.—The six days international bike race ended here tonight. Walter Rutt and Johann Stell, comprising the German-Dutch team won the event by a length from Joe Fager and James Moran. Eddie Root and Fred Hill were third. The men covered 2,405 1/2 miles.

**Second Officer Missing**  
HALIFAX, N. S., Feb. 9.—Grant Elliott, aged 30 years, second officer of the steamer Rosalind, which arrived today from New York, is missing, and is supposed to have been drowned at sea. He was last seen after leaving his watch at midnight Wednesday.

**Death of J. M. O'Brien**  
ST. JOHN, N. E., Feb. 9.—John M. O'Brien, formerly a widely known newspaper man in Canada, died here today. He was once editor of the Vancouver World, and was a brilliant writer.

**Lights Flashed Blown Up**  
WINNIPEG, Feb. 9.—The residents of the town of Elbow, Sask., were aroused from their slumbers tonight by the blowing up of the power and light plant. What didn't blow up was destroyed by fire. No one was injured.

## MUCH DISCONTENT AMONG WORKERS

Rate of Wages in England  
Falls to Keep Pace with In-  
crease 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 persons that working people 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 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 leisured 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 among the workers is added the sense of injustice—new injustices—of the more thoughtful and better paid men 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, the gain is not obtained without 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 revolution 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 scheme is Mrs. George Cornwallis-West's idea. A replica of the Cornhill-Churchill, A replica of the Globe playhouse is to be built in the Empress 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 last year. 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 Thames during the year was 129,853,411 gallons, from the Lea 52,734,327 gallons, from springs and wells 40,847,455 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 speculators is creating the market, there is no denying 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 the available 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.



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.

*Campbell*

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

## SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS ARE BEING MET

Deputation from Interior Points  
Receive Substantial Assur-  
ances 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 hustling 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., interviewed the minister, wiring his home authorities on the conclusion of the conference as follows:

**Governments Grants**  
"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."

Pentiction 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 \$30,000 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 distinct 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.

**School Facilities**  
Rosalind is asking the province for \$12,000 towards defraying the cost of absolutely necessary repairs and enlargements. Burnaby has contracted liabilities of \$104,320, and will apply for a slight measure of assistance toward new school establishment. Cumberland will make extensive additions to its public schools, and has named a deputation consisting of the mayor and Trustee Carey, who with this week interview Hon. Dr. Young in support of an application for an assisting grant. Point Grey also contemplates the erection of three new schools, and will seek help in their building. Nanaimo is spending \$80,000 on its public schools, this amount including both ordinary and extraordinary expenditures. Permit also is faced by the school congestion problem, its attendance average having passed 600 per day.

At Elliston the new school has been completed, and is now only awaiting official inspection before being taken over by the government.

At Summerland the unique system is in vogue of providing large rigs for the conveyance to and from school of all pupils living at a greater distance than one mile, the government and the local authorities jointly contributing to the cost of this service.

The annual statement of the Rhodes trustees received during the just past week is a fresh reminder of the large scale upon which the mind of the founder worked. Of the total number of Rhodes scholars and ex-scholars at Oxford, 84 are from the British overseas, thirty from the United States and ten from Germany. An interesting addition to the report is an analysis of the occupations to which the Rhodes scholars have turned since leaving Oxford. Out of about 250 who had left the university up to 1910, 84 describe themselves as engaged in educational work, and 66 as in law. Doubtless many of the latter group may enter public life, which the late Mr. Rhodes perhaps anticipated as a probable outcome of his assisting plan.

## LAST OF CHINESE NEW YEAR FETES

Local Chinatown Will Begin  
Next Saturday the Final  
Celebration of the Old-time  
Celestial Holiday

Chinatown will celebrate the New Year on Saturday next for the last time under the old conditions. Hereafter, by reason of a proclamation issued by the president of the republic, Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the Chinese will join with foreigners in holding their celebrations on January 1, for the Yang Li, the Gregorian calendar, is to take the place of the old lunar calendar in China.

With the introduction of the Gregorian calendar for the republic, the Chinese are confronted with innumerable complications in addition to the necessity of changing most of their business contracts. Traditional festivities and social customs will be more or less affected.

The new date for the celebration of the anniversary of Confucius will demand an increasingly difficult calculation as the republic grows older. The mid-autumn festival, the dragon festivals, and those of summer and winter solstices, etc., will be upset owing to the discrepancy in dates, and if these

traditional customs are to be preserved at all the Chinese will have each year to work out the dates from the old calendar.

As a result of the new calendar the illiterate class may forsake altogether their annual worship and sacrifices to gods like the god of thunder, the goddess of mercy and Kwang Kung. Superstitions and beliefs in non-physical agencies may be abandoned when they are confuted by the change of dates.

The profession of the Chinese astrologers will be seriously hampered. All their ancient and written formulas based on the old dates will be upset and hence their fortune telling will be worthless and if they stick to their vocation they will have to keep both old and new calendars in mind.

Again the Yang Li (the Gregorian calendar) will constantly shift the date of their births and will affect their ages. The latter fact, however, may not displease the Chinese girls for their age will be trimmed down in some cases as much as two years.

For instance a girl who was born December 20, 1888, will be, according to Chinese reckoning, 25 years old, whereas a foreign girl born on the same day will not be 24 years of age until December 20 of this year, 1912. For in China the custom has been that on the day of birth, the child is considered as one year old, so the girl in question would be two years old by January 1 of 1889, although she had lived no more than 12 days.

## 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 sacrifices, 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  
Hiding Premises in West End—  
Employs Taxicab

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

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
THE dance which was to have taken place in the Metropole 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 attired 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 "Newmarket" 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 Bickenhall 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 silk 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 Flight—  
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 of one 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.

Burnaby proposes to expend \$100,000 this summer in the purchase of five new sites and the provision of more school accommodation.

Pentiction had a close call from destruction by fire a few evenings ago, when fire which burned out the Pentiction Mercantile Co., threatened to spread throughout the town.

Agitation is strong for a telephone service between Lytton and Lillooet.

Fire last week totally destroyed the home of Robert Wright, West Fernie, the loss being placed at \$1,250 net.