

MEXICO

Steamship Line Prospects

samples of general merchandise. This is in what Canada and Mexico to each other. We will include of every description of bringing shipments to Canada for the Mexican rates will be regulated with those already in effect in San Francisco and passenger rates have not been lowered but they will be competitive with those that have been between Vancouver, Mexican ports.

Several inquiries have been made of the shipping agent, Mr. G. H. Smith, of British Columbia, who is in charge of the line, and he says that the prospects are very bright. He says that the line will be a success and that it will be a great benefit to the province.

COUNTRY DEMANDS AN INVESTIGATION

Government's Connection With Exploration Syndicate Regarded as Its Doom--Attempt to Discipline It.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

The announcement of the colossal scandal unearthed in the Lands and Works Department, which was published in yesterday's Times, is the sole topic of conversation in this city today.

It is felt that while the government has endeavored to make Mr. Green the scapegoat, the last vestiges of respect which a few of its partisans may still retain for it, have been swept away, and its doom on February 2nd is already sealed.

The mere fact that the other members of the government knew of the late minister's connection with the syndicate from May of last year until the eve of the election, makes them partners with him in the odium he incurs. Numerous rumors have been floating around the city with regard to Mr. Green's resignation ever since it occurred, and the final disclosure explains many other incidents and occurrences of the past.

Public opinion, as voiced on the streets of this city this morning, demands an investigation.

A prominent Conservative expressed it when he remarked:

"Taken in conjunction with the Klama land matter, the Kalen Island deal and several other transactions in which the present government has been concerned, this last revelation renders simple and unhampered investigation of the Lands and Works Department a mere necessity. That is why I'm going to support Mr. Macdonald at the approaching election."

As it may readily be supposed, the McBride government's fate is not turned with favor towards the Transcontinental Exploration Syndicate at the present moment.

Ever since last May, when the government as a whole became conversant with the facts of the arrangement, an investigation has hung like a sword of Damocles over the devoted heads of McBride et al.

Moreover its attitude on that occasion taught the government that the com-

THE OVERSEAS MAIL

Train Will Not Arrive at Vancouver Until Six o'Clock on Friday Morning.

Vancouver, Jan. 23.—The overseas train will not be here with the Express mails on Friday morning until 6 o'clock. The Express will be sent out to English Bay to anchor this afternoon so she will not be delayed on Friday in the event of fog.

ANOTHER BATTLESHIP

May Be Added to Uncle Sam's Navy in the Near Future.

Washington, D.C., Jan. 23.—It is practically assured that the House committee on naval affairs will recommend the construction of another gigantic battleship in addition to the one decided upon at the last session as the result of a partial canvass made by members of the committee. They are convinced that the House will approve an additional battleship as recommended by them.

SMITH CURTIS AND THE PREMIER

PLAYED M'BRIDE AT JOINT MEETING

Head of Government Tried in Vain to Counter the Slashing Attack Made Upon Him.

Keremeos, Jan. 22.—Learning that Premier McBride intended to visit Similkameen, Smith Curtis challenged the Premier to meet him in joint debate on fair terms so as to allow Mr. Curtis to make serious charges of maladministration against the government. When Premier McBride arrived in Fairview he was met by Mr. Curtis, to whom the Premier offered half an hour at his meeting to be held Monday. Mr. Curtis, refused, thinking it was far too little time in which to present the case against the government. The Premier was indignant and also his opponent. Later the local Conservatives, who were evidently afraid of the debate, to give Mr. Curtis an hour. There was a large attendance at the afternoon meeting and Mr. Curtis opened the ball by a slashing attack on the McBride government, showing that the political promises of the Premier and his colleagues were worthless and claiming and proving that while taxes had been heaped on the masses, certain large corporations, companies and speculative timber land owners had had their land taxes lowered or not levied at all.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP

PROFITS OF ELECTRIC PLANT OF BROCKVILLE

Brockville, Ont., Jan. 23.—Municipal ownership pays at Brockville. In six years the light and power plant earned a profit of \$37,055.50.

Dr. Nugent Appointed Missionary

Among Hindus--Railway Checker Burned to Death.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 22.—Franklin Green Churchhill, former editor of the Wellboro, Pa., Gazette, is dead at his home here. He was 74 years old.

The death occurred on Tuesday at the family residence, Craigflower road, of Mrs. Wm. Atkins. Her death was due to pneumonia. The deceased was next of kin of Mrs. Wm. Atkins, who was 43 years of age. Her husband and five children survive her.

PROMOTION FOR COM. LEARMOUTH

SHEARWATER'S SHOWING IN QUICK-FIRING TEST

Little Vessel Did Well in Comparison With Larger Ships--Ranks in First Twenty-Five.

Commander Frederick C. Learmouth, commanding the Egeria, survey ship on the Pacific Coast, has just been promoted captain, and reappointed to the command. Capt. Learmouth donned the navy blue in January, 1879; was promoted sub-lieutenant in 1885; lieutenant in 1887, and commander in June, 1906. He is one of several brothers serving in the army and navy.

A cablegram notifying him of the fact was received some days ago, but the official announcement has just been received.

The Shearwater.

The Shearwater, which headed the list of isolated ships in heavy gun practice last year, also did well in the light quick-firing gun tests. In fact the little sloop has done magnificently, seeing that there is no emulation to excel in shooting, she being the only representative of the Royal Navy on the Pacific Coast. At the latter tests the crew of her light quick-firing gun got well on the mark. Lance-Corporal R. Tomlin, Royal Light Infantry, hitting the target five times in succession.

Com. A. G. Alge has received the official figures from the admiralty:

The results obtained with the 6 and 8-pounder guns are shown in order of merit by the following table:

A SOCIAL VISIT, NOT POLITICAL

WHY SECRETARY ROOT IS AT OTTAWA

May Discuss Issues in Which Canada and United States are at Variance.

Ottawa, Jan. 21.—United States Secretary Root was the guest to-day at a luncheon of the Canadian Club. Sunday he spent at Government House, where at dinner he met Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. C. Sifton, Hon. W. S. Fielding, Hon. A. B. Aylesworth and their wives.

He talked freely to the press after his arrival, but stated his visit had no diplomatic significance.

"Mr. Root, there is a good deal of interest in Canada in your visit and a good deal of curiosity as to its significance," said a reporter.

"It will be very easy," said Mr. Root, "to satisfy the curiosity of the people, if the simplicity of the explanation does not take us out of the category of news."

"I am here because Lord Grey, when he was in Washington last winter, was good enough to invite Mrs. Root and myself and daughter to come to Ottawa. It is purely a social visit. It has not any political, governmental or diplomatic significance. It is simply that all affairs in this world get better when people know each other, and get to like each other. The great cause of controversy among nations is misunderstanding, the failure of people in one country to appreciate the point of view of the people in another country. A better knowledge leads to a better understanding and a better feeling and more reasonable treatment, and the mere exchange of friendly courtesies in that way, has a political and governmental side. My visit has no other aspect."

"Do you not think the feeling between the United States and Canada is better now than ever before?" was the next question.

"I should be inclined to say that it is true," he remarked. "So far as I have been able to see, there has always been a kindly feeling towards Canada in the United States."

A good opportunity was given Secretary Root to have a talk with the Premier on Canadian and United States affairs. Although the conversation was, of course, informal, it may result in some good. There are a variety of subjects more or less of an irritating character which might be settled between the two countries without having any recourse to such tribunals as in the case of the Canadian boundary line, the Canadian Alaskan boundary line, the Puget Sound of the Pacific to the St. John river on the Atlantic. An understanding on this matter is desirable and the Canadian government is willing to give and take to have this reached.

Hon. C. Hyman's Position.

Ottawa, Jan. 21.—Hon. G. E. Foster

OVATION TO THE LIBERAL LEADER

Rossland Electors Heard J. A. Macdonald--The Opposing Conservative Speaker Was Laughed Down.

Rossland, Jan. 23.—Rossland turned out in full force last night to greet the Liberal leader, J. A. Macdonald, at his first public meeting since his victory winning tour of Vancouver Island and the lower mainland.

The Miners' Union hall was packed, and it was no exaggeration to say that an overwhelming majority of those present were in hearty accord with every utterance of Mr. Macdonald.

The meeting was not without its amusing incidents. In particular Mr. Hanington, of Nelson, who spoke for the Conservative candidate, created uproarious amusement in his efforts to explain an overwhelming majority of those present were in hearty accord with every utterance of Mr. Macdonald.

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ISLAND TO HAVE EXPERIMENTAL FARM

Announcement Made by Minister of Agriculture to Ralph Smith--Letter Received by R. L. Drury.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

R. L. Drury last evening received a letter from Ralph Smith, M.P., at Ottawa, enclosing a letter from the Hon. Mr. Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, containing the authoritative announcement that the Dominion government have definitely decided to establish an experimental farm on Vancouver Island.

Experts will be sent out to inspect the various agricultural sections for the purpose of deciding upon a site. This experimental farm, when established, will undoubtedly give a decided stimulus to agriculture generally on Vancouver Island.

This announcement of the decision of the Ottawa government to provide an experimental farm here will be received with delight by the farming and agricultural interests. The Liberal members from Vancouver Island sitting in the House of Commons have been persistent in their representations on the point. Ralph Smith has taken especial interest in it, and it is gratifying to know that so important a subject has received the endorsement of the government and is to be acted upon.

The conditions prevailing on the Island differ somewhat from those encountered elsewhere in the province, and very material from those met with in other parts of Canada. Under these circumstances it has been felt advisable to have an experimental farm located here.

The activity prevailing on the Island with respect to farming is an additional reason for locating the farm here.

SURVEYING TO ALBERNI CANAL

C. P. R. WILL REACH DEEP WATER THERE

Engineers in the Field Have Feasible Route Across Divide on Vancouver Island.

There can be little doubt that the C. P.R. intends to expedite the extension of the E. & N. line to deep water on the Alberni canal, following out the policy contained in the announcement made some time ago by Sir Thos. Shaughnessy, that a port of call for the Empress liners would be established on the West Coast of Vancouver Island.

Already survey parties are in the field. The instructions issued to the chief of the staff is to push the work forward as fast as possible, providing for the extension of the E. & N. to deep water on Alberni canal. This is being done, and Frank Shepherd, the engineer in charge of the party, has already located a route across the Beaufort range, west of Cameron lake. It is more than probable that the route selected will be along the shores of Cameron lake, although an alternative route is available by way of Horse lake.

Along a spur running out from the Beaufort mountains on the east side affords a good opportunity for making an easy ascent. It is possible by taking this to get a grade no where exceeding 1 1/2 per cent. to the policy summit is reached. The descent on the other side of the range can be made easy by making a circuit away from the wagon road. Deep water can be reached at New Alberni townsite, some miles from the head of the canal.

It is reported that the C.P.R. intends to begin work on the extension of the

CHINOOK SAVES THE SITUATION

SNOW IN ALBERTA IS DISAPPEARING

Ranchers Are Preparing to Gather Up Stock and Care For Weak Animals.

Lethbridge, Alb., Jan. 23.—Not in 20 years did a more welcome chinook begin to blow than that which started late last night. Already the snow is being licked up as by magic, and on bare spots that are now showing prairie cattle are finding food. Should it continue for another 24 hours, the cattle situation will be saved for the present. The dead to date will not exceed eight per cent. Ranchers are already preparing to gather up their stock and care for the weak ones.

TRUE BILLS AGAINST FORMER BANKER

Toronto, Jan. 23.—The grand jury brought in true bills yesterday in the criminal charges against Charles McGill, late general manager of the Ontario bank. The first indictment is for "making false statements, signing false statements and false accounts by official fraud." The second charge is theft. There are nine charges in this indictment, and various sums are named, of which the largest is \$25,000 and aggregate \$125,000.

ENGAGEMENT CANCELLED.

"Madam Butterfly" Will Not Play in Victoria Owing to Lack of Support.

It will be a disappointment to more than one music-lover whose name was attached to the subscription list for the "Madam Butterfly" engagement to learn that a remarkable lack of enthusiasm was exhibited by Victorians when the list was opened and, as a consequence, Puccini's great opera will play two nights in Vancouver, the local engagement being cancelled. The list was closed last evening, and Manager Denham stated to the Times that the subscription, even as it stood, covered the cost of the engagement.

DOCKYARD SUPERINTENDENT.

Ottawa, Jan. 23.—Captain Knowlton, of the cruiser Canada, has been appointed superintendent of the dockyard at Halifax. He sails on Thursday or Friday for England.

THE BRITISH PREFERENCE

LOGAN'S RESOLUTION REGARDED AS PREMATURE

Premier Favors Principle of Motion But Advises Leaving Matter in Abeyance.

Ottawa, Jan. 23.—There was a government caucus yesterday to discuss H. J. Logan's resolution to confine the British preference to Canadian products.

There was strong opposition to the resolution going into effect at present. It would mean a blow to British preference.

The Premier has already declared himself in favor of the principle of the resolution, but his opinion is that it is premature to put it into force now. That view will no doubt prevail. In that case no resolution will be drafted and Mr. Logan's motion, if modified, providing that it will come into effect at a time when the country is ready for it.

All the western members were opposed to the increased protection which such a resolution would cause just now. They oppose anything that interferes with the British preference.

CASES DROPPED.

Suits Arising Out of Winnipeg Civic Election To Be Discontinued.

"It is announced to-day that the suits brought against James Burridge, William Garson, Henry Sandison, J. W. Cockburn, Johnson Douglas and J. W. Harris to recover fines for corrupt practices the municipal elections on December 11th, will be discontinued," says Wednesday's Winnipeg Free Press. "Messrs. Elliott & Macneil, attorneys for the plaintiff, J. A. McKenzie, confirmed the report on to-day."

"Speaking to a Free Press reporter, C. A. Elliott, of Elliott & Macneil, said: 'Yes, it is true that the suits are to be discontinued. What my clients were seeking particularly was an investigation of the voting at the municipal election. Such an investigation is now in progress before Judge Myers, and the object of my clients has thus been attained. To proceed with the individual charges now would be to throw my clients open to a suspicion of acting from personal spite in this matter. I will be present at sessions of the investigation before Judge Myers to watch the interests of my clients in regard to the individual charges.'"

RALLY AT BAY SCHOOL

NIGHT FOR CITY AND SAANICH

in Esquimalt on Saturday--W. W. B. McInnes to Speak.

A political meeting held in school house this evening in the Liberal interest of the city, and John McInnes, a prominent local standard bearer for the party, is also expected to speak.

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COURSE AT HOME

and in various other parts of the world. The course is a simple one, and is taught in a straightforward manner. The course is a simple one, and is taught in a straightforward manner. The course is a simple one, and is taught in a straightforward manner.