Friday, February 22, 1907.

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BOWFOOT BRASS BED-
AD, ground top, tastefully
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, beveled mirror 20x24,
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ced oak, regular value $8.00.
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DRESSER, golden finish, just
is required for children's
s, regular $8.75. Sale price.
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stered with pantosote, reg-
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C-PIECE PARLOR SUITE,
g edge, solid silk, hair-
d, regular $60.00. Sale
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C-PIECE MAHOGANY SET,
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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL XLVIII. NO. 22. VICTORIA, B.C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1907. FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR

HUDSON BAY RAILWAY TALKED OF IN HOUSE

Premier States That Government Contemplates Advancement of Project

DECISION WILL SOON BE MADE

Practical Evidence Given of Yukon's Capability as a Producer of Fine Wheat

Ottawa, Feb. 22.—An important declaration was made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier today in reference to the project of a railway to Hudson bay. Mr. Knowles, of Assiniboia, brought up the subject, followed by Messrs. Lake, Cash, Greenway and McCraney, all western members, who presented a strong case.

Hon. Mr. Foster said this was an eastern as well as a western question. No doubt there was a congestion of traffic. The route to Hudson bay would bring the western provinces within easy reach of the seaboard. The railways were already within a few hundred miles of Hudson bay. Mr. Foster recommended that the provinces chiefly concerned and the Dominion should co-operate to carry out the enterprise. The time had come for practical action.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that the question was not a new one, but it had become more acute because of recent conditions which had prevailed in the new territories. While the railways had not been able to overcome the congestion of traffic, he was not prepared to say that they had been in any way remiss. He knew that the railways had been doing more for the eastern provinces than for the west, but conditions in the west were not peculiar to that portion of the Dominion, as Mr. Foster had stated. He was aware from personal inquiry that congestion existed in the west, and therefore a portion of it must exist in the west when the population had been increasing in a greater ratio. He believed that the existing companies were making great and noble efforts to meet the consistently increasing requirements of the western provinces, but there was one thing needed beyond the increase of rolling stock, and that was an outlet to the sea which he believed was to be found on Hudson bay. If there were any feeling in the east in favor of discrimination against the west—and he did not believe it existed—he would combat it with all his energy, for what was doing good to the west must be good for the east, and vice versa.

Proceeding, the Prime Minister said: There is another reason which I want our friends from the west to consider and ponder over, that it is to the interest of the eastern provinces to have another outlet to the north and west of us. Up to the present time Canada has been confined to the valley of the St. Lawrence, and it was supposed that Canada consisted of a narrow strip along the American frontier. We are glad to know now that north of the Laurentian mountains there is a valley which would be a credit to any country and a source of new wealth to Canada. It is now beyond doubt that the new railway which was ordered by this parliament some three years ago, the National Transcontinental railway, will open north of the mountains a most valuable section of country, in which there will be agriculture, lumbering and mineral production as well.

"If in addition to this we have another outlet for the trade of country on the shores of Hudson bay, it will not injure us. It cannot injure the eastern and the older provinces. It may be that we may lose a few pounds of trade, but the trade of the country will grow so much and so fast that whatever may be lost in one way will be more than made up in another way. The idea, as I have said, is not a new one. For the last twenty or twenty-five years there has been upon the statute books a chapter devoted to the construction of a Hudson bay railway, and at this moment there is on the statute books a provision that the country is prepared to give in aid of construction of such a railway a subsidy of 12,000 acres of land per mile along the line of the railway. Up to this moment, no company and no individual has been ready and willing to take up that subsidy which, however, is a very large one. Therefore if the subsidy aid which has been offered has not been sufficient to procure the construction of the railway, I agree for my part that the time has come when we should make a new effort and provide some other means of building it. I agree altogether with what has been said by the member for North Toronto, that the time has come for the construction of this railway, and I may say to the members of the house, especially from the Northwest territories, who are interested in this, that at this very moment the subject is engaging the attention of the government. I am not prepared at this moment to make any further statement than that; but I say this, with all the authority which I have in this house, that at this moment the subject is engaging the attention of the government. I am not prepared to say that next week, or the week after, or within a very short time, we will have an announcement to make to the house, but I hope before the end of the session we will have something to declare upon this subject."

When the house met today, Dr. Thompson of Yukon laid on the table a small bag of wheat, which was grown in Yukon in latitude 62. He said it was equal to anything grown in the Northwest. Wheat had been growing there for five years, and was untouched by frost. The house cheered loudly.

E. A. Haggen, of Revelstoke, has been appointed a commissioner under the Colonization act.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Sir F. W. Borden have taken passage by the Empress of Britain, which sails from St. John on April 5, to attend the colonial conference. Hon. Messrs. Fielding, Brodeur and Paterson will go by the same steamer if the session is over to permit them doing so.

DROWNING AT BUFFALO

Woman and Three Children Break Through Ice on Creek

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 22.—Four people were drowned in Seajaqua creek, at the Elmwood avenue entrance to Delaware park, this evening. The dead are: Mrs. Wm. H. Drummer, 28 years old, Anthony Beiter, 13 years, Richard Beiter, 12 years old, Anthony's brother, Ruth Drummer, 15 years old, Mrs. Drummer's stepdaughter.

Mrs. Drummer, with seven children, was walking on the ice toward Delaware park at the Elmwood avenue viaduct over the creek. The ice suddenly gave way under Ruth and the two Beiter boys, throwing them in the water. Mrs. Drummer was about twenty feet away with her 4-year-old son, Walter, who was riding on a sleigh. Leaving the little lad, Mrs. Drummer ran to the rescue of the three children struggling in the water. In her efforts to save them Mrs. Drummer broke through the ice, and little Walter, who had toddled after his mother, also fell in.

The screams of the other children in the party attracted the attention of the crew and passengers of a street car who ran to the bank of the creek. The only one of the four of them in sight was the four-year-old lad Walter, who was clinging to the edge of the ice. He was rescued without difficulty. Mrs. Drummer was unconscious when taken from the water and the excited children did not tell the rescuers, or failed to realize, that three of their number were still missing.

Mrs. Drummer was carried to a hospital, where she died without regaining consciousness. It was not until the children reached home that the others were missed.

The creek was dragged and the three bodies found close to the hole in the ice. The water was only four feet deep where the drowning occurred.

FAST TRAIN WRECKED ON PENNSYLVANIA ROAD

New York and Chicago Flyer Leaves Track and Many Passengers are Injured

Altoona, Pa., Feb. 22.—Railroad officials here say train number 21 is off the track, with one car in the river. Many are hurt, but the officials say none are dead. Physicians have been rushed to the scene of the wreck from this city.

Philadelphia, Feb. 23.—At 1:80 this morning the Pennsylvania railway officials here said that the wrecked train was the Pennsylvania special, the eighteen-hour train between New York and Chicago. The wreck, the officials say, occurred about 33 miles west of Altoona and half a mile from any telegraph office. The train, which left Newark at four o'clock this morning, was composed of four Pullman sleepers. While the first report was to the effect that the train went down an embankment into the Conemaugh river, later reports, it is said, are that it was derailed.

2:30 a.m.—A despatch just received in this city states that no one was killed in the wreck of the 18-hour flyer. Eight of the injured were taken to Altoona, and several were taken to Johnstown. Many of the injured, it is said, are seriously injured.

BLOCKADE OF TRAFFIC HAS SERIOUS RESULTS

Farmers and Business Men on Prairie Subjected to Heavy Loss

Rosthern, Sask., Feb. 22.—Assistant Manager Drury, of the railway commission, was here yesterday securing information regarding the freight tie-up. He found that since December 12 last about twenty cars of freight, all but one being lumber and coal, were brought to Rosthern. Sine the Canadian Northern took over the line only ten cars of wheat have been taken out. The elevators, holding a quarter of a million bushels of grain, are all filled, and forty per cent. of the crop is still unmarketed.

Mr. Drury met the business men during the afternoon, and was given a list of delayed goods in transit since December 15, and the list totaled a large number of cars. Coal oil and sugar are entirely out. Groceries and many lines of drygoods are very low. Spring goods, such as farm implements, hardware and harness, which should now be here, are somewhere on the road. Unless these goods arrive farmers will be hard hit. The loss of business men already totals thousands of dollars. Strongly worded resolutions were presented to Mr. Drury, asking that a railway commission take immediate steps to raise the blockade and rush in goods. Mr. Drury says in an interview that one hundred and forty cars are at present in the Regina yards for this branch. He personally made the count himself. He promised to do what he can for Rosthern.

KILLED IN WRECK

Dubuque, Iowa, Feb. 22.—One man and one woman were killed and a dozen others injured at Washington Mills today in a wreck on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. A passenger coach jumped the track and went off the bridge

FRENCH TAX DODGERS MUST NEEDS BE SMART

Many Changes Are Noted in Proposed New System of Taxation

LARGE INQUISITORIAL POWERS

The Incomes From Foreign Securities Bear a Heavier Burden Than Those at Home

Paris, Feb. 23.—The new system of taxation based on incomes from all sources which the French government has proposed to parliament, is estimated to produce $138,800,000, against $138,000,000 under the old system. Most of the taxes to be suppressed have been in existence for a hundred years. These antiquated taxes, with the revenue produced under each head, were as follows: Direct upon realty, etc., $20,250,000; buildings $18,250,000; personal property $20,100,000; window and door taxes, $13,250,000; licenses, $27,600,000; four per cent tax upon income from French securities, $14,250,000; foreign securities, $1,800,000; stamp and other dues upon transfer transactions in French and foreign securities, $21,800,000.

Under the proposed income tax system, taxes will be levied: Four per cent upon income from realty (buildings), $19,250,000; realty (land, farms etc.), $10,000,000; income from securities, French, $14,250,000; foreign, $32,250,000; rentes, $2,800,000; credits, deposits, guarantees for contracts, $600,000; three and a half per cent upon the income from commerce and industry, $25,600,000; agriculture, $4,250,000; three per cent. upon salaries and pensions, $3,600,000; liberal professions, $1,250,000.

There is to be a supplementary graduated tax upon incomes up to $100,000, commencing with one-fifth of one per cent, and increased to four per cent on incomes of $20,000 and over. This is estimated to produce $24,000,000; while the five per cent upon the revenue derived from securities, which is to be replaced by the old stamp and other transfer dues, is estimated to produce $26,250,000.

The inquisitorial powers granted for the discovery of concealed revenue are extensive, and will greatly complicate the work of banks and other credit establishments. The banks must keep records of all transactions in bonds, stocks and bills of exchange for the inspection of treasury agents, and must deduct the tax when due from all coupons, stock dividends, etc., attaching certificates showing that the tax has been paid. As much money has already gone abroad for investment to escape the threatened income tax at home—a considerable amount to the United States—and as it is feared that much more will follow, the framers of the law have elaborated a double method for bringing such investors into the government net. The holder of foreign securities residing in France who receives or deposits abroad, directly or indirectly, dividends, interest, etc., must within three months after January 1 of each year make a declaration covering the preceding year. Failure to do this, or a fraudulent declaration, subjects the offender to a fine equal to half the amount not declared and a tax equal to triple the sum of which the treasury has been derived for each year anterior to this discovery of the fraud.

French banks with branches abroad, or foreign banks with branches in France, are bound under a penalty of $20 a day for delay after official notification to allow the treasury agent to inspect every six months, accounts of their clients, every omission subjecting the firm to a fine of $100 to $200. All such establishments must keep registers of all sums of securities sent abroad for the depositor's investment. Both foreign government securities and foreign private securities are subjected to slightly heavier burdens than French rentes and French stocks. The tax upon the income of "rentes" is four per cent, while that in foreign government securities totals five per cent, exclusive of the initial stamp tax of two per cent of the face value, with a corresponding increase if the stocks and bonds placed upon the French market sell above par. Private foreign stocks and bonds on the French market bear the same burdens as the foreign government securities. Corresponding French private securities pay only three per cent or four per cent, according to their character.

The only persons exempt from the graduated income tax are ambassadors and other diplomatic and consular officials, but only where the country which they represent grants similar immunity to French diplomats and French consular officials.

RESORTED TO DYNAMITE

Owner of "Blind Tiger" Takes Revenge for a Raid

Terre Haute, Ind., Feb. 22.—Following a raid on alleged "blind tiger" at Sandford by a sheriff's posse yesterday, two stores and the Methodist church were dynamited early today. The act is said to have been committed out of revenge.

Sheriff Horsely went to the home of Henry McDonald, owner of the liquor, and found him in bed with his clothing on.

A witness has been found who asserted that he saw McDonald running from the store building before the explosions. McDonald was formerly a miner.

JUMPED FROM WINDOW

London Ont., Feb. 22.—Mrs. Bessie Doidge, wife of Motorman George Doidge, of the London street railway, jumped from the third storey window of the Maternity ward of Victoria hospital and was killed.

BANK STATEMENT.

Report on Canadian Clearings for Past Week.

New York, Feb. 23.—The following are the weekly bank clearings as compared with the corresponding week last year, as compiled by Bradstreet's for the week ending February 21, showing percentage of increase or decrease: Montreal $25,382,906, dec. 7.6; Toronto $22,962,067, dec. 11.2; Winnipeg $8,799,560, inc. 29.2; Ottawa, $2,352,744, inc. 24.2; Halifax $1,282,505, dec. 20.1; Vancouver $3,390,904, inc. 70.4; Quebec $1,863,796, inc. 38.6; Hamilton $1,549,047, inc. 23.6; St. John, $1,003,203, nil; London $1,115,730, inc. 13.2; Victoria $860,547, inc. 40.5; Calgary $1,426,025, nil; Edmonton $690,161, nil.

STEVE ADAMS' CONFESSION

Wallace, Idaho, Feb. 23.—Steve W. Adams' version of the alleged connection of the Western Federation of Miners with the assassination in 1905 of former Governor Frank Steunenberg, of Idaho, was read today to the jury that is trying Adams for the murder of Fred Tyler. Adams, who is a member of the Western Federation of Miners, made a confession, now denied by him, to the murder of Tyler, following a confession of Harry Orchard, implicating Adams in the assassination of Steunenberg, and also in the murder of Tyler.

THREE MORE SAVED

Hook of Holland, Feb. 23.—The three women who were left on the wreck of the steamer Berlin yesterday were taken off by the life savers today. Captain Sperling, who rescued the last three survivors, is the master of a ship now in this harbor. The captain, with two of his nephews, volunteered to assist in the life saving.

DEATH OF FINANCIER

New York, Feb. 23.—Edward C. Cooper, vice president of the Siegel Cooper company, of Chicago, and this city, died at his residence here tonight of double pneumonia. Mr. Cooper was 36 years of age and son of the late Frank Cooper, one of the founders of Siegel Cooper company.

PANIC AVERTED.

Chicago, Feb. 23.—A panic in the Auditorium tonight during the grand opera performance of the San Carlo Opera company, was averted by the presence of mind of Miss Alice Nielsen, who was singing the prima donna role. A small blaze underneath the stage caused the stage manager to order the stage fire curtain to be lowered. The sight of the barrier and the smell of smoke brought the audience of four thousand persons to their feet in a mad rush for the exits had already begun when Miss Nielsen darted under the curtain and climbed to the footlights, where she led the star Spangled Banner. Her voice rang over the tumult and stilled the panic before she had sung the first verse.

ARRESTED AT VANCOUVER

Vancouver, Feb. 23.—C. Kelly, an American bartender, was arrested here this afternoon, charged with stealing several hundred dollars' worth of jewelry from a saloon in which he was working in Astoria, Ore. Kelly was arrested by Detectives Preston and Scott, on a telegram received from the chief of police in Astoria. A gold watch, a box of jewelry and pawn tickets for jewelry in Tacoma shops were found upon him. He admits taking the goods, but not feloniously.

PROVIDING PROTECTION FOR INSURANCE MEN

Alderman Hanna's Proposed By-law in Interest of Established Local Agents

Steps will be taken by Ald. Hanna in the near future for the introduction of a by-law to secure the protection of the licensed insurance agents in this city against the depredations of free lances from other cities.

It has been in times past, and is now, a fruitful cause of complaint among the insurance men having offices in Victoria that their business is much injured by agents from Vancouver, Seattle and other outside cities, who pay Victoria a visit, stay a few days, and leave, taking away with them policies often amounting to several thousands of dollars. The life insurance agents in particular find their business very much affected by proceedings of this sort, and marine and fire insurance men also have complaints to make. The men who have offices in this city pay a licence for the privilege of doing business here, and they think that in consideration of this they are entitled to look for some measure of protection from the city council, especially as the permanently established business is a means of putting money into circulation; while the operations of the outside agents merely have the effect of taking capital away.

This is with a view to putting some sort of a limit to the activity of the outside agents that Ald. Hanna's by-law will be introduced. The rough draft has been made, but it is not yet ready to be submitted to the council, as it involves several points of law, opinions on which have been asked for from the city solicitor. Once all the necessary information has been secured, the by-law will be submitted to the council and will duly become law, there being very little danger of its being quashed.

It will provide that no person shall be permitted to do insurance business in the city without having first paid the regular licence. Once the licence fee has been paid, dealers from Vancouver or elsewhere will be just as free to do business in Victoria as the local men, but until that licence is forthcoming they will be prohibited from doing so in any shape or form, and heavy penalties will be exacted for any infraction of the law.

CENTRAL AMERICAN WAR MAY INVOLVE MANY

Other Republics Expected to Side With Honduras or Nicaragua

UNITED STATES ON THE ALERT

Some Hopes That Presidents Roosevelt and Diaz May Yet Succeed in Preserving Peace

Washington, Feb. 23.—Notification of the existence of a state of war in Central America has reached the state department in the form of a cablegram from American Minister Combes, dated at Guatemala City, yesterday, as follows:

"The minister of foreign affairs for Honduras telegraphed that Nicaragua, by its invasion of Honduras, has terminated the pending negotiations for a peaceful settlement."

If hostilities extend, as now appears probable, it may be necessary for the state department to call upon the navy department to increase the force of naval vessels in Central American waters. At present this force consists of the cruiser Chicago, now lying in touch with a cable at Acajutla, Salvador, and the gunboat Marietta, on the Caribbean side, last heard from at Bluefields, Nicaragua. She was sent on to this point with the American vice consul at San Juan del Norte on board, to give protection to some extensive merchant plantation interests there. Should the war extend from the boundary between Nicaragua and Honduras, as is probable, in view of the likelihood that Salvador will join forces with Honduras, and Guatemala with Nicaragua, the navy department will probably add two or three cruisers and gunboats to its present forces, to see that American property rights are expected and the lives of American citizens are protected.

San Salvador, Feb. 23.—Public opinion in Central America is in favor of the friendly intervention of President Roosevelt and President Diaz in the trouble between Honduras and Nicaragua, and the presidents of these two countries are expressing the hope that the other two presidents will exert their powerful influence to end the war.

President Bonilla of Honduras, according to report, has taken up a strong position with his forces at Choluteca, where he is awaiting the attack of the Nicaraguans. Choluteca is the nearest important Honduran town to the Nicaraguan frontier. It is 70 miles southwest of Tegucigalpa and has a population of 5000. The country where the next engagement will probably occur is devoted to cattle raising and consists of open savannas.

REGIONS THAT AWAIT ADVENT OF RAILWAYS

The Need of the Great West—Plea for Construction of Road to Hudson Bay

"I am convinced that the Canadian West, that country extending from the eastern boundary of Manitoba to the Pacific coast, is by far the wealthiest portion of the Dominion, and that, in the not very distant future, it will overbalance the remainder in respect to population."

The foregoing statement was made yesterday by Rev. W. A. Burman, who is identified with the St. John's Institute, Winnipeg, and is making a short sojourn in Victoria. He has spent about twenty years in the Northwest, and has watched the development of the prairie provinces with close attention and keen interest. His work among the Indians has taken him to some of the most remote regions, north, south, east and west, and his observations have led him to the conclusion that the future of the section of Canada referred to has been underestimated even by the most sanguine.

Rev. Mr. Burman asserts that, although the Northwest provinces—those immense agricultural sections heretofore spoken of collectively as the territories—have become settled to a considerable extent within recent years, there are still large tracts the soil of which has never been furrowed. The wave of prosperity, which has been so often spoken of, he thinks is only starting, and will increase in volume with the growth of the country. And he believes that there is plenty of room for advancement.

What is needed to open up the country, to induce settlers to take up the land and develop the natural wealth, is railways. These, he points out, are beginning to be constructed, the work of the Canadian Pacific, the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk Pacific being evidences of the fact that these corporations recognize the resources of the great West and realize that there are vast possibilities in trade and commerce throughout the Northwest and British Columbia, which only require the magic touch of the railroad to bring them into existence.

A point which, in the opinion of Rev. Mr. Burman, has been overlooked by the majority of Canadians, is the fact that the northerly portions of the prairies offer every inducement to those anxious to enter into agricultural pursuits. He thinks that this section is just as fertile as the more southerly country, and is convinced that, ultimately, it will attract just as much attention as is now the case with the districts adjacent to the main line of the C. P. R. There is no doubt in his mind that the Grand Trunk Pacific, and also the Canadian Northern, will open up fruitful agricultural districts. But he thinks that in the process of the evolution of trade it will become generally recognized that a line from some point on Hudson bay, either running direct to the coast or making connection with one of the great transcontinental lines, is necessary.

Such a system, he explains, would open up an entirely new route for the shipment of Canadian produce. It would enable the wheat growers to send their crops to the markets of European countries much more expeditiously than at present. The congestion of traffic, which is almost invariably experienced along the line of the C. P. R. at the time the wheat of the prairie sections is ready for shipment, would be overcome. In fact, he believes that a line operating between the Pacific coast and Hudson bay, there connecting with a steamship line, would have many advantages over the existing method of transportation.

There appeared to be a prevailing idea that the stretch of water lying to the north of Labrador was unnavigable for the great part of the year. Rev. Mr. Burman says this is fallacious. It was true, he said, that these waters could not be traversed at certain seasons, and at others was somewhat dangerous. But this also could be said of the St. Lawrence river. It was frozen for several months; and the northern waters were not closed for a much longer period. Such a route, Rev. Mr. Burman points out, would bring British Columbia and the Northwest into closer touch with the European markets.

It is interesting to note that the line which Rev. Mr. Burman believes is practicable was advocated by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, premier of the Dominion of Canada, in an address delivered in the house at Ottawa, an account of which was contained in a dispatch published in these columns yesterday. The premier advanced much the same arguments as have been outlined, and announced that the government would consider the offer of a further subsidy to any company willing to undertake the work. This is generally accepted as an indication that a road to the bay will soon be constructed.

WATER POWER PROJECT

Company Seeks Record on Howe Sound Rivers

New Westminster, Feb. 23.—The B. C. Power & Electric company, limited, has filed an application in the water commissioner's office for 3,000 miners' inches of water. The water is to be taken from the Squamish river and the Jeackamish river and its tributaries. The water is to be used in the carrying out of a plan which the company has formulated of building and operating a huge plant for generating electricity, for heating, lighting and power for manufacturing, industrial and mechanical purposes. The difference in altitude is about 300 feet, and the water will be conveyed the required spot by means of dams, pipes, flumes and ditches.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC STAFF

Winnipeg, Feb. 23.—The G. T. P. has begun to organize its western system and one of the official appointments is that of O. O. Winter to the leading executive position. Mr. Winter is a railway man of great experience and ability. At present he is superintendent of the C. P. R. at Brandon. He was formerly in a similar position at Fort William.

STEAMER PASSENGERS PLACED IN DANGER

Austrian Vessel With Many People Aboard Strikes Rock off Coast of Crete

Trieste, Austria, Feb. 23.—The Austrian Lloyd steamer Imperatrix, while bound from Trieste to Bombay, ran on a rock last evening near Cape Elaphonisi, on the island of Crete, and sank within a short time. It is known that the disaster was accompanied by loss of life, but in the absence of definite news the number of drowned is unknown. The passengers and crew on board numbered about 150. The steamer sailed from Trieste on February 19.

The Austrian Lloyd steamer Imperatrix was 130 feet long, 50 feet beam and of 2234 tons. She was built by the Lloyd Austria Company of Trieste in 1888.

A telegram has been received from the company's agent at Canea, which says: The following letter has been received from a Heutenant of the Imperatrix: "Twelve persons and myself have been saved. The others are on board the steamer, the position of which is extremely dangerous."

ONTARIO LOCAL OPTION

Government Refuses to Repeal Three-Fifths Majority Clause

Toronto, Feb. 23.—"We are bound to say that the majority shall be always three-fifths or four-fifths, but we do not propose in the light of the facts shown to make any change in the present legislation."

Such was the substance of the reply of Premier Whitney to a large delegation from the Ontario branch of the Dominion Alliance at the Parliament buildings. The delegation stated that the three-fifths clause necessary to carry local option was contrary to justice and fair play. They came pleading for abolition.

Premier Whitney also stated that the three-fifths clause was necessary for the permanence of public opinion.

FRASER FISHERIES

New Westminster, Feb. 23.—The three gentlemen who will make the trip to Ottawa in the interest of the fishing industry will be Mayor Keary, representing the city of New Westminster; George Mackie, representing the fishermen, and Henry Doyle, representing the independent packers. The deputation will most probably leave on Sunday, and will be away at least two weeks. The city council last evening voted the sum of $750 to pay the expenses of the deputation. Action was hastened by a dispatch from J. B. Kennedy, M. P., who said the canners' deputation was busy at Ottawa.

IMPORTANT ORE FINDS IN ROSSLAND MINE

Two Discoveries in White Bear That Promise to be of Much Value

SMELTERS GET COKE SUPPLIES

Summary of Ore Production in the Kootenay and Boundary Districts For the Past Week

Rossland, Feb. 23.—Two ore shoots of considerable magnitude, and of good grade, have been located on the 800-foot level of the White Bear mine. The management is much pleased over the finds, and feels confident that the White Bear has the makings of a valuable mine.

Coke is moving more freely, and considerable has been received at the Le Roi smelter at Northport.

At the Centre Star the new converters and the rock-breaker were started up on a trial run today, and worked satisfactorily. The breaker has a capacity of one thousand tons in ten hours, and will break rock at the mine instead of doing it at the smelter, as heretofore.

Shipments for the week were: Centre Star, 1,410 tons; Le Roi, 3,150; Le Roi No Two, 510. Total for week, 5,070, and for year, 35,377 tons.

At the Trail smelter 4,136 tons were received during the week.

District Shipments.

Nelson, Feb. 23.—The following are the ore shipments and smelter receipts in southwestern British Columbia districts for the past week and the year to date, in tons:

Shipments: East of Columbia river, week, 2,146; year, 16,134. Rossland, week, 4,780; year, 34,282. Boundary, week, 12,725; year, 102,866. Total, week, 19,651; year, 153,282.

Smelter receipts: Grand Forks, week, 6,387; year, 55,376. Boundary Falls, week, 2,584; year, 17,434. Greenwood, week, 2,280; year, 26,222. Trail, week, 4,136; year, 29,148. Nelson, week, 329; year, 2,059. Northport, week, 2,835; year, 10,975. Marysville, week, 600; year, 4,800. Total, week, 19,131; year, 14,600.

FATAL AVALANCHE

Trondhjem, Norway, Feb. 23.—An avalanche of snow down the cliffs of the Geiranger Fjord today swept a farm house and its twenty inmates into the water. Two of the people were buried alive.

BIG APPROPRIATION BILL

Washington, Feb. 23.—The sundry civil appropriation bill, the largest in the history of the government, carrying $105,000,000, approximately, was passed by the House today.

NO INTRIGUE AGAINST RUSSIAN PARLIAMENT

Rumors Denied—Composition of New House According to Latest Returns

St. Petersburg, Feb. 23.—An official statement has been issued denying the reports published in the press that on Feb. 22 a conference was held at Tsarskoe Selo between members of the ministry and high officials to discuss the possibility of dissolving parliament as soon as it meets to bring about the resignation of the cabinet or to impose conditions for the co-operation of government and parliament. It is denied also that such conferences are contemplated for next week.

Election statistics for the past week show the election of 419 members of parliament, distributed as follows: 75 monarchists, 33 moderates, 24 progressives, 70 constitutional democrats, 156 members of the Left party, 40 nationalists and 11 indefinites.

The group designated as the Left party is no vague aggregation. It contains an unprecedented number of Socialists, including 43 social democrats and 45 social revolutionists. The make-up of this parliament is closely patterned upon that of the first body. Fully half the members are peasants.

DUPONT BLOCK SOLD

Well Known New Westminster Property Changes Hands

New Westminster, Feb. 23.—The old Dupont block changed hands yesterday, the purchasers being a syndicate of New Westminster men who can see a marked advance in the price of real estate coming within the next few months. The exact figure at which the block changed hands is not given but it is understood to be in the neighborhood of $50,000. The Dupont block was owned by a Vancouver capitalist, who acquired it a short time ago. The block is a two story brick structure, facing on Columbia, McEcnzie and Front streets. On Front street the building has three stories. Every store in the building is rented.

LOSES APPEAL

Winnipeg, Feb. 23.—At the sitting of the Court of Appeals the argument in Bogle vs. Kootenay Valley Fruit Lands company, was concluded and the court dismissed the appeal with costs, without calling upon Mr. Locke for the respondents.

INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY

Toronto, Feb. 23.—A convention to organize the Independent Labor Party in Ontario will be called for Good Friday, March 29th.