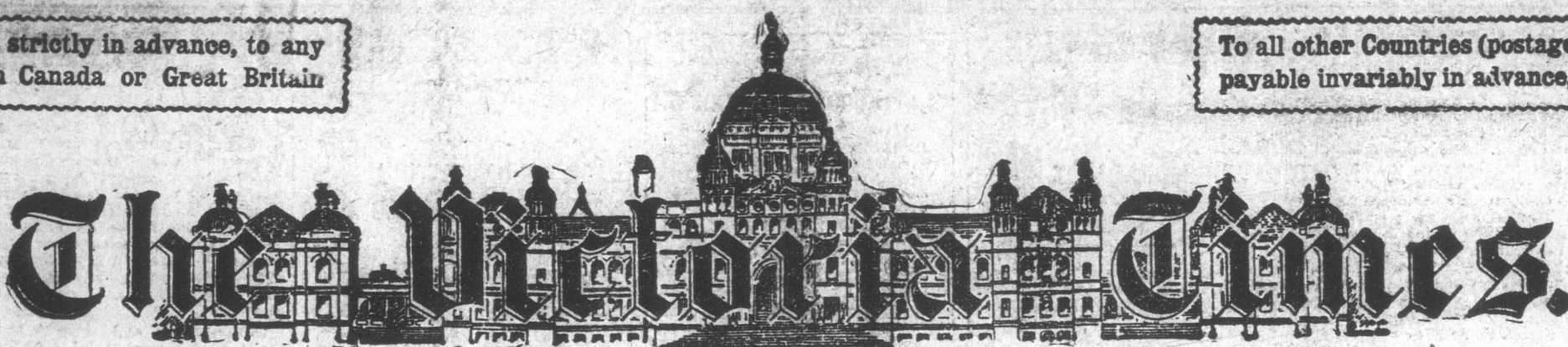


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EIGHTEEN LIVES LOST IN FOREST CONFLAGRATION

Death Roll at Fernie Much Less Than Expected--- Damage to Property Reaches \$7,000,000 ---Heroic Deeds.

HIS MAJESTY'S HEARTFELT SYMPATHY

(Special to the Times).
Ottawa, Aug. 6.—Lord Grey has received the following cable from London: "His Majesty the King has learned with deep regret of the devastation and loss of life caused by fire in British Columbia. I am commanded to express His Majesty's heartfelt sympathy with the bereaved and homeless, and his earnest hope that the danger is now past."
"Signed CREWE."

ON ISLAND

Goldstream Made to it.
Nelson, Aug. 6.—The fire at Fernie is at an end and the people are once more returning to the devastated city. Tents, blankets and every convenient article of wearing apparel are being distributed by committees, and building operations are under way. Mayor Tuttle is issuing permits for wooden buildings, which must be removed within ten months and replaced by brick or stone structures. The people are returning from Cranbrook and the surrounding country.

The dead number eighteen and the property loss throughout the pass will total seven millions of dollars. The fire is still raging on the surrounding mountain sides towards Three Sisters Lake and will continue until the rainy season.

The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company will lose \$200,000 dollars, with \$100,000 insurance. The C. P. R. loses \$60,000; the Elk Lumber Company, \$175,000; the Trites Wood Company, \$225,000; with \$117,000 insurance; the Fort Steele Brewing Company, \$125,000; stores, dwellings and other things valued at \$2,000,000. There are cases of heroic deeds innumerable. Mayor Tuttle entered the past house and removed a woman and a child suffering from smallpox. He carried the child in his arms through the fire and smoke. A man named Ford placed his wife and two children in a well; their bodies were found and the head of Ford was completely burned off.

The wife of Chief McDougall, of the fire department, had been taken to the hospital a few days before the fire. When the alarm was turned in the fire chief left his three little children and did not know where they could be found during two whole days. His wife was removed to a car which caught fire and then to one of the coke ovens where she remained until placed in a car and taken to Cranbrook. Fathers took their children to the river and kept them beneath the water for seconds, allowing them but time to breathe and showing them under again. Firemen turned water on the burning dresses of women and children as they passed along to safety.

Engineers, carrying hundreds of refugees, forced their locomotives through fire and smoke cars filling with ashes and the windows breaking with heat. Bridges are down in all directions. The Great Northern railway lost ninety cars filled with coal and coke and two cars of merchandise. Liquor is prohibited. Hosmer, Michel and Coal Creek are safe.

Work will be resumed in the coal mines at once. The C. P. R. is rebuilding. All former Victorians in Fernie are safe. Mrs. D. McDougall, a daughter of Mrs. Conlin, of Pioneer street, Victoria, is severely ill in the hospital at Cranbrook, where the Sisters of Charity are doing great work attending to all patients. Three res-

FARMER'S TERRIBLE CRIME.

Kills His Four-Year-Old Grandchild and Brains His Wife.
Norwich, Conn., Aug. 6.—John Zeet, who killed his four-year-old grandchild with a knife and brained his wife on Tuesday, tossed about on a cot in the local lock-up all night, and at times talked with his guard. With two broken ribs and wounds on his head and arms inflicted by his son during the struggle to get possession of the sledge hammer, Zeet appeared to be in agony.
It is believed that a special grand jury will be called to pass upon Zeet's case. Zeet told the officers that the family were "continually nagging at him to give up the farm," and that yesterday forenoon the family had been telling him to go away. He had a hammer in his hand and went out of the house to ask his wife to give him enough to get away. He had words, he said, and in his rage he lifted the hammer and struck his wife. Mrs. Zeet was just alive yesterday morning.

Vancouver St. John, N.B. Hamilton Calgary

HIS LATEST PURCHASE.

Controller of London Times Acquires Largest Coal Property in Cape Breton.

Sydney, N. S., Aug. 6.—Acting on behalf of Lord Northcliffe, of the Harmsworth Company, Hon. B. E. Pearson, of Halifax, purchased the new Campbellton coal mines, one of the largest coal areas in Cape Breton. The Harmsworth Company will use the coal for their pulp mills in Newfoundland.

ENGINEERING OF STRIKE ON C. P. R.

MECHANICS GOT OUT IN ORDERLY MANNER

Some Men Replaced in Vancouver Yards—Company is Silent.

Vancouver, Aug. 6.—Fifty special constables, acting as pickets, surrounded the C. P. R. yards this morning and refused admission to everyone. The place is securely guarded. The best information obtainable is that about 10 or 12 men have been started to work in the shops to take the places of the strikers.

6,010 Men Out.
Winnipeg, Aug. 6.—The climax of the dispute between the C. P. R. mechanics and the company continued yesterday morning at 10 o'clock in a walk-out of 6,010 men, covering practically every point on the system from ocean to ocean, except Halifax, St. John and Saskatoon, and at these three points it is claimed at the headquarters of the men in Winnipeg that the men will go out at once. The heaviest movement is, of course, in Winnipeg and Montreal.

The unanimity with which the mechanics throughout the system responded to the secret instructions of the strike managers has elated the local contingent. One of the most significant features of the great movement is the orderly manner in which the strikers are reported to have left their various shops. There was no boisterousness, and at every point the workmen dispersed rapidly, to gather later at central points in each place for a mass meeting.

In Winnipeg the men assembled at Trades hall at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and are still in session discussing the important question of picketing the works and other questions relating to preserving the unbroken ranks of the strikers. The mass meeting is being held in secret, and all press representatives have been excluded.

General Manager Bury, of the western lines, who is in control of the situation in the absence of Mr. Whyte, would give out no statement yesterday, and did not intimate when he would. Mr. McVety, on the contrary, gave out a lengthy statement, in which he placed on the company the entire onus of the strike.

An aspect of the situation which is of considerable interest is the centering in Winnipeg of the managers of the various departments who will conduct the strike for the mechanics. Apparently the whole administration of the affair will be conducted from this city. D. M. O'Dwyer, vice-chairman of the C. P. R. Carman's Association of the Dominion, arrived from Vancouver last night and took up his headquarters with Mr. McVety and other managers for the mechanics. Rumors of movements of strike-breakers from St. Paul, Chicago and other points have disturbed the men, but in no case have the reports been confirmed. Local employment agents deny any knowledge of the reports. Neither the civic authorities nor the board of trade officials had heard anything of their services being required to settle the strike.

SCHOOL CHILDREN'S TEETH.
Ottawa, Aug. 6.—The Canadian Dental Association is holding its fourth biennial session here. Delegates are in attendance from Nova Scotia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec. A large number of American dentists are also attending.

The opening paper was read by Dr. Thompson, of Halifax, who discussed the question of the dental education of the school children. Members of the association who took up the discussion were united in demanding legislation making it imperative that school children be examined by dentists as a preventive measure.

ST. LAWRENCE COLLISION.
Steamer Troid to Blame for Running Into Dominion Liner.
Quebec, Aug. 6.—Commander Spain yesterday adjudged the steamer Troid to blame for the collision with the Dominion liner Ottawa while the latter was on her way to Liverpool over a month ago. Regarding the stranding of H. M. S. Portsmouth, the admiralty court has suspended the certificate of First Mate Martin for twelve months.

FIRE AT GAINSBORO.
Winnipeg, Aug. 6.—Fire early this morning at Gainsboro destroyed Rusk's livery barn, Leslie's general store, where it started, Gleiser's store, and Carr's shop and dwelling. The loss is thirty thousand dollars.

ESTATE OF \$68,000.

Toronto, Aug. 6.—Canon Baldwin, rector of All Saints, has left an estate valued at \$68,000.

DEATH FOLLOWS MISFORTUNE.

Toronto, Aug. 6.—Miss Irene Lehane, of this city, was fatally crushed by the steamer Muskoia at the wharf while returning to see her father who is stricken with paralysis.

DEATH OF NEWSPAPERMAN.

Toronto, Aug. 6.—Thomas Moore, for many years attached to the Evening Globe, is dead after two years' illness. He was the oldest daily newspaper man in Toronto.

NO DEAL WITH ESQUIMALT COUNCIL'S POLICY ON THE WATER QUESTION

Work Now Under Way Will Be Pushed Rapidly Forward—Mayor's Advice to Critics.

(From Thursday's Daily).
The city council will continue to carry out the improvement of the present water works system recommended by Mr. Adams, and approved of by the property owners of the city, and will look to the provincial government for assistance in the securing of a permanent supply, such as must be provided within the next few years. This is in brief the declaration of policy decided on by the members of the council at a conference held last evening for the purpose of letting the people of the city know exactly where they stand on the water question. From the statement given out it is clear that the council does not intend to be stampeded into any deal with the Esquimalt company this year, but that the government will be asked to make good its promise to put the city back into same position, so far as the expropriation of that company's works are concerned, as it was previous to the legislation of 1892, by which Goldstream was taken from the city by the legislature and handed over to the company.

When asked this morning what statement he had to give out regarding last night's conference, Mayor Adams said: "So far as the council is concerned it is going to carry out the policy recommended by Arthur L. Adams, the expert who is advising the city on the water question, and approved of by the people of the city at the time of the municipal elections when we took office last January. This includes the laying of new water mains throughout the city, the improvement of Elk Lake and the installation of new pumping machinery there, laying of new piping from Elk lake to the North Dairy Farm pumping station, and the erection of the high level tank to serve the Rockland avenue district, all of which are being carried out as rapidly as possible, and will continue to push the various undertakings forward as rapidly as we can. We have Mr. Adams' assurance that if we do this everything will be in readiness before the hot weather of 1909. As to a future supply we intend to go to the government for relief."

This was his worship's pronouncement on the council's policy, but he had a few words to address to the people who spend their spare time in writing letters to the papers criticizing the city council. He said: "There is one difference I would wish to draw between the people of Victoria and those of other cities, and also between a section of the press here and in Eastern Canada. The very moment that some people in Victoria think there is anything wrong in any civic department, and without attempting to find out the facts, they write to the papers and in other ways condemn the city council and the civic officials which are called placed in the positions of those whom they are criticizing could do no better, and perhaps not as well as is being done. Those people who are writing so much about water savings, some of whom are apparently trying to avoid the cause of the Esquimalt Water Works Company, and the Colonist newspaper in advertising, wherever it is read, that there is a shortage of water in Victoria for domestic and fire fighting purposes, are doing more to hurt the city from a business standpoint than all the work that the Tourist Association and the city council can do in the way of advertising the city's advantages can counteract."

"In the face of all this criticism, I challenge any one to point to any other city in the Dominion of Canada with the same amount of income as Victoria that is doing work under the same conditions as exist here and where the local improvement system of street and sidewalk construction has been in force for a long time, that is in any way doing about double the amount of work that has ever been attempted by any council in the past."

"In view of this continual fault-finding of the reports, neither the civic authorities nor the board of trade officials had heard anything of their services being required to settle the strike."

PRISON-MADE GOODS.
Ottawa, Aug. 6.—A cable from New Zealand says prison-made goods are absolutely prohibited from entering that country.

HARVESTERS BOUND WEST.
Toronto, Aug. 6.—One thousand harvesters have left here for the Northwest. The number was below what the railroad officials expected.

WHERE THE COMPANY AND THE CITY STAND

What the Company Asked for its Holdings a Year Ago Also Terms on Which it Would Sell Water to Victoria.

(From Thursday's Daily).
In order to clear up the air and enlighten the public as to exactly where negotiations between the city and the Esquimalt Waterworks Company stand regarding the purchase of the latter's property by the former or the supplying of water by the latter to the former, the Times has been asked to publish the latest correspondence on the matter. The city, a year ago this month, wrote the company asking on what terms it would sell its entire holdings and also on what terms it would undertake to supply water to the city. A couple of weeks later the company replied that the shareholders would accept \$1,382,000 for their 400,000 worth of stock. The company offered to accept half the purchase price in 4 1/2 per cent. 50 year city bonds at 92. In reply to the question as to the terms on which it would supply the city with water the company offered to sell the city the water now running to waste below the power house at Goldstream at 3 cents per gallon, the city to lay the piping and undertake the work of bringing the water into the city, or it would carry out its statutory obligation to deliver water in bulk within the city boundaries at 6 cents per gallon.

The letters which are forwarded to the Times by J. L. Baymum, water commissioner, at the request of the members of the council are as follows:
28th August, 1907.
T. Lubbe, Esq., Secretary The Esquimalt Waterworks Co., Victoria.
Dear Sir—I am instructed by the municipal council to ask you to state 1. At what figure and on what terms the Esquimalt Waterworks Co. will sell to the corporation the whole of their holdings and undertakings both at Goldstream and at the lake. 2. At what figure and on what terms the company will sell to the corporation the whole of the water below the power house at present running to waste. 3. At what figure and on what terms and in what quantities per day the company will sell to the corporation, water delivered on the west side of Victoria arm within the city limits. It is of course understood that in the event of the city accepting any one of prices submitted by you that such acceptance is subject to ratification by the ratepayers.

The council is also desirous of knowing whether, in the event of an agreement being arrived at, your company will be willing to accept a portion of the purchase money, and if so, how much, in city 4 per cent. 50 year debentures.

Awaiting your reply I am, Dear Sir, Yours very truly,
JAS. L. RAYMUR,
Water Commissioner.
Office of the Esquimalt Waterworks Co., Victoria, B. C., Sept. 9, 1907.

Mr. James L. Raymur, Waterworks Commissioner, City Hall.
Dear Sir—In reply to your letter of the 28th ult. I am instructed by the board of directors to state that they are of the opinion that the shareholders of this company will accept the sum of \$1,382,000 for the acquisition by the city of the whole of this company's holdings and undertaking both at Goldstream and Thetis lake by the purchase of all the issued shares of the company for that sum, provided that a resolution of the Victoria council embodying an offer to purchase at that figure be submitted to them and a by-law to carry the purchase into effect be assented to within the next two months. The directors are further of the opinion that it will simply be a waste of time to submit any resolution to the shareholders suggesting a sale at any figure lower than that above mentioned.

As to terms, the directors would suggest that the city make a payment of \$100,000 immediately, the by-law authorizing or assenting to the purchase is passed, the balance to be paid at any time within, but not later than four months from date of such ratification, one-half thereof to be paid in cash, the other half in 4 1/2 per cent. 50 year debentures of the city of Victoria at 92 secured in the usual way and approved of by the company, possession to be delivered on payment of the whole of the purchase money. The city of course would have to fulfill all obligations of the company as to the supply of water.

As to your second question, "At what figure and on what terms the company will sell to the corporation the whole of the water below the power-house, etc.?"—the directors desire to state that they do not think the shareholders are wish to sell the water referred to, but would sell any quantity included in a notice (given by the city) within two months from this date) not being less than three million more in the whole than ten million imperial gallons daily at three or four per cent. to be constructed by the city immediately below the power-house.

The city to contract to take water mentioned in the notice or notices given by them for a period to be agreed upon and to make payment for the total amount mentioned in the notice or notices, payments to be made monthly, the first payment to be made one month after the commencement of the delivery of such water which shall not be later than fifteen months from the date of the acceptance of this proposal, the city to be at liberty if the quantity mentioned in the first notice is less than 10,000,000 gallons per day to have the amount increased from time to time so long as the said total of 10,000,000 gallons per day is not exceeded.

A formal agreement with such provisions as the shareholders may be advised to be expedient would have to be entered into.

Before entering into any agreement to this effect, however, the company would require the city to release the company from any obligation that they may be under to supply the city with water under section 10 of the Esquimalt Waterworks Extension act, chapter 51 of the statutes of 1892.

In answer to the 3rd question, the company would refer you to section 10 above mentioned, by which they would be governed.

The above are suggestions merely and are offered without prejudice. In conclusion we may say that during the last two years the company's holdings have been considerably increased.

Yours faithfully,
T. LUBBE, Manager.

C. P. R. OFFICIAL HAS GONE TO ALBERNI

William Whyte and Party Left This Morning by E. & N.
(From Thursday's Daily).
After making a trip to Skagway, William Whyte, second vice-president of the C. P. R., came over from Vancouver last night on the E. & N. railway this morning accompanied by a number of C. P. R. officials for a trip of inspection over the line including the Alberni extension.

On his trip to Skagway in the Princess Beatrice, Mr. Whyte was accompanied by Capt. J. W. Troup, superintendent of the coast steamship service. He stated that the trip was merely taken for the purpose of looking over conditions in the north and the possibilities of traffic in the future. Mr. Whyte had no news regarding the rate war on the Sound to give to a reporter who saw him this morning.

On his trip over the E. & N. to-day

chase of all the issued shares of the company for that sum, provided that a resolution of the Victoria council embodying an offer to purchase at that figure be submitted to them and a by-law to carry the purchase into effect be assented to within the next two months. The directors are further of the opinion that it will simply be a waste of time to submit any resolution to the shareholders suggesting a sale at any figure lower than that above mentioned.

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Yours faithfully,
T. LUBBE, Manager.

GOLF AT NIGHT.
Lake Forest Professional Wins Unusual Wager by the Light of the Moon.
Chicago, Aug. 6.—As a result of a wager, Fred McLeod, professional golfer of the Onwenta County Club at Lake Forest, last night made the 18-hole course in 83 strokes, aided only by the dim light of a half moon. He made the first nine holes in 38, and was going at a fast clip until the fourteenth hole was reached. Then the moon went behind a cloud and the rest of the course was finished in the dark.

McLeod used iron clubs throughout, driving with a putter to make the ball go straight, and using a mid-iron through the fair greens. He laid nearly all his approaches dead, and did not lose a ball. The wager was that he could not make the first nine holes in better than 48.