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VOL. 32.



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\$1.50 Per Annum. \$1.50

Victoria Times.

VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1902.

Twice-a-Week.

REPORT ON THE ISTHMIAN CANAL

PANAMA ROUTE WILL COST LEAST MONEY

Commission Recommends Acceptance of the Canal Company to Sell Property for Forty Millions.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 20.—The President to-day sent to congress a message transmitting the supplemental report of the Isthmian canal commission in which it is unanimously recommended that the offer of the new Panama Canal Company, to sell all of its rights, property and unfinished work to the United States for \$40,000,000 be accepted. The senate ordered the report printed in the congressional record and also as a document.

After quoting the correspondence which passed between the commission and the officers of the Panama Canal Company in Paris, the report says: "The totality, without exception, of its property and rights on the Isthmus mentioned in the cablegram of January 9th, includes the following classes of property:—

First—Lands not built on. There are 56 parcels of land to which the title rests in the canal company amounting to about 30,000 acres, which, with the lands belonging to it and was found to be required for the actual construction of the canal.

Second—Buildings. There are scheduled 2,341 buildings, divided among 47 sub-classifications, used for offices, quarters, storerooms, hospitals, shops, stables and miscellaneous purposes. Among them are two large permanent buildings in Panama, one used as a headquarters residence and the other as the general office of the canal company.

Third—Plant. There is an immense amount of machinery consisting of floating plant, trams, launchers, dredges, etc. Fourth—Work done. The excavation already accomplished, upon the main canal line, which will be of value in the plan recommended by the commission was carefully computed and was found to be 94,030,050 cubic yards. A temporary diversion of the Panama railway has been at Culbra Cut, which also must be considered. Using the same classification of materials and the same unit prices as in the other estimates, the value of the work done is found to aggregate \$27,374,033.

Fifth—Panama Railway. Of the existing 70,000,000 shares of Panama railway, the canal company will transfer to the United States all but about 1,100 shares. These latter are held by a few individuals residing in various parts of the United States and in Europe. At the par value the 68,900 shares to be transferred to the United States by the canal company amount to \$6,890,000. It owns three passenger and freight steamers on United States registry of approximately 2,000 tons each. For the past year it has operated a line of chartered steamers of United States registry between San Francisco and Panama. These steamers on the Atlantic and Pacific constitute the Panama railway steamship line. The railway company owns an undivided half interest in the Island of Navio, Culebra, Perico and Flamenco in the Bay of Panama, the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. being the joint owners. Besides its own right-of-way, the terminals, wharves and considerable areas of land it owns nearly the whole town of Colon, the houses being constructed under leases. The work of construction of the canal will largely increase the business of the railway and will enable it to pay off its liabilities in a few years.

Sixth—Maps, drawings and records. The estimated annual cost of maintenance and operation is \$1,200,000 greater at Nicaragua than at Panama. The Panama route would be 134.6 miles shorter than the Nicaraguan route from sea to sea with fewer locks and less structure, both in degree and miles. The Atlantic route would be less in the case of high powered steamers, the use of which is increasing. Between Atlantic ports and the west coast of South America, the Panama route has the advantage of about one day. The trade of the western coast of South America is very important one, which has hitherto been in European hands.

The value of maps, drawings and records in Paris on the Isthmian route is \$1,000,000. The Panama route is placed at \$2,000,000. Summing everything up the

total value of the Panama property is found to be: Excavation done, \$27,474,033; Panama railroad stock at par, \$6,890,000; maps, drawings and records, \$2,000,000; total, \$36,364,033. To which add 10 per cent. to cover over commissions, \$3,636,403; total, \$40,000,436. The estimated cost of constructing the Nicaragua canal is \$45,630,700 more than the cost of completing the Panama canal. The offer received from the new Panama Canal Company to convey all its property, including all its interests in the Panama railway to the United States, will make the estimated cost of the two canals as follows: Nicaragua, \$48,864,032; Panama, \$184,233,358.

OVER ONE HUNDRED BURGHERS TAKEN

KITCHENER'S REPORT OF LAST WEEK'S CAPTURES

Thirty-one Boers Killed and Thirteen Wounded—Churchill Favors Settlement by Compromise.

London, Jan. 21.—Lord Kitchener reports that since January 13th thirty-one Boers were killed, thirteen were wounded, one hundred and seventy were made prisoners, and forty-one surrendered.

Churchill's Speech. London, Jan. 21.—Winston Spencer Churchill, Conservative, in resuming the debate in the House of Commons to-day on the amendment moved by Frederick Cavley, Liberal, to the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne at the opening of parliament, gained the distinct approval of the opposition benches by his criticisms of the government's shortcomings in regard to the conduct of the war in South Africa, the insufficiency of troops supplied Lord Kitchener, and other matters. He said he preferred a settlement by compromise, rather than by force, as the latter would entail the tremendous expense of long military occupation.

For Troops in Africa. Ottawa, Jan. 21.—The township Victoria, which sails for Capetown from Halifax on January 28th, will carry mail and parcels for troops in South Africa.

London, Jan. 21.—Lord Kitchener, in a dispatch from Johannesburg, Transvaal colony, dated Tuesday, January 21st, says Gen. Methuen overtook a Boer commando near Boschpoort on January 20th, and after a running fight of eight miles captured all their wagons and cattle and twenty-four Boers.

Gen. Bruce Hamilton made a night march against Gen. Botha, near Wilbank, on January 18th, and captured twenty-seven of the Boers.

Scheepers Executed. New York, Jan. 22.—It has just been discovered that through a cable error an Associated Press dispatch of last Sunday announced that the death sentence on Commandant Scheepers, of the Boer army, had been confirmed by Gen. Kitchener, and that he would be executed next Saturday. The fact is that he was executed on last Saturday, January 18th.

Senator Teller's Resolution. Washington, Jan. 22.—In the Senate to-day Mr. Teller offered the following concurrent resolution, which he asked to go over until to-morrow:

"Whereas it is announced that sentence of death has been passed upon Commandant Scheepers, of the Orange Free State, now a prisoner of war in the hands of the British forces in South Africa; and

"Whereas, it is known that said Commandant Scheepers was captured while lying sick and wounded in a hospital, such capture being in violation of articles one and five of the Geneva convention; and

"Whereas, his execution by the British authorities will lead to acts of retaliation and reprisal; be it

"Resolved, by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, that the President request the government of Great Britain to set aside, in the interest of humanity, such sentence of death and accord to Commandant Scheepers the privileges and immunities guaranteed under the Geneva convention."

DEFENDED THE WAR. Chamberlain Says Government Policy is Not One of Extermination. London, Jan. 20.—The first important debate of the session began in the House of Commons to-night on an amendment to the address moved by Frederick Cavley (Liberal), in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The debate called out Mr. Chamberlain, the colonial secretary, who vigorously took the field in defence of the war. He made the significant statement that if, as Lord Rosebery's speech intimated, the Boers believed they could at any time secure a repetition of Lord Kitchener's terms, he wished to inform them they were mistaken. Mr. Chamberlain added, however, that the government's programme was not one of extermination. It would not propose any general confiscation of property. Justice would be meted out for military offences and other crimes. But there would be large amnesty, and the government expected to extend the conquered people full political rights as soon as practicable.

Mr. Labouchere (Liberal) declined to support the amendment of Mr. Cavley. John Dillon (Irish Nationalist) proposed to omit that clause of the amendment providing funds to carry on the war, and add a clause denouncing the policy of concentration camps.

Mr. Dillon's amendment was rejected by a vote of 283 to 64, the majority of the Liberals voting against it. Winston Churchill will resume the debate to-morrow on Mr. Cavley's amendment to the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, and a division will be taken to-morrow night.

Swedish Vessels. Sweden sends four in the northern expedition to the Arctic, and two in preparation to her population.

ANOTHER BLAZE AT RAT PORTAGE

FIREMEN'S FIGHT TO CONTROL THE FLAMES

Second Hand Store Completely Guttered—Several Buildings Had Narrow Escape From Destruction.

Rat Portage, Jan. 22.—Another disastrous fire broke out here at 8.35 last night, and nothing but the heroic efforts of the firemen saved the Russell house and other large buildings.

The blaze started in Kershaw's second hand store, and completely gutted it. The flames then spread north to the Gould block, occupied by E. A. Pearson as a hardware store. This was framed, iron covered, and made stubborn resistance to the fire. The Russell house, right next the Gould block, was on fire in several places, but the fire brigade did great work, and by 11 o'clock had the flames under control.

Kershaw's stock amounted to about \$2,100, on which there was insurance of \$1,000 in the National. The building was owned by J. Hise, who had \$100 insurance in the Sun. His loss without the insurance will be \$500 to \$1,000. Pearson had \$1,000 on his block, which will about cover his loss. The Russell house and contents are badly damaged by water and smoke, but fully covered by insurance in several companies.

Yesterday a frame house in Sixth street, owned and occupied by John Marchant, was burned. Mrs. Marchant, who was ill, had to be carried from the burning building, and hardly an article of the contents were saved, although the neighbors rushed to the family's assistance as soon as the flames were seen. The house was insured, but there was nothing on the contents.

CANADIAN BRIEFS. Ontario's Premier Will Deliver Budget Speech To-Day—Doctor Sentenced To One Year in Prison.

Toronto, Jan. 20.—A delegation of manufacturers which will wait upon the government at Ottawa to-morrow will ask that duty of 20 per cent, be levied upon magazines imported into Canada in bulk. The reason given is that it would be encouragement to Canadian publishers.

Ontario Legislature. Business in the legislature is much further advanced now than is usually the case so early in the session. The public accounts and estimates were laid on the table to-day, and the Premier's budget speech will be delivered to-morrow. The estimates call for a total expenditure of \$4,074,228. Receipts for the year were \$4,406,043, and expenditures \$4,028,834.

The Referendum. Winnipeg, Jan. 20.—The bill providing for a referendum on the Liquor Act will probably not be introduced in the legislature this week.

Conservative Meeting. The Conservatives met at Merdon on January 20th to select a candidate for the Lisgar vacancy at Ottawa. J. M. Toombs, or Carman, will probably receive the nomination.

Result of Recount. Bowmanville, Ont., Jan. 20.—The official recount before the returning officer in West Durham made Beit's majority 12.

Fire in Newspaper Office. Sherbrooke, Que., Jan. 20.—The office of the Sherbrooke Examiner was badly gutted by fire this morning. The loss is \$3,000. Wilson's piano warehouses overhead were badly damaged by smoke and water.

Found Guilty. Brantford, Ont., Jan. 20.—Dr. Harbottle, of Brantford, was tried to-day before Judge Hardy on a charge of shooting Herman Stuart on November 20th with intent to do bodily harm. Harbottle was found guilty as charged, but having regard to his advanced years, his scholarly attainments and his eccentric nature, the judge let him off as light as possible with a sentence of one year in the Central prison.

BARQUE WRECKED. Captain and Three Men of the Saver-nake Are Missing. Auckland, N. Z., Jan. 22.—The British barque Saver-nake, which sailed from San Francisco on October 9th for Queenstown, was wrecked on November 14th at Reao, an island in the South Pacific. The captain and three men are missing.

DANISH WEST INDIES. Treaty Providing For Sale to Be Signed This Week. Copenhagen, Jan. 22.—It has been definitely decided that the treaty with the United States providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies is to be signed at Washington this week. All the formalities here are completed.

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN

First Anniversary Marked by Commemorative Services To-Day.

London, Jan. 22.—The first anniversary of the death of Queen Victoria was to-day marked by commemorative services throughout the United Kingdom and the colonies, and at the British embassies and legations abroad.

At Winnipeg. Winnipeg, Jan. 22.—To-day the first anniversary of the death of Queen Victoria was generally observed. Flags are flying at half-mast all over the city and the wearing of violets by the citizens, as a mourning emblem, was a pretty feature of the day.

Service at Berlin. Berlin, Jan. 22.—A memorial service in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the death of Queen Victoria was held to-day at the English embassy. It was attended by the Emperor and Empress, Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia, and the diplomatic corps.

DARING ROBBERY IN THE TERMINAL CITY. Mrs. Trorey, Wife of Jeweler, Attacked by Unknown Man, Who Stole Jewelry.

Vancouver, Jan. 21.—A daring robbery occurred last night at the residence of Geo. E. Trorey, jeweller. Mr. Trorey was out at a party and Mrs. Trorey answered the door bell at 11 p. m. A boy asked if Mr. Trorey was in, and then requested permission to use the telephone. Mrs. Trorey admitted him, and turned to walk down the hall, when she was struck from behind. Her husband came home at midnight, found the lights burning all over the house, and his wife still lying unconscious on the floor. A diamond worth \$150 and other small articles of jewellery were stolen. There is no clew to the thieves.

HOW ONE COMPANY UPSET ALL THE PLANS. Refused to Join Freight Combination—Promoters Hope to Be Able to Form Combine.

London, Jan. 21.—A representative of the Associated Press has secured an authoritative statement regarding the rumored shipping deal which, while counting the representation of the amalgamation of the several lines, reveals that negotiations toward a large scale agreement is being conducted on a larger scale than hitherto hinted at. What has actually happened is this: Every line trading between England and America, except one, has agreed to form a freight combination upon a basis considerably higher than the rates at present in force. That one exception, however, threatens to upset the prolonged negotiations, for fifty per cent. of the firms interested, withdrew their previous consent, declaring that unless this one exception came in the combine would be unimportant one, and places between London and the United States.

A representative of one of the lines most intimately concerned said that it looked to-day very much as if the whole plan would fall through, though he admitted that strenuous efforts would be made to persuade the backsliders to come in again and leave the unimportant exception to fight its battles.

The reports of a financial amalgamation between the White Star, American, Atlantic Transport and other lines are strenuously denied.

SNOW STORM RAGING.

Arrested on the Charge of Murder

Mounted Rifle in Custody at Halifax

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Jan. 22.—The snow storm raging here is one of the worst experienced in years. Everything is tied up. Neither the Buffalo or St. Catharines trolley are running. Grand Trunk trains are from three to four hours late, and the Washab & Michigan Central trains are far behind their scheduled time. Six New York Central trains are stalled between here and Suspension bridge. No through Leigh Valley or West Shore trains have arrived this morning.

Considerable damage has been done to buildings by the heavy fall of snow, which is from two to three feet on the level.

BANDITS' CAPTIVES. Constantinople, Jan. 20.—The United States minister, John G. A. Leishman, says the brigands who abducted Miss Ellen M. Stone and Madame Tokia on September 3rd, have agreed to accept the amount of ransom raised by subscription. The place of payment is now the only question unsettled.

VACANCY IN THE SUPREME COURT

SEVERAL APPLICATIONS BEFORE GOVERNMENT

J. Martin Among Applicants—Messrs. Duff and Hunter Mentioned in Connection With Chief Justiceship.

Ottawa, Jan. 22.—The government has under consideration a number of applications for the position in the Supreme Court of British Columbia, made vacant by the death of Chief Justice McColl.

Mr. Davis, K.C., Vancouver, is strongly recommended by the bar, board of trade and city council of Vancouver. He is understood to be an applicant for the position, although he had the offer of it and declined it some years ago. Mr. Davis is a brother to Hon. Mr. Davis, of the Ontario government. He is regarded as one of the best lawyers on the Pacific coast.

Hon. Joseph Martin is also an applicant for the judgeship. He would be recommended by the bar, board of trade and city council of Vancouver. He is understood to be an applicant for the position, although he had the offer of it and declined it some years ago. Mr. Davis is a brother to Hon. Mr. Davis, of the Ontario government. He is regarded as one of the best lawyers on the Pacific coast.

Messrs. L. P. Duff and Gordon Hunter, of Victoria, are also spoken of in this connection.

Another Deputation. A number of iron and steel men are here to-day wanting more protection.

BRIGANDS WANT MONEY. Must Have Funds for Several Days Before They Will Release Captives.

Constantinople, Jan. 22.—It is understood that the American negotiators for the release of Miss Ellen M. Stone and her companion, Mme. Tokia, to whom the money subscribed for their ransom was sent, may have to contract the fund to the brigands for some days before the latter release the captives. The bandits are said to insist on this point in order to enable them to dispose of the cash before retaliative measures can be organized.

CANNON FOR VETERANS. Prince Henry Will Bring Present From the Kaiser.

New York, Jan. 22.—Prince Henry will bring with him to the United States a bronze cannon as a present from the Kaiser to the Central Union of German-American Veterans, who fought in the war of 1867-1870, enables the Berlin correspondent of the World. The cannon was captured from the French. It is destined for Philadelphia. The Prince will probably make a speech in presence of the veterans. It was announced that the Prince will travel in civilian dress while he is in the United States.

CONVICTS CAPTURED. All Men Who Escaped From Jail Are Once More in Custody.

Tacoma, Wn., Jan. 22.—Everyone of the eleven criminals who escaped from the penitentiary on McNell's Island last Sunday slept behind the prison bars last night. The captures were effected without a shot being fired.

DETROIT RAILWAY AFFAIRS. Detroit, Mich., Jan. 22.—It is announced that the stockholders of the Detroit United railway have authorized the issue of a new blanket mortgage for \$25,000,000, secured by bonds in that sum. This issue of \$25,000,000 is to take the place of the proposed issue of \$35,000,000, which the Everett-Moore people tried to float last fall, and which the failure to sell brought on their financial embarrassments.

A full-grown elephant is capable of carrying a load of 3 tons.

ARRESTED ON THE CHARGE OF MURDER

Mounted Rifle in Custody at Halifax

Reduced Rates For Farmers Over the Canadian Northern—Petitions For Prohibition in Ontario.

Winnipeg, Jan. 21.—A Halifax dispatch reports the capture there of Walter Gordon, wanted for the murder of Chas. Daw and Jacob Smith, at Whitewater, Man., July, 1900. Gordon disappeared after the bodies of the victims were discovered. He enlisted in British Columbia under the name of John Gray, and was about to embark here with the Mounted Rifles for Africa when he was arrested. It is supposed that he has been in hiding in the mining districts of British Columbia since 1900.

Cheaper Transportation. Premier Roblin spring a debate in the legislature last evening by announcing that on February 1st next the C. N. R. will be open for public business to Port Arthur. He also stated that on that date the farmers of the country will be able to ship their wheat to Lake Superior at two cents per 100 pounds lower than they have ever been able to do previously. Hon. Mr. Greenway followed the first minister pointing out that the transportation problem is not yet solved, and that even if the C. N. R. elevator at Port Arthur is completed before the opening of navigation, the farmers will only be able to ship 1,150,000 bushels of grain, that being the limit of the storage capacity.

Quebec, Jan. 21.—George Tangway was re-elected president of the board of trade to-day.

James Muir has been appointed to visit Great Britain by the federal government for the purpose of increasing the trade in Canadian-made foot-wear.

Toronto, Jan. 21.—Fifty more petitions, praying for prohibition, mostly from Methodist churches, were presented to the legislature to-day.

Elected President. E. Ames was elected president of the Toronto Board of Trade to-day by acclamation.

Favors Church Clubs. Dr. Rose at the Christian Endeavor rally last night stated it was questionable if the Christian Endeavor movement has not outlived its usefulness. He favored church clubs for young people.

For Municipal Control. Alderman Spence to-day brought before the municipal legislation committee, a proposal that legislation should be applied for immediately empowering the city to construct and operate its own lines of wire from Niagara Falls or other place within a radius of 150 miles to Toronto, for bringing electrical energy to the city. He hoped the committee would take hold of the proposal, and make for themselves a reputation and gain for the city enormous advantages.

Fractured His Skull. H. P. Dwight, of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, while visiting Hon. Mr. Litchford, minister of public works, at the parliament building this morning, fractured his right leg below the knee.

Sent to Penitentiary. Herbert Turan, 1,506 Bloor street west, was sent to Kingston penitentiary for five years by Colonel Denison in the police court this morning for shooting Frank Birch. The affair took place on Christmas Day, and was the culmination of several months' trouble between the two men. Birch was wounded in the thigh.

NATIONALISTS REBUKED. Balfour's Speech Acknowledging Colonial Assistance Loudly Cheered.

London, Eng., Jan. 21.—Right Hon. J. A. Balfour's spirited rebuke last night to Irish Nationalists in the House of Commons for impugning the loyalty of Canada and Australasia is warmly applauded in ministerial circles.

Connor O'Kelly, M. P. for North Mayo, asked whether any steps had been taken to induce the colonies to pay their share of the cost of the war.

Mr. Balfour ruled him out of order, evoked loud ministerial and Liberal imperialist cheers by his grateful acknowledgment of the contributions the colonies have already voluntarily made in men and money. He said the imputation conveyed by the question was unbecomingly for and was expressed in quite unnecessarily offensive language.

W. Redmond, M. P. for East Clare, asked what colonies had paid.

The Speaker ruled him out of order. Mr. Redmond, whose wife is an Australian, shouted: "Why not ask Australia to pay as well as Ireland?" which evoked loud cries of "Order."

The incident illustrated the solidity of the ministerialists and imperialist Liberals in appreciation of the part Canada and Australasia have played in the war, although Mr. Chamberlain has criticized the Liberal press for insisting that the colonies should have some say in the South Africa settlement.