

The Week At Ottawa

Strong Lobby at Work For Re-Instatement of Congdon at Dawson.

Ralph Smith Gets Cold Comfort From His Ministerial Allies.

Lady Grey Receives Unpleasant Reminder of the "Dutt-las"

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA, Feb. 11.—A strong lobby is at work to secure the re-appointment of Congdon as commissioner of the Yukon territory.

His Nova Scotia friends rallied to his support. They contend that Congdon's removal from Dawson for the party, and having sacrificed himself should not be made to suffer.

Other Liberals hold, however, that it would be entirely inconsistent on the part of the government to reappoint Congdon. They say that as the Yukon territory spoke out so emphatically against him that he was appointed his influence in Dawson would be practically nil.

The news of the contemplated purchase of the E. & N. Railway by the Canadian Pacific Railway has caused considerable talk amongst the British Columbia colony.

The appointment to the vacant court judgeship in Victoria will hang fire. Mr. Kiley has been asked to resign and it is expected that his appointment is delayed.

The action of some members of parliament in charging private bills which may not be in the public interests is the subject of some comment at present.

Mr. Gallie's motion to rally through parliament this week, the effect of which, had it been adopted, would be to create an electric lighting fund of a million dollars annually to the cost of electric lighting to citizens of the capital.

Mr. Newbury's promotion to the collectorship of customs was well received in British Columbia circles. It is conceded that Mr. Newbury's faithful devotion to public service had merited his promotion and it is believed that his appointment is thoroughly acceptable to the business community of Victoria.

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Judge Kilham's appointment as chief of the railway commission was gazetted today.

Lord Strathcona has sent a check for \$10,000 to the Ottawa University building.

The Canada Gazette today contains orders-in-council for the seckeye salmon close season in 1906 and 1907, and the prohibition of herring fishing without a license.

Frederic Parent arrived here at noon today to confer with Sir Wilfrid Laurier regarding the Quebec crisis.

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MR. BLAKEMORE'S INTERVIEW.

Well Known Mining Man Offers An Explanation to a Press Correspondent.

Nelson, Feb. 11.—Regarding his interview in last Sunday's Colonist, which caused a good deal of comment here, Wm. Blakemore says this morning in the Daily News: "There is evidently some misunderstanding. I have never commented that interview. I thought I had made it clear at the board of trade meeting. I explained to the reporter that I was not an accredited delegate, but I did go to present the resolutions to the government and I did so. The Colonist and the press correspondent seem to be at cross purposes. The reporter was in fact concerned by all the bodies to which I referred. The point at issue seems to be whether or not I claimed to be an accredited delegate of the Provincial Mining Association, the Silver-Led Mine Owners' Association and the Nelson board of trade. I certainly did not. When the Colonist reporter asked me if I did so as a representative, I said 'no, personally.'"

If the "press correspondent" referred to will read the interview as it appears in last Sunday's Colonist there need be no question of "cross purposes" if he understands English. Neither the Colonist nor Mr. Blakemore intended to be the accredited agent of anyone but himself.—Ed.

A PATHETIC CASE.

Florence, Feb. 11.—The case of the Countess Montgrosso is assuming a tragic character, owing to the tenacity with which she wishes to give up her child, the Princess Anna. Dr. Koerner, the emissary of King Frederic Augustus of Saxony, who has secured his sovereign's decree for the Countess Montgrosso to turn over the princess to Dr. Koerner, threatened when she refused to accede to his demands that he would withdraw her arms, exclaiming: "You will have to fear her from me. To do this, Koerner will let us stop this farce." He then left for Rome to ask assistance from the German embassy.

The Associated Press tonight saw Count Tolstoi, who said: "His Majesty summoned me after having received a memorial which I addressed to the emperor. The delay was only made to restore the domestic peace which his late chief has so rudely shattered. Mr. Renner is not a member of the republic but a clever man, who has lived down to him from his connection with the Panama scandal. The most satisfactory feature of the new government is that M. Delcasse retains his portfolio as foreign minister. M. Delcasse is, indeed, as near an ideal as any man ever can be under a democratic regime. He has done great work in the cabinet, and every man of sense and every man of courage, whatever may happen at home, she runs no risk of mad schemes abroad. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's credentials as ambassador in Paris, in presenting his credentials on Monday to President Loubet, referred to his long and distinguished career, which he took up his duties. Great as is the credit due to King Edward and President Loubet, it is due to the British government, as both would, we believe, be the first to recognize."

THE INSPECTION OF STEAMBOATS.

Investigation of Slocum Disaster Results in More Stringent Laws.

Washington, Feb. 11.—As an outgrowth of the investigation into the Slocum disaster, the house today passed a number of bills called by Mr. Grosvenor, chairman of the house committee on merchant marine and fisheries, amending the laws relating to the steamboat inspection service and making more rigid provision for the regulation of the steamboat inspection service. The bills amend the act providing for the appointment of inspectors with power to amend the rules and regulations of the service in the interior, being the meetings of the full board subject to the approval of the secretary of commerce. They also provide for the appointment of a committee of the board of supervising inspectors with power to amend the rules and regulations of the service in the interior, being the meetings of the full board subject to the approval of the secretary of commerce.

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In Favor Of Reforms

Emperor Nicholas States That He Would Welcome a Parliament.

Grants Interview With Tolstol's Son and Talks Frankly of Situation.

Belief That Czar's Words Will Hasten Adjustment of St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 12.—"I believe it necessary."

In these words the Emperor Nicholas granted an interview to the son of the late Count Tolstol, who is a member of a land congress and expressed the conviction that the time has come to adjust the situation.

PEACE AT ANY PRICE.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Chronicle sends an interview with a Russian who is in the confidence of M. Witte, the president of the Russian council of ministers, in the course of which the Russian asserts that peace in the Far East must be obtained at any cost.

Estimate Of Opposing Armies.

Official Statistics Based on the Regimental Numbers on Siala.

General Kuropatkin Said to Be 50,000 Stronger Than Enemy.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 11.—The army organ publishes official statistics of Field Marshal Oyama's forces, based on the regimental numbers on the uniforms of the Japanese killed during the engagements with General Kuropatkin's forces.

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ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 11.—An attempt to assassinate Bishop Kamekeli, of the Independent Catholic church (Polish) was made today. Two revolver shots were fired at close range, but he escaped injury. The would-be assassin escaped and no arrests have been made.

"BLUE SKY AND HOT AIR."

Chicago, Feb. 11.—"Blue sky and hot air," was the way Walter M. Cowell today described the "securities" of alleged "wild cat" insurance schemes which he had first met with in Chicago. He is charged with exploiting, Cowell has turned state's evidence, in testimony before the committee on the securities and fictitious financial statements published in circulars for the purpose of deceiving prospective customers, and to induce them to invest their money in the alleged insurance conducted by Cowell and Cowell. These "securities" were offered to the public in a financial statement by which customers are said to have been induced to part with their money, and a negotiable paper totalling in value \$316,267. The witness said that each of the securities was a fraud and was backed up by securities which he said were absolutely worthless.

MAJOR HARDIN ACQUITTED.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The war department has been informed of the acquittal in the court martial case of Major Edward E. Hardin, Seventh Infantry. Major Hardin was charged with the military prison on Malah Island in the Philippines, and while acting in that capacity thirty prisoners escaped from that place, killing several of the guards. Major Hardin was brought before a military court, which has acquitted him being entirely blameless in the matter.

KUROPATKIN'S REWARD.

Interesting Rumors Relating to Manchurian Commander.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 11.—There is a new crop of rumors concerning General Kuropatkin and Gen. Gripenberg. One of them is that Vice Admiral Booboroff has gone to Irkutsk to try to persuade Gen. Gripenberg to return to Manchuria. Gen. Gripenberg has been declared a deserter. Another is to the effect that Admiral Abaza's mission is to report to the Emperor the truth concerning the negotiations made that Gen. Kuropatkin is no longer fitted to command.

LARGE BODIES MOVING.

Mukden, Feb. 11.—During the last few days the movement of large bodies of Japanese troops has been observed on the Russian right flank, where the presence of part of General Nogi's army has been established. The Japanese are energetically fortifying the villages of Yezupao and Malandau, southward of Sandepai, and also the districts of Tontolzi, Tsantaboda, on the right bank of the Hun river.

RUSSIANS ORDERED AWAY.

Zanzibar, Feb. 12.—Russian cruisers from Daros Salan anchored in German waters today. Major Von Goetzen, governor of German East Africa, who was going to Zanzibar on board a yacht, discovered the Russian vessels and requested them to leave. They complied with the request and the governor's yacht followed them.

NEW PLACE OF WORSHIP.

Nanaimo Congressionals Decide to Erect Brick and Stone Structure.

Nanaimo, Feb. 11.—(Special.)—At a meeting of the war of St. Paul's church this evening, it was decided unanimously to build a new brick and stone church in the city, to cost in the neighborhood of \$75,000 when British Columbia shall become perhaps the scene of the greatest fishing depots in Canada, if not in the world. It is only natural, therefore, that the enterprises of those who go down to sea in ships should turn toward investment in this province, and it is no matter for surprise that the time should be looked forward to when British Columbia shall become perhaps the scene of the greatest fishing depots in Canada, if not in the world. It is only natural, therefore, that the enterprises of those who go down to sea in ships should turn toward investment in this province, and it is no matter for surprise that the time should be looked forward to when British Columbia shall become perhaps the scene of the greatest fishing depots in Canada, if not in the world. 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