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IMPORTANT MATTERS IN TRADE OF CANADA WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

Report Tells of Conditions--Loss on Recent Consignment of Flour--Shameful Delay at New York--S. S. Tugela from St. John.

Ottawa, Ont., June 17--(Special)--The department of trade and commerce today received from James Cummings, Durban, Natal, his report as to the conditions in Natal, his report is as follows: "After visiting the south coast of Natal, I would say that as in all South African ports, Durban's docks and warehouses are congested with military stores; being under martial law ordinary commerce is to wait; nothing can go up country except by special military permit and then only in small quantities. Durban is an excellent place to meet Transvaal merchants. They are there in thousands awaiting the end of the war. Trade in South Africa centres round the Transvaal gold fields, and so long as mining is successful and extending, trade in imported goods will flourish. Although Natal is a rich garden, white people will not farm or manufacture.

Natal contains about 60,000 whites, 60,000 East Indians and over 600,000 natives. The imports during 1900 were \$26,800,000. Australia takes a lead in sending cattle, frozen meat, butter, cheese, apples, potatoes, flour, maize and canned goods in rapid steamers, with chilled commodities. Australians are pushing and have opened special shops for the sale of their special goods and food products. Canadian bacon, flour and canned goods are on sale here; bought in London and in very few cases, Canadian lumber and doors are here, but bought in New York. "It is very important to Canadians when shipping to South Africa to see that all their products are manufactured, cured, packed and prepared so that they can cross the tropics and be handled and sold in a warm climate without losing flavor.

A consignment of Canadian flour recently arrived here from London and was damaged and, as port charges are high, the loss would be considerable. They receive a kind welcome and their goods will have a fair price at least, and in many cases a preference, other things being equal. There is no use absolutely trying to put such trade between Canada and South Africa until regular direct steamship communication is established on a Canadian port. "Small shipments from Canada in the past have been shamefully delayed in New York. With a direct steamer monthly, large shipments of dressed lumber, pine doors, furniture of good and medium quality, boots and shoes, leather, canned goods, wrapping papers and many other lines would soon result, but in no case should goods be shipped here unless ordered in advance."

In addition, Mr. Cummings states that steamer Tugela, with hay from John, N. B., was in Durban for three weeks waiting to reach a wharf.

"THE WAR POLICY" IN BRITISH COMMONS.

London, June 17--The division in the house of commons today on the motion made by Mr. Lloyd-George (Welsh Nationalist) to adjourn the debate on the question of the treatment of Boer women and children, which is rejected by a vote of 253 to 134, served to accentuate the split in the liberal party on the government's war policy. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Liberal leader, supported Mr. Lloyd-George in denouncing the policy of concentrating women and children in camps and with Sir William Harcourt, Liberal, and the Right Hon. William Bryce, Liberal, voted in the minority on Mr. Lloyd-George's motion.

About 50 Liberal Imperialists, led by the Right Hon. M. A. Asquith, Liberal, and Sir Edward Grey, Liberal, abstained from voting in protest against the Bannerman-Harcourt-Morley section of the house of commons, identifying themselves so closely with the extreme pro-Boers. The Daily News and the Chronicle, respectively the organs of the pro- and imperialist sections, displayed the greatest irritation at this open split in the Liberal party.

MISS DOBELL WEDDED IN LONDON.

Toronto, June 17--(Special)--The Telegram's special cable from London says: St. George's Anglican church was the scene of a fashionable wedding today, in which the Canadian colony in the metropolis took a very interesting part. Miss Muriel Dobell, daughter of Hon. R. R. Dobell, of Quebec, was married to Captain Amyot Hull, of the Scots Fusilier Guards, among the distinguished guests were Lord and Lady Aberdeen and Lord and Lady Strathcona.

REACHING CANADA AS STOWAWAYS.

Montreal, June 17--(Special)--Steamer Lake Superior brought into port from Liverpool 19 stowaways who state they were anxious to get to Canada because they had read the railway advertisements stating there was all the work necessary for thousands of young men on Canadian farms. They and great crowds of poor young men are awaiting chances to become stowaways and get to this country. The captain had nine of them arrested, the others having got away. They were sent to jail for two days.

BREAK IN P. E. ISLAND PROHIBITION DEADLOCK.

Charlottetown, June 17--(Special)--The deadlock in regard to prohibition was broken this morning, the city marshal consenting to serving summons in prohibition cases which he had before refused to do on instructions of the police committee. The city council have the power of appointment of the marshal and police, while the stipendiary magistrate has power of dismissal.

The marshal has consented to see the liquor summons served by himself in the police rather than face instant dismissal at the hands of the stipendiary magistrate. During the temporary deadlock of the prohibitory law which existed, more liquor was sold than in the early days of the operation of the prohibitory law. A number of informations have been laid and summonses will now be served by the police.

C.P.R. Trackmen's Strike Under Way.

THE ORDER TO CEASE WORK OBEYED IN MOST PLACES FROM ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC.

Road Experiences No Trouble As Yet, and Officers Say Strike Will Not Last Over a Day--Conditions in the Principal Places.

As was expected, the C. P. R. trackmen went out on strike at 6 o'clock yesterday morning and the strike extends from St. John to the Pacific coast.

As far as the Atlantic division is concerned, there are some of the trackmen at work, but the greater part stopped yesterday. There were no new developments in the matter up to late last night and all trains are running on schedule time.

A gentleman who arrived in the city yesterday from the Maine Central line, says that a number of the strikers have returned to work on the road, south of Bangor, and among them are some committee men. There are also a number returned to work north of Bangor.

A number of the men on strike on the C. P. R. Atlantic division have expressed themselves as being well satisfied with the company's terms.

All Out at Woodstock. Woodstock, N. B., June 17--(Special)--All the C. P. R. section men in this neighborhood went on strike this morning. Six C. P. R. detectives arrived in town Saturday and are here today. From conversation with the detectives, one is led to judge that they think the men have a grievance, but the way to get redress is not by striking. One of the striking section men said this evening: "We have a grievance and the C. P. R. knows it. The sum of \$1.15 per day is not sufficient for a day's work; we want at least \$1.75. Seals cannot be secured to do the work properly, and railway travel is unsafe, after three days, without section men attending to their duty. We can stand it for three weeks without pay and after that time we will draw from the union \$30 a month each. The sympathy of the people is with the strikers, one is led to believe can be relied upon to do no injury to railway property."

Three Men on Quebec Division. Quebec, June 17--(Special)--Only three trackmen are on strike on the Quebec division.

The Ontario Centres. Toronto, June 17--(Special)--Reports at the office of the Ontario division of the C. P. R. show that about 60 per cent of the trackmen struck work, according to notice. On western portions of the line, from Toronto to Windsor, the men are pretty well at work, but on the section from Smith's Falls to Owen Sound most have been reported.

No disturbance of any sort has been reported. There are 115 sections on the division, with 460 men in all. The strike does not greatly affect traffic here, as all the railway tracks within the city are under the control of the Union Station Company, with whom there is no trouble. A number of trackmen at Parkdale and Toronto Junctions, who are out to be prepared for a fight by engaging Italians and holding them in reserve.

London, Ont., June 17--(Special)--The anticipated strike of C. P. R. trackmen did not materialize here. The statement is made that no order is yet received by the men.

Brookville, Ont., June 17--(Special)--Every C. P. R. trackman on this division went on strike today. Among the number were two non-union men.

North Bay, Ont., June 17--(Special)--The section men and bridge men of this division went out today. Everything is quiet. The C. P. R. have about 20 special detectives stationed along this line.

Many at Ottawa. Ottawa, June 17--(Special)--A large number of Ottawa men are affected by this strike. The C. P. R. authorities refuse to say anything on the matter, whatever.

Winnipeg Men Out Last Night. Winnipeg, June 17--(Special)--There was no move among the local trackmen towards a strike, all section men of this division are at work and as far as could be learned there has been no order notifying them to go out.

Winnipeg, June 17--(Later)--The trackmen here went out tonight. Personally they have no grievance and have gone out in sympathy with their fellow workmen in the east. Between 200 and 300 are out.

Points Further West. Moosejaw, N. W. T., June 17--The trackmen's strike is not taken seriously here. If the men should go out there will be no difficulty in filling their places.

Calgary, B. C., June 17--The Crow's Nest Pass road is not affected by the trackmen's strike. The wages were recently advanced to \$1.40 and \$1.50 per day.

T. J. Labor is very plentiful here and the trackmen have not yet decided to go out on strike.

Grand Forks, B. C., June 17--The section men here are asking \$1.75 per day, but feel that in getting \$1.60 and \$1.50 per day the committee should have accepted. Several of the gangs have refused to go out.

Nelson, B. C., June 17--A few of the trackmen have gone out. Much dissatisfaction is expressed at the action of the Montreal committee.

Montreal, June 17--A special to the Star from Vancouver, B. C., says: "The trackmen on the Pacific division of the C. P. R. have struck work. They must have 700. They had absolutely no grievance, but were ordered out and obeyed. The wages now paid are: Bridge foreman, \$3 per day; bosses, \$2.50 per day; men, \$2.25 per day; track men, \$2 per day. On ordinary sections, 800. Near switches the men are paid \$1.40 and \$1.25 per day all the year round, with no wet days off. It is stated officially that among the men who have refused to keep the track in effective repair.

As to Freight Shipments. Montreal, June 17--W. B. Balling, general freight agent of the C. P. R., has issued the following circular to the shippers of this city, dated Montreal, June 15:

GUILTY OF MURDER IN FIRST DEGREE THE VERDICT AGAINST GRAFFAM.

Jury Decides He Killed Farmer Mosher--Prisoner's Nerve for a Moment Forsook Him as He Heard His Doom Pronounced.

Portland, Me., June 17--"Guilty of murder in the first degree" was the verdict returned by the jury in the Graffam case tonight, after just two hours and ten minutes deliberation.

For the first time since the trial began the defendant for a moment lost control of himself when he heard his doom pronounced. When he heard the verdict that meant for him nothing but a succession of years behind the sombre walls of the state prison, his lips faltered, his limbs trembled and his eyes filled with tears. This lasted only a moment, however, and then Graffam assumed the same cool, collected and almost defiant attitude that has characterized him.

As soon as the verdict had been rendered, Charles A. True, the prisoner's counsel, filed a motion for an arrest of judgment, but although the motion was granted it is doubtful if Graffam profits in the least by it beyond the fact that it may delay for a few days his ultimate departure to Thomaston to serve out a life sentence.

It was 5.20 p. m. when the jury passed out of the court room to the apartment set aside for their use. For some time the throng in the court room retained their seats, but as an hour went by and nothing was heard from the jury, the crowd commenced to thin out a little. An hour later there were still fewer people in the court room.

At 7.30 p. m. one of the deputy sheriffs in charge of the jury came down stairs and entered the judge's office and a few moments later Judge Bonney and the attorneys came out and entered the court room. There was a rush for seats. When quiet was restored, the jurors rendered the verdict which will send Edward Graffam to state prison to spend the remainder of his life.

In excusing the jury Judge Bonney commended them. In conclusion he stated that he considered, in view of the evidence, that their verdict was both just and righteous. When adjournment was announced the crowd surged forward and surrounded both the jury and the attorney of the state. Relatives of Clifford Mosher and many residents of Gorham shook hands with the jurors and congratulated them on the verdict.

After the first scene, Graffam sat silent and unmoved, starting by all save his counsel, with the awful fate of life imprisonment staring him in the face. An instant later a pair of handcuffs snapped about his wrist and he was led away to his carriage and taken back to jail.

Tomorrow William Hands will appear in court and it is believed the state will accept a verdict of manslaughter from him and that he will plead guilty and take a state's prison sentence for a term of years.

BRITISH FIGHTING THE MAD MULLAH.

London, June 17--A despatch to the foreign office from the consul general of Siamland says that the Mad Mullah expedition had heavy fighting May 28.

The flying column of mounted infantry, under Captain Meriweather, struck the Mullah's supply camp during a night march and captured another, covered 100 miles, fought a sharp action and returned to its base, all in 24 hours.

The main force of the British, under Colonel Swayne, departed for Eldab June 2, leaving Captain M. H. Neill with 300 men to guard Zariba. Swayne's column advanced against the Mullah's base. In the meantime the Mullah, with 3,000 followers, attacked Zariba three times. He was finally driven off by McNeill with a loss of 500 men. The British in Zariba had ten men killed and nine wounded. The Mullah is now cut off from his base and a decisive action is imminent.

When the afternoon session began Attorney General Sieders continued the final summing up for the state. Judge Percival Bonney then began his charge to the jury. He began by a general explanation of the duties and powers of the jury. He explained that the jury were the sole judges of every fact in the case, of every item of evidence, and of the credibility of every witness. He instructed the jury that they were not obliged to accept every word of testimony as fact merely because it was given under oath. It is important to consider the appearance of the witness and see how far the testimony of one witness is corroborated by that of others.

The judge maintained that it was due the jury that they know something of the past of Edward Graffam since he has been placed on the stand as a witness. Judge Bonney discussed the question "reasonable doubt" to considerable length. He stated the burden of proof in the guilt of the respondent is never lifted from the state and that the state must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that on January 12 Graffam was in the Mosher house at Gorham.

The judge then explained the legal meaning of the crime of murder in the first degree and after a few final instructions the jury retired to their room to consider the evidence. The bloodstained clubs, the clothing of Hands and Graffam, the photographs and diagrams of the Mosher house and the other articles introduced and admitted as evidence were then removed to the jury room.

HON. MR. MULOCK EN ROUTE HOME.

Toronto, June 17--(Special)--The Telegram's special cable from London says Hon. William Mulock, Canadian postmaster general, who represented the dominion at the inauguration of the Australian commonwealth, is on his way back from the Antipodes with Mrs. Mulock and Master Cawthra Mulock. He sailed from Melbourne for London by steamer China June 4. On his arrival here he will confer with the post office authorities. Key Miss Debell wedded in London.

BARK ANNIE ASHORE AT JACQUET RIVER.

JACQUET RIVER, N. B., June 17--(Special)--A heavy wind storm prevailed along the coast Saturday night. The Norwegian barge Annie, Captain Jensen, which had just finished loading a cargo of deals and was preparing for sea, drifted on the bar, despite the efforts of the crew. Work was begun lightening the deckload and strong hopes are entertained that she will float at tonight's tide. The hull is reported undamaged.

TWO DESPERATE NEGROES. Fusillade of Shots Heard and the Man Found Dead on Road.

Wellborn, Fla., June 17--News reaches here that Tom Thomas and Moses Maxwell, two desperate negroes, were killed Saturday afternoon on the road four miles east of this place. Maxwell had worked for W. R. O'Gain, a farmer, and had been in dispute with his employer during the day. He threatened the life of O'Gain and was driven from the plantation. Subsequently O'Gain went to Live Oak on business and while away Maxwell, in company with Thomas, returned, both heavily armed with guns and pistols and asked the whereabouts of O'Gain. They left and stationed themselves on the roadside to await the return of the man they hunted. Late in the afternoon a fusillade of shots was heard and the negroes rushed to the scene to find both negroes dead in the road.

TWO FIRES IN OTTAWA. In One There is Suspicion of Incendiarism--Two Total \$8,000 Loss.

Ottawa, June 17--A fire took place this forenoon at the corner of Cooper and Bank streets. The building was owned by City Solicitor Pratt, and was in course of construction. The loss is about \$3,000. One of the workmen, Fred Geddes, says that a man came to him and said that he (Geddes) would not be long at work there. Later on Geddes saw this man in a shed to the rear of the building. A few minutes afterwards the place was in flames.

Fire broke out this evening in the gent's furnishing store of Bellemare & Julien, Sussex street, near the geological museum, and although well handled occasioned damage amounting to about \$5,000. The stock, which was chiefly injured by water, is insured for \$2,500 with the Ottawa Fire Insurance Co.

PLAYING WITH MATCHES. Children Thus Cause Fire at Jordantown, N. S.--Total Destruction.

Digby, June 17--Fire destroyed the house of George Barton, Jordantown yesterday afternoon. Only three chairs were saved, the remainder of the furniture being destroyed. There was no insurance. The fire was caused by children playing with matches in a bedroom. It was discovered by neighbors going to church, but it was too late to save the building, which was soon burned to the ground.

BOSTON POLICEMAN STABBED. Italian Organ Grinder, Whom He Tried to Arrest, Used 10-inch Stiletto.

Boston, June 17--Police Officer Jeremiah O'Brien was stabbed by an Italian organ grinder whom he attempted to arrest in Charlestown tonight. The weapon was a ten inch stiletto. The wound is in the abdomen and is serious, but not probably fatal. After stabbing him, the Italian, whose name has not been reported, ran across the Charlestown bridge carrying his organ. He was caught by two officers on the other side and the stiletto found on him. When O'Brien tried to arrest him he had been in a fight.

NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH DEDICATED. Archbishop O'Brien Officiated--Large Concourse of People.

Yarmouth, N. S., June 17--(Special)--Archbishop O'Brien, assisted by Monsignor Murphy, Rev. Dr. Foley and Fathers Hamilton and Crozier laid the cornerstone of the new Catholic church at Amiros last yesterday afternoon. The ceremony was witnessed by a large concourse of people from all parts of the county and was very impressive.

Rev. Father Hamilton preached in English and in French. A collection in aid of the building fund was taken and a large sum realized. Music was furnished by St. Ambrose Choir, of Yarmouth, assisted by Ed Brook choir.

Legs Cut Off by Train.

West Derry, N. H., June 17--Nelson L. Bellisle, of Lawrence, Mass., who has charge of the battery on the Machias in the Charlestown navy yard fell beneath the Boston & Manchester express train here this afternoon and had both legs cut off.

Charged With Broaching Cargo.

Boston, June 17--The steamer Virginian, of the Furness line, arrived today, with five of the crew in irons for "broaching" or stealing a case of old port wine.