

About Things in General

Western Dailies Sue Pulp and Paper Co.

Authority and Jurisdiction of Paper Controller to Fix Prices, is Questioned

On the pleadings in the action in which the Manitoba Free Press and thirteen other western dailies are suing the Fort Frances Pulp and Paper Company for a refund of money paid by them for newsprint in excess of the prices fixed from time to time by the Minister of Customs and by R. A. Pringle, K. C., paper controller, and confirmed by the Paper Control Tribunal, the plaintiffs claim \$124,759.70, and the defendant company has counter claimed for \$2,449,200.06 which it claims is still owing on the ground that the various controls have had no authority or jurisdiction to fix prices. M. N. Tilley, K. C., is acting for the newspapers, and A. D. George, of Fort Frances, is retained by the defendant company.

The Papers involved claim the refund of the following sums:

Manitoba Free Press, \$55,648.99.
Prince Albert Herald, \$1,100.19.
Lethbridge Herald, \$852.36.
Regina Leader, \$10,480.55.
Moose Jaw News, \$1,751.91.
Moose Jaw Times, \$1,632.13.
Phoenix Publishing Company, \$1,114.03.
Port Arthur News, \$1,654.77.
Winnipeg Tribune, \$22,982.21.
M. F. Herman, Regina Post, \$2,784.01.
Saskatoon Star, \$10,477.40.
Brandon Sun, \$1,429.20.

Winnipeg Telegram, \$12,861.95.
The defendant counter claims for the difference between the market prices at various times and the amounts paid by the papers, with interest at 5 per cent.

CHRISTMAS IN WESTERN CANADA

New Through Train Service.

For those desirous of spending Christmas in Western Canada the through daily train service between Montreal and Vancouver over the lines of the Canadian National-Grand Trunk Railways offer exceptional attractions. The excellent accommodations include compartment-observation cars, standard, tourist and colonist sleeping cars and the general features of interest possessed by the route are attracting those who appreciate the maximum of travel comfort. The new daily train the "Continental Limited" leaves Bonaventure Station, Montreal, at 5.00 p.m. each day, reaches Ottawa at 8.00 p.m. and proceeds by way of North Bay, Port Arthur, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Edmonton and Jasper and Mount Robson Parks (Canadian Rockies) to Vancouver. Connections are made at Winnipeg with through car service for other principal points in Western Canada. For full particulars, reservations, etc., apply to any Canadian National-Grand Trunk Agent.

GOLD EMBARGO AFFECTS EXCHANGE.

Invited to express his opinion regarding the rectification of between Canada and the United States, the Hon. A. K. Maclean, who was in Montreal last week, said that it was not merely a question of excess of imports over exports; the gold embargo in Great Britain and Canada had a very considerable effect in maintaining sterling and the Canadian dollar below parity. It was even conceivable that, if the present gold situation continued there might be a trade balance in Canada's favor with a rate of exchange still adverse. Still, he believed that sterling would recover next year, even though there might not be a free market for gold.

IMPORTS STILL INCREASING.

Trade Returns for Eight Months Shows Unfavorable Balance of \$92,000,000.

The eight months statement of Canadian trade as issued at Ottawa and covering the period ended November 30, last, shows a fairly large unfavorable trade balance against the Dominion as compared with a much larger favorable trade balance a year ago for the same period. In the eight months out of a total trade of \$1,759,206,440, as compared with \$1,475,362,641 a year ago, the Dominion imported goods to a value of \$917,445,225 as compared with \$636,389,167. The large increase in importations is largely responsible for the unfavorable trade balance now facing the country as exports showed a small increase. These amounted to \$825,636,394, as compared with \$808,303,570 a year ago.

At the end of the seven months period the adverse trade balance was \$140,653,836 which compared with \$91,808,831 for the eight months' period showing that the figures for November, which are not yet given in detail, must have shown a favorable trend like those of the previous month.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS.

"The National Way" to the Maritime Provinces.

Canadian National Railways operate an express passenger service from Montreal to Moncton, St. John, Halifax, Charlottetown and the Sydneys, and all points in the Maritime Provinces, leaving Montreal (Bonaventure Station) 9.25 A.M. daily except Saturday and 7.00 P.M. daily.

On the 9.25 A.M. train through standard sleeping cars are operated to Moncton and Halifax. On the 7.00 P.M. train through standard sleeping

MORE AID FOR MONTREAL UNIVERSITY.

Sun Life Assurance and Laurentide Companies Give \$10,000 Each.

Appreciation of the aims and work for which the University of Montreal was founded is shown in a letter which Sir Lomer Gouin, president of the university, has received from Mr. T. B. Macaulay, president of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, on behalf of himself and his fellow-directors of the company.

The letter, under date of December 13th, and addressed to Sir Lomer Gouin, as president of the university, explains itself, as follows:

"My dear Sir Lomer,—The board of the Sun Life, at the request of Senator Dandurand, has voted ten thousand dollars to your university.

"You may be pleased to learn that this donation carries with it the opinion that our English-speaking population should be as much interested in the development of French culture as are the Canadians of French descent.

"We deem it, indeed, to be a national asset of high importance.

"With my very best wishes, I remain,

"Yours very truly,

(Signed) "T. B. Macaulay."

Sir Lomer has also just received information from Mr. George Chahoon, president of the Laurentide Pulp and Paper Company, Grand-Mere, to the effect that the board of directors of that company has voted a sum of \$10,000 to the university.

cars are operated to Halifax, Moncton and Sydney.

Connections for points in Prince Edward Island are made at Moncton via Sackville and Tormentine.

An unexcelled dining service is maintained on both trains.

For tickets and further information apply to Ticket Agents, Canadian National-Grand Trunk Railways.

UNEMPLOYED INSURANCE IMPRACTICABLE.

A despatch from Ottawa says that unemployment insurance, as a means for dealing with present conditions, is impracticable. It is not being considered by the Government as a means to tide over unemployment prevailing now, and it would take at least two years to establish and operate any system of unemployment insurance in Canada. The above opinion was expressed by Senator Robertson, Minister of Labor. The minister explained that any system of unemployment insurance in Canada must be based on a fund obtained by assessments of employers and employees, plus Governments grants. It would take at least two years to build up such a fund.

Halifax Shipyards Has Good Surplus

Outlook for the Coming Year is Promising.

At the annual meeting of the Halifax Shipyards, Ltd., held in Montreal last week the president, Horace B. Smith, reported a very satisfactory result of the twelve month's operations of the shipbuilding enterprise. The net result of the year, as disclosed in the annual report, showed a substantial surplus, with the outlook for the coming year of a most promising nature.

President Smith in his address to the shareholders present stated that the Canadian Signaller, constructed for the Canadian Government Mercantile Marine, a ship of 8,300 dead-weight carrying capacity, had been constructed, launched and delivered during the period covered in the report. The vessel, he stated, had conformed to the highest classification of Lloyds. A sister ship left the ways at Halifax last Saturday, when Sir Robert Borden acted as sponsor of the new craft.

The other ships, Mr. Smith said, of 10,500 tons capacity each, were in course of construction at the shipyards of the company, and it was anticipated that delivery of these would be made by June of next year. In addition, the Halifax concern has a very large volume of repair work on hand, the latest being extensive operations on the S.S. South American.

Mr. Smith also reported that the company has in prospect orders for the construction of five large oil tankers, the booking of which is almost consummated. This work will be sufficient to keep the Halifax yards, as well as those of the Davis Company, at Levis, and the Tidewater Company, at Three Rivers, busy during the whole of the coming year.

Altogether, Mr. Smith reported, the outlook was bright; 2,000 men were being employed at Halifax, and he regarded the future with optimism.

The following board and officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Horace B. Smith, President; J. F. M. Stewart, and M. J. Haney, vice-presidents; Fred. Pearson, R. M. Wolvin, J. W. Norcross, F. S. Isard, W. E. Burke and J. Norris.

CALIFORNIA CALLS.

A change is as good as a rest and a trip to California is the height of excellence because it affords both. After a few day's comfortable travelling, forming the most delightful transition, you will find yourself in a country of azure skies, blooming flowers, tropical fruit and bracing air, available for out-of-door recreation, such as tennis, golf, sea bathing, etc.

The Canadian Pacific Railway has a large variety of routes, including tours one-way via Vancouver and the Rockies.

For further information call on Mr. F. C. Lydon, City Passenger Agent, 141 St. James St., or any other Canadian Pacific Agent who will gladly prepare your itinerary.