The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL L., NO. 115 — VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1908 — FIFTIETH YEAR

OTTAWA ACCEPTS JAPAN'S PROMISE

Will Rely Upon Nippon Government to Restrict Immigration

Tokio, Jan. 16.—(Thursday)—The Canadian emigration question has been settled. The Japanese government has received notice that the report of Rodolphe Lemieux, Canadian minister of labor, is entirely satisfactory to the Canadian government, and that it would accept in good faith the verbal promise of the restriction of the emigration laborers, replying upon the Japanese government to enforce the regulations which are outlined in its memorandum. Nothing now remains except the exchange of memoranda between the two governments.

ISLAND FLYER SAFE

Missing Passenger Launch Found Among the Islands With Her Shaft Broken

Bellingham, Jan. 15.—The launch Island Flyer, Capt. Fred King, plying between this city and Anacortes, broke its shaft on the trip to Anacortes on Monday afternoon when off Samish island, and lay there until 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, when it was found by its owner, Capt. Blackwell, who had gone in search of the missing launch in another launch.

BETTER IN ASIA

Viscount Aoki Thinks Japanese Laborers Have Small Chance in America

Honolulu, Jan. 15.—Viscount Aoki, the retiring Japanese ambassador to the United States, and Governor Frear, of Hawaii, arrived here yesterday from San Francisco on the steamship Manchuria.

A local Japanese newspaper prints an interview with Viscount Aoki, late Japanese ambassador to America, in which Viscount Aoki is quoted as follows: "I do not approve of manual laborers going to America. They cannot expect, after Japan's long isolation, to establish themselves in any western country. Destiny and opportunity are in Asia, Korea, Manchuria."

Viscount Aoki also expressed himself as opposed to Japanese seeking naturalization in America, for the permanent residence.

DEPRESSION IN DIAMONDS

Premier Company's Business Seriously Affected by Financial Disturbance

Johannesburg, Jan. 15.—The depression in the diamond markets of the world resulting from the recent financial crisis in America and the money stringency in Europe has assumed serious proportions, according to a statement issued today by the Premier Diamond Mining company to its shareholders. The statement sets forth that the diamond markets have been almost completely dislocated, and that the depression has reached such proportions that in order to protect and strengthen the position of the premier mine it has become imperatively necessary to conserve and augment the resources to meet any possible future difficulty.

Big Summer Hotel

Toronto, Jan. 15.—The Canadian Railway News Company and the Grand Trunk railway have completed the purchase of forty acres of land at Norway Point, Huntsville, for the erection of their new $100,000 hotel.

M.P.P. Shoots Himself.

Fredericton, N.B., Jan. 15.—George Winthrop Allen, M.P.P. for York, and one of New Brunswick's leading lawyers, shot himself in the head this morning while in a fit of despondency brought on by ill-health, and died at 5 o'clock this afternoon. He leaves a widow and one daughter, unmarried.

Judgment For Mr. Booth

Toronto, Jan. 15.—In Sprague vs. Booth, a case arising out of the Canada Atlantic deal, the action of Mr. Sprague, the assignee of Dr. Seward Webb, of New York, is dismissed, and J. R. Booth's right to the $250,000 deposit is confirmed, according to the judgment delivered by Justice Mabee.

Condemn French Treaty

Toronto, Jan. 15.—A resolution condemning the new French treaty was passed by the provincial fruit growers' association at its meeting in the parliament buildings. It said that the admission of French light wines at reduced rates of duty would seriously injure the industry in Ontario. They ask amendment of the treaty in this respect.

Baron Takahira Leaves

Rome, Jan. 15—Baron Korogo Takahira, who will succeed Viscount Aoki, Japanese ambassador to the United States, was received in audience by King Victor Emmanuel today. His Majesty said he was sorry the Japanese diplomat was going to leave Rome. Baron Takahira expects to leave Liverpool for New York on February 8 by the steamer Mauretania.

Contempt of Court Case.

Toronto, Jan. 15.—A motion to commit W. H. Greenwood, managing editor of the World, for contempt of court for publishing an article headed "Beware of Gobblers," commenting on the action of the Ontario railway board in connection with the street railway trouble in Toronto Junction, was heard by Justice Riddell this morning. His lordship reserved judgment, considering the whole case a question of jurisdiction. He did not see how he could commit Mr. Greenwood for contempt of the railway board, which has power itself to commit for contempt.

WOOL GROWERS ANGRY

Resent Washington Regulation of the Public Ranges in Montana—Speech at Convention

Helena, Mont., Jan. 15.—The first day's session of the annual convention of the National Wool Growers' Association was characterized by a bitter attack upon government regulation of public ranges by Thomas J. Walsh, a Helena stockman, lawyer and late Democratic candidate for congress, who criticized especilly the action of the administration in putting into effect what is known as the license system of grazing upon forest reserves.

Mr. Walsh asserted that efforts were making to befog the public mind on the real issues, and held that the policy of forest preservation was not at stake. He said the people of the West had gratefully accepted President Roosevelt's administration, but felt they knew better what is for their good than does he or any department clerk. He asserted that it was paternalism gone mad to charge that the cattlemen did not know their own interests, and described as a distrust of the people every argument advanced in favor of the new departure.

For United States Bank.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The establishment of the United States Bank of America, is provided for in a bill introduced in the house today by Mr. Fornes, Democratic member of congress, of New York.

Ended His Life

Washington, Jan. 15.—The body of Lieut. John W. Crawfort, private secretary to Admirall Dewey, was found below Fort Foote, on the mainland side of the Potomac. He disappeared on November 20 last, leaving a note to a friend stating that he was driven to end his life by financial troubles.

JAPANESE CRISIS NOT YET OVERCOME

Vacancies in Cabinet Not Filled—Budget is Sole Cause of Trouble

Tokio, Jan. 15.—An accurate prediction concerning the probable life of the Marquis Saionji's cabinet is difficult. The inability of the cabinet to avert a climax, and the resignations of the ministers of finance and communications, has created a situation approaching a political panic. Even those best informed are unable to forecast tomorrow's developments with any degree of certainty. The consensus of opinion is to the effect that the present cabinet, either with double portfolios or possible additions will face the new diet, which after the general elections of the spring will open on July 2. The posts of minister of finance and minister of communications were made vacant yesterday. They were at once filled temporarily by the minister of justice taking up also the duties of the former and the minister of the interior the duties of the latter.

An effort is being made to fill these vacancies, but there is a difficulty encountered in securing the consent of statesmen to accept the responsibility under existing circumstances. The opposition, and even friends of the government, are apparently determined to force the government to appeal to the country. With an unpopular budget, the constitutionalists lack nine votes of an actual majority in the lower house. Reliable authorities think the constitutionalists will refuse to accept the government's financial policy when the budget is presented. In that event the cabinet will resign, the diet will be dissolved, and the former budget will be continued until another cabinet is formed, and a new budget passed.

By such a method the constitutionalists may be in a position to appeal to the country, and say they are not responsible for Premier Saionji's mistakes. They can assert that they repudiated a budget involving increased taxation, the suspension of public works and the unnecessarily heavy expenditures for the army.

It is believed that with such a position the constitutionalists will secure a majority at the national election, and that the cabinet will be formed by Marquis Katsura, the ex-premier, or possibly by Admiral Baron Gombei Yamamoto. The latter, however, is improbable. There is no reason to doubt that the present question has nothing to do with hastening the climax. It is believed on all sides that the immigration questions which exist with America and Canada will be settled amicably. An interesting feature of the situation is the increasing influence of the commercial classes in the politics of Japan. Yoshiro Sakatani, ex-minister of finance, is the son-in-law of Baron Shiburewa, who bitterly opposed the proposition to increase the taxation, in common with other prominent business men who were antagonistic to the continued heavy expenditures of the army.

Nakashako, vice-minister of communications, resigned today. He will be succeeded by Muzuka, of the railroad bureau.

A mistaken idea prevails abroad in regard to the Japanese cabinet crisis, according to dispatches from Washington and London to the effect that an opposition victory might entail a change in Japanese foreign policy. A special from Washington this morning says that it is believed that the immigration controversy had something to do with the changes in the cabinet. These surmises are entirely in error. The cabinet crisis is purely the result of internal differences over the budget. In the event of the resignation of the entire cabinet its reformation would certainly result in the retention of a number of the present ministers, including, possibly, Foreign Minister Hayashi.

Sentence for Bigamy

Tara, Ont., Jan. 15.—Solomon Woods was sentenced to two months' imprisonment and $100 fine on a charge of bigamy.

O'BRIEN'S FRIENDS EJECTED BY LEAGUE

Irish Factions Are Apparently Still Far From Being Reconciled

Dublin, Jan. 15.—The recently discussed reunion of the Redmonites and the O'Brienites is still far from consummation, judging from an incident which took place today at the meeting here of the national directory of the United Irish League. Two nationalists from Cork, supporters of Mr. O'Brien, and duly accredited delegates to the meeting, entered the hall, but as soon as their presence was discovered, the league officials ordered that they be expelled. The delegates from Cork declined to obey, and after an exciting struggle, they were finally ejected by force.

After order was restored, John Redmond was re-elected president. A report was submitted showing that the receipts of the league for the past three years had exceeded those of the previous three years by more than $40,000, and that more than 1,200 evicted tenants had been reinstated.

A resolution was adopted expressing confidence in the parliamentary party under the leadership of Mr. Redmond, and congratulating the Nationalists on their response to the appeal for a vigorous campaign in favor of home rule.

Mr. Redmond's action at the conference between him and William O'Brien, then a member of parliament for Cork, at which Mr. Redmond refused to yield to the demand for immediately summoning a national convention on a new basis of new representation, was also endorsed, and support was pledged to the movement for the breaking up of the grazing ranches. The final resolution adopted welcomed "as a basis for attracting attention to the absurdity of the hereditary principle in legislation, and the moral and political imbecility of the Irish peerage as a class," the candidature of Lord Curzon for the Irish representative peerage.

Southern War Poet Dies.

Augusta, Ga., Jan. 15.—James Ryder Randall, of this city, famous as a war poet, died here today. He was born in Baltimore in 1843. Among other products of his pen was "Maryland, My Maryland," of which Oliver Wendell Holmes said: "My only regret is that I could not do for Massachusetts what Randall did for Maryland."

TRIED TO KILL LAWYER

Woman's Attempt at Murder in Corridor of Federal Building in Chicago

Chicago, Jan. 15.—Three shots were fired at S. R. Hamill, one of the attorneys for John R. Walsh, by Mrs. Thomas Metcalfe in the corridor of the Federal building here late yesterday afternoon. The incident occurred outside the courtroom of Judge Anderson, before whom John R. Walsh is on trial on charges of having manipulated funds of the Chicago National Bank. Mr. Hamill, according to witnesses of the affair, left the room late in the afternoon, followed by Mrs. Metcalfe. As he was about to leave the building the woman drew a revolver and fired.

Mrs. Metcalfe, through her attorney, waived examination when arraigned before United States Commissioner Foote today, and was held to the federal grand jury. She was taken to the county jail in default of $1,000 bonds.

Mrs. Metcalfe, after her arraignment, declared that her correct name was Mrs. Beatrice Thomas, and asked further proceedings against her conduct under that name.

Attorney Hamill this afternoon said: "The first tme I met the woman was in my office, about five years ago. She asked me to act for her in a case in St. Louis. She said she had a claim on a large estate left by her mother. I investigated, learned that her claim was unfounded, and advised her to drop the matter. I did not see her again until about two years ago, when she again came to my office and said that I was not doing her justice. I again persuaded her to abandon the case. I learned yesterday that she had been a frequent visitor at the Walsh trial."

South Huron Nominations.

Toronto, Jan. 15.—M. Y. Maclean, Liberal, and Horton, Conservative, were nominated in South Huron today for the vacancy caused by the death of C. B. Gunn.

Manitoba Telephone Commission.

Winnipeg, Jan. 15.—The members of the commission appointed by the government to operate the telephone system in Manitoba have been named Frank C. Paterson, northwestern manager of the Bell Telephone company, is chairman, and W. H. Hayes and H. J. Horam, both Bell officials, are the other members of the commission.

Around the World

Winnipeg, Jan. 15.—Four Ontario commercial travelers, Wm. Calville, of Comfort Soap, W. G. Reilly, Minerva Mfy. Co., J. M. Lumbers, Jas. Lumbers & Co., wholesale grocers, and Val. Wills, Great Forest Carriage Co., arrived today on a trip around the world, the result of a voting contest conducted by the Toronto News. Winnipeg is the first stopping place on the trip, which will not be completed until the middle of April.

Great Oil Gusher

St. Petersburg, Jan. 15.—Oil-producing firms here today received news from the Caucusus of the opening of a mammoth oil gusher in the field at Baku, flowing at the rate of 120,000 barrels a day. It far surpasses any other well in the Baku region, and unlike the new gusher open at Surakhant in December, which gives 10,000 barrels daily, the new Fibleybal gusher was discovered in an already exploited field. At the headquarters of the producing firms of the region where the new gusher was found great pleasure is expressed over the evidence of the continued vitality of the Baku field.

FIVE SKATERS DROWNED

Icy Waters Swallow Nearly All Members of a Party Skating on Reservoir

Connellville, Pa., Jan. 15.—Of six persons who formed a skating party at the Jimtown reservoir, near here, tonight, five were drowned. They are: John Luxner, 10 years old; George Cochrane, 21; Frank Cochrane, Jr., a brother, 17; William Fulmer, 23; Elizabeth Fulmer, 17.

Miss Fulmer and George Cochrane started toward the center of the reservoir, but had not gone far when the ice broke and they were thrown into the water. As the other members of the party gazed horror-stricken at the spot two heads reappeared above the surface, Cochrane supporting the girl with one hand and clinging to the broken edge of the ice with the other. In an instant a human chain was formed by the other four, who clasped hands. Andrew Mack, the only survivor, was at the end of the line nearest the shore.

Just as a hand was being reached out to grasp Miss Fulmer there was another crash of ice. Frank Cochrane, Luxner and William Fulmer had also gone down, the thin ice giving way under their combined weight. Mack was obliged to dash to shore. Helpless to save, he saw his merry companions of a few minutes before go to death. He heard a scream and a choking sound, saw uplifted hands above the water for several seconds and then all was still. At a late hour tonight none of the bodies had been recovered.

MONONGAH DISASTER

Coroner's Jury Exonerates Company, But Recommends Closer Inspection

Fairmount, Va., Jan. 15.—Late this afternoon the coroner's jury returned its verdict in connection with the investigation of the Monongah mine disaster. It finds that the explosion was due to either a blown shot or the ignition of the powder, which in turn ignited the gas in the mine. It finds that there were traces of gas in mines No. 6 and No. 8, but not in dangerous quantities, that the company complied with all the state regulations and took all reasonable precautions, such as sprinkling for the keeping down of the coal dust, and practically exonerates the Fairmount Coal company from responsibility for the loss of life. The jury also recommended that additional state inspectors be appointed for a more thorough inspection of the mines in the state. The jury also recommended that as there are many unsolved problems connected with coal mine explosions in the United States, Congress make an appropriation for the establishment of a bureau of investigation and information, to aid in the study of the various conditions under which explosions occur and as to how they may be prevented.

The Stolen Regalia

London, Jan. 15.—The Tribune hears from a source which it regards as trustworthy, that the missing Irish regalia is held intact for a large ransom and a guarantee of immunity from punishment. It says that the mystery of the disappearance can, however, only be solved by a public enquiry, which would reveal amusing and romantic features.

Between Two Sultans

Rabat, Morocco, Jan. 15.—The army under General Bagdani, commander-in-chief for the Sultan Abdel-Aziz, entered this port today. Thus European residents are being guarded. The populace at Rabat is greatly excited over the news from Fez that Mulai Hafid had been declared Sultan, and that a holy war is to be inaugurated. The members of the governing board of Morocco are extremely perturbed, as they have been notified that unless they declare for Mulai Hafid all their property at Fez will be forfeited.

CONFESSED TO PART IN SEATTLE MURDER

Hayashi Breaks Down Under Questioning and Tells Gruesome Story

Seattle, Jan. 15.—After stoutly asserting his innocence of the murder of Chikichi Yoko in Seattle on March 30, 1906, H. Hayashi broke down under stress of insistent questioning at the city jail yesterday and confessed to his part in the plot.

His confession purports to implicate Ben Tanaka, connected with the Canadian Japanese Development company of Vanvouver, B. C., who was arrested in Seattle yesterday. Today evidence will be laid before the prosecuting attorney, and a warrant charging Tanaka with murder will be asked for. When the news that Hayashi had been brought back from Sacramento, Cal., by Detectives Byrne and Carter Phillips became known Charles Tennant, sergeant of detectives, believed Tanaka would visit Seattle. Yesterday Tanaka was found by Phillips and Byrne in the southern part of the city.

The plot to murder Yoko, as unfolded by Hayashi, is remarkable for its atrocity. When the prisoner was first questioned he denied all knowledge of the murder, and said he had never known Hakayama, who pleaded guilty to his part in the affair of blood, and who is now serving a term in prison. For an hour the accused man held to his assertion of innocence and parried the questions put to him through an interpreter calmly and patiently. Just when the sergeant of detectives began to feel the quest for information concerning the crime must be fruitless, Hayashi suddenly threw off his reserve and exclaimed passionately: "Yes, we killed him, Hakayama and I. He would not pay money he owed Suma, and Ben Tanaka sent us to get it, no matter what we had to do. Ben Tanaka paid me $50 after we killed him. I went away. Hakayama stayed behind, pretending that he knew nothing about it until they arrested him."

STEERAGE RATES ARE FURTHER CUT

Warring Companies May Bring the Fare Down to Ten Dollars

London, Jan. 15.—The Atlantic passenger rate war assumed a new phase tonight, through the Cunard S.S. company making a partial concession to the demands of their competitors by granting of a differential rate of ten shillings on second and third class fares by the Lusitania and Mauretania.

Whether the new move is preliminary to an attempt to end the disastrous struggle cannot be ascertained, but it has the aspect of conciliation. The White Star company originally demanded a differential of 15 shillings.

It appears likely, however, that if the latter company is content to accept this latter sum the dispute may be satisfactorily settled.

The Cunard company throughout has firmly contended that the conditions of business did not warrant a differential of fifteen shillings, and although the circular which it issued tonight does not refer in any way to a dispute, the fact that the company continues its rate cutting procedure is held to indicate that it is not inclined to further concessions.

The differences of opinion in the matter of passenger rates among the various steamship lines was expected to come up for discussion at a conference of the managers of the Atlantic steamship companies, including Herr Ballin, director general of the Hamburg-American line, which was fixed before the rate war began to be held in London on July 18. The Cunard company, however, declined to be a party to the conference, which, it is announced, has now been indefinitely postponed.

New York, Jan. 15.—Following the refusal of the Cunard Steamship company to come to terms, the International Marine company again cut its eastbound steerage rates on boats of the White Star and American lines, making a total reduction in this class of $11.25 since the rate war began. The cut was met by the Cunard company, and it is probable that further reductions will be made in the next few days. An official of one of the steamship companies concerned said today that a rate of $10 to Europe might soon be offered.

MUNICIPAL RIGHTS

Executive of Union Looking for Important Amendments to the Railway Act

Ottawa, Jan. 15.—An important advance in the protection of municipal rights was announced as the result of the meeting yesterday of the executive of the Union of Canadian municipalities. Among the many subjects discussed by the meeting was the protection of municipal rights in Victoria, Calgary, Winnipeg, Fort William, Port Arthur, Brantford, Hamilton, Toronto, Montreal and other places. The meeting was determined in the desire to protect municipal rights.

Certain amendments to the railway act were suggested. All these were discussed with Hon. G. R. Graham, minister of railways, with very satisfactory results. The executive suggested to the minister that it should be made clear in the railway act that municipal control over street railways should be made applicable to all roads operated by electricity or cable.

Mr. Graham expressed as his personal opinion his full concurrence wiht this new idea, and promised, with the approval of his colleagues, to introduce such amendments to the railway act this session. It is admitted that the minister's concession is an important gain for municipalities, and the delegates did not fail to express ther appreciation to the minister.

Danish Poet Dead.

Copenhagen, Jan. 15.—Holder Henrik Herholdt Drachmann, the Danish poet and author, died yesterday at Hornbaek, of an affection of the nerves, of long standing. He was born in 1846.

Leslie Harris' Tour.

New York, Jan. 15.—Leslie Harris, the English pianist, vocalist and entertainer, made his first appearance in America at the Hudson theatre yesterday. Mr. Harris will make a tour of Canada and the United States.

AFTER B. C. TIMBER

Vancouver Visited by Representative of Chicago Firm Which Proposes Large Investment

Vancouver, Jan. 15.—Honore Potter Palmer, of Chicago, is here representing a concern which proposes investing two million dollars in British Columbia timber.

No Wines or Liquors

New Westminster, Jan. 15.—The new Russell hotel will be formally opened tomorrow evening when dinner will be served from 6 to 9 p. m. An orchestra will be in attendance. No wines or liquors will be served at table on the opening day. Covers will be set for 150 guests, a large number of business and representative men having been invited to attend.

Hall Creek Placer Mine

Nelson, Jan. 15.—The old placer grounds on Hall Creek, about ten miles south of Nelson, on the Spokane Falls & Northern railway, are about to be reopened by hydraulicking on a large scale, and there is enough bench land to keep a strong company going for several years. The gravel wherever tested has given twenty to twenty-six cents per cubic yard. These placer claims have been worked by Chinamen for the last ten years, but last year leases were given to G. H. Barnhart, P. J. Gleazer, S. H. Seaney and others. These men are now upon the ground making a careful examination in view of future operations.

MAPLE LEAF MILL

Its Destruction Entails Heavy Loss—Was One of the Finest Mills on the Continent

Kenora, Ont., Jan. 15.—The magnificent new mill of the Maple Leaf Flour Mills company, costing over a million dollars, was burned last night. It is said the fire originated from a live wire. Smoke was first noticed issuing from the roof, but the town's water supply was totally inadequate to cope with the conflagration.

The Maple Leaf mill was one of the finest on the continent, and had a capacity of 5,000 barrels a day. The mill has only recently been completed, and was a distinct boon to the town, as it employed a large number of men.

The fire was first discovered on the roof of the main building about half-past nine, but with the high wind the work of the firemen was hopeless from the first. The tank at the top of the building, which should have been full, was found empty. Shortly after eleven o'clock the north wall, of solid concrete, fell, and the south wall followed shorty after. The heat was intense and the sight was spectacular in extreme. The brigade was forced to concentrate its efforts on saving the neighborhood residential property.

D. C. Cameron, of Winnipeg, president of the Rat Portage Lumber Co., who left Winnipeg for the Pacific coast last evening, is president of the company, which numbers many Kenora shareholders.

The elevator and warehouse were destroyed along with the mill.

Fatal Flood in Russia

Ykaterinodar, Russia, Jan. 15.—The formation of a heavy ice dam on the Kuban river has resulted in the inundation of the two villages and the submerging of a large area of land. It is feared that there has been serious loss of life.

PITIFUL SCENES IN STRICKEN TOWN

People Searching for Bodies of Relatives Among Boyertown Dead

Boyertown, Pa., Jan. 15.—Bearing up bravely under the awful blow which it received in the destruction of the Rhodes Opera House by fire on Monday, this thriving little borough today came to a full realization of the fact that one-fifteenth of the population was wiped out of existence by the holocaust.

The figures compiled by Coroner Strasser at nightfall includes one fireman, who lost his life fighting the fire, and one man, Jacob Johnson, who died today from injuries received in the blazing place. Two bodies were recovered from the ruins of the building, and of the 118 bodies that lie in the improvised morgue, 115 have been either partially or fully identified by the sorrowing relatives or friends.

The private morgues in the town were not of sufficient size to receive the bodies of these taken from the fire ruins, and the public school was also used as a charnel house. Here, where a number of the victims went daily to their studies, the bodies were laid out in rows. Each bit of jewelry or fragment of clothing picked up in the blackened ruins was tagged, as were their charred and blackened bodies, or such portion of them as remained, and all in search of missing loved ones were permitted to pass through the gruesome row to make identifications. Few of the bodies could be recognized by the features alone, as in most cases the upper portion of the corpse was seared or burned to a crisp. A detail of state police held the anxious crowds in check around the improvised morgue, and those seeking missing relatives and friends were compelled to pass in to view the bodies in order.

The scenes at the morgue were heartrending. Children of tender years were in some cases called to make the identification of parents who went to an untimely death in the fire and panic, and again feeble men and women were racked with anguish, as they came upon some distorted body in which they recognized the form of a lost son of daughter.

Before any of the bodies were removed from the morgues, Coroner Strasser empanelled a jury to view the remains and the scene of the fire and sit at the inquest.

After the jury had been sworn in they made an inspection of the ruins and went through the morgues. No date has been fixed for the inquest. Coroner Strasses opened an office tonight in the Mansion House, and has established a bureau of information, where he granted death certificates and signed insurance papers.

In this connection the representatives of scores of insurance companies are in Boyertown paying off claims as fast as they are presented. There were fifty-five undertakers or their representatives in town today, and there was plenty for them to do, for all were called upon to assist in preparing the remains for inspection and identification.

Coroner Strasser says that there are several headless corpses that will probably never be identified, because there were several strangers in the audience that witnessed the play.

Building Inspector Heckman of Reading, who made an inspection of the opera house which was destroyed, said tonight: "In my opinion the people in the hall were overcome by the fumes from the tank used in connection with the tableau lights, and simply could not help themselves. A man told me that he reached in the doorway to assist a woman from the building and that he was nearly overcome by gas. He was not in the hall when the fire started."

John Rhoades and his grandson, who were supposed to have been killed in the fire, and Mrs. John Dyer, another supposed victim, turned up again today.

Committees have been appointed to make a canvass of the borough and arrange for the proper burial of the dead. A call has also been issued for volunteers to help dig the graves necessary to bury the victims.

EARL GREY'S PLANS WARMLY SUPPORTED

Canadian Club Representatives Move in National Park Scheme

Ottawa, Jan. 15.—The first step was taken this afternoon towards a plan by which Canadian clubs throughout the Dominion will co-operate in forwarding the proposal outlined by His Excellency Earl Grey for a celebration in August next of the tercentenary of Quebec and the preservation in connection therewith of the historic battlefields of the Plains of Abraham and Ste. Foye, in that city. The nucleus of a central committee drawn from various Canadian clubs was appointed to co-operate with another larger body in charge of the general details of the Quebec memorial project. William Whyte, second vice-president of the C.P.R., also president of the Canadian club, Winnipeg, has been appointed chairman of this central committee. Hammett P. Phill, president of the Canadian club, Ottawa, was chosen as vice-chairman, and Gerald H. Brown, of Ottawa, honorary secretary.

The conference, which was made up of representatives of almost all the Canadian clubs from Halifax to Victoria, was presided over by William Whyte, and was entirely unanimous in its approval of the project. The following resolutions were unanimously carried:

Moved by S. S. R. McCullough, father of the Canadian club of Hamilton, seconded by R. F. Surveyer, of the Canadian club of Montreal: "That this conference of representatives of Canadian clubs of Canada heartily approves of the principle of acquiring the Quebec battlefields as a national park for memorial of the heroes of France and Great Britain, who rendered the locality forever illustrious by their valor, and whose races, anciently descended from allied stocks, have founded and formed the united Canadian people."

Moved by John Campbell, of the Canadian club of Toronto, seconded by W. C. Sterns, of the Canadian club of Hamilton: "That the various Canadian clubs throughout Canada are recommended to show their approval of the plan to acquire the Quebec battlefields as a national park by stimulating public interest in and support of the project, and that the individual clubs be left to decide upon the details of action they may deem best in their own localities.

Resolved: "That a central committee be formed of representatives of the various Canadian clubs throughout Canada to co-operate with any larger body having charge of the general details of the project, and that the following geneltmen compose the committee, with power to add to their numbers: Chairman, William Whyte, Canadian club, Winnipeg; vice-chairman, Hammett P. Phill, Canadian club, Ottawa; honorary secretary, Gerald H. Brown, Canadian club, Ottawa."

A motion thanking the governor-general for inaugurating the movement was also adopted.

At a largely attended meeting held in the Russell house in the evening in connection with the same project, Earl Grey, after congratulating the clubs on their spirit and the action they had taken in the movement, thanked them and especially the Canadian club of Edmonton, for their most welcome assistance, and the support they had given and were giving in response to his appeal to celebrate the approaching Champlain tercentenary by rescuing the famous battlefields of Quebec from the present neglect. It was a movement in which there was no party, sectarian or sectional. It has been agreed that there was no better way of doing honor to what might roughly be regarded as the 300th birthday of Canada than the nationalization of the battlefields of Quebec. The immortal associations which clung round them were the precious inheritance of Englishmen, Scotsmen, Irishmen and Frenchmen. Another aspect especially dear was the fact that on these fields French and British parentage gave birth to the Canadian nation. Today the inhabitants of the Dominion were neither French nor English. They were Canadians. Every well-informed Briton had a personal interest in the Plains of Abraham, where the corner stone of Greater Britain was laid. He might say the same of every well-informed American. It was known that the battlefield of 1759 was the parchment on which in 1775 the Declaration of Independence was inscribed. He had proposed that a statue of peace be erected at the edge of Citadel rock, Quebec, where it would be the first object visible to incoming vessels on rounding the point of the Isle of Oreleans. He hoped that the government would make sure that this proposed statue should be worthy of its great position of Canada and the crown. The statue must not be banal or vulgar with flowing windy draperies, but must be noble, calm, majestic, reposeful, with arms outstretched forward and with palms slightly downward as though blessing incoming ships, and with eyes lovingly bent on the people. The base of the statue can be represented by different phases of Canadian life. He hoped every Canadian boy would be taught that by paying a few cents he could associate himself with the 300th birthday of Canada.

Smallpox at Guelph

Guelph, Ont., Jan. 15.—An expert from Toronto has been summoned to investigate several cases of supposed smallpox on the outskirts of the city.

Wants No Executions.

Munich, Jan. 15.—The Prince Regent of Bavaria, who recently pardoned two murderers sentenced to death, today declared his intention not to sign any more death warrants.

British Trade Cut Into.

Swansea, Wales, Jan. 15.—The South Wales steel bar trade is being seriously cut into by American and German competition. In fact the business has practically ceased, because the dealers are being underbidden from America.