RUMORED PLOT TO KILL MADERO

WILL NOT KEEP LEADER AWAY FROM CAPITAL

Says He Has Confidence in Federal Government — Report of Sanguinary Battle

Juarez, May 19.—Plans for the departure to Mexico City within a few days of Provisional President Francisco I. Madero, jr., received a setback this morning when a member of the El Paso revolutionary junta received a telegram from the capital stating that persistent rumors are in circulation of the existence of a plot to attempt the life of Madero upon his arrival.

Beyond this bare statement the message gave no details, but was considered serious enough to result in hurried consultation of insurrecto leaders as to the advisability of postponing the trip of Madero until such time as the reports were disproved or affairs in the capital were in a more settled condition.

A definite announcement as to this will probably be made later in the day. Outside of this unfavorable phase there are no developments in the situation to-day.

Mr. Madero and his advisers are still awaiting an answer from Mexico City to the immediate naming of the four provisional governors, the remainder to be nominated later, and until a reply to this is received, peace negotiations are practically at a standstill.

No doubt is expressed, however, but that the answer will be favorable. Every officer on the staff of the provisional president, it was announced today, had donated six months salary to a fund for the widows and children of insurrecto soldiers killed during the revolution.

Will Go to Capital.

Juarez, Mexico, May 19.—(Later.)—"I am going to Mexico City. I have confidence in the federal government. Rumors that someone may do me physical harm are of no consequence."

In this manner, Francisco I. Madero, Jr., dismissed the report from Mexico City to-day that rumors were in circulation that an attempt would be made on his life when he arrived in the capital and urging that precautions be taken.

It was definitely decided at 1 o'clock today that Francisco I. Madero, Jr., would not enter Mexico City until Minister De La Barra became provisional president. Senor Madero will leave here within a day or two for Mexico City, or some point in the state of Coahuila, to await developments at the capital.

Assurances were received from the insurrectos to-day that they could name six members of the new cabinet. Minister De La Barra to name a sub-secretary of foreign relations and minister of war.

Diaz Receives Callers.

Mexico City, May 19.—The condition of President Diaz continues very satisfactory to his physicians, who say that it was likely that the ex-president would leave his room during the day. He is said to be in good health and except for the trouble caused by an ulcerated tooth is in excellent health. This morning he received callers in his chamber at the palace and transacted some official business.

News that Francisco I. Madero, the leader of the rebels, is to come to the capital, was received with no interest here.

(Concluded on page 7.)

IRON WORKER IS HELD BY POLICE

Alleged Confession Charging Officers of Erectors' Association With Dynamiting

Pittsburg, May 19.—James Elliott, a structural iron worker of this city, appeared before labor leaders here last night and made an alleged confession, in which he charged officers of the National Electors' Association and detectives employed by it with wrecking buildings throughout the country constructed by non-union labor. The alleged confession was made to William Kelly, president of the Iron Trades Council; A. L. Collins, secretary of the Structural Ironworkers' Union, and W. H. Legletter, vice-president of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Ironworkers. It was sworn to before a notary.

The labor leaders then turned Elliott over to the police, who are holding him for further investigation. The affidavit was not given out, but in his statement to the police Elliott said he had made the confession because he had not paid for information he furnished the electors' association, and which he was promised $1,000.

There is living at Obermoschel, in the land of Prussia, a man known as "Old Fritz." He is in his 106th year, but enjoys excellent health, takes his daily walk and is still able to read and write. He is the oldest man in Germany, and can remember the march of the Grand Army through the Palatinate in the year 1805. His advice to all those who want to live long is: "Eat and drink what you like and don't bother about your digestion or anything else, and you will live to be

CRICKET

OFFICERS vs. MEN.

At Esquimalt on Wednesday last a match was played between the officers and men of the various ships.

The full cricketing strength, with the exception of that good bat, Commander Vivian, of the Shearwater, turned out and a very interesting match resulted.

The men batted first and totalled 89, for which Dave 12, Howe 10, Greatorex 18 and Sales 19, not out, were mainly responsible. For the officers Lieutenant Moore, of the Rainbow, bowled well and took 7 wickets for 38. The bowling was well supported by good fielding, especially by Lieuts. Hallifax and English.

The officers' innigs was opened by Lieuts. Holt and Hallifax. The former started carefully, but was misled by an apparently easy ball from Doe. Lieut. Hallifax played a graceful yet vigorous innings of 52 and retired; Lieut. Moore contributed 21, and Lieut. Morrell, of the Algerine, made 62 in characteristically forceful style. With 16 from Staff Surgeon Lindot and some minor contributors the innings closed for 197. The score follows:

Men.

Doe, c English, b Moore	6
Cooper, b Moore	1
Greatorex, c Hallifax, b Moore	19
Sales, not out	19
Dare, b Moore	12
Mason, run out	2
Bone, b Moore	2
Williams, b Moore	1
Butcher, b Newcombe	5
Howe, b Moore	10
Watson, b Newcombe	0
Extras	12
Total	89

Officers.

Lieut. Hallifax, retired	52
Lieut. Holt, b Doe	2
Lieut. Moore, c Greatorex, b Williams	21
Lieut. Morrell, b Greatorex	62
Lieut. Newcombe, b Doe	9
Lieut. Irwin, b Greatorex	5
Lieut. English, b Doe	0
Staff Surgeon Lindop, c & b Greatorex	16
Mr. King, c Greatorex	8
Mr. Jones, not out	8
Staff-Pay Jinkin, c Doe, b Greatorex	0
Extras	14
Total	197

VICTORIA C. C. ASSOCIATES.

The associate members of the Victoria Cricket Club will hold a meeting at the Balmoral hotel on Monday evening commencing at 7 o'clock. A number of matters of importance are to be considered.

RETAILERS ARE NOW ATTACKED

ACTION AGAINST SO-CALLED LUMBER TRUST

Ten Trade Organizations and 150 Individuals Named as Defendants

New York, May 19.—Sweeping charges of a gigantic conspiracy to maintain high prices, to blacklist concerns not regarded as "proper" trade and to violate generally the Sherman Anti-trust law, are made in a government suit filed by Attorney-General Wickersham in the United States court here to-day against the so-called lumber trust.

Ten trade organizations and more than 150 individuals are named as defendants in this suit, which may be the first of several planned by the department of justice against combinations of retailers in staple commodities and the necessaries of life to prevent the ultimate consumer from buying anywhere except from local retailers.

The government suit is replete with sensational allegations and it is asserted that builders and consumers of lumber the country over are at the mercy of retailers organized in different sections of the United States.

The suit filed to-day is against the Eastern States Retail Lumber Dealers' Association, which is the central body of nine local organizations covering five states, the District of Columbia and the cities of Baltimore and Philadelphia.

It claims undue restraint of trade of the consumer and the manufacturer. It is the evident purpose of the plea to confine the charge largely to that feature, particular stress being placed on the restraint of trade among the conspirators themselves.

Attorney-General Wickersham and his special assistant, Clarke McKercher, have spent more than a year gathering the evidence on which to-day's suit is based. This evidence includes copies of the alleged agreements, blacklists and reports of the various organs branding wholesalers and retailers who have dared to violate the rules of the association "poachers," "mavericks," "scathers" and "illegitimate dealers" to whom "short shrift" must be applied.

The government charges, in brief, that by an elaborate system of blacklisting not only individual consumers, but some of the largest individual corporations have been prevented from dealing directly with wholesalers. By alleged unlawful agreements and acts, it is charged that all competition for the trade of the contractor, the builder, the manufacturer of finished lumber products and the individual consumer has been thrown entirely into the hands of the retailers in the Eastern

(Concluded on page 7.)

LUMBER ORDER.

Aberdeen, Wash., May 19.—June orders for lumber have been received by the mill companies here from California firms in anticipation of demands expected through the commencement of work on the Panama exposition buildings in San Francisco.

RAIDS BY POLICE.

New York, May 19.—Eleven men under arrest to-day and a wagonload of card labels, dice boxes and other paraphernalia are the fruits of a series of raids on alleged gambling houses. The raids were the first since Deputy Police Commissioner Dougherty assumed charge of the detective bureau eighteen days ago. Arrests were made of men under suspicion, whose names are given as: "John Doe," keeper; John, dealer; and John, proprietor.

ALLEGED ASSASSINS PROTEST INNOCENCE

TWO PRISONERS FACE THEIR ACCUSER

Suspected Camorrists Deny Murder of Cuoccolo and His Wife

Viterbo, May 19.—The two men denounced by Giacomo Ascrittoire as the assassins of Genarro Cuoccolo and his wife were given a chance to face their accuser to-day and stoutly defended themselves at the trial of the Camorrists. After Enrico Alfano and other alleged members of the Camorra had been arrested on suspician, they were released on the intercession of the priest, Ciro Vitozzi, when he said he had learned of their innocence while performing his office of confessor.

It developed that Ascrittoire has charged Tomasso De Anglis and Gaetano Amadeo as the murderers. These men, though known criminals, established alibis, and Vittozzi and Ascrittoire were arrested charged with conspiracy against them, and also with an attempt to shield the actual assassin. De Anglis and Amadeo are now accused of being active members of the Camorra, and Ascrittoire as an accomplice in the murder of the Cuoccolos and conspiracy against the other two.

Ascrittoire to-day confirmed his earlier testimony, repeating the circumstance which, he said, had led him to believe that the men he denounced were guilty. He declared that at one time De Anglis had shown him a dagger, saying: "With this, Cuoccolo will be served."

The accused denied the allegations. President Bianchi instructed De Anglis to bare his leg and show again to the jury and to the medical experts the wound, which, according to Ascrittoire, was received from Cuoccolo when the latter was fighting for his life. De Anglis said that the scar was an injury received in prison in 1904, the wound having reopened in 1908.

LOCAL NEWS

—The social committee of the Independent Order of Foresters, met Thursday and decided to hold the open meeting of the I. O. F. in the K. of P. hall on Monday evening instead of in the A. O. U. W., on Tuesday evening.

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—A very instructive pamphlet has been issued by the livestock branch of the provincial department of agriculture. The work, which is the joint production of M. A. Jull, Dr. A. Knight and H. H. George, deals with the subject of bovine tuberculosis.

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—Messrs. Holman and Greaves, provincial tobacco specialists, have just returned from a tour of the Gulf islands and Vancouver island. Addresses were delivered to farmers' institutes and other bodies on the adaptability of these sections to tobacco culture.

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—The Vancouver Employers' Association has offered a reward of $2,000, and the owners have added $2,000, which, with the $500 offered by the provincial government, makes a total reward of $4,500 for the discovery of the persons implicated in the dynamiting attempt at Vancouver recently. The attempt did not succeed, but it was apparently no fault of the instigators that it failed for the plans were carefully laid and public sentiment in Vancouver is much aroused.

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—A trip to the Old Country just now should interest everybody. The next best thing will be afforded on Monday evening at the First Baptist church, when Rev. Byron H. West, of Jackson Avenue church, Vancouver, a former citizen of Victoria and well known to old-timers, will lecture on "The Route to the Coronation," illustrated by a large number of magnificent Lantern Views. Mr. West is an interesting and graphic speaker.

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—That the proposed pyrotechnic display to be given on Beacon Hill on the evening of Victoria Day will be of an exceptionally high standard is amply proved by the fact that Arthur Ruston, of the well-known firm of Hitt Bros., Seattle, has arrived in the city to make the necessary arrangements for the spectacle. Mr. Ruston has a wide experience in such demonstrative events and his personal supervision of that important branch of the fete guarantees satisfaction of the highest degree.

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—The Duncan justices of the peace Thursday dismissed the carge of speeding against B. J. Perry, who collided with D. Watson Dyke on the Mill Bay road, near Roger's lake Sunday, April 30. The offence charged was "driving a motor car at a speed exceeding the limit allowed by the act in a wooded country." Besides other defences the defendant asserted that the spot where the accident occurred was not wooded. A map was produced to show the roadway. The justices of the peace, who reside at Duncan, dismissed the complaint on the "not wooded" ground. Dr. Dyke asserted that Mr. Perry was driving at a high rate of speed, and the defence on that point was, by four witnesses, that the speed was moderate.

CORONATION CHAIR AND ITS HISTORY

Interesting Story of the Stone of Destiny Gives It Uncanny Romance

It is a strangely interesting story the story of the chair in which King Geoage V. will be crowned at Westminster Abbey in June next. Its authentic history carries us back to the time when Scotland had her own Kings, and Scone was at once the Windsor and the coronation Westminster Abbey of the country. The palace remains one of the most interesting places in the neighborhood of Perth; but no permission is granted to visit the house or grounds, and one must be content with the views from the banks of the Tay above the North Inch and the higher grounds on the western side of the city.

Among other relics which it contains is a bed used by James VI., and another with hangings of flowered crimson velvet, said to have been worked by Mary Stuart during her imprisonment in Lochleven Castle. The gallery, 160 feet long, occupies the place of the old Coronation Hall, where Charles II. was crowned in 1651. With the ancient Abbey of Scone are bound up some of the most interesting events in Scottish history; but to-day we think of it specially as the shrine where was long preserved the famous so-called "Stone of Destiny," which forms a part of the British Coronation Chair. It is this curiously unique treasure, chiefly, which gives a sort of uncanny romance to the chair.

The really authentic history of the stone would not be admitted by serious and questioning antiquaries to go back further than the date, about 834 A.D., when it was first found at Scone. But a long persisting legend or tradition brings it down from early Bible times. According to this view, it was the variitable pillow upon which the patriarch Jacob rested his head at Luz when he had his beautiful vision of the ladder that reached to heaven. In this mythical account the stone is next traced to the possession of Gathelus, the son of Cerops, King of Athens, who entered into the service of one of the Pharaohs, and married his daughter Scota, from whom Scotland is said to derive its name. Gathelus brought it from Syria to Egypt; and, to escape an impending plague, he is said to have sailed from the Nile, by the advice of Moses, with his wife and the precious stone, and landed on the coast of Spain. Afterwards he sent the stone to Ireland under the care of his son, who invaded the island, and by whom it was set up on Tara Hill. There it was used as the Irish Coronation Stone for many ages.

This brings us to at least the fringes of recorded secular history, when facts begin to conflict less with legend. It seems tolerably clear that the stone was really used as a sort of royal chair in Ireland, where, we are told, it was known as "Lia Fail," or the Stone of Fate. From Ireland it is supposed to have been once more carried to Spain (by Cathel, King of the Scots, it is said); but the tradition is that it was brought back to Ireland by Simon Brech, leader of a band of Scots, somewhere about 700 B. C. It remained undisturbed until Fergus Mor, probably a descendant of Simon Brech, was driven out of Ireland in 503 B. C. Fergus led the Dalriadic Scots to the shores of Argyll, and having brought the stone with him it was used for his coronation at Dunstaffnage. Here, as we read, it remained till about 834 A. D., when Kenneth Macalpine brought it to "the royal city of Scone," having fixed on Scone as his capital, because in the neighborhood he had just fought and won the last decisive battle with the ancient Picts.

All this is open to more or less doubt. But the stone was at least found at Scone, and it gave a sort of royal grandeur to Scone, and led all the Scottish princes to repair thither to be crowned on it. This is actual, sober fact. However, we may explain the circumstance, it had acquired a sacred character as influencing the destinies of the Scottish nation. One rhyme ran:—

Unless the fates are faithless grown,
And prophet's voice be vain,
Where'er is found this ancient stone,
The Scottish race shall reign.

It was averred by the ancient Scots that the stone gave forth musical sounds when the rightful ruler seated himself on it, but remained mute when a usurper was crowned. Much later, this prediction was regarded as being fulfilled when James VI. of Scotland ascended the throne as James I. of England. At the Abbey of Scone the stone is understood to have occupied a place in front of the high altar.

The famous Stone of Destiny remained at Scone until the time of Edward I. John Baliol was the last Scottish King crowned on it, and it is significant that it appears in his great seal, embedded in what was then known as the "King's Stool." As everybody knows, Baliol was defeated by Edward I. at Dunbar in 1296, and it was then that Edward carried the stone, along with the Scottish regalia, to England. Since that time it has remained at Westminster Abbey, and every English monarch has been crowned on it. The chair of which it forms a part is made of hardwood, gaily painted. Under the seat is a board supported by four lions, and on this board the Stone of Destiny rests. The Stone had been carved, gilded, and painted, but these decorations have entirely disappeared. In modern coronations it is always covered with a cloth of gold. It has been asserted that the stone is of meteoric origin, but this is incorrect. It is simply a block of red sandstone containing an unusual proportion of iron. Its dimensions are: 2 feet 2 inches long, 1 foot 4 inches broad, and 10½ inches thick. Some matter of fact persons are inclined to believe that the stone was quarried in the neighborhood of Scone.

Notwithstanding its removal, the prestige of Scone continued to be regarded in later years. Robert the Bruce and his son David, Robert II., James I., and lastly, Charles II., all chose Scone for their coronations. The Scottish people were very distressed about the loss of the stone. They looked upon its conveyance to England as a national humiliation, and in the treaty concluded between England and Scotland in 1328 its return was made an essential condition. Edward III. offered that it should be sent back, but for some unknown reason his order was not obeyed.

SIX MEN SUFFER MANY HARDSHIPS

SEA OTTER HUNTERS LOST FOR FIVE DAYS

Unable to Find Schooner in Fog, They Live on Scant Rations

Prince Rupert, May 19.—On the verge of physical collapse, after being lost for five days and not tasting food during that time, with the exception of an occasional bird shot, or a few clams dug out when the tide was low, six sea otter hunters arrived here this afternoon. Their names are Joe Morrell, Sid Wombolt, Jack Stewart, Bob Stewart, Tom Lenton and Fred Smith, all of Victoria, Vancouver and Seattle.

The men were cared for by Mayor Manson at the expense of the city, and given tickets to go south on the steamer Prince Rupert yesterday.

On May 12 they left the schooner Peschawa, Capt. Balcom, near Bank's Island, in Hecate straits, in two boats to prospect for sea otter. Morrell had charge of one boat and Bob Stewart of the other. A heavy mist came down, and they were unable to find their way back to the schooner. They had no charts and only enough food for one meal and a little water. They paddled round till morning, when they sighted land, which was Grief Point on Bank's Island. They saw no sign of the Peschawa. They followed round the coast of the island until they reached Kitkala, an Indian settlement.

There were no white men there, and the Indian chief could not understand them, but directed them to Claxton, the nearest point of civilization, at the mouth of the Skeena. The men took the wrong passage and found themselves on the west coast of Porcher Island, which is uninhabited. They paddled down the coast and went ashore nights, where one man kept the fire going while the others slept under the sails laid over crevices in the rock. Water was found at different points. They had rifles and a little ammunition, so they shot a few birds, which they ate to keep alive.

They staggered into Claxton on Wednesday night, where they met the tug McCullough, Capt. Clifton, who fed and cared for them and gave them the first good meal they had eaten since May 12. They left Claxton yesterday morning in their row boats and arrived here yesterday afternoon.

It will take them several days to fully recover their lost strength.

Bob Stewart has had three experiences of this kind, one off the coast of Trinidad, seal hunting. Morrell has also had three similar experiences, one off the coast of Japan. They say this was by far the worst. They are going to their homes to rest up.

OBITUARY RECORD

The death occurred at the Jubilee hospita on Thursday of Sarah Bellican, aged 44 years, the wife of Charles Bellican, of 955 Caledonia avenue. Only the husband survives.

* * *

There passed away at Wellington on Tuesday an old-time resident of that district, James Sharp. Mr. Sharp was for many years an official in the Dunsmuir collieries and had earned the respect of all classes. He was in his seventy-third year and is survived by Mrs. Sharp and three daughters: Mrs. John Sanders, Wellington; Mrs. Alex. McDonald, Wellington; Mrs. John John, Vancouver.

TYPOS ELECT OFFICERS.

Considerable Interest Was Manifested On This Year's Balloting.

The result of balloting for officers of the Victoria Typographical Union were announced Thursday, this jurisdiction including Nanaimo, Ladysmith and Duncan. The officers for the ensuing term are:

Robert White, government printing bureau, president; S. V. Bowers, of the Times, vice-president; George M. Watt, of the Colonist, re-elected secretary; Robert Hunt, of the Colonist, delegate to the international convention, which meets this year in August in San Francisco; Fred Wyatt, of the Times, sergeant-at-arms (by acclamation); Thos. Booz, of the Times, treasurer (by acclamation); executive, Norman Dunn, Robert Hunt, and Robert Myra.

As it is some years since Victoria was represented at the annual convention of the international union great interest was taken in the vote this year on account of the decision to send a delegate. There were three nominees, Mr. Hunt winning out. Mr. Watt was re-elected secretary for the twelfth year of office. Mr. Booz has the record among the officers, however, having filled the highly honorable position of treasurer for twenty-one years, and now entering on his twenty-second year of office.

—The Oak Bay court of revision met Thursday and, there being no appeals, the figures quoted in Tuesday's issue of the Times for the municipality assessment were adopted.

OUR LETTER BOX

"CROWNING OF SAILOR KING."

To the Editor:—The enclosed letter, which has recently been received by the chairman of the Victoria branch B. & F. S. Society, from the Dominion representative, the Rev. Alfred Hall, at Toronto, together with one addressed to the public generally, I beg to forward to you with the hope that you will kindly give publicity to the same in the columns of your valuable paper, and thus afford the citizens of Victoria an opportunity of co-operating with their fellow-subjects throughout the Dominion of Canada who desire to "celebrate the crowning of their sailor King and his Queen by a practical deed of sympathy towards sailors of all nations."

Any friends wishing to have their names on the lists to be presented to His Majesty by Lord Strathcona, referred to in the following letter, can do so by forwarding the same and the amount of their subscription or donation to the Rev. Alfred Hall, Toronto, or to the undersigned.

J. S. BAILEY,
Port Missionary and Secretary, Seamen's Institute, Victoria, B. C.
May 18, 1911.

64 Wellesley St., Toronto,
April 11, 1911.

To the Chairman, Victoria Seaman's Institute:

My Dear Sir:—I desire yourself and your committee to have information that we are using the occasion of His Majesty's coronation to awaken a wider interest in seamen throughout Canada, as per enclosed letter. If the response is good we hope all our Institutes will share in it.

With my kind remembrances to yourself and your colleagues and asking their prayers for the success of this movement.

(Signed) ALFRED HALL.

British and Foreign Sailors' Society.
Canadian Branch.
Patron, His Gracious Majesty King George V., Admiral of the Fleet.
64 Wellesley St., Toronto,
April 11, 1911.

Dear Sirs:—Canada will furnish a brilliant coronation incident when Lord Strathcona, our president, informs Their Majesties that thousands of Canadians will celebrate the crowning of their sailor King and his Queen by a practical deed of sympathy toward sailors of all nations. This is being arranged by the preparation of lists of Canadian citizens who will donate a coronation gift, or an annual subscription, to the Canadian branch of the oldest sailors' society in the world, with which Their Majesties have long been closely identified. The board of directors consider that this movement will signify most by its spontaneousness. No personal canvass will be made for it among adults, and thus it cannot fail to meet the Royal pleasure. The lists will be forwarded to Lord Strathcona for presentation, and your co-operation is earnestly invited. The society's work is neither political, nor military, nor sectarian, but for social service and spiritual purposes in which, for nearly 100 years, the various churches have united on all shores. There are six associated Canadian Institutes. Government returns show that 400,000 seamen trade yearly with Canada. For new Institutes in Canada $120,000 is needed, of which about $40,000 is promised. Hitherto great mercantile companies in British cities have aided this work, and it is hoped that their example will be followed in the Dominion, and that others will participate in this centenary year of steam shipping.

Our overseas commerce, our vast immigration, and our maritime interests all remind us of our debt to the sailor. The directors hope it will please you to give Lord Strathcona the opportunity in this, his ninetieth year, to represent you in this matter.

(Signed) ALFRED HALL.

STEAMER FLOODED WHILE COALING

THE TAMPICO BEACHED IN SHALLOW WATER

Open Seacock Cause of Trouble—The Watson Loses Part of Rudder in Gale

Seattle, Wash., May 19.—Sinking as the result of an open seacock flooding the after hold, the steamer Tampico, of the Pacific Coast Company, was towed this morning at 3.30 o'clock by the fireboat Duamawish to shallow water and beached near the company's bunkers, where the vessel has been coaling, to prevent her sinking in deep water. An open seacock in the stern of the steamer resulted in her taking ten feet of water. The weight of the coal and the water depressed the stern to such an exeent that it was impossible to use the pumps. The fireboat came to the aid of the Tampico and used its powerful pumps to keep the vessel afloat.

The Tampico is a steel screw steamship of 2,133 tons gross register, and owned by the Pacific Steamhip Co.

Encounters Gale.

Seattle, Wash., May 19.—With part of her rudder gone and her bridge and cabins damaged, the steasmhip Watson, of the Alaska Pacific Steamship Co., which sailed from Seattle at 6 o'clock last Monday evening with a passenger list of 65 and a full cargo of freight, is making her way down the California coast.

The Watson, which is commanded by Capt. E. P. Bartlett, encountered the severe gale which swept the coast last Wednesday afternoon and night, and for many hours battled with heavy seas and wind with hurricane velocity.

A wireless message received in Seattle told of the vessel's experience, and stated that all of the passengers were safe.

The Watson will go into drydock at San Francisco, where a new rudder will be installed. She will miss a voyage as a result of the accident.

FOUR ARRESTED IN NAVAL CASE

RECEIVING STOLEN STORES IS CHARGE

Spratt, Houston, Richards and Day, Remanded for Week in Police Court

(From Friday's Daily.)

Charles J. V. Spratt, president of the Victoria Machinery Depot; William Houston and Oliver Richards, employees of the Victoria Machinery Depot; and John Day, saloon-keeper Esquimalt, were presented in the police court this morning charged with retaining in their possession certain goods, the property of the Admiralty, knowing them to have been stolen. The charges were all adjourned for one week.

The accused were arrested at 3.30 yesterday afternoon as the result of inquiries that have been going on for some time past in regard to goods missing from the Admiralty stores, and in connection with which a customs inquiry was held at which the accused Spratt and Day deposited cheques of $1,000 with Collector Newbury by way of fine, to be reclaimed if and when they were able to prove that the goods in their possession were not stolen property.

Search warrants were operated on the premises of the Victoria Machinery Depot and the premises of the accused Day at Esquimalt, and the articles named in the four informations were found there. The arrests were made by Inspector George Perdue and Constable Murray, and accused yesterday were admitted to bail immediately after arrest. The same bail was arranged again this morning.

The information was laid on the order of Commander Vivian, senior Imperial officer at the Esquimalt naval station, and the evidence against the men charged is being tabulated by Lieut. Hodgson, of H. M. S. Egeria.

C. J. V. Spratt and William Houston were jointly charged this morning with unlawfully retaining in their possession certain public stores, seven drums of paint valued at $15, belonging to the Admiralty, and knowing them to have been obtained by theft.

William Houston was singly charged that on January 25 last he had received into his possession copper and rubber valued at $300, knowing it to have been obtained by theft from the navy yard by a former employee.

The charge against Oliver Richards is that in October last year he had in his possession goods stolen from the navy yard, paint and rubber, valued at $200, knowing them to have been stolen.

The charge against Day is that he retained in his possession paint and candles to the value of $425, knowing the same to have been obtained by theft.

The accused were not asked to plead and their cases were set over for one week at their own request. C. J. V. Spratt, W. Houston and O. Richards were allowed bail in $2,000 each. Richard Hall and Capt. J. W. Troup became bondsmen for them. John Day obtained similar bail, H. D. Helmcken, K.C., and William John Cave putting up the bonds for him.

Commander Vivian is the informant in three informations, being those with the exception of the complaint against the accused Richards, who is charged on the information of Frederick Bullock, a former employee of the Victoria Machinery Depot, who was charged some time ago with theft from the depot. The charge was dismissed. Hon. C. E. Pooley appears for the prosecutions, W. C. Moresby for Spratt, Houston and Richards, and H. D. Helmcken for the accused Day.

The bondsmen were present this morning when the charges were read and acknowledged themselves responsible for the accused in the police court a week from to-day.

OPPOSES AMENDMENTS TO RECIPROCITY BILL

Taft Will Fight to Have Measure Passed Without Any Changes

Washington, D. C., May 19.—President Taft is opposed to amendments to the reciprocity agreement, no matter who is the sponsor.

It became known to-day that the president looks with disfavor on the proposed amendments of Senators Root and Lodge, two of his personal friends and close advisors. Mr. Taft believes the agreement should go through congress as it was introduced. He will make his first fight along that line, no matter what Republican leaders attempt to do.

NEW ALDERMAN.

Prince Rupert, May 18.—H. Douglas was the successful candidate in the civic bye-election. Mr. Douglas has been prominently identified with the life of Prince Rupert from the start. The poll for aldermen in ward 2 stood: Douglas, 115; Alder, 51; Ferguson, 41; spoiled ballot, 1.

—A convention of consular officers will be held at Tacoma on June 15. C. E. L. Agassiz, British consul at Tacoma, is in charge of the programme of arrangements. All foreign representatives stationed in this city have been invited. The list includes: A. E. Smith, United States consul; T. R. Smith, Belgium; A. O. P. Francis, France; Carl Lowenberg, German; J. B. H. Rickaby, Mexico; F. A. Futcher, Norway.