The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL. XLVIII., NO. 8 — VICTORIA, B.C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1906. — FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR.

Mr. McCall's Valedictory

Disgraced President of New York Life Resigns the Position.

Appreciates His Own Errors More Than His Creditors Could.

Successor a Retired Merchant and Philanthropist of New York.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—John A. McCall today resigned the presidency of the New York Life Insurance Company and Alexander E. Orr was appointed in his place at the salary of $50,000 a year. Mr. McCall's salary was $100,000.

The board of trustees also cut down the number of second vice presidents, so that hereafter there will be two officers in stead of three. Mr. McCall, who has for 14 years held the office which he resigned today, sent a letter to the trustees in which he stated that his errors probably seemed greater to him than to his critics, but that he was comforted to think of the company's unprecedented achievements and to know that no officer or trustee had profited improperly at the policyholders' expense.

It is uncertain whether Mr. Orr will retain the presidency beyond April next, when Mr. McCall's term would have expired.

The new president is a retired merchant of this city, president of the rapid transit commission, a former president of the chamber of commerce and director in many financial and philanthropic institutions. He was born in Tyrone County, Ireland, in 1831.

President Orr said that the fact that the president's salary had been reduced to $50,000 did not mean that the salary of other officers would be reduced in the same proportion.

ELOPED WITH AN AGED MAN.

Rome, Jan. 4.—A great sensation has been caused by the elopement of a daughter of Count Lutti of Treviso, 19 years old, with Count Giovanni Correa, who is 63 years old. Both belong to the most ancient of the nobility. Count Lutti supported the elopement to the police, who succeeded in arresting the couple at Venice.

A CAD REBUKED.

Brigadier-General Grant Fittingly Refers to a Most Unseemly Incident.

New York, Jan. 3.—For requesting an under officer to change his seat at a theatre, First Lieut. Taylor of the coast artillery is reduced in rank twelve numbers. He was tried by court martial last week, and the verdict was announced today. The offense was committed at a theatre in New London, Conn., where a sergeant of Taylor's company, who was in uniform, vacated a seat at the request of Lieut. Taylor.

"It is to be hoped," stated the decision, which is signed by Brigadier General Grant, "that the sentence of the court will leave no doubt in the mind of anyone that the uniform of a soldier is a mark of honor which must be respected in the United States."

It also stated that a sentence more severe than the one given is warranted.

PRETTY COUNTRY WEDDING.

Marriage at South Saanich of J. H. Downey and Marion Camp.

A very pretty country wedding was held at St. Stephen church, South Saanich, last Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, the contracting parties being Mr. J. H. Downey of North Saanich and Marion Edith, only daughter of the late John, and Mrs. Camp of Saanichton, the bride being given away by her uncle Mr. G. W. Anderson, Sr., of Lake district.

The church was beautifully decorated by the young ladies of the district. The bride looked charming in a costume of cream cashmere lace, and orange blossoms, carrying a bridal bouquet of white carnations and smilax. The bridesmaid, Miss Fanny White of Victoria, wore a costume of pale blue nun's veiling trimmed with lace.

The church was crowded both parties being very popular. After the wedding a very sumptuous repast was partaken of at the Prairie hotel, after, which, the happy couple, midst showers of rice and old boots left for Victoria to take the Umatilla for California where their honeymoon will be spent.

Below is a partial list of the presents: Mr. and Mrs. Downey, sr., check and dinner service; A. L. Downey, extension dining table; G. W. Anderson, sr., check; Miss Fernie, check and encyclopedia; Mr. E. John, sr., check; Mr. Sanderson Revelstoke, set silver and pearl dessert knives and forks; Normal school chums, faith, hope and charity; Mr. and Miss G. W. Anderson, silver cake basket; Miss A. M. Downey, brass lamp; Mrs. and Miss Loat, set Bretby ware; Mrs. and Miss H. Connor, oak butter dish; Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Dallain, 2 pictures; Mrs. E. Monk, silver dessert spoon; Mr. and Mrs. Duncan, carving set, Quin China tea set; G. S. Simons, parlor clock; Mrs. P. Halloway, marble clock; Miss Luscomb, silver spoons; Miss L. J. Carter, tea spoons; Mr. Ferguson and family, brass clock; Mr. and Mrs. Crawford, table linen; Stanley Estelle, and Elsie Anderson, breakfast cruet; Miss F. Struckan, cut glass vase; 4 fancy cushions from England; Miss Camp, eiderdown quilt; Mrs. Offerhaus, one-half dozen China cups, saucers and plates; Marian Offerhaus, silver bonbon dish; Herman Offerhaus, 5 o'clock tea stand; Mrs. I. Walker, 1 pair vases; Mrs. and Miss Mouat, jardiniere; Mrs. Martindale and family, silver syrup jug and tray, B. Butler, book.

SITUATION AT SHANGHAI.

Troubles Subside and Two-thirds of British Patrols Withdraw.

Shanghai, Jan. 3.—The situation here is normal. Two-thirds of the bluejackets who have been patrolling the foreign concessioins re-embarked today pending the final settlement of the mixed court session.

THEATRICAL STRIKE BREAKERS.

New York, Jan. 4.—At the Metropolitan opera house to night it was stated that a chorus numbering one hundred men and women was being rehearsed to take the places of the chorus which went out on strike last night. The strikers demand recognition of the union and increase in salaries from $15 to $25 a week.

KILLED BY MACHINERY.

Rossland, Jan. 4.—William Goodine, an employee of the China Creek Lumber Company, today while oiling the shaft his clothing caught in a set screw and he was sent whirling around the shaft. He suffered frightful injuries, his leg being broken and his head crushed, but was still living when the machinery was stopped and he fell to the floor.

HE'S PRESIDENTIAL TIMBER.

Effect of Mayor McClellan's Break With Tammany.

New York, Jan. 4.—The Pennsylvania Democratic leaders applaud the appointments of Mayor McClellan of New York, says a Pittsburg despatch published here. It is said that Col. J. M. Guffey, member of the Democratic national committee, has advised his friends that the action of Mayor McLellan has put him in line for the Democratic candidacy for president in 1908. Attorney William J. Brennan, chairman of the Allegheny county Democratic committee and who is very close to Col. Guffey, said: "Mayor McClellan's break from Tammany Hall will have the effect of rejuvenating the Democratic party of the whole country. It has given us hopes such as we did not dream of a few months ago. It will make it possible for a Democratic candidate for president to put up a strong fight, and we believe we will win. It has also made Mayor McClellan a presidential possibility."

British Charge Wants Explanation

Demands Meaning of Letter of Rojestvensky to a Newspaper.

Russian Admiral Charges Great Britain With Gross Treachery.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 3.—The remarkable allegation that the British fleet was held in readiness to destroy the Russian fleet if the battle of the Sea of Japan had gone in the Russian's favor, is made by Admiral Rojestvensky in a letter published in the Novoe Vremya today with the permission of the minister of marine. Referring to the absolute secrecy of Admiral Togo in regard to the disposition of his forces Rojestvensky declares:

"These were unknown even to the admiral of the British fleet allied with the Japanese who concentrated his forces at Wei-Hai-Wei in the expectation of receiving an order to annihilate the Russian fleet if this, the final object of Great Britain, was beyond the power of the Japanese."

Mr. Spring Rice, the British charge d'affaires, without waiting for instructions from his government, demanded an explanation from Foreign Minister Lamsdorff this afternoon of the statements contained in the admiral's letter to the Novoe Vremya.

Side Light on the Incident

London, Jan. 4.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says he has had a conversation with Count Witte, in which the premier stated that the Emperor and his ministers alike were astonished at Admiral Rojestvensky's allegation that the British admiral had concentrated his ships at Wei-Hai-Wei expecting an order to destroy the Russian fleet in the event of Admiral Togo being defeated in the battle of the Sea of Japan. Count Witte says he was taking measures to clear up the matter but he added it was self-evident that no level-headed man in Russia would attach importance to the allegation which the minister of marine, he said, had not noticed until it appeared in print.

The Times' St. Petersburg correspondent says that Great Britain has been dragged into help absolve Rojestvensky and to prepare public opinion for his impending acquittal and re-habilitation which are considered indispensible for the sake of the reputation of the Russian Navy.

ASK FOR RESPITE.

Counsel for Condemned New York Lawyer Wishes to Appeal.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 3.—Gov. Higgins was requested today to grant a respite to Albert T. Patrick who is under sentence to be executed during the week of January 22, for the murder of the aged millionaire, Wm. M. Rice, of New York city. The request was made by counsel for Patrick in order to give them sufficient time to perfect an appeal to the supreme court of the United States. Governor Higgins has not yet decided what he will do.

Dominion News Notes

Adjutant of the Fifth Regiment Joins the Reserve of Officers.

Attempt Will Be Made to Rearrange Affairs of York County Loan.

Senator Church Dies Suddenly on 71st Anniversary of Birth.

OTTAWA, Jan. 4.—Major D. B. McConnan, of the Fifth, is transferred to the reserve of officers with the rank of captain.

York County Loan Affairs

Toronto, Jan. 4.—James Bicknell has given notice that he will apply to the legislature for an act to reorganize the affairs of the York County Loan & Savings Co. and to give effect to a scheme for the reconstruction of the company and to incorporate a company for such purpose. Messrs. Pinkerton & Cook, who secured an injunction preventing J. S. Barrett, his wife Emily, and Joseph Phillips from transferring any stock of the Southern Light & Power company, $218,500 of the bonds of which are held by the York Loan, have obtained a right to examine the books of the Southern Light & Power Co.

Petitions Dismissed

Petitions against the return of W. T. Telfords, Liberal, for North Grey, and Col. Tisdale, Conservative, for Norfolk, were dismissed this morning, no evidence having been offered on either side.

Another Bank Merger

It is understood that another big financial merger is likely to be consummated, viz., the absorption of the Metropolitan bank by the Trader's bank of Canada. It is understood that should the deal go through, H. S. Strathy, the present general manager of the Trader's bank, will become the general manager of the joint institution, and W. D. Ross, general manager of the Metropolitan bank, will become assistant general manager of the joint institution. The Trader's bank has a paid up capital of $3,000,000 and a reserve of $1,100,000. The Metropolitan's capital is $1,000,000 and the reserve $1,000,000.

Comptroller White leaves in a day or two for Edmonton and Regina in connection with the reorganization of the mounted police.

The tariff commissioners propose leaving out of the list of meeting places points between Moncton and Halifax on the Intercolonial Railway until after the funeral of Hon. Raymond Prefontaine. As the funeral does not take place until the 25th instant, this will leave the work of the commission until a very late day.

Lord Strathcona had a long interview with Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. Frank Oliver this afternoon on immigration matters.

L. F. Ayson, superintendent of fish culture for New Zealand, is here, seeking to have officials of the department of fisheries secure further quantities of fish ova for New Zealand. Some years ago Mr. Ayson transplanted sockeye, salmon and rainbow trout British Columbia, and the experiment proved a great success. This year he will take out sockeye, whitefish and herring ova.

Eleven horses out of one stable here were killed today owing to being affected with glanders.

$20,000 Fire at Ethel

Ethel, Ont., Jan. 4.—Fire this morning did damage to the extent of $20,000 to the Simpson block and contents. The building was occupied by John McDonald, general store; Kranter & Ritchie, hardware, and W. F. Heath, barber shop and dwelling.

Senator Church's Sudden Death

Halifax, Jan. 4.—Senator Charles E. Church died as he was ascending the stairway in his own house here yesterday on the 71st anniversary of his birth, and four years since his appointment to the senate. He had been in poor health for sometime but no immediate danger was anticipated.

TO BUY SEALERS.

United States Government Will Buy Schooners.

The story that the United States government is to buy out the Canadian sealing interests which are centred at Victoria is again revived in a Washington despatch which states that not only has Secretary Root settled the question of the Great Lakes fisheries with Great Britain but he is also on the eve of settling all questions between the United States and Canada, excepting that of reciprocity. The despatch says:

An agreement will be made shortly, it is expected, by which the United States will buy out all the Canadian sealers and agree to pay the British government annually a small per cent of the value of the seal catch. With this agreement will terminate the dispute which about 15 years ago brought the United States and Great Britain to the verge of war.

As soon as this matter is disposed of Secretary Root and Ambassador Durand the diplomatic representative of Great Britain will take up the question of the revision of the treaty of 1817, limiting the armament of each power on the Great Lakes. Then will be discussed the minor questions in connection with the transmission of goods in bond through the territory of the other, regulation of immigration, etc.

Victoria sealing men have received no information of the proposed purchase of the industry. In the meantime the local sealers are preparing for the coming season. The schooner Umbrina is alongside the wharf shipping her stores. Capt. William Hearter is going as master of the Umbrina this season. Capt. Jacobsen is preparing to build a new schooner. A tug of the sealing company will be here in a few days to arrange the sailing of the company's schooners.

PASSES WILL STAY.

Eastern Railroads Decide to Continue Practice of Complimentaries.

Columbus, Jan. 4.—Announcement was officially made today that the agreement among the railroads in the central traffic association to absolutely abolish passes is essentially brief, and the meeting at Chicago yesterday to hear the reports of the presidents of the roads on the matter of passes was practically without result, insofar as getting all the lines to abolish passes. Trunk lines like the Pennsylvania, the Baltimore and Ohio and the Norfolk and Western, stood together but the little lines demanded that they be allowed to use their own option regarding passes to the newspapers. This was granted and a dozen sub-committees were appointed to hear cases in the central traffic division where passes may be allowed. The trunk lines officials declared today virtually nullified the agreement abolishing passes. Today, the Big Four and the Baltimore and Ohio announce that they have mileage books for the newspapers if they want them instead of cash advertising.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH.

Coroner Continues Investigation Into Strange Killing of New Yorker.

New Haven, Jan. 4.—Allan Maxey Hiller, brother-in-law of Chas. A. Edwards, of New York, who was shot to death in a mysterious manner Tuesday night while at the home of Chas. A. Hiller, another brother-in-law, in College street, was to-night ordered placed in the lockup at police headquarters for safe keeping by Coroner Mix. Later the coroner explained that Mr. Hiller was simply held without bail as the inquest is not completed. This action was taken at the end of five hours' hearing. Mr. Hiller was there when the order was given to Detective Sergeant Ward to take him to police headquarters.

That C. A. Edwards, the New York business man who was mysteriously shot while in bed at the home of his brother-in-law, Chas. A. Hiller.

Did Not Commit Suicide

is expected to be the report made to the coroner's jury who have viewed the body. It will then rest with the coroner to determine the form of the death, and it is thought he will say Mr. Edwards was murdered. An official autopsy has not been held, and the coroner's inquest began last night had not been reopened at noon. The Hiller homestead is entirely in charge of the coroner, and this noon workmen were ripping up drainage pipes and floors under the eyes of a squad of headquarters police. Coroner Mix and the deputy coroner went in conference examining the evidence submitted last night. If the finding of murder should result from the inquest, the question which is expected to come up is that of a motive for the crime.

Accused Officer Commits Suicide

Quartermaster of Second Dragoon Guards Dies Under Suspicion.

Was Alleged to Have Been Implicated in War Stores Scandal.

PRETORIA, Transvaal, Jan. 4.—Captain J. Hopkins, quartermaster of the Second Dragoon guards, whose name has been mentioned in connection with the war stores scandal, was found dead this morning under circumstances pointing to suicide.

Some time after the close of the South African war it was alleged that officers of the British army had worked in collusion with contractors so as to enable the latter to purchase superfluous stores at absurdly low prices and afterwards resell them to the military authorities at enormous prices and profits, entailing a loss to the government of very large sums of money. A commission was appointed to enquire into the charges and a war office committee was appointed for the same purpose. A blue book containing the report of the war office committee was issued last June. The report blamed a number of officers of the army service corps and pay department who were alleged to have acted in collusion with the contractors. The value of the stores involved in these transactions was stated in the report to be between $30,000,000 and $35,000,000. The war office, it was announced December 2 last, acting on the report and recommendations of the royal commission headed by Justice Farewell of the British high court of justice, then sitting in South Africa, ordered the prosecution of the officers concerned in the war stores scandal.

GOLD AND SILVER IN 1905.

United States Products Show Gains Over 1904.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The preliminary estimates of the director of the mint upon the production of gold and silver in the United States in the calendar year 1905 show a gain of approximately $10,000,000 in gold and 1,000,000 ounces in silver over the product of 1904. The gain in gold is almost entirely represented by the increased output of Alaska, the product of which is placed at $14,650,100, against $9,160,500 in 1904. The Alaska gain is nearly all in the Tanana district, the returns for which are $5,107,000. California shows a loss of about $1,500,000, due, it is said, to severe drouth, which not only brought hydraulic operations to a standstill, but interfered with quartz mills to some extent. Nevada shows a gain of $400,000 and Utah as much. Colorado gained about $1,000,000; South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Arizona are estimated at about the same as in the previous year. The Klondike continues to fall off, and is about $2,000,000 below 1904. Washington shows $363,800 in gold and about $70,000 in silver.

The Contest In England

Political Pot Begins to Boil and Leaders Get Very Busy.

Joseph Chamberlain Is Howled Down by a Meeting at Derby.

Gerald Balfour Gets Cold Reception From Former Constituents.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The political campaign is now warming up. Already several disorderly meetings have been reported, and when Joseph Chamberlain attempted to address a mass meeting at Derby in support of the unionist candidate he was howled down. Sir Henry Belrose, a prominent citizen of Derby, appealed to the audience to give Mr. Chamberlain an opportunity to outline his views. Mr. Chamberlain, who was evidently enraged, again arose and said he was mistaken in appealing to the intelligence of the people of Derby. This caused renewed uproar, and though Mr. Chamberlain fought hard, he was unable to overcome the opposition and his voice failing, he retired amid uproar.

Richard Burton Haldane, speaking at a free trade meeting in London to-night, said it was the intention of the Liberal government to maintain an adequate army, but that it would be necessary before real reform commenced to clear away much of the trash and

Litter Left by His Predecessors

He paid a tribute to his immediate predecessor, H. O. Arnold-Forster, but said that the former secretary had not been given a free hand by the Unionist government. Secretary Haldane said it was true that the standard of comparison of the military needs of Great Britain was to compare the German army, also the German navy with the British army plus the British navy. It was the intention to bring the British army to an adequate position and on this basis the artillery must be kept up to its present standard. The volunteers, he said, must be given every encouragement, but in every case needless expenditures must be avoided. He said that the premier, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, had given him entire freedom of action and he was now working to evolve a practical scheme which did not include conscription.

No Preferential Scheme Wanted

Winston Spencer Churchill speaking at Manchester tonight said that the first act of the Liberal government should it be returned to power would be to notify the colonial governments that no conference could consider a preferential scheme based on the protective taxation of food stuffs and that as soon as possible the government would give the Transvaal a representative democratic administration.

Henry Herbert Asquith, chancellor of the exchequer, speaking at Sheffield, said that to attempt to utilize a majority obtained on the free trade issue to pass a home rule bill would be dishonest.

Gerald Balfour, president of the board of trade in the Balfour cabinet, addressing a meeting in the Jewish quarter of Leeds, which he represents in parliament, faced a storm of opposition and was roughly questioned regarding the aliens' act. After two stormy hours a proposition to give him a vote of confidence was negatived by a large majority.

The New Alien Law

The alien law passed by the last session of parliament came into force on Monday. The first effect of the law was that the immigration officers refused to permit the landing of 24 of 42 immigrants from Germany. The alien act prohibits immigrants from landing in Great Britain except at ports where an immigration officer is stationed, and only with his consent and after a medical inspection. Immigrants may be refused permission to land if unable to show that they are in a position to keep themselves, if insane, if on account of disease or other causes they are likely to become a charge to the taxpayers, if they have been sentenced abroad for an extraditable crime not of a political nature, or if they have previously been expelled from Great Britain. The home secretary may also order the expulsion of an alien on a certificate from a court of law. The bill, however, provides that an alien shall not be refused permission to land on account of means if able to prove that he or she is seeking admission to Great Britain solely to avoid prosecution for political offences.

Pacific Coast Happenings

Claims for Salvage Against City of Puebla Approximate $40,000.

Vancouver Cobbler Held for Smuggling at Bellingham Jumps Bail.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 4.—The Pacific Coast Steamship Company's steamer City of Puebla was towed into port today by the steam schooner Chehalis and the steamer Norwood. The tug Relief stood by to render assistance if needed. The propeller shaft of the Puebla was broken during a severe storm off the mouth of the Columbia river but by using sails she succeeded in keeping her head to sea, until aid arrived. Including passengers, officers and crew, there were about 200 persons on board and several days uncertainty regarding their fate has caused great anxiety here. The steamer reached harbor practically intact. The claims for salvage, however, it is estimated, will approximate $40,000. One of the largest ever made on the coast.

Bereaved Parents' Quest

Port Townsend, Jan. 4.—Postmaster Learned of this city is in receipt of a letter from the parents of J. W. Kern, a young man of 32, who lost his life with the Pass of Melfort. Kern's parents live at Mary Murrish, Shasta, California. They say the young man joined the vessel at Panama. They are anxious to secure his body and have it shipped home. The parents were advised today by the postmaster to address a communication to the collector of customs at Victoria.

Mysterious Disappearance

Walla Walla, Jan. 4.—The blood-stained garments of G. W. George, who disappeared two weeks ago, have been found in the attic of his home by his daughter. From the position and the manner in which they were stowed out of sight, it is evident concealment was intended. No trace of the body has been found. After weeks of unfruitful search with bloodhounds, neighbors gave up hunting. George had several hundred dollars the night he disappeared.

The Dawson Trail

Seattle, Jan. 3.—P. R. McGill, an old Klondike operator, reports that the winter trail from Dawson to Skagway is in better shape now than it has been since first built five years ago. Business is very good in Dawson this winter.

Two Miners Murdered

Redding, Cal., Jan. 4.—Tom and John Price, miners, were murdered yesterday on their mining claims. Tom left his cabin for the claim, and failing to return for dinner, his brother John went to the claim. He found his brother shot through the head and the body partly buried. John hastened home, told his wife of Tom's murder and sent a man to Redding to notify the officers. John went to the cabin, and as he reached the door a shot rang out and he fell dead on the threshold. A posse of 100 men is now scouring the territory for the murderer.

Smuggler Jumps $1,000 Bail

Bellingham, Wn., Jan. 4.—Henry Engelman, the Canadian cobbler, arrested some weeks ago here by government officials, on a charge of smuggling, did not put in an appearance before the United States court Commissioner Williams at 3 o'clock. When he did not appear before 4 o'clock his $1,000 cash bail was forfeited. Government officials were on hand this afternoon at the appointed time, 3 o'clock, but Engelman failed to appear. His horse, harness and buggy, which were also confiscated by government, were sold for $89, although valued at almost $200. The prevailing opinion is that he is backed by Canadian smugglers, who will make up $1,000 he will forfeit by failing to appear.

Conference on Moroccan Affairs

No Fear of Disagreement If Open Door Is Germany's Only Demand.

Sensational Reports of Possible Rupture With France Are Discredited.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—"So long as Germany confines her demands at the conference to opening Morocco to foreign trade on an equal basis, there will be no difference of opinion at Algeciras," said an official of the foreign office to the Associated Press today. While the officials here decline to comment on the cabled announcement that the United States stands uncommitted on the question of policing the Moroccan frontier, some disappointment is expressed in other circles because it had been expected that the United States would endorse the position of France. This point seems to be the only one on which a disagreement is probable.

Official and unofficial circles in Great Britain do not consider the Franco-German situation as serious. It is true that the reports emanating from France had a slight effect on the stock markets, but this was only temporary. The British government is going on with the arrangements for the Moroccan conference, and while it is admitted that

Germany may raise questions

which will cause irritation, it is not believed that this will prevent the conference from arriving at a final and satisfactory settlement. It is certain that Great Britain desires this, and while her action will be in accord with France, she will exert herself to prevent any approach to a rupture.

If Germany's proposals regarding the protection of her trade do not interfere with a fair field for the trade of all countries, she is not likely to meet with any opposition from Great Britain. While the correspondents in Berlin and Paris are sending lengthy despatches outlining the views of their respective capitals, the London papers make no comment on the Moroccan situation.

TO EXTRADITE LATIMER.

Philadelphia Embezzler Held at Calgary to Be Sent Home.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 4.—Governor Pennypacker today granted the application of the Philadelphia police authorities for a requisition on the Canadian government for the return to Philadelphia of Harry Latimer, who is wanted in that city for embezzlement and swindling.

Latimer was connected with the Provident Investment bureau in Philadelphia, now in the hands of a receiver. The concern failed as a result of an investigation made by the federal authorities, and Latimer and others associated with him in the bureau disappeared. Two weeks ago five indictments were returned against Latimer, charging him with conspiracy, false pretences and embezzlement of $10,250.

Latimer was arrested Christmas Day at Calgary.

Twenty One Miners Killed

Explosion in the Virginia Coal Fields Results in Many Deaths.

Rescue Parties Take Up Work But Are Driven Back by the Gas.

No Hopes for Any Survivors of the Outbreak Owing to Gases.

BLUEFIELD, W. V., Jan. 4.—Twenty-one miners were killed in an explosion of gas in the shaft of the Cooper Mine Company at Coaldale, W. Va., at noon today. Up to midnight only one body had been recovered. Immediately following the explosion, which was heard for several miles, rescue parties set to work to explore the wrecked shaft.

Coaldale is a mining town situated on the line of the Norfolk & Western Railway and is 15 miles west of Bluefield. The mining cars and most of the property used in the mines are supposed to have been blown to pieces. At 5:30 p. m. the body of one of the miners was discovered some hundred feet away from the mine entry, so mutilated that it is unrecognizable. All hope of recovering alive the miners entombed by the explosion was shattered by

The Pouring Forth of Gases

from the different entrances. If the 21 men were not killed instantly by the explosion it is believed that they must have succumbed to the great accumulation of gas since the explosion. Great crowds were attracted by the disaster and a large rescuing party was soon at work. An effort is being made to force the gases ahead so that the rescuers might enter the shaft. This will require some twelve or fifteen hours.

The Coaldale plant is owned and operated by the McDowell Coal & Coke Company.

Roanoke, W. Va., Jan. 4.—A special tonight to the Roanoke Times from Bluefields says: Today at noon, while the Coaldale, W. Va., coal mines were crowded with men, there was a heavy rumbling a mile or more

In the Depths of the Mountain,

followed by an explosion. Bank Boss Thomas Williams, who was a long distance from the explosion, staggered to his feet, and, feeling his way to a mine telephone, told those on the outside there was a terrific explosion of mine gas and asking for help. Preparations immediately were made for the rescue of the entombed men and an exploration of the wrecked works. At 4 o'clock one man was brought out. He was H. C. Conrad and his body was literally torn to pieces, the clothing hanging in shreds. Up to a late hour tonight no other bodies had been recovered. There was considerable gas and smoke in the entries, and notwithstanding the fact that the big fans were in good order and were working at full capacity, the gas and smoke were not being driven out fast.

AN UNFORTUNATE BANKER.

Serves Six Years in Prison and Has to Pay Over Five Million Dollars.

New York, Jan. 4.—A verdict for $5,280,333 against Edward Harper, once vice-president of the Fidelity National bank of Cincinnati, was affirmed today by Judge Coxe in the United States circuit court. Eighteen years ago Mr. Harper was convicted of causing the failure of the Fidelity bank and served six years in prison. The verdict which he was today ordered to pay grew out of this failure. The original amount sued for was $2,500,000 and to-day's verdict of over $5,000,000 represents this claim plus the interest which has accrued to it. Mr. Harper is at present president and general manager of the Union Iron and Steel Co., with offices here.

BRAVE FIREMAN'S DEATH.

Captain of Springfield Brigade Incinerated in Burning Building.

Springfield, Mass., Jan. 3.—Captain S. Bowers, of engine No. 4 was killed and Frank Hines, a fireman, was seriously injured in an incendiary fire which completely destroyed the Highland Baptist church tonight. The fire started in an adjoining barn in which fires had been set twice previously in the last two months. Twice during the last two years fires have been discovered in the church. Captain Bowers and three firemen were in the barn when the roof fell in. The three firemen were pulled out but it was impossible to reach Bowers. After the fire was under control, search was made for Captain Bowers' body, but only the head was found. The church cost about $60,000. The insurance is about $40,000. The fire was discovered in a barn which adjoined the church about 8.30 o'clock and when the firemen arrived on the scene the entire upper part of

The Building Was in Flames

Captain Bowers bravely led his men into the burning structure where an attempt was made to carry a line up stairs. The building, however, burned so rapidly that fifteen minutes after the men made their way into it, a chimney fell and with it the roof. The heavy timbers from the room carried down the next floor and caught the firemen.

A score of firemen came to the aid of their comrades and succeeded in hauling out all but Captain Bowers. Fireman Hines was found to be seriously injured. His legs were broken and he was suffering from internal injuries. He was taken to the hospital. At a late hour tonight his condition was critical. While the firemen were rescuing their comrades the flames communicated to the church and within a few minutes the flames had taken a firm hold of that building.

Although the firemen worked hard, not a fragment of the church was saved. Both structures were consumed and when the fire was extinguished in the barn, only the head of the unfortunate captain could be found.