

The Victoria Times.

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VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1902.

NO. 47.

THE MINISTERS HAVE WITHDRAWN

BRITISH AND GERMAN LEGATIONS CLOSED

Venezuela Given a Reasonable Time in Which to Satisfy the Powers.

London, Dec. 8.—Great Britain and Germany have presented ultimatums to Venezuela, which will be followed up by the seizure of the customs unless a satisfactory settlement is forthcoming within a brief period. The ultimatums have a time limit, but the exact date cannot be ascertained here. The foreign office states, with regard to the time limit:

It is a reasonable time in which Venezuela can satisfy the injured governments. Both notes are practically identical, but the amounts of claims differ. The notes merely reiterate the continued disregard by the Venezuelan government of all our representations, specified in our claims, and demand immediate action on the part of President Castro's government in connection therewith.

The British government's case is practically identical with the statements made in previous dispatches from London, where it was announced the present action was contemplated.

The foreign office is hourly awaiting important dispatches from Caracas, but up to a late hour to-night none had reached there. While the government is rather worried at the inability to get answers from Minister Haggard, they are in no way seriously alarmed, especially as inquiries have revealed the fact that the Venezuelan representatives are in a similar situation. The foreign office has not the slightest desire to coerce Venezuelan, and if any answer had been made to our repeated demands and protests no such action as now taken would have been contemplated.

Being unable to agree on even the minor points of the controversy the British minister, near the close of the last year, informed the Venezuelan foreign office that he would make no further representations in the matter, as there was nothing to be gained by continuing the correspondence.

It is understood that President Castro will ask that the question be settled by arbitration, a proposition to which the British government will hardly accede. Being of the opinion that the ownership of Patos is so clearly British as not to furnish a suitable subject for arbitration.

man citizens against Venezuela, the Patos dispute will also be involved. Re-opening the Patos question was caused by the action of the Venezuelan government, August 1, 1901. In 1901, certain British subjects on the island of Patos, near the coast of Venezuela, when the Caracas authorities were called to account by the London foreign office, the former replied by renewing their long-standing claim to Patos, and a diplomatic controversy extending throughout the year was the result.

Venezuela bases her claim to the island on its proximity to the coast of Guirira, from which it is distant only three miles, claiming that it is a tenet of international law that a country commands water within a marine league of its coast; that the international law institute has defined the territorial sea as six miles, whereas the island of Patos is more than ten miles from Trinidad, the nearest British possession; further, that the treaty of March, 1845, explicitly confirms the title of Venezuela over all the islands near her coast which were under dominion of Spain in the initiative period of Venezuelan independence.

In support of this contention, the Venezuelan authorities produce a letter from the royal Spanish minister of state in 1873, in which he denies that royal sanction ever was given to the concession alleged to have been made to the Ayuntamiento of Trinidad by the governor of Patos, Huevos and Monos. Great Britain, through her charge d'affaires at Caracas, and later through her minister, advanced the contention that when she conquered the island of Trinidad in 1787, sovereignty over Patos also was obtained, and so recognized by the Madrid government; that Patos has remained in the peaceful possession of Great Britain for more than a century, during seventy years of which time Venezuela advanced no counter claim, and that the official map of Codazzi colors the island of Patos the same as Trinidad, indicating that both belong to the same country.

To this last contention Venezuela replied by stating that the map of Codazzi was so old as to make it impossible to distinguish the various colors, and produced other maps by the same authority, which place Patos as belonging to Venezuela.

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SEVENTY-TWO HOURS.

The Ultimatums Presented to Venezuela by Great Britain and Germany Expire To-Morrow.

London, Dec. 9.—One of the largest English creditors of Venezuela informed a representative of the Associated Press to-day that the ultimatums of Great Britain and Germany had 72 hours, and therefore will expire on Wednesday.

The foreign office, while not denying the correctness of this statement, intimated to-night that the period is liable to extension. There are some indications of a possible settlement, although, apparently, nothing definite has yet been decided upon.

May Yield. Berlin, Dec. 9.—While the limit of time given to Venezuela in which to make an answer to the ultimatums of Germany and Great Britain is not disclosed, the correspondent of the Associated Press was officially informed that it is very brief.

The German foreign office still hopes that President Castro will recognize the arbitrariness of the situation, and yield at the last moment. Telegraphic communication with Laguardia is slow. Events happening to-day are not likely to be translated from the cipher until to-morrow.

The morning papers here made absolutely no comment on the Venezuelan situation, with the exception of the Vorwärts, which says: "Although President Castro has expressed his willingness to satisfy the German and British demands, military action against him has begun," and the Lokal Anzeiger, which remarks that "President Castro's efforts to drive a wedge between Germany and Great Britain have failed."

NOT INJURED.

No Truth in Report That D. D. Mann Was Hurt in Railway Collision.

Winnipeg, Dec. 8.—The report that D. D. Mann, president of the Canadian Northern, was injured in the collision on the Canadian Northern at La Broquerie yesterday is untrue. Mr. Mann's car was attached to one of the colliding trains, but no injury to himself or party resulted. Mrs. Watson and Miss Williams of Toronto were among the occupants of Mr. Mann's car.

PROHIBITION REFERENDUM.

Toronto, Dec. 8.—Returns of the prohibition referendum as far as heard from here: For, 150,578; against, 35,427.

NEW MINISTER WAS RE-ELECTED

HON. R. PREFONTAINE'S MAJORITY NEARLY 2,000

Run Down on Railway—James Rogers, His Wife and Two Sons Killed.

Montreal, Dec. 9.—Hon. Raymond Prefontaine was elected to-day in Maisonneuve by 4,368 votes, a majority of 1,868 over Labelle (Conservative). Cold in East.

Bitter cold weather prevails in Eastern Canada to-day. The thermometer at many places ranges from 10 below to 25 below.

Resignation of Dr. Maggs. Rev. Dr. Maggs, principal of the Wesleyan Theological College, to-day handed his resignation to the board of governors. Dr. Maggs is an Englishman and came out here a couple of years ago to take charge of the institution. The reason given for his retirement is that the climate disagrees with his wife, but it is reported on good authority that there has been considerable friction as well as lack of whole-hearted support which the principal should have received.

Building Destroyed. A building on Notre Dame street, occupied by Boudreau's hat and fur store, and a number of lawyers' offices, was destroyed by fire this morning. The loss is \$40,000. The fireman had a most difficult task in the intense cold.

Brandon Mayoralty. Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 9.—Messrs. F. Nation and J. W. Fleming were nominated for the Brandon mayoralty to-day. J. A. Hobbs and E. Schmidt were named for Morden.

Bullfight Player Dead. Thomas Grier, bullfight expert, and one of Winnipeg's best known sporting men, died to-day.

Remarkable Escape. Erin, Ont., Dec. 8.—George Bell, of the firm of Bell Bros., four millers of Erin and Catawag, got his coat caught in the shafting making 212 revolutions a minute on Saturday, and was whirled around and around until every vestige of clothing was torn off his body and he was thrown into a nearby wheat bin.

When picked up Bell was unconscious, but examination showed that he had escaped with a few bruises and scratches, but no bones broken.

Four Dead. Peterboro, Dec. 8.—James Rogers, whose wife and son were killed at Havellock crossing by an eastbound express on Saturday night, was brought to the hospital here, but died soon after arrival. The second son died on Sunday and the little daughter has both jaws broken, and may not recover. Four members of the family of five have been wiped out by the accident.

In the Northwest. Regina, Dec. 9.—The bye-election for Saskatoon, seat in the Northwest legislature was held to-day. Clinchhill (Haultain-supporter), has 90 majority over Chubb (Independent) with four polls to hear from.

North Ontario Vacancies. Cannington, Ont., Dec. 9.—Geo. D. Grant, barrister, Orillia, son of Rev. Dr. R. N. Grant, is mentioned in connection with the Liberal nomination for the Commons in North Ontario, made vacant by the death of Angus McLeod.

Ontario Timber Out. Toronto, Dec. 9.—According to figures furnished by the crown lands department, it is estimated that over 884,000,000 feet of pine and square timber on crown lands under timber licenses will be cut this year. Over a million rails will be taken out.

Banking in West. In view of the growth of their Western business, several Canadian banks are considering the advisability of establishing exclusive boards in Winnipeg to deal with matters arising out of Western investments.

MURDERED BY BRIGANDS. State Councillor and Railroad Conductor Killed—Murderers Captured by Cossacks. Odessa, Dec. 9.—Word has just been received here of the murder of State Councillor Gedeonoff by brigands. The state councillor accused the entity of a band of brigands operating in the Caucasus by his energetic work against them. The band accordingly appointed three of their number to put the obnoxious official out of the way. The three men boarded the councillor's train at Baku, murdered the conductor and then hacked the councillor with axes. Cossacks captured the brigands a few days later. Their trial will shortly be held at Tiflis.

RECIPROCITY. Convention at Detroit Attended by Delegates From Various States and Canada. Detroit, Mich., Dec. 10.—"We are here for mutual profit to get thoroughly aroused over this question of reciprocity so we can go home and do some effective work to bring about the reciprocal relations which we want," said N. C. Staver, of Chicago, as he took charge of the National reciprocity convention which opened here to-day. There were present nearly 100 delegates from the Northern territory of the States and several from Canada.

F. D. Smith, president of the Detroit Chamber of Commerce and Mayor W. C. Maybury, welcomed the delegates. A committee of resolution was appointed. At the afternoon session Governor A. B. Cummins spoke on "Reciprocity and the Tariff Question."

THREE KILLED. Grimsby, Dec. 8.—Miss Maud Hughes, aged 23; Miss Gertrude Hayner, aged about 19, and Harry Brady, aged 20, all belonging to Grimsby, were killed on the public crossing at Grimsby station last night by the Toronto express train. The young people were on the way home from church.

EX-GOVERNOR ROSS ELECTED.

The news was received on Monday of the election of ex-Governor J. H. Ross, government candidate, as the first representative of the Yukon in the Dominion House of Commons.

The election took place on Tuesday last, but owing to the wires being down it was impossible to communicate with Dawson.

This afternoon, however, they were again in working order, and among the first messages sent was that announcing the return of ex-Governor Ross, who polled about 800 votes more than the opposition candidate. When it is remembered that there are only about 2,500 votes in the entire district, the large majority which Mr. Ross rolled up without himself setting foot in the district is almost phenomenal.

The result of the election is a great victory for Mr. Ross personally, and for the government in whose interests he ran.

Mr. Ross was informed this afternoon of the result, and expressed himself in the most grateful terms in regard to the support the people of the Yukon had given him.

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CARTOONIST DEAD.

Thomas Nast, Recently Appointed Minister, Passes Away at Guayaquil.

Guayaquil, Ecuador, Dec. 7.—United States Consul-General Thomas Nast died to-day at noon after three days' illness from yellow fever. He was interred at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

Thomas Nast was born in Landau, Bavaria, September 20th, 1840. His father was a musician of ability and for many years held a position in the Bavarian army, but in 1846 he emigrated to the United States, where he afterwards became a member of the New York Philharmonic Society, and often appeared in concert. His son, Thomas Nast, was educated in the public schools of that city, and displaying a talent for art, began, at the age of 14, a "six months' course of study with Theodore Kaufman, an artist of some note. He received no other instruction than this, and was immediately employed in furnishing drawings for Frank Leslie's Illustrated News. Soon afterwards he went to Italy to look after the army of Garibaldi in his campaign through Sicily and Calabria, contributing numerous battle pictures to the illustrated press of New York, London and Paris, and as an aide on Gen. Garibaldi's staff, was intrusted with several diplomatic missions.

He returned to the United States in 1861, and the next year formed a connection with Harper's Weekly, for which journal he furnished war pictures and sketches. After the war he turned his attention to cartoon drawing, and was a recognized force through his pictorial satire in the political events of those and succeeding years. Mr. Nast continued his work with Harper's until 1886. In addition to his newspaper work he illustrated books and serials for several years published by "Nast's Illustrated Almanac," "The Tammany Tiger," the Democratic "donkey" and the Republican G. O. P. "elephant" are common political symbols in use now and were all first used by him. Since leaving Harper's he has not been a familiar public character, his life being passed quietly at his home in Morristown, N. J. He was appointed consul-general at Guayaquil by President Roosevelt, and left New York for his post on July 1st, 1902.

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BUSINESS BLOCK GUTTED BY FIRE

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT NEW WESTMINSTER

Flames Broke Out in Furniture Store and Spread to Other Establishments—Heavy Loss.

New Westminster, Dec. 9.—A disastrous fire broke out shortly after 10 o'clock this morning in the furniture store of J. A. Lee, in the Dupont block, on Columbia street, and almost before the occupants were aware of it, the premises were filled with dense smoke.

The fire brigade replied promptly, but were unable to enter on account of the smoke, and while abstaining from opening windows, the firemen turned on several streams while trying to locate the blaze.

Meantime the flames made apparently rapid progress, for the volume and density of the smoke increased and spread to the adjoining premises, the Liverpool Arms saloon and on the corner of McKenzie street, the store of R. F. Anderson & Co., hardware merchants, completely preventing the removal of stock.

By 11 o'clock the streams from the hydrants having been supplemented by those of the powerful pumps on the ferry steamer, the fire seemed to be under control, but fifteen minutes after 11, it broke out in a fresh place. At this time the plate glass windows cracked, large pieces fell on one fireman, partially smothering his helmet and stunning him. Ten minutes later fears were expressed for the safety of the adjoining buildings, and another ten minutes saw the whole of the Dupont block wrapped in flames. Small stores of ammunition caused an explosion in the hardware store, but no damage was done.

By noon the fire was again apparently under control, but took a firm hold under the roof of the adjoining Holbrook house, and demanded increasing efforts of the firemen and volunteers. Their united efforts, supplemented by unlimited supply and force of water, however, told, and by 1 o'clock attention was turned to quenching the flames in the oil cellar.

An approximate estimate places the total loss on the stocks at about \$90,000, about half being insured.

SURVEYORS DROWNED. Their Boat Is Supposed to Have Been Caught in Rapids and Capsized.

Wenatchee, Wash., Dec. 6.—A surveying party of three men was drowned in the Wenatchee river, in the Tunwater canyon, three miles above Leavenworth, at 5 o'clock Friday. In the party were W. R. Wanzor, civil engineer of Seattle, and two helpers, H. Coolee and M. Martin, both from Blewett. They were engaged in surveying a new power plant for the Wenatchee Electric Light & Power Company, and it is supposed while crossing the stream their boat became unmanageable and drifted into the rapids and capsized.

The men boarded at the hotel in Leavenworth, and the proprietor, noticing that they did not come in for supper, became alarmed and started out to look for them. He found their boat bottom side up in the river below the falls. The alarm was sounded and others joined in the search for the missing men. Up to a late hour to-night only the one body had been found.

The place where the accident occurred is one of the wildest and most picturesque spots in this part of the country. Through a narrow canyon rush the waters of the Wenatchee. In a few places the river is quiet for a few hundred yards or so, and any one may cross with comparative safety, but if they should be drawn over the falls death is sure to overtake them.

ANARCHIST PLOT. Thirteen Arrested While Taking an Oath to Assassinate King Victor Emmanuel.

Rome, Dec. 9.—Thirteen Anarchists were arrested near Spezia last night after a desperate struggle. The police surprised them at a meeting while they were in the act of taking an oath with poignards to assassinate King Victor Emmanuel.

One of the Anarchists and one of the police were severely wounded.

MENERS KILLED. Four Lives Lost and Several Men Injured by Explosion.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Dec. 9.—Four men were killed and ten injured, three probably fatally, by the explosion to-day of a box of dynamite in No. 2 mine of the Lehigh & Wilkesbarre Coal Co., at South Wilkesbarre.

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