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U.S. NAVAL DEPARTMENT STIRRED UP

Over Strong Pro-British Speech Credited to Commander W. S. Sims

MADE AT LONDON BANQUET

Expressed Views That American Sailors Would Fight For British Empire

Washington, Dec. 27.—The case of Commander W. S. Sims, of the U. S. S. Minnesota, who according to press reports delivered a distinctly pro-British speech at a banquet in London, Dec. 24, which has been regarded as offensive by other nations, is now in the hands of President Taft.

In response to a cablegram of Secretary Meyer, asking for an official report of the exact sentiments expressed by Commander Sims, Rear Admiral Murdock, commanding the third division of the Atlantic fleet, to which the Minnesota is attached, has made a cable reply giving the substance of Commander Sims' remarks. Secretary Meyer today referred the matter to the President as commander in chief of the navy.

No Inkling of Reply.

No inkling of the nature of Admiral Murdock's cablegram was obtainable at the navy department. Secretary Meyer would neither affirm nor deny that Commander Sims admitted the accuracy of the published reports of his speech.

The banquet at which the speech was delivered was given in honor of the officers and men of the American fleet in the English Channel, and was one of the functions which marked the visit of the vessels to English and French ports. Replying to the welcoming speech of the Lord Mayor of London, Commander Sims, according to the press despatches, said that, speaking for himself, that if the time ever came when the British Empire was menaced by an external enemy they might count on every man, every drop of blood, every ship, and every dollar of their kindred across the sea.

Creates Many Protests.

When the matter was called to the attention of Secretary Meyer he cabled for a report on the incident. Numerous protests have been received by the Navy Department from persons of other nationalities. The remarks are likely to give offense to men of foreign descent except the British in the United States navy. It is noted that Commander Sims was careful to state that the sentiments he expressed were only his own personal views, and in this connection the point is raised as to how far a naval officer, in view of his official relation to the government, can go in publicly declaring his opinions when they bear an international aspect.

SEALSKIN COAT, $2.95

Typographical Error Causes a Law Suit in Montreal

Montreal, Dec. 27.—The Supreme Court will be called to decide a case due to typographical error, of which the outcome is a lawsuit taken by A. L. DeMartingy against a local fur company. In one advertisement of that firm appeared an item saying that a sealskin coat was being offered at $2.95, which was generally understood to mean $295. After a day of publication in the French dailies, DeMartingy went to the shop and asked for a sealskin coat described by the advertisement and offered in payment the sum of $2.95. DeMartingy insisted that the advertisement had been repeated and he had a right to get the coat at the price advertised. He refused to take back his money, and now through an attorney claims delivery of the coat.

Midland Road Delayed

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—Some time ago the city presented a notice to the G.N. R. Co., threatening to consider all negotiations at an end unless the railway took immediate steps towards construction. Today a reply was received from the railway's representative intimating that the Midland Railway would not be proceeded with before spring. The letter does not intimate that it will be proceeded with then and the prospect is that it will be delayed another year.

Duke of Sutherland's Project

Montreal, Dec. 27.—The Duke of Sutherland will visit Canada early in the spring in connection with the ready made farm project at Brooks, on the eastern section of the C. P. R. irrigation block east of Calgary, which he purchased from the company.

Winnipeg Hotel Rumor

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—It is rumored here that options were secured on two Main street sites for a projected hotel the Ritz-Carlton syndicate of New ork . It is stated that it will form e of a chain of a magnificent hotel stem around the globe.

California Quakes.

Imperial, Calif., Dec. 27.—A series light earthquake shocks were felt st night. There were two shocks of ore than usual force. No damage resulted.

SAME WHEAT AS YEAR PREVIOUS

By Remarkable Coincidence Minnesota Again Produces 94,080,000 Bushels

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 27.—Minnesota again takes rank, by a big lead, as the greatest wheat producing seat of the country, and by a statistical coincidence, the most remarkable part is that the department of agriculture, whose annual report out today, has ever found is shown to have raised this year 94,080,000 bushels, exactly the number given by the estimate of the department for 1909.

W. H. Hays, assistant secretary of agriculture; Victor Olmstead, chief of the bureau of statistics, in the crop reporting board, which consists of N. C. Murray, Geo. Holmes, John J. Darg, and Joe H. Killebrew, all attest to the correctness of the figures. It is pronounced by them a "mathematical coincidence" of the most extraordinary character.

MIX-UP OF BROTHERS

Joseph Fyadd Arrested on Charge of Crime Committed by John

Seattle, Dec. 27. — Joseph Fyaad, who was brought to Seattle from Mexico City to stand trial on the charge of killing Lettie Nicalo at her home here five years ago, was found not guilty by a jury in the superior court tonight. The verdict of acquittal was brought in after the jury had been out forty minutes.

Lettie Nichola was shot and killed by her sweetheart, John Fyaad, in the fall of 1905. The man escaped and five years later Joseph Fyaad was identified as the fugitive, arrested in Mexico and brought to the United States. The murdered girl's mother identified Joseph Fyaad as the man wanted, but other witnesses for the state were not positive.

Joseph Fyaad himself took the stand and through a Spanish interpreter testified that he had never been in the United States until brought across the Mexican border last September by a deputy sheriff from King County. He swore that his mother had taken him from Syria to Venezuela when he was five years old and that all his life had been spent in that country and in Mexico. He said he had a brother, John Fyaad, of whom he lost track fifteen years ago, and declared that he may be the man wanted who was in Seattle five years ago and who is wanted for the murder of the Nichola girl. The entire defence was based on the plea that Fyaad had been mistaken for his brother and unjustly brought many thousand miles to stand trial.

REVOKING FRANCHISE

Seattle Council Takes Hand in Dispute Over Fares on Electric Railway

Seattle, Dec. 27.—Ten minutes after Mayor Hiram C. Gill and all the councilmen had been served with a federal injunction restraining them from interfering with the operation of the Seattle, Renton and Southern railway, an electric street car line, the council passed an ordinance revoking the company's franchise on the ground that it had violated its terms.

Mayor Gill took an active part in the meeting, and spurred the council to action, by declaring that if the ordinance was not passed he would go out within a week and tear up the tracks. The councilmen asserted that their decision today does not constitute a violation of the injunction, as they have not interfered with the operation of cars, and if the revocation of the franchise is illegal the company has recourse to the courts.

The difference between the company and the council grew out of the dispute of the Auburn commuters and the street railway company over the collection of more than a five cent fare within the city limits, and has already resulted in much turmoil and expensive litigation.

APPRECIATE CANADIAN FLOUR

Big Increase in Shipments Reported From Cape Town

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—This week a report to the trade and commerce department from the Commissioner at Cape Town states that while flour imports from the United States and Argentina are decreasing, those from Canada and Australia and increasing rapidly. Out of 67,551 tons imported last year 65,159 came from Canada. The value of the flour brought from this country has increased in three years from $629,285 to $1,115,000.

Black Handers Heavily Sentenced.

New York, Dec. 27.—Disregarding threats of violence, County Judge Fawcett in Brooklyn today struck a vital blow at Black Hand operations, when he sentenced two convicted Italian Black Handers to not less than twenty-five years nor more than forty-nine years and ten months at lard labor in Sing Sing prison.

Papke Wants Another Fight

Sydney, N. S. W., Dec. 27.—Efforts are being made today to arrange another match between Billy Papke and Dave Smith, the Australian title holder, in the middle weight class. Papke will issue a challenge in a few days. Yesterday's fight between the two men resulting in Papke's disqualification in the twelfth round for roughness, was all Smith's.

VANCOUVER COLLECTOR ACCUSED

Serious Charges Made Against Bowell at Terminal City Investigation

STOOD IN WITH SMUGGLERS

Is Allegation Made at Investigation Now Being Made Into Irregularities

Vancouver, Dec. 27.—Several witnesses today stated before the Government Chinese investigation commission that landing waiters who were too strict in dealing with Chinese and smuggling were sooner or later transferred from the C. P. R. wharf and given inferior positions at other wharves.

James Evans, landing waiter at the Evans Coleman and Evans wharf, and A. W. Schouler gave testimony to this effect. Evans stated that two years ago he had been transferred from the C. P. R. wharf. He had been particular as regards smuggling, but could not say he was too particular. Several times he had had trouble with Collector Bowell, and once was suspended for taking some cigars from a drawer of an officer of the Empress of India, knowing them to be contraband. The witness said Bowell suspended him, but as he was leaving the ship called him back and said it would be all right. Witness also examined a parcel from the ship for Mr. Bowell and found it to be a bicycle suit; it was subsequently returned as unsuitable.

Bowell's Petty Revenge

Last year, when he was going on his holidays, witness stated that Mr. Foster of the Pacific Coast S. S. Co., told him he could have a ticket on the line for half the price if he showed a letter from Bowell. He asked Bowell for the letter, but was refused and stated that the collector said, "No, you did me a dirty trick once, and now I'll get even with you."

In reply to a question, the witness stated that he had never seen Yip On, the interpreter, give anything to the former chief landing waiter, but that once Mr. Bowser had shown him a diamond ring and stick pin, stating that they had been presented by the interpreter.

"Isn't it your candid opinion that you were shifted from the C. P. R. wharf because you were too strict?" he was asked. "It is," replied the witness.

"Didn't Mr. Bowell call you down once for examing a grip that was being carried off on one of the Empresses?"

"Yes," replied the witness. "He said I needn't be so particular."

"It was right after that you were moved, wasn't it?" "Yes."

BLACK HAND BOMB RIPS UP TENEMENT

Occupants of New York House Have A Narrow Escape From Death

New York, Dec. 27.—Two hundred occupants of a tenement in the Italian quarter in East 14th street found their escape to the street cut off today when a "Black Hand" bomb exploded in the lower hallway, tore out the first floor stairway and broke every window in the structure. The excited tenants, who were pitched from their beds by the shock, which rocked the building, rushed for the usual exits, and when they found their way blocked, scrambled to the fire escapes and the roof. Salvator Catolina, a lace maker on the ground floor, told the police that he had received recently a letter demanding $1,000, under penalty of death or destruction of his property.

FRED JEROME SUICIDES.

Former Winnipeg Man Goes Out by Revolver Route.

Duluth, Minn., Dec. 27.—Fred J. Jerome, district manager of the North America Accident Co., committed suicide this afternoon by shooting himself through the head with a revolver in his office. He was 35 and unmarried. The insurance company had given him notice that it would discontinue the Duluth office January 1, and dispondency is supposed to have been the cause of suicide. He was a son of Martin Jerome, of Winnipeg. It is said, however, that Jerome had talked of suicide for the past year or two. He was in low spirits last evening.

Deadly Gas Fumes.

Hammond, Ind., Dec. 27.—Three persons were found asphyxiated here today, when neighbors, detecting the odor of gas while passing the house, broke in the door and found a gas pipe in the basement broken apart. The victims were Mrs. Fred Krugel, 60 years old; Joe Krugel, 18 years, her son, and Matilda Krugel, 20 years, a daughter.

Billy Allen and Abe Attell.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 27—Abe Attell, featherweight champion, and Billy Allen, the featherweight champion of Canada, will meet in a ten-round no-decision bout in this city Jan. 23.

DECOLLES DENIES WRITING ARTICLE

Nor Has He Been Offered the Position of Canadian Commissioner to France

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—A. D. Decolles, parliamentary librarian, when seen in regard to the cable reports that his approaching appointment as high commissioner at Paris, was being criticised in the French press on the ground that he had written an article distasteful to the French and French-Canadian people, said that he had not asked for the post in Paris and that it had not been offered to him by Wilfrid Laurier. Mr. Decolles stated further that he had not written the article.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT AND THE FARMERS' BANK

Hon. Mr. Fielding Explains Position.—No Immediate Action Is Necessary

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—When asked today whether the department of finance would take any action respecting the Farmers' Bank, Mr. Fielding said "No such action is necessary at present. It must be remembered that while the Dominion Parliament enacts the criminal law, the administration of the law is in the hands of the provincial authorities, represented in each province by the attorney general. In some cases where information respecting falsification of returns came in the first instance to the finance department, we have taken the necessary steps to set the wheels of justice in motion.

"In the present case the curator placed his information directly in the hands of the Attorney General of the Province or his representative, and thereupon the proceedings were taken which have been reported in the pregs. Provincial authorities will no doubt require the co-operation of officers of the finance department to prove the fyling of the bank's returns and that co-operation will of course be given. Apart from that there is nothing the Department need do at present."

COYOTES TRAPPED

Twenty Killed in School House at Blaine, Nebraska.

Eli, Neb., Dec. 25.—The Blaine school house, six miles south of here, has established a record as a wolf catching trap. Coyotes are numerous in this part of Nebraska and for a month or more a pack of 30 to 50 have been roaming in the hills near the Blaine school. A few mornings ago Miss Matilda French, the teacher, went to the school to build a fire. As she neared the structure there proceeded a chorus of barks and yelps from the interior. Peering into the room she discovered that it was filled with coyotes. For ten minutes Miss French watched the coyotes as they rushed about the room, knocking over chairs and scattering books about the floor in a futile effort to escape. Then on her pony she placed one of the boys and told him to ride about the district, sounding the alarm. Within an hour a dozen men were on the scene armed with guns, axes and clubs. When the party were complete they entered the school house. Twenty coyotes were killed and two escaped by jumping through the window. The scalps on which there is a bounty of $2 each, were given to Miss French. It is supposed that, attracted by bits of lunch left by the children, the coyotes pushed open the door and that after they had entered, it closed.

Strathcona's Message

London, Dec. 27. — The following from Lord Strathcona appears in Lloyd's Weekly: "The peace and prosperity of the British Empire rests upon the solid foundation of love, liberty and veneration, for justice, and the restraining and ennobling influences of Christianity. The ambition of all citizens of the Dominion of Canada is to build up a nation within the empire whose people shall conform to the best traditions of morality and justice. For all the blessings she now enjoys on this Christmas morn, Canada is profoundly thankful, and there will arise from her home gatherings today prayers for King, Queen and Empire."

JAPAN-CHINA WAR.

North America Aiding the Chinamen is Latest Rumor.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 27.—A war between China and Japan, with America aiding the Chinese, is predicted today by the newspaper Retch. It prints an alarming story of strained relations between the two Oriental powers and publishes Vladivostock despatches to the effect that an early outbreak is expected there.

Long Strike Ended

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 27.—After being out 19 months the striking machinists of Baltimore and Ohio reached an agreement with the company today and will return to work. The difficulty had its origin in the extension of piece work at the Mount Clare shops here. The men originally demanded, among other things, a nine hour working day, and that all men be employed on the hourly basis at announced wages.

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When you buy Metal Beds you can oonly tell how they LOOK. You cannot tell how good or how poor the material under the enamel may be, or how long the Bed will retain its nice appearance. Now—buying "Ideal" Beds is different. They bear an absolute guarantee as to their quality and their snowy whiteness, or dainty golden color is as permanent as the metal itself. They are built solidly—won't rattle or shake in a few months. Every bed fits together perfectly—you don't need any tools to set them up. There is a splendid variety of styles—styles you haven't seen before outside of high-class brass beds. Even the lowest priced ones are artistically designed. Two enamels are used—white, or "Vernis Martin"—the latter a beautiful gold finish. We show a splendid range of "Ideal" Beds at from $3.00 each, to $30.00. See them first.

BIG RAILWAY STRIKE IN ITALY

Ninety Thousand Men Demand Increase in Wages.—Scenes of Violence Expected

Rome, Dec. 27.—More than 90,000 railway employees in Italy have just completed the taking of a referendum to determine what attitude they should assume in order to bring about an amelioration of their conditions. By a great majority the men decided in favor of strike and organized acts of violence, such as the destruction and crippling of machinery or other property, in order to force suspension of work.

The authorities are directing all their efforts to the prevention of a railway strike, which it is feared might result in a strike of employees of all the public services. The demand of the railway men is for an increase of wages amounting to $8,000,000, while the Government is ready to grant an increase of $4,000,000. Public opinion seems strongly against the strike at the present, just when business conditions have reached their highest level.

PASSED A PUNK CHEQUE TO BUY SET OF FURS

Nothing Small About Mr. Isherwood, of Ottawa, Ont.—Lands In Jail

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—To obtain a complete outfit of costly furs for a girl who was to have become his wife on Saturday night, Richard Isherwood entered A. E. Rea Co.'s store Saturday afternoon and tendered in payment for his purchase a Dominion Bank cheque on the Dominion for $541.85. Isherwood also succeeded in cashing a check on the same Bank for $75. Both cheques were later proved to be worthless. In the police court Isherwood was remanded for trial.

STARTED AS A LABORER

New President of Illinois Central Worked His Way Up

New York, Dec. 27.—The long-expected shake-up in the presidency of the Illinois Central Railroad came today when Charles H. Markham, president of the Gulf Refining Company, and Gulf Pine Lime Company, of Pittsburg, who started his career at a railroad laborer, was elected to succeed James T. Harahan, as president of the railroad. The action was taken at the meeting of the Board of Directors.

The retirement of Mr. Harahan has been forecasted ever since the discovery of vast funds in the repair department of the Illinois Central was mulcted of several million dollars. The suicide of Ira G. Rawn, president of the Monon Railroad, followed the revelation of the frauds.

Mr. Harahan has been president of the road for a little over four years, having been elected November 7th, 1906, to succeed Stuyvesant Fish, who was forced out of the presidency by influence of E. H. Harriman, who at that time had acquired control of the road.

Mr. Markham's elevation adds another to the list of American railroad captains who started their services as laborers.

He was born at Clarksville, Tenn., in 1861. In 1881 he took his first railroad job as a section hand on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe.

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WAR OFFICE ALARMED

By Reports of Engagements in Arabia And Persia

London, Dec. 27.—Reports received today from Southern Persia and from Dibal, Arabia, have alarmed the war office. They indicate a recent engagement between the English bluejackets from the cruiser Hyacinthe and tribesmen at Dibal in which fourteen sailors and three times the number of natives were slain. This is only the beginning of a widespread campaign against the British.

Died From Burns

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—Miss Emma Tache a well known member of the post office staff, died today from the effects of burns. Yesterday morning she upset a spirit lamp in the basement of her home. Her kimona caught fire and before other members of the family could reach her she was horribly burned. She was the daughter of the late Ivanhoe Tache, at one time Sergeant-at-Arms in the Senate.

Declares Open Shop

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—This afternoon the Manitoba Clothing Co. paid off and locked out all its union employees and threw out the union label as a result of the employees refusing to make suits for the street railway company's present employees.

Mr. Borden's Holiday

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—R. L. Borden, M. P., left yesterday for Halifax and will return towards the end of the week. He will spend a day or two with his mother at Grand Pre, Annapolis Valley.

Sinton's Imported Clydesdales

Our 1910 importation, comprising 24 stallions and 20 mares, reached Regina August 15 giving ample time to become acclimated by next season.

We have now on hand 50 head of imported Clydesdales, male and female, besides 3 Percheron Stallions, ages 1 to 5 years, to select from, included in the number are sons and daughters of the celebrated Barons Pride, Baden Powell, Everlasting, Marmion, Memento, Montrave, Ronald, Pride of Blason, Prince Shapely, Royal Favorite, Royal Edward, Royal Chatten, Revelstoke, Ruby Pride and other noted sires.

Prices and terms are the very best possible. Stables in city.

Adress

ROBERT SINTON
REGINA.

New York Bank Closed.

New York, Dec. 27.—The Northern Bank of New York, with deposits in its nine branches of $6,912,582 at the time of its last statement, was closed today by O. H. Cheney, state superintendent of banks, "for the benefit of depositors, because of certain conditions and certain irregular transactions." An inventory of the bank's assets and liabilities is now under way, but until completed no further statement will be available.

Smallpox Among Indians.

Washington, Dec. 27.—An epidemic of smallpox has broken out among the Pueblo Indians at Toasnm, according to information received at the Bureau of Indian Affairs today. The news came in a telegram from the superintendent, asking for the immediate shipment of 200 vaccine points.