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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL. L. NO. 412. VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1910. FIFTY-THIRD YEAR.

SOME VICTORIES FOR UNIONISTS

Capture Cardiff, Plymouth and Newton Seats From Government—Gain Six and Lose Two on Day's Polling

WILLIAM O'BRIEN'S VICTORY IN CORK

Supporters of Earl Grey's Federal Idea—Coalition Parties Now Have 184 Members and Unionists 170

LONDON, Dec. 7.—The standing of the parties at the close of today's polling was:

Government coalition: Liberals, 123; Irish Nationalists, 38; Laborites, 23. Total, 184.

Opposition—Unionists, 170.

The Unionists secured six gains in today's pollings, the results of which were announced tonight, and suffered a loss of only two seats. They thus return to the position held before yesterday's voting. The Unionist total gains for the four days are 18, the Liberal gains 11, and the Labor 4.

Among the Nationalists the O'Brienites hold five seats.

The most notable Unionist victory was in Cardiff, which has gone Unionist only once in a quarter of a century. This victory was largely due to the personal popularity of Lord Crichton-Stuart, brother of the Marquis of Bute, who overcame a Liberal majority of 155, winning by 299, and the withdrawal from politics of the old member, D. A. Thomas, who was replaced in the Liberal interest by Sir C. Hyde.

There was an even greater surprise, however, in the success of Plymouth by Waldorf Astor and A. Shirley Benn. John Burns' old opponent in Battersea, who took Mr. Durand's place as the running mate of the young Anglo-American. They proved a good team, and the work that Mr. Astor had done in the constituency was shown in his success in replacing C. E. Mallet, financial secretary to the war office, who is the first minister to be defeated.

London's Vote.

In East London the influence of the campaigning of Mr. Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was well shown in the Labor gain in Bow and Bromley and the Liberal gain in Stepney, but the Unionists scored a gain in Newton, Lancashire, which is always regarded as the most important county in England in a political sense.

Almost everywhere in the country the Labor and Liberal vote decreased, and the Unionists were more pleased with their gains here than anywhere else.

The government gets some comfort from London, all the districts of which are now polled. Today the Liberals won Stepney, which was Unionist in the last election, and Labor gained Bow and Bromley. The latter seat was captured by George Lansbury, an avowed Socialist whom Chancellor Lloyd George advised the Liberals to support in preference to L. S. Amery, the historian, who is a tariff reformer.

These victories brought the coalition gains in the metropolis up to four, against two losses. The Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, president of the Board of Trade, like John Burns, the other member of the cabinet, sitting in a London seat, greatly increased his majority.

William O'Brien's Victory.

The success of William O'Brien in Cork and the possibility of his further increasing his following complicates the situation. The Unionists are asking what the government will do if it has to face a stronger Unionist opposition with a stronger fighting force of Irishmen on its flank.

The fighting between O'Brien and William Redmond, the strongest candidates of the respective factions of the Nationalist party, to represent Cork city resulted in a sweeping victory for the leader of the "All for Ireland League." Mr. O'Brien not only heads the poll with a majority of 638, but takes with him Maurice Healy with a majority of 523 over Redmond.

The authorities in their discretion deemed it unwise to declare the result last night, thinking it safer to allow the news to reach the partisans in calmer moments. Consequently it was not until this afternoon that the vote was announced. This showed that Mr. William O'Brien and Mr. Maurice Healy, Independent Nationalists, were elected by a combined majority of 1,164 over Mr. William Redmond and Mr. Augustine Roche. The successful candidates had the support of every serious element.

Supporters of Federation.

Mr. Healy's seat for Northwest Cork will be filled by Mr. Morton Freeman without a contest tomorrow. He will be returned to support with Mr. O'Brien, the home rule solution advocated by Earl Grey and responsible Irishmen, as distinguished from the last kick of Nationalism."

The O'Brienites are rendered more hopeful than ever by this victory. They know they have powerful support in England. The Earl of Minto, after five years' service as viceroy of India, will arrive here next week, and he has promised to support the federal movement in Scotland with all the influence he possesses. Lord Milner also advocates it, as do Lord Kintore, Lord Jersey and many others who have been educated by the administration of the federated democracies of the Empire.

Sixty-four members were voted for today, but only 36 results were announced. Most of the other contests were in counties where the polling places are scattered, so that the outcome will not be known until tomorrow.

The results in Dublin city and Limerick city also will be announced tomorrow. With the present feeling, a declaration of the polling in these places at night was considered likely to stir up trouble.

Leaders on Situation.

Speaking at Wrexhall this evening, Mr. Balfour practically admitted defeat, and implored the government, if it did not like tariff reform, to reconsider the whole situation before the next colonial conference and suggest some method of meeting the impending danger, which was dependent upon the position of the government and its obligation to the empires. It was clear, he said, that the nation could not be trusted in the keeping of the Liberal government, and, he declared, before long another appeal must be made to the country.

Premier Asquith, addressing his constituents at East Fife, tonight took up Mr. Balfour's challenge to discuss home rule. He had never given any uncertain sound upon home rule, he said, and recalled a speech which he made on this subject in Albert Hall a year ago. His policy was free from ambiguity. The supremacy of the imperial parliament

(Continued On Page Five.)

TRAIN STRIKES BIG LANDSLIDE

Northern Pacific Express From Vancouver for Seattle Narrowly Escapes Plunge Into Lake Washington

SEATTLE, Dec. 7.—Northern Pacific passenger train No. 342, bound from Vancouver, B. C., for Seattle, barely escaped being swept into Lake Washington by a landslide which tore out five hundred feet of track on the lake shore sixteen miles out of Seattle late today. The engine of the train struck its nose into the moving mass of mud and stones and was dumped into the lake, whore it lies half submerged in the water. No one was injured.

The train was creeping along the edge of the lake under a high bluff that overhangs the track. Looking ahead, Engineer C. A. Long saw a great slice of earth, fully 500 feet long, break from the bluff and sweep toward the track. He set the air brakes and, shouting to the fireman to jump, made his way to safety, just as the engine was plowing into the landslide.

The force of the slide tore the engine loose from the rest of the train, and the cars, brought to a stop by the brakes, were left safely standing on the track.

The train is known as the Canadian Pacific connection, and in addition to handling local traffic between Vancouver and Seattle, carries a standard sleeper from St. Paul brought west by the Canadian Pacific's overland train.

An engine was sent into the scene of the accident from Woodenville, and the train was brought into Seattle over the belt line.

Biplane Carries Passengers.

JOHANNISTHAL, Germany, Dec. 7.—Aviator Brunsuher circled the field here twice today in a Farman biplane carrying four passengers.

Mr. Lucas' Baseball League

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 7.—With W. H. Lucas, as president, secretary and treasurer, the Union Association League of baseball clubs was organized in this city tonight, with Butte and Great Falls in Montana, Salt Lake City and Ogden in Utah, and Boise and Twin Falls in Idaho as its members. John McCloskey will manage the Butte team, Charles Reed, the Great Falls team, and John Cody, the Boise team. Class "A" ball men will manage the other clubs, but their names are withheld until the definite conclusion of terms.

Right to Employment

SEATTLE, Dec. 7.—No man has a right to make a pauper of anybody else by interfering with his employment, and if this is done it will lay the person meddling liable to damages through the courts. This is the broad decision as laid down by the supreme court of the state today in the case of Charles R. Jones against the Seattle Cracker and Candy company, being a reversal of the decision of the superior court, which granted a nonsuit. Jones seeks $5,000 damages by reason of his discharge by a transfer company at the alleged behest of the Seattle Cracker and Candy company. The case is remanded to the lower court for retrial.

ODD DOCTRINE FROM MINISTER

Hon. Mr. Brodeur Says Civil Servants Have Right to Repy to Attacks, Even If Made By Members of Parliament

PREMIER DISAGREES WITH OPINION

Discussion Arises Out of Commander Roper's Speech At Ottawa—Minister of Justice is Out-voted

OTTAWA, Dec. 7.—"I do not want civil servants to engage in our party warfare, but at the same time if they are attacked, even by members of parliament, they have a right to answer these attacks."

It was in the House of Commons today that the minister of marine laid down this somewhat startling doctrine. Hon. Mr. Brodeur was replying to observations made by Mr. Monk to the effect that Commander Roper, chief of the naval staff, had, probably through inexperience, committed the mistake of taking public part in the discussion of political questions. Mr. Monk was inclined to excuse that officer's course, as it had been pursued in evident ignorance of the customs of public service here, and particularly as it had not been repeated. But the minister, in rising to Commander Roper's defence, justified his action in the words quoted.

Mr. Borden, although equally ready to condone the commander's criticism under the circumstances, altogether dissented from Mr. Brodeur's dictum, and incidentally cited the strained situation created by Commander Roper's speech at the luncheon of the Central Canadian Exhibition directors last summer, at which the opposition leader was also a guest.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier made it clear that the minister of marine was not to be taken as laying down a correct principle in regard to the recourse of public officers in case of criticism of departmental policy.

Mr. Monk's Complaint

Mr. Monk introduced the subject on a motion for a statement showing the names of the members of the naval staff, their duties, rank, etc. He referred to Commander Roper's public utterances on naval questions, which he was disposed to regard under the circumstances as a "pardonable offence." But he wished to know if the same rule in regard to non-partisan conduct was to be enforced in the case of those who came into the service from elsewhere as was applied to native employees.

Mr. Monk said he had written a letter to the press, in which he took the ground that Mr. Brodeur was badly advised in adopting the naval policy decided upon, and his criticisms the commander undertook to stigmatize as the "imaginative vaporings of a pessimistic soul." He did not think that was the way public servants should talk in this country.

Mr. Brodeur replied that Commander Roper had been very seriously attacked in articles signed by the member for Jacques Cartier.

"I never made any allusion to him at all," replied Mr. Monk. "I don't know him, and he was not in the country at the time."

Hon. Mr. Brodeur answered that as chief of the naval staff Commander Roper construed the attacks as mainly directed against himself. He urged that the usual courtesy should be extended to those officers. It could not be expected that disagreeable things could be said about them without their resenting it. The opinions of officers should be respected, and they should not be unduly criticised. He did not want civil servants to engage in political warfare, but if they were attacked, even by members of parliament, they had the right to answer such attacks. Civil servants must have the right to express their views.

Mr. Borden's Criticism

Mr. Borden said he was present on the occasion of the speech in question, and he would say that the remarks of Commander Roper went very much beyond what had been laid down by the minister. "Commander Roper," continued Mr. Borden, "went into controversial questions of politics. Sitting opposite to him at table, I heard myself criticised as one of a faction who wanted to send Dreadnaughts to Great Britain, and contempt was poured upon us in very caustic language by that gentleman, so that any person sitting there and not able to speak in reply felt that he was in rather an unpleasant situation. His speech was not one that ought to have been made by an officer holding his position in the naval service."

Mr. Brodeur said he had called the commander's attention to the word "faction," and his explanation was that the word did not have the same meaning in England.

"He must think we're yahoos out here," interjected Col. Sam Hughes.

Mr. Borden concluded by observing that the sooner the minister gave the commander and other officers to understand what was imperative in the Canadian service the better.

Mr. Foster warned the minister that he had broken new and dangerous ground. His position meant that any civil servant who imagined he had been criticised was at liberty to go on the public platform and attack distinguished parties and individuals. He wanted to know what Sir Wilfrid Laurier thought about it.

The Prime Minister said that if a civil servant was attacked as an official his only course was to go to his minister and ask him to defend him. It was Commander Roper's inexperience that had led him to answer for himself.

Col. Hughes expressed satisfaction that Sir Wilfrid had reprimanded his Minister of Marine.

Question of Interest

Mr. Miller, (S. Gre.), brought on a contest between himself and the Minister of Justice over the second reading of a bill to amend the Interest Act so as to enable the mortagor to repay the principal after the expiration date by giving one month's notice of such intention.

Hon. Mr. Aylesworth set his face against the measure as being an invasion of provincial jurisdiction, but Mr. Miller was stubborn and demanded a division.

It was a non-party vote and stood: Ayes, 87; Noes, 24. Sir Wilfrid voted with Mr. Aylesworth, and Messrs. Pugsley and Mr. Borden with Mr. Miller.

The House then went into committee on the bill and it was taken on till 6 o'clock.

Dr. Sproule brought up the question of the status of foreign consuls-general at state functions.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier explained that the matter of precedence at drawing-room and similar affairs of state was delegated to the Governor-General. In other countries the consuls had no official status, but they have been accorded recognition in Canada, as they frequently acted in a diplomatic capacity. As to heads of religious bodies, while the official list of precedence only recognized the heads of the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches, representatives of other religious bodies were also invited to state functions. The entire question of precedence could be brought up at the next Colonial Conference.

Hon. Mr. Brodeur, replying to Mr. Monk, said the Rainbow had never been scrapped by the Admiralty, as at the time of purchase by Canada was on the auxiliary naval list and was recognized by the Admiralty as still being available for active service.

Snow Overwhelmed Guns.

CONEVA, Dec. 7.—Artillery and troops from Fort Savatan, near St. Maurice, while manoeuvring at an altitude of 8,500 feet, were overwhelmed by a snowstorm, and obliged to abandon four guns. The men hastily descended to the huts at Riondal, where they stayed snowbound for two days. On returning to the hills they failed to find the guns under the deep snow, and abandoned the search. There the guns will remain until the first melting of the snows in the spring.

BOLIVIAN FORCE KILLS PERUVIANS

Surprise Attack Made on Garrison at Frontier—Fears That Affair May Lead Countries Into War

LIMA, Peru, Dec. 7.—According to despatches received here, Bolivian forces surprised and attacked the Peruvian garrison at Guayabal, on the Bolivian frontier.

Many Peruvians were killed or wounded.

Peruvian troops have been rushed to the scene. There are fears that this may lead to a rupture.

GOLD FROM ALASKA

Party From Junoko and Iditarod Districts Reach Seward Well Laden With "Dust."

SEWARD, Alaska, Dec. 7.—A party of seven persons, including one woman, the first to come out over the winter trail, arrived here today from the Innoko and Iditarod district, having made the trip in 19 days' actual travelling time.

Members of the party report that more than 500 people are coming out over the trail this winter, bringing several hundred thousand dollars in bullion with them. Several consignments of gold from the Iditarod to Seattle banks have already been dispatched by dogsled. The trail is in fine condition, and good time can be made.

Those in the party arriving today were James C. Davis, Mrs. Davis, Captain John Murray, J. D. Benson, Charles Yeager, Herbert Lucas and J. D. Shapelaine.

MOUNT PLEASANT, Tex., Dec. 9.—One thousand citizens and farmers are battling with a forest fire in the Sulphur river bottoms, according to advices received here today.

MOB IN TORONTO WRECKS CARS

Action of Street Railway Company in Introducing "Pay-as-you-enter" Variety Cause of Violent Demonstration

MASS MEETING HELD IN PROTEST

Followed by Scenes of Disorder—Eleven Cars Destroyed and Windows Smashed In a Hundred Others

TORONTO, Dec. 7.—A riot tonight, remarkable for its spontaneity and for its fierceness while it lasted, resulted in the injury of 18 men, the complete wrecking of 11 street cars and the shattering of the windows in over 100 more.

For two hours a mob of several thousand persons surged back and forth on the principal business thoroughfares, demolishing every street car that came within reach and completely tying up traffic.

The disorderly scenes followed a mass meeting at Massey Hall. Two weeks ago the Toronto Street Railway company installed pay-as-you-enter cars on the principal lines. Much dissatisfaction developed over the innovation. It was claimed that the cars were not adapted to that kind of service.

Protests in writing and by personal appeal became so numerous that Mayor Geary and the board of control decided to call a mass meeting at which the matter could be discussed. Representatives of the street railway also were invited to attend.

The meeting resolved itself into a series of fiery denunciations of the street car company, and shortly before 11 o'clock broke up in disorder.

The gathering resembled a mob. The first street car that hove in sight was stopped and was reduced to a scrap heap. Car after car was attacked by the mob, which rapidly grew in numbers.

Protests by Mayor Geary and other officials passed unheeded.

Police reserves were summoned, but they were outnumbered fifty to one and were utterly powerless. For more than an hour the carnival of destruction continued unchecked.

Traffic of all kinds on King and Yonge streets was tied up.

The mob showed consideration for the passengers, allowing them in almost every instance to leave the car before attacking it. An order was finally issued to stop running cars into the downtown district, and not until it had been carried out were there any signs of restoration of order.

Toward midnight the crowd gradually withdrew from the streets, and at 12:30 the street car service was resumed.

DIFFICULTY ADJUSTED

Trouble Between Powell River Company and Local Company Is Settled.

The long standing difficulty between the Powell River Pulp & Paper Company and the Michigan-Puget Sound Lumber Company, which latter organization some time ago acquired the Sayward timber interests in the Powell lake and river district, was amicably adjusted yesterday, when representatives of the contending companies again came before the provincial executive. In the prosecution of the large enterprise of the pulp and paper company, upon which upwards of 1,500 white men have now been steadily employed during nine months or more, it became necessary to shift both the logging railway and the booming ground of the Michigan-Puget Sound Lumber Company, and the difficulty arose as to which of the companies should bear this special expense, and to what extent. The question of the booming ground was satisfactorily arranged, but was reopened by a decision of the federal authorities as to where the breakwater of the pulp and paper company should be located. Both issues have now been amicably adjusted, and the work of changing the railway line will now be proceeded with, at the cost of the pulp and paper company.

State Populations.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The population of Texas is 3,896,542, according to statistics of the Thirteenth Census issued tonight by the census bureau. This is an increase of 847,832 or 27.8 per cent. over 3,048,710 in 1900. The increase from 1890 to 1900 was 183,187 or 36.4 per cent.

The population of the state of Arkansas was announced as 1,574,449, an increase of 20 per cent. The population of the state of South Carolina is 1,515,400, which is an increase of 13.1 per cent. over ten years ago. Arkansas gets an additional congressman under the present apportionment.

Win for Hackenschmidt.

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—George Hackenschmidt defeated Jesse Westergaard, the Iowa wrestler, in two straight falls tonight. The first was taken in one hour, two minutes and fifteen seconds, with a double bar arm hold. The second occurred in eleven minutes and twenty seconds with a reversed body hold. The two men tugged and pummeled each other about the mat for more than an hour before the first fall went to the foreigner. The second fall came in quicker time. Hackenschmidt rushed at his opponent at the call of time, and in a few minutes both men were on the mat, Hackenschmidt having a hammerlock. Westergaard broke away. The Russian followed, forced him to the mat again and finished the match with a reversed body hold.

Heroine Is Recuperating

Mrs. T. Paterson has returned to her home at Alberni from Vancouver, where she had been undergoing treatment in the general hospital. She is in the care of a trained nurse, Miss McBride, who will spend some time in Alberni with her, her condition being still far from satisfactory. Mrs. Paterson is well known to all residents of the coast as the stout-hearted heroine of the Coloma and Valencia disasters, no braver act having ever been recorded in the history of the many maritime disasters on the island seaboard than her feat of making her way alone from Cape Beale to Banfield through the tangled forest, and in the midst of such a gale as only the west coast knows, in order to bring succor to the shipwrecked men of the ill-fated Coloma. It is said that the terrible strain placed upon her by no means rugged constitution during this terrible night has never been fully recovered from.

"Cigarette Heart"

OTTAWA, Dec. 7.—Officers enlisting for the navy find large numbers of volunteers on both coasts. Seventy-five per cent of those have been rejected because of cigarette heart or "moving picture eye."

REBELS CAPTURE IMPORTANT CITY

Guerrero Reported To Have Fallen Into Their Hands—Federal Troops Surrendering—Offer of Truce

DOUGLAS, Ariz., Dec. 7.—Guerrere, the largest city in the state of Chihuahua, with a population of 12,000, is tonight in the hands of the rebels, according to information which has reached here.

Following a combined attack, which took place after the departure of a train bearing the peace officials the federal troops are reported to have surrendered. The rebels have elected provisional officers to govern the city.

It was first reported that the jefe politico was killed in the final charge on the city, but later reports are to the effect that he and his family are prisoners and unhurt.

The telegraph line between Guerrere and Chihuahua is now in the hands of the rebels.

Following a conference at San Andreas between the peace commissioners and rebels, headed by Castillo Herrera, the soldiers sent out from Chihuahua were halted at Fortina, near San Andreas, until President Diaz shall act on the promise of truce offered by the rebels providing certain changes are made in the system of taxation and officials in Coahuila. This truce is effective only from San Andreas to Chihuahua, the rebels stating that they cannot act for the country from San Andreas to Guerrere. Following the resignation of Governor Sanchez of Chihuahua, Secretary of State Parras has also resigned in favor of Rafael Alvarez, and other important changes in the state government have taken place.

Reports that Sanchez was deposed are incorrect.

PACKEY McFARLAND AND CLEVER HEBREW

CHICAGO, Dec. 6.—Packey McFarland cannot make 135 pounds, as he has agreed to do to meet Abe Attell, according to Chicago sports, who have been watching the career of the stock yards fighter for the past few years. Articles of agreement which Packey's manager, Emil Thiery, says have been signed calling for a match between Attell and McFarland at New York, Dec. 19, stipulates that Packey must make 135 pounds at 6 o'clock. McFarland will get $2,500 win, lose or draw, it is said. McFarland said today that he would seek matches with Moran and Wolgast in the event that he wins from Attell, but it is the belief here that these matches will never be brought about.

Kelly vs. Langford

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 6.—Hugo Kelly through his manager has arranged the preliminaries for a fight with Sam Langford in Los Angeles Jan. 12. It will be for twenty rounds. Lungford's manager wired the terms under which the black would fight and Kelly agreed to them. The winner will get 75 per cent of the gate receipts.

TIDE DID NOT SUIT SALVORS

Salvage Steamers Will Not Attempt to Haul Northwestern From Rocks Until Tomorrow—No Pull Made Yesterday

INVESTIGATION BEGUN CONCERNING STRANDING

Fourth Officer Said Pilot Was Formerly Carried, But Was Discarded Two Trips Prior To Accident At False Bay

The steamer Northwestern will not be floated until tomorrow. The tide was not favorable to the salvors yesterday, and no pull was made as was anticipated. The bulkheading of the damaged bow and the building a platform shored in place from the orlop deck, and made as tight as possible with cement has been completed, and the salvage pumps are on board ready for the attempt to haul the steamer from the rocks, but the tide will not be best suited for the floating of the vessel until tomorrow, when the attempt to haul the vessel from the reef will be made.

The investigation concerning the stranding of the Northwestern has been commenced at Seattle. The fourth officer, H. J. Allen, and second officer G. Tellefsen were examined. Fourth Officer Allen, who was on the bridge and in charge of the vessel at the time she struck, gave a detailed account of the affair. The Northwestern did not carry a pilot on this trip, that officer being discarded a couple of trips before and the fourth officer substituted.

Mr. Allen told the inspectors that he was steering by courses laid by Capt. A. Croskey, master of the Northwestern. He first came on watch, relieving the master, when the vessel was between Margowstone point and Point Wilson. Capt. Croskey then laid a course to Smith island, and Mr Allen stated that he steered by it, calling Capt. Croskey when the vessel was off Smith island.

He stated that the captain then laid a course for Lime Kiln, the point near which the Northwestern struck. The fourth officer was instructed to call Capt. Croskey in an hour, he said. He stated that he called the captain five minutes before the hour was up, as he was worried about the course. Mr. Allen told the inspectors that he thought the vessel was too close in toward the shore.

Capt. Croskey, said the fourth officer, did not come on deck, but told the officer to haul off to the westward a little if he thought he was too close in. Mr. Allen said he put the vessel off a quarter of a point to the westward. This was just six minutes before the Northwestern struck. As soon as the fourth officer saw land ahead he testified to ordering the engines stopped and instantly reversed, but the vessel crashed into the rocks within a minute of the time they were seen. The Northwestern had been proceeding at her usual speed, about 12 1-2 knots, the fourth officer said. He said that Capt. Croskey had discussed the matter of tides with him when laying the courses, but he could not say whether the captain had taken this into consideration. He had stood a number of watches, but never before in these waters, and always steered by the captain's courses without question.

Second Officer Tellersen was in bed when the vessel struck. He and Allen agreed that the night was very dark, with a drizzling rain at the time the Northwestern struck. It later cleared, they said. Both officers testified that while passengers were greatly excited for the first few moments they were soon calmed by Capt. Croskey and officers. As soon as the vessel struck, soundings were taken, and it was at once apparent that the vessel was in no danger of sinking.

Retired Officer Dead.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7. — Commander Robert Platt, U. S. N., retired, died at his home here late today, following an attack of cerebral embolism, with which he was stricken three weeks ago. Commander Platt was a native of North Carolina.

Funeral of General Merritt

WEST POINT, N.Y., Dec. 7.—Major General Wesley Merritt, U. S. A., retired, the twenty-first superintendent of the United States military academy, was buried here yesterday by lamplight with the military honors of his rank.

Paris Suicide Sensation.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—A rumor was current here tonight that a Frenchman well known in aristocratic and political circles had committed suicide. The report associated the tragedy with the name of Count Boni de Castellane, but no reason for this was forthcoming, and no confirmation whatever could be obtained.