MOANA ARRIVES FROM SOUTH SEAS

Canadian - Australian Liner Reached Port Yesterday From the Antipodes

ROUGH WEATHER OFF CAPE

Bumped Quarantine Steamer Notable Travelers Among Passengers

(From Friday's Daily.)

After encountering heavy weather as she neared the Straits, when the seas broke over the vessel, the red stack showing the marks of the salty spray, the R. M. S. Moana, Capt. Morrison, reached port yesterday afternoon. When nearing William Head with a heavy swell running, she was bumped by the quarantine steamer Madge, and one plate on her starboard quarter was badly dented. The passenger list was a large one, among those on board being the Earl and Countess of Lovelace, the former being grandson of Lord Byron, the poet. Lionel Fortescue King-Noel, is the third Earl of Lovelace, having come into the title recently, and the Countess is the daughter of the Second Earl of Litchfield. The Earl of Lovelace is also the thirteenth Baron Wentworth, the second holder of that having been the last English governor of Calais. There were in all thirty in the saloon, none of whom debarked here. There were 41 second class, of whom 28 debarked here, and 107 steerage, of whom 71, including 56 Japanese landed here. There were ten work-a-ways, who were sent on to Vancouver by the immigration officials. A. Low and two children, third class passengers booked for Vancouver, were taken from the steamer here by the local police on a warrant issued at the instance of the police of Australia, by whom Low is wanted for disobeying an order of the Supreme court. The steamer had a fair freight, including large shipments of raw sugar from Suva for the British Columbia Sugar Refinery at Vancouver, frozen mutton, lamb, butter, wine, timber, furskins, etc. There were 5,000 carcases of frozen mutton for this port, but they were carried to Vancouver, from where they will be transhipped to the B. C. Market Company. She landed 300 cases of butter, 131 pieces of hardwood, 25 cases of rabbits and sundries.

The Moana left Sydney November 25, and arrived at Brisbane November 27, sailing again the same date shortly before midnight. Suva was reached December 2, and after loading sugar she sailed again next day for Fanning Island, where some supplies for the cable station were landed, and the same date, December 8, she left for Honolulu, arriving on December 17. She proceeded again next day.

The purser's report of the voyage follows: "Experienced strong northerly wind with moderate sea from Sydney to Brisbane, thence moderate to fresh easterly wind with moderate to rough sea to arrival at Suva. Moderate to strong trade winds with rough sea were encountered to arrival at Honolulu. Thence fresh to moderate northerly winds, with moderate sea, to December 13, and moderate southeast winds to 16th, afterward fresh to strong southeast gale with hard squalls, thick weather and high sea to arrival at William Head.

Lord Rosebery is said to possess the costliest collection of snuff boxes in the world.

PRINCESS MAY BACK FROM LYNN CANAL

Brought Eighty Passengers From Skagway and Way Ports—Rough Trip Across Sound

(From Saturday's Daily)

The steamer Princess May, Capt. Hughes, reached port yesterday morning from Skagway, via ports, bringing eighty passengers from northern points, mostly from the Yukon. Rough weather was experienced when crossing Queen Charlotte sound. The arrivals included two insane people brought from Dawson, one a miner, the other a colored woman, sent to New Westminster asylum. Kenneth Munroe of the Pacific Stevedoring & Contracting company in which Victorians are largely interested came from Prince Rupert. Other passengers were: S. A. Pitkin, M. Beyer, C. G. Newton, H. Butcher, F. McLellan, Miss McLellan, Master McLellan, J. P. Montgomery, Mr. Carson, Dan Tonlie, Geo. Wilson, A. H. Hall, Victor O. Berg, Lee Monahan, M. Nelson, N. A. Penska, Chas. H. Naass, William Heffon, C. E. Philh B. W. Volkmon J. W. McMahon, J. L. Labbe, J. H. Saint, Mrs. Saint, William Nicholson, Miss Bloomquist, Edwin Brown, J. McDonald, Mrs. McDonald, D. Barker, John H. Ellerson, D. Eeley, J. Margan, J. Barnes, R. Auggins, R. Flett, W. C. McKenzie, W. M. Gowan, J. Holligan, Adam Dukson, F. G. Berry, Mary Freeman, O. H. Adsit, J. Warner, F. Alha, W. R. Habbard, W. W. Rush, F. Myson, F. P. McCurdy, R. J. Bond, K. Munroe, T. Ellis, Mr. McRobert, Mr. Strain, W. Bayley, J. Graham, W. Noel, Mr. McCormick, Mr. Matheson, N. Porteous, F. Victor, M. Sylvester, Rev. Mr. Watson, H. L. Philian, F. W. Gow, Mr. Sweeney, M. Johnson, Mr. Casey, Mr. Dunn, V. L. Mitchell, John Jacobson, Hans Skan, James Lubrant, E. Slotter, A. P. Johnson, A. A. Harrigan, Mr. Pukhart, Mr. Cloyer, F. F. N. Tonli.

From Port Essington news was brought that the Cunningham hotel has received the first license issued by the provincial police since the license commissioners were relieved of their duties.

Several northerners who have been anxious to bring venison south for the Christmas festivities have found that the opportunity no longer affords itself. The steamship officers are now unwilling to carry venison.

The Princess May before going north again will relieve the steamers Princess Royal and Princess Victoria. She will go to Seattle today in the place of the Princess Royal and will then relieve the Victoria for two days while the latter is overhauled. The Princess May will sail north again on Christmas night.

per lb. 10
local, per lb. 5
s, outdoor, 3 lbs. 25
local, per sack $1.75
Potatoes, new, 4 lbs. 25
e marrow, each ..... 10 to 25
eppers, each 3
pers, per lb. 30
per lb. 4
s, per lb. 4
ver, each ..... 15 to 25
local, per lb. 5
bage, per lb. 5

Dairy Produce.

sland, per dozen 70
per dozen 40
n, per lb. 25
local, each 15
local, each 10
s, per lb. 35
dry, per lb. 40
Creamery, per lb. 50
n Creamery, per lb. 50
reamery, per lb. 50
cooking, per lb. 30

Fruit.

per lb. 10
fruit, per dozen 1.00
per dozen ..... 30 to 50
per dozen 30
oking, per lb. ..... 8 to 10
local, per box ..... 2.00 to 2.25
California, per basket 60
, per dozen 35
able, per lb. 75
Valencia, per lb. 15
table, per lb. ..... 25 to 60
Con., per basket 1.00
es, each 50
per box ..... 1.25 to 1.50
ries, per lb. 20

Nuts.

, per lb. 30
per lb. 30
s, Jordon, per lb. 75
s, California, per lb. 30
ts, each 15
per lb. 30
ts, per lb. 30

Fish.

lted, per lb. ..... 10 to 13
fresh, per lb. ..... 8 to 10
smoked, per lb. 15
sh, per lb. ..... 6 to 8
rs, fresh, per lb. ..... 6 to 8
fresh, white, per lb. 8
fresh, red, per lb. ..... 10 to 12
smoked, per lb. 20
per lb. 5
Olympia, per pint ..... 40 to 50
Toke Point, doz. ..... 40 to 50
s, per lb. ..... 25 to 30
per lb. ..... 5 to 10
kippered, per lb. 12½
Haddie, per lb. 25

Meat and Poultry.

per lb. ..... 15 to 25
per lb. ..... 12½ to 20
per quarter, fore ..... 1.00 to 1.50
per quarter, hind ..... 1.75 to 2.00
essed, per lb. ..... 12½ to 18
dressed, per lb. ..... 18 to 20
dressed, per lb. ..... 20 to 25
per lb. ..... 20 to 25
s, per lb., live weight ..... 12½ to 15
s, brollers, per lb. 25
Fowls, each 1.00
, dressed, per pair 50
, dressed, each ..... 50 to 65
ressed, each 75
per lb. 22

MISCELLANEOUS

ED—To hire, a bull for January February; must be dehorned and Particulars to Higgs, So. Pen d21

ALE—Xmas cards, $4 worth for stage paid, every card different; returned if not satisfactory. ss Butler's Prescotville, Saanich n22

CATIONS for teacher at Retreat school will be received until st. 1908. John Georgeson, sec., Retreat Cove, P. O. d6

ERSON knowing of the whereof Joseph Dupuis would do well as me, a great favor by g his attention to this ad. or ing me where a letter would him. He is a Frenchman and y works on a farm or in the . Was last heard of at Victoria, J. F. Alden, Hilgard, Oregon.

URE BRED LIVE STOCK

ALE—2 choice Ayrshire bulls; a er of Suffolk Down rams, and choice Yorkshire boars and sows. e special prizes given for swine 1907 Exhibition, New Westminwere won by this herd. Fair-Stock Farm, Jos. Thompson, pro-, Chilliwack, B. C n15

ARBITRATION CASE

Award Made in Case of Brown, Surrey Farmer, Against V. V. & E. Railway

New Westminster, Dec. 20.—The award in the arbitration case of Brown vs. the V., V. & E. railway has been taken up by the railway officials. It shows that Brown, who is a farmer in Surrey, has been awarded $16,910.63.

The case was a dispute over the value of land taken from Brown's farm by the railway company. The farm was cut in by several tracks, and Brown claimed that the damage amounted to $20,000, while the railway company offered but $5,000.

The following are the details of the award:

1. 15.65 acres for right-of-way, $4,303.75. 2. For filling in of ditches, $285. 3. Damages to Y., $1,000. 4. Damages to J., $688.25. 5 Damages to D. C. L. H. C., $2,220. 6. Increased damage by fire, $3,333.33. 7. General depreciation of whole farm, $2,500. Total, $14,666.63; for rebuilding ditches $2,224; grand total, $16,910.63.

The alphabetical portions of the award refer to sections of the farm so designated on the sketch plan used by the arbitrators. The company may not pay the last item of the award for ditches, as they are allowed till February to enter into an agreement with Mr. Brown to maintain the ditches.

Other farmers whose land has been crossed by the railway have refused the amounts offered by the company, and they may also secure arbitration.

The arbitrators in the above case were F. J. Coulthard for Mr. Brown; F. W. Howay for the railway company, and Registrar J. J. Cambridge, umpire.

The Penny a Mile Clause

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—The G. T. R. will apply to parliament for the repeal of the penny a mile rate between Montreal and Toronto imposed in the original charter.

HANDLING DAMAGES FREIGHT IN TRANSIT

F. A. Pauline Says Reversion To Old System Would Be Injurious to Victoria

The announcement of the possibility that the Canadian Pacific railway may abandon their present system of bringing freight to Vancouver island by transporting the cars bodily on barges and revert to the old system of unloading the cars at Vancouver and bringing the goods here by steamer, has caused a great deal of comment and many expressions of disgust that things should have been permitted to reach a stage when such actions would be even contemplated as a result of the inadequate terminal facilities here.

F. A. Pauline, president of the board of trade, when asked what in his judgment would be the result to Victorian merchants if the present system of ferrying the cars across the straits were abandoned, and the goods instead were unloaded at Vancouver and sent over by steamer, said:

"It would effect nearly every business man in the town adversely, though certain lines would be injured more than others. It is not that the cost would be any greater. I take it that if the railroad adopts new arrangements for its own convenience it cannot make that an excuse for an increase in rates. But the extra handling of the merchandise would be an injury. Goods are bound to be damaged more or less every time they are handled. Cases are often broken, bales get muddled, goods come in with hook marks on them and so forth. It cannot be helped. Goods are often perforce unloaded under unfavorable circumstances—in the rain for instance. It makes a very material difference to Victoria merchants if the goods come right through to Victoria from the east without being touched on the way. The saving of the extra handling means a considerable percentage in the course of a year, in the saving of minor injuries, while we can to some extent look after the unloading of the goods ourselves when they are unloaded here and so protect ourselves. It is quite a different thing to be at the mercy of the Vancouver stevedores."

Mr. Pauline declined to discuss the present condition of the controversy between the civic authorities and the C. P. R.

Vitriol Thrown in His Face

Toronto, Dec. 20.—The contents of a bottle of vitriol were thrown in the face of John Clancy as he was leaving his boarding house at 101 Defoe street last night. His face is badly burned, and he is not able to see yet. This is the third assault of this kind that has been made on Clancey.

Bomb-Thrower Executed.

Moscow, Dec. 20.—The woman who, on December 4, made an unsuccessful attempt to kill Lieut. General Guerschelmann, Governor-General of Moscow, by means of a bomb, was executed here this morning. On the scaffold she said to her executioners: "We will soon stop your hangings."

EMPEROR WILLIAM SENDS REPORTER

Details Officer to Get Correct Version of Evidence At Harden Trial

Berlin, Dec. 20.—Emperor William, who is following the evidence taken in the Harden-Von Moltke libel suit with the utmost attention, today sent to the court house Lieut. Proetnel Von Der Hoelle, of the Fusiliers, as a special representative in order to secure a full and impartial report of the proceedings.

The judges decided to permit the Lieut. to remain in court when the remainder of the public was excluded, and he was thus enabled to obtain the details of the trying ordeal which Prince Phillip Zu Eulenberg underwent during the secret session this afternoon, when he remained three hours on the witness stand.

Owing to the utter exclusion of the press and the public from the session, and the close secrecy observed by all persons connected with the case, no statements on which reliance can be placed are obtainable regarding the testimony adduced.

CITY COUNCIL AGGRIEVED

Will Demand Retraction From Monetary Times on Pain of Libel Suit

Vancouver, Dec. 20.—The city council today instructed the city solicitor to demand a retraction or proceed with an action for damages for libel against the Monetary Times in respect of an article published last week criticising the sale of Vancouver debentures.

Hindu Assault Case.

Vancouver, Dec. 20.—With his face still bespattered with blood from the wounds which he claims were inflicted by his assailant, Bangah Singh came into the police station this morning and asked for the arrest of Gungah Singh. He charges that Gungah not only beat him, but also stole $10 from his pocket. The men stop at the Hindu boarding-house known as the Maple Leaf. Bangah Singh's story is that Gungah came into his room late last night the worse of liquor. He caused considerable disquiet, and when he was asked to be quiet he attacked Bangah Singh, according to the latter's story, and beat him about the face, inflicting painful wounds, tearing his clothes and taking $10 from one of his pockets. Gungah Singh will be summoned before the court tomorrow to answer to the double charge.

Dropped Dead

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—Thos. Cain, engineer for the G. T. P., dropped dead in the Dominion house this evening.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Richard Noelck, adopted son and cashier of the private bank of August Saehn and company, has disappeared. The business of the bank halted today and Mr. Saehn was paying off depositors with checks drawn on his personal account. He has enough to pay every depositor in full.

GOOD PROGRESS IN CLEARING THE WAY

H. E. Beasley States Some Eight Miles Have Been Completed on E. & N.

Over three hundred men are at present at work clearing the right-of-way of the projected extension of the E. & N. from Wellington to Alberni. The contracts for clearing the remaining section have been let, and it is stated that the contractors who are at present getting their plant into position and preparing to start work will require 300 additional men. In all some six or seven hundred men will be employed.

The railway as soon as the clearing the right-of-way is completed, will proceed with the grading operations so that work will be afforded the large body of men for an extended period.

H. E. Beasley, assistant to R. Marpole, general executive for the C. P. R. in this province, returned yesterday from up the line.

He states that some eight miles of road has been cleared up to the present time, and that the work is proceeding in a satisfactory manner.

The E. & N. steam shovel is still employed at Waugh creek on the filling operations there, and it is likely that the work will take another month. It will then be sent up the line to do the necessary filling at the new bridge near Nanaimo.

Ontario Education Funds.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—Under the new system adopted last session, the total amount in educational grants for 1907 to be distributed among the rural sections is $358,178, compared with $123,750 in 190. The last instalments have just been paid over, New Ontario gets $81,580, as compared with $47,910 in 1904.

OBJECTION TAKEN TO IMMIGRATION

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council and the Salvation Army

Vancouver, Dec. 20.—The most important matter discussed by the Trades and Labor Council at its regular meeting last night was that of the advertisements of the Salvation Army that are appearing in the London newspapers. Copies of these advertisements read, showing that the army was advertising for 600 and 800 people to come to British Columbia, and guaranteeing them all the work wanted. The secretary was instructed to write the editors of the papers denying that there was plenty of work here, and sending copies of the free meal tickets now being given out to the unemployed by the city.

The matter of requesting the British Columbia Electric company to place earlier morning cars upon several routes was discussed, and a committee consisting of Messrs. Ryan, Isaac and Moulton was appointed to confer with the proper officials of the company.

A letter was read from Hon. W. J. Bowser, saying that he would use his best efforts to get his colleagues to take up legislation relative to the referendum.

A heated discussion was precipitated by Delegate Ryan of the Bartenders' union, who asked that the use of the Labor Hall be allowed his union, which had prepared to hold a smoker and concert there on the first Sunday in January. Delegate Watkins of the Machinists' Union took advantage of the occasion to thoroughly roast what he termed "meetings of the booze-fighters' union." He declared that he was not in favor of turning the Labor Hall into a drinking establishment. A vote was taken upon the question, and the request of the bartenders was unanimously refused.

Referring to a statement made at the last meeting relative to the closing down of a certain ironworks which was published in the daily press, Delegate Watkins denied having made it as it appeared in the papers, and asked that a letter be read from the Machinists' union, which suggested that representatives of the daily papers be refused admittance to the meetings of the council. No action was taken, and the letter was placed on file.

ENTOMBED MEN MUST BE DEAD

Little Hope That Any Miners Are Still Alive In Darr Colliery

RESCUE WORK IS BLOCKED

Poisonous Gases Must Be Forced Out of Explorers' Way

Jacobs Creek, Dec. 20.—From the Darr mine of the Pittsburg Coal company, where a terrific explosion yesterday imprisoned and almost beyond doubt killed every one of the 200 or more men who had entered the mine for the day, only six bodies had been brought to the surface up to 10 o'clock. Others have been located and lie in the entry awaiting a propitious time for their removal to the temporary morgue.

Most of the men, however, are still hemmed in by heavy falls of slate and other roof furniture a mile and a half and more beyond the point to which the rescuers have penetrated up to this time.

There is still a flickering hope that some of the men may be yet living, but the investigations so far made leave little basis for this hope.

The rescuing parties, 7,500 feet from the main entrance, have found conditions such that to avert another disaster precautionary work must be done. The poisonous gases must be forced from the sections beyond, and additional air and ventilation must be provided for that section. To neglect those precautions during exploration is to risk the life of every man in the rescuing force. To provide these safeguards will require hours of time, and it is not believed that the great mass of bodies will be reached before late tomorrow afternoon.

Conditions about the mines in this little mining town are greatly improved. The men who yesterday began a holiday celebration by drinking and feasting have sobered up and ceased their carousing and disorders, which made last night hideous.

Cunard Schuth, crazed by the death in the mine of his son and other relatives, ended his own life today by drowning in the river near the mine. He was a widower, and leaves four small children.

President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers of America, telegraphed from Indianapolis, authorizing the district officials to draw upon the treasury for $1,000 for the families of victims.

GEN. KUROPATKIN UNDER CORRECTION

Count Witte Shows Faults In His Evidence at Stoessel Trial

St. Petersburg, Dec. 20.—Irritated at the testimony given at the trial of Gen. Stoessel by Gen. Kuropatkin yesterday Count Witte addressed a letter to the court begging an opportunity to appear on the witness stand. Gen. Kuropatkin's testimony was to the effect that before the war with Japan he had recommended the abandonment of Port Arthur and the restoration of the Kwang Tung peninsula to the Chinese, who were to pay $125,000,000 for it, and that he considered that the opening of Port Dalny destroyed the strategic importance of Port Arthur.

The court having refused him an opportunity to refute on the witness stand Gen. Kuroptakin's testimony, Count Witte has broken his long silence in a letter to the Novoe Vremya. It is an interesting disclosure of excerpts from secret documents which throw light on the inner councils before the war, and seeks to prove that Kuropatkin was guilty of misleading the whole government by an over-estimate of Russia's preparedness for war.

In July 1903, according to Count Witte, after a tour of inspection in the far east, Gen. Kuropatkin in a written report to the Emperor said: "Two years ago we thought ourselves ready to defend the Amur region and North Manchuria. Today we cannot only do that but can be perfectly confident of the fate of Port Arthur."

Count Witte continues that the site of Port Dalny and the idea of creating a commercial port there were suggested by Kuropatkin himself as a means for restricting Port Arthur to military uses, and at the same time carry out the promise to open any acquired Chinese port to the trade of all nations.

Count Witte multiplies instances of discrepancy in Kuropatkin's official acts and his evidence in the Stoessel case. He also accuses him of not having provided sufficient siege guns at Port Arthur.

The controversy promises sensational developments.

ATLANTIC PASSAGE

Empresses Make Good Time on Voyages Between Halifax and Liverpool

Montreal, Dec. 20.—Remarkably fast and equal trips characterize the voyage of the Empress of Ireland and the Empress of Britain this week. The former arrived at Halifax at 8.30 p.m. yesterday, and the latter will arrive in Liverpool at 8 o'clock on Saturday morning, the time consumed by each vessel being about six days and four hours from dock to dock.

St. John, N .B., Dec. 20.—The Empress of Ireland broke the record for the trip from Halifax when she arrived here today, having gone the distance in fourteen hours and a half. Forty minutes later the Overseas train left with the mail. Another record.

Fatal Blow Struck

Toronto, Dec. 20.—John McConnell, a bricklayer, was arrested today on a charge of manslaughter in connection with the death at the Western hospital yesterday of Noble Taylor. McConnell is said to have struck Taylor in a quarrel last Wednesday night over a ten dollar bill.

INDIAN RESERVES

Kamloops Has Turn at Question—Wishes Indian Neighbors Transplanted

Vancouver, Dec. 20.—J. T. Robinson, of Kamloops, was in Vancouver last night on his way to Victoria to interview Premier McBride in reference to the policy of the government in connection with the Indian lands.

Mr. Robinson carried with him an important resolution passed by the inland board of trade at Kamloops asking for the removal of the Indians now occupying the reserve just outside of Kamloops to the Tchu-chu-qualk reserve on the North Thompson river.

The resolution points out that the reserve just outside the city contains 32,000 acres and that only 200 of these are under cultivation. There are at least 7,000 acres in this reserve fit for fruit growing and general agricultural purposes. The board takes the position that not only is the proximity of the reserve to the city inimical to the interests of the community, but it also gives opportunity for providing liquor to the Indians and thus furnishes great scope for crime which has been so prevalent of late amongst the Indians.

The land now occupied by the Indians when placed under cultivation would prove a valuable asset for Kamloops, and would assist in the development of the agricultural and fruit industry in that district.

The upper reserve to which it is proposed to remove the Indians is fifty-two miles from the city and thus removed from all evil influences. It provides ample scope for the Indians.

Sheriff Seizes Logs

New Westminster, Dec. 20.—Sheriff T. J. Armstrong has seized a boom of logs on Burnaby Lake belonging to T. W. Piper for the benefit of creditors, and he is now engaged in driving them down the Brunette river to this city, where they will be sold.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE CLAIMS ARE BONDED

Trewethay Brothers in Transaction — Other Operators At Work

Vancouver, Dec. 20.—A mining deal of considerable magnitude for a copper proposition in the Queen Charlotte islands is being closed this afternoon. A. C. and A. R. Tretheway, who amassed a fortune in Cobalt several years ago, are taking a bond on a group of five claims owned by Frank Watson, a well known Jedway operator. Ten per cent. is to be paid down. The life of the bond is one year.

The Tretheway brothers, who are worth millions, have acquired large mining interests in the Queen Charlottes and are personally superintending the development work, as they are practical miners. The claims they are bonding comprises the Hercules, Starlight, Dusky Malden, Squaw Man and Silver Tip, located on Houston inlet, Moresby Island. The proposition is regarded as very promising. The values in a thirty-foot vein average three per cent. copper and $6 gold per ton. Other showings, which have not yet been opened up, also traverse the property. The biggest showing is less than a mile from tidewater. The Cobalt men will undertake development on an extensive scale.

Mr. Watson brought down news that there is great activity in the various camps. Recently the Seattle owners of the Copper Queen group near Jedway crosscut, a six-foot vein at the end of a 260-foot tunnel. The ore is very rich. It is said to average 6 per cent. copper and $30 per ton.

Mr. Watson will leave here tomorrow for Seattle to close a number of other important mining deals.

WAGES DISPUTES IN MINING COUNTRY

St. Eugene Conciliation Board —Boundary Miners Take Vote

Nelson, Dec. 20.—The arbitration and conciliation board, consisting of S. S. Taylor, K. C., of this city; Judge P. E. Wilson, Cranbrook, and J. A. Harvey, Cranbrook, appointed to settle the differences between the Consolidated Mining and Smelting company and its employees at the St. Eugene mine and mill at Moyie, East Kootenay, completed their labors here today and reserved their decision. The company wants a reduction in wages and the men object. The chief evidence taken yesterday and today concerned the scale of wages and the cost of living throughout the Kootenays.

At Phoenix and Grand Forks the miners' unions have taken a vote on the acceptance or refusal of the reduced scale of wages offered by the Granby company. The unions have declined to make the result of the vote known at present, pending the decision of the conciliation board here, but it is generally understood that both unions favor returning to work at the schedule offered.

Word reached here this morning from Rossland of the death in that city today of W. J. Nelson, a well-known Ontario barrister, who has practiced his profession in Rossland since 1896. Heart failure was the cause of death. Deceased was city solicitor and police magistrate, and was the author of several short poems. He was about 50 years old, and has no relatives in the west.

There is good skating here, but no snow, and generally mild weather prevails.

English Immigration

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—English immigration was the subject of debate by St. George's Society tonight. A resolution was passed and sent to English papers expressing confidence in British immigrants for farm work, but denouncing interested agents and winter or fall shipments of indiscriminate selections.

Sub-Station Burned.

Hamilton, Dec. 20.—The power house and substation of the Cataract Power Co. at Irondale was destroyed by fire today.

WORLD'S CREDIT CENTRE

Secretary Haldane Refers to Remarkable Position of the Bank of England

Edinburgh, Dec. 20.—In a speech tonight Richard Burton Haldane, secretary of state for war compared the British and American credit systems, having reference to the prophesies of a few years back that within a reasonable time the centre of the money market and the source of credit would migrate to New York.

Mr. Haldane said that the Americans had just shown an instinct for hoarding, with the result that the banks had had no reserves. In Great Britain on the contrary, money was being placed in the banks and thence with the Bank of England, creating a reserve on which the credit of the whole world depends. That was the remarkable outcome of a remarkable instinct, he declared.

Perhaps it was just because the British government did not superintend the country's credit arrangements that the arrangements were the most successful of any of the nations. The Bank of England, the speaker added was a private concern, yet it always succeeded in maintaining its universal character of being the greatest depository in the whole civilized world.

Acme Loan Company.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—A special meeting of the shareholders of the Acme Loan and Savings Co. has been called for Jan. 24, to ratify an agreement made by the directors for the sale of the company's assets to the Standard Loan company.

Portage La Prairie, Dec. 20.—John R. McDonald, one of the old timers of the plains who is leaving to reside in British Columbia, was given a banquet at the Albion hotel by his many friends, and presented with a gold locket and chain accompanied by an address.

LARGE AMOUNT HAS BEEN PAID FOR HOLLY

It Is Estimated Outsiders Have Purchased Three Thousand Dollars' Worth

During the past few days florists and others from Seattle and San Francisco have been busy in Victoria cutting holly, and it is estimated that no less than $3,000 has been paid out by them to Victorians who were in a position to dispose of it. The holly is sold at San Francisco for as much as $1 per pound, and often brings more. In Seattle an equally high price maintains, and there is a market for far more than can be supplied in many other cities across the border in Washington, Oregon and California.

The buyers who have been coming to Victoria yearly at the Christmas season make their own arrangements with the owners of holly trees, the prices paid varying exceedingly. The usual methods are to buy the holly from the grower by the pound, or "they vary," he replied. "Last year I got $35 for a fine specimen from a millionaire's family at San Francisco, the tree top with the holly berries being used as a table decoration for a big Christmas dinner. Of course, that was an exceptional price."

The supply being so small, however, in comparison with the demand, the Victoria holly brings a high price in the various cities where it is sold. The buyers pack it in barrels and boxes and ship it south, where they offer their collections for sale.

Alleged Bogus Cheques.

Vancouver, Dec. 20.—Fred A. Butler was this morning committed for trial on the charge of "forging and uttering" bogus cheques. J. H. Griffiths, who was held with him on the charge, was dismissed, but will be retained by the Crown as a witness. Griffiths went into the box and told the court that he had knowledge of Butler having used the name of Morgan and also that of Cooper. Both these signatures appeared on cheques that had been cashed at different places. Butler still maintained that Griffiths was in reality the man Morgan who had signed the cheques, but there was not sufficient evidence to substantiate his story.

British Westinghouse Co.

London, Dec. 20.—The proposals made by John Price, M.P., chairman of the British Westinghouse Co., to pass a resolution whereby £300,000 prior lien debentures of the company should be placed before the security of the holders of the four per cent. mortgage debenture stock was carried on a poll of those attending the meeting of the holders of the latter stock and the proxies in the hands of the directors.

NEW PASTOR FOR METROPOLITAN CHURCH

Rev. T. E. Holling of Winnipeg To Exchange Pulpits With Rev. G. K. B. Adams

Rev. T. E. Holling will be the next pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist church. An invitation has been extended to Mr. Holling who is at present stationed in Young church, Winnipeg, by the board of trustees of the local church. Rev. G. K. B. Adams' term is finished next June and in response to a call from the people of Young church he will leave here for Winnipeg.

The negotiations have been under way for some time. Mr. Holling has still another year of his four year term to run in Winnipeg, but he has accepted the invitation and as in both cases the matter is unanimous, there is little doubt but that the two conferences will grant the transfers.

Rev. Mr. Holling is a comparatively young man. He is a graduate of Wesley college, Winnipeg, and is but 40 years of age. During his Winnipeg pastorate he has successfully engineered the erection of a new church. He was formerly stationed in Moose Jaw.

JAPAN'S ACTION ON EMIGRATION

Despatches From Tokio Give Different Reasons For the Delay

OLD AGREEMENT IGNORED

Government Will Give None But Verbal Assurance Of Limitation

Tokio, Dec. 20.—The delay in closing the emigration negotiations between Japan and Canada was due to the claim of the Canadian government through Commissioner Lemieux, that prior to Canada becoming a party to the treaty of alliance it was specifically guaranteed by a representative of the Japanese government that emigration of laborers to Canada should be limited to six hundred monthly. The Japanese government, it is said, now repudiates this action.

Tokio, Dec. 20.—Negotiations between the Canadian minister of labor, Hon. Rudolph Lemieux and the Japanese government, which have been delayed by a hitch over the details, will be concluded within the next few days. It is understood that Minister Lemieux has finally agreed to accept Japanese assurance that she will undertake the self-imposed task of limiting emigration to Canada. The exact method of limitation, will be left entirely in the hands of the Japanese government.

It is stated that the hitch arose over the desire of the Canadian government to secure a definite promise in writing, outlining the undertakings. This was positively declined by Japan, because it would entail a sacrifice of treaty rights.

Minister Lemieux also desired to secure from the Japanese government a note giving the exact number of laborers that the government proposed to allow to emigrate to Canada. This was also refused.

There is reason to believe that Canada will receive a verbal assurance identical with that given the United States. The Japanese government, declining to surrender any rights contained in its treaty of alliance with Great Britain, is preparing a programme of administration under which the promise of limitation can be fulfilled. Minister Lemieux will probably leave for Canada next week going by way of Siberia and thence to London.

WILLIAM JOLLIFFE RETURNS

Chase After the Cruiser Kestrel—Salvage Tug Leaves Again For Skidegate

(From Saturday's Daily)

The tug William Jolliffe, of the B. C. Salvage Company, which has returned from Hodgson's reef off Metlakatlah after mooring a new buoy there and recharging the beacons at Klewnugget and Prince Rupert, leaves again for the north today, taking supplies for Lawyer island, and other lights, including the stores the Quadra was unable to land recently at Egg island. The William Jolliffe is to go to Skidegate to replace the beacon which recently blew adrift from Lawn point off the Queen Charlotte island port.

Capt. Stratford, of the William Jolliffe, on her trip from the north, performed an errand of mercy. The son of Capt. Newcombe, of the fisheries protection cruiser Kestrel, is seriously ill at Vancouver, and all northbound steamers have been requested to keep a lookout for the Kestrel to notify the captain and instruct her commander to hurry south. In Ogden channel the William Jolliffe sighted the Kestrel, and with her superior power, overhauled the government boat after a chase of five miles. The Kestrel immediately steamed south, and has arrived at Vancouver, where Captain Newcombe found his son improved, but not out of danger.

NORTHERN METROPOLIS

How Prince Rupert is Developing—Halibut Industry and Floating Slaughter House

On Friday several men were sent from Prince Rupert on the Camosun to Essington, and from that place will go to the camp of G.T.P. Engineer Foye, who is doing location work on the Skeena, this side of tidewater. They are to be paid $45 a month and board.

Morrow & Co. are making preparations to build a floating slaughterhouse, so that they can do their own killing. It will be 40 by 120 feet, and will be built at the Seal Harbor sawmill and towed to Prince Rupert. It will take three weeks to build it.

George Philpott, who made the only beauty spot in Prince Rupert, is at work laying out the G.T.P. garden at the wharf. He says the soil if mixed with sand soon becomes arable and will grow anything from roses to potatoes.

A. E. Hill, P.L.S., who has been in the employ of the G.T.P. for a year or more and who superintended putting in the waterworks, left Prince Rupert on Friday on the Camosun, and will spend the winter at Vancouver. He expects to return in the spring to follow his profession.

Prince Rupert is putting on the airs of a metropolis. It has had "suburbs," like Fairview and Seal Harbor, for months; and it now has an "addition," which is named Knoxville. Knoxville has a printing office, a boardinghouse and the residences of six separate bands of white pioneers.

There have been a number of changes made on the government telegraph line of late, but there has been no change in the service. The line is down! Kenneth Smith, who had charge of the gang that built the line from Aberdeen to Prince Rupert is now here and will be the line repairer in charge at Prince Rupert. He is energetic and a good man, and there should be a change and the line should be up in a few days.

N. J. Coulter, of Vancouver, is in Prince Rupert looking the field over with the view of purchasing halibut for shipment to his firm, N. J. Coulter & Co., of Vancouver. He will build a storage warehouse at Prince Rupert and ship ice from Vancouver if he can secure from 40 to 50 tons of fish a month. The halibut are in the ocean, all right; but where are the fishermen? Mr. Coulter will try and make arrangements with either Indians or white fishermen, or with both, while here, and expects to get the required amount without any great difficulty.—Prince Rupert Empire.