MEXICAN TROOPS DESERT COLORS

MANY JOIN RANKS OF REVOLUTIONISTS

Wives of Suspected Leaders Are Tortured by Police Officials

Monclova, Mexico, Nov. 22.—(Via Eagle Pass, Texas.)—After desperate fighting three Mexican towns, defended by government troops surrendered to the insurgents to-day. Severe losses on both sides are reported to have been sustained.

Torreon, Gomez, Palacio and Laredo, with a population totalling 75,000, are in the hands of the revolutionists, according to railroad men arriving here.

The heaviest fighting was at Torreon. No American citizens have been reported killed at Torreon, but the plants of American companies were damaged by artillery fire.

According to the meagre advices received here the fighting began at Gomez Palacio. After a stubborn resistance the federal garrison surrendered, and then joined forces with the insurgents in an attack on Torreon. This force, acting in conjunction with a rebel detachment of 1,000 men, captured the hills overlooking Torreon and began a fierce bombardment.

The defenders of the town withstood a withering fire for an hour and then lowered their flag. The bombardment wrought heavy damage to the government houses and factories at Torreon, the residence section escaping most of the shells.

It is privately reported that the insurgents captured the Villardena mining camp in the state of Durango, where a smelter trust plant is located. The smelter is said to have been damaged and American citizens at the plant subjected to indignities.

Fighting continued at Durango, and last reports brought by the railroad men indicated that the government forces still controlled Zacatecas, Chihuahua, Orizaba, San Luis, Potosi and Saltillo.

Francisco Madero is reported near La Esperanza, en route to Torreon. Two regiments of Mexican cavalry started from Monterey last night en route to Torreon.

The insurgent forces are strong and elated, and a big battle is expected.

Bridges Destroyed.

El Paso, Texas, Nov. 22.—"You will be held personally responsible for preservation of order in Chihuahua.—Diaz."

This message was received by General Luis Terrazas, commanding the federal troops in Chihuahua, and is tantamount to a declaration of martial law throughout the state. The latest advices received this afternoon state that the revolutionists will advance on the city of Chihuahua to-night.

Eye-witnesses of the fight at Gomez Palacio declare that the insurgents twice occupied the municipal palace before finally being driven to the hills.

It is estimated that 50 persons were killed in the street fighting, which continued last night.

Revolutionists dynamited two bridges to-day, on the line of the Mexican International railroad near Ciuadad Porfio Diaz. Soldiers are repairing the damaged structures. Two men suspected of the outrage were arrested.

Additional troops are expected to-night, and it is reported that the dynamite was intended for them.

Paul and Julio Madero, brothers of Francisco Madero, the revolutionary leader, left San Antonio to-day for the front.

Over Scare Killed.

Zapata, Tex., Nov. 22.—A call for rangers was sent to the governor by the sheriffs here this afternoon to prevent an attack on Americans by a large force of Mexicans massed on a ranch on the Texas side of the Rio Grande. This force yesterday attacked the town of Guerrero and killed 30 soldiers and several citizens. An attack on San Ignacio nearby is planned.

Rebel forces are mobilizing on both sides of the Rio Grande.

Confident of Success.

Mexico City, via Laredo, Tex., Nov. 22.—Government officials at Neuvo Laredo this afternoon confirmed the reports of fighting at Torreon and Gomez Palacio. They declared that the conflict at Torreon was unimportant, but stated that a fierce engagement was fought at Gomez Palacio, and that several of the combatants were killed. The officials assert that the revolutionists were repulsed.

That Francisco Madero was confident of the success of his uprising, and that he appointed Manuel Uriquid lieutenant governor of the state of Tataxaca, was learned to-day by the police. The document of appointment, with date, was seized by the secret service men. It was headed

"Provisional government of the United Mexican states. Offices of the president of the republic. Number 3."

The authorities declare that it is evident that Madero carefully planned a general uprising. Madero apparently conspired with men of wealth. Abel Serratos and Robles Dominguez, rich mine owners, are under arrest as suspects.

Wives of suspected revolutionary leaders are under arrest, and have been put to torture by police officials in an effort to force them to reveal the whereabouts of their husbands. Senora Serratos was compelled to reveal her husband's hiding place, and he was captured at Orizaba.

LOS ANGELS INQUIRY.

Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 23.—Chief of Police Seymour, of San Francisco, was the principal witness before the Times special grand jury, when that body resumed its probing of the Times' disaster yesterday.

Detective William J. Burns also arrived from San Francisco yesterday. He did not appear at the grand jury hearing, and his business here is not known.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Pittsburg, Nov. 22.—Fighting their way through dense smoke and blinding flames in a burning oil house on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad yesterday, Howard Vinkendork and Wilbert Elery were burned to death.

The men had worked all Sunday and part of the night and had gone to sleep in the oil house. Sparks from a passing engine started the fire, and they could be seen running around endeavoring to find the door before they fell.

PRICES DROP.

Chicago, Nov. 23.—Wholesale reductions in the price of beef, mutton and pork were announced by the Chicago packers yesterday. Spare ribs, pork loins and beef loins were sold at one cent less than Monday. Beef ribs dropped a cent and a half.

PLAN TO RELIEVE STREET CONGESTION

Proposal to Cut Tunnel Under Cote des Neiges Hill at Montreal

Montreal, Nov. 23.—Plans were discussed at a recent meeting of the Metropolitan parks commission at the city hall for the relief of street traffic, which has become a problem in Montreal. Sir William Van Horne made an interesting suggestion of cutting a tunnel under the Cote des Neiges hill tunnel for the purpose of connecting the two sections of the city, which are now rapidly growing in that direction. The matter under discussion at the moment was the best way to reduce the traffic which now moves along Sherbrooke street. It was remarked by Controller Wanklyn that if the traffic went on increasing there they would be forced to pave the street in stone blocks of some description, much against their will.

It was shown that the narrowness of Ontario street east of Park avenue was the cause of throwing a lot of traffic on to Sherbrooke street.

This brought the dicussion into the steep grades of Cote des Neiges hill. Sir William Van Horne then came forward with the suggestion that a tunnel should be built under Cote des Neiges hill, and he declared that he had been surprised at the small cost of such an undertaking. With a triple tunnel approximately 5,000 feet long, present conditions would be overcome, and the whole work would be completed at a figure of $1,000,000. The construction of such a tunnel was almost a necessity, as the natural outlet for the rapid growth of the city was in a north-westerly direction, and traffic facilities as at present offered had to be improved. Moreover, the stone and other material secured from the boring of such a tunnel could be disposed of advantageously by the city, as the hill was composed of the best of Montreal limestone.

The suggestion was listened to carefully, and was regarded as being feasible.

Controller Wanklyn submitted in turn that the tunnelling of St. James street from Gosford west for the placing underground of street car tracks had become a stern necessity. The street was so narrow that with the certainty that traffic would increase much in a few years, it seemed to be the only solution for the daily congestion.

Sir William Van Horne remarked that if such a subway were built it should provide for four tracks. All of them might not be needed at once, but growth had to be provided for.

Sir William was also of the opinion that if such a subway were constructed it was just possible that surface street cars could be removed from Craig, Notre Dame and St. James streets.

Both projects were discussed by the members present, who were satisfied that they required careful consideration as traffic outlet for Montreal streets.

CANADA'S DAIRY PRODUCTS.

Annual Report Shows Large Increase in Value of Exports.

Ottawa, Nov. 22.—J. A. Ruddick, dairy and cold storage commissioner states that the total exports for the fiscal year show an increase in value of dairy products exported amounting to $1,262,716. For the year 1910 the value of the exports of condensed milk and cream was $541,372, against $90,520 in 1909; butter, $1,010,274, against $1,521,436; cheese, $21,607,692, against $20,386,666. The total value of these various classes of products exported being $23,159,338 in 1910, as compared with $21,994,622 in 1909. On a basis of annual consumption per head of milk, cream, cheese and condensed milk to value of $10, he estimates the value of these products consumed during the year 1909-10 to be $75,000,000, which added to the value of the exports, makes a total of $98,000,000 as the probable total value of dairy production in Canada for the year.

COLLISION AVERTED.

Hampton Roads, Va., Nov. 23.—When the Tennessee, with President Taft on board, arrived here yesterday, the sailors told of a narrow escape the vessel had from colliding with an unknown steamer 150 miles out at sea Friday night.

The cruiser was steaming behind its convoy, the Montana, off the shore of Cuba, when suddenly the lookout reported a vessel dead ahead across the Tennessee's bow. A heavy rain was falling, making the darkness almost impenetrable, but evidently the Tennessee's lights were observed by the steamer's crew and with only a few seconds to spare, the smaller vessel slid out of harm's way. The vessel disappeared without disclosing her identity. It is believed to have been the German training ship Freya.

POLICE CHIEF CENSURED.

Seattle, Wash., May 23.—Mayor Gill will take no action on the recommendation of the investigating committee of the city council, whose report censured Chief of Police Wappenstein, it is believed. The chief is still at his post.

The committee declared in its findings that much of the crime and vice conditions in Seattle are due to the wilful negligence or possibly collusion of Chief Wappenstein and other members of the police department.

The prevalence of gambling and the shameless operation of the vice district by a syndicate, members of which are known by name, is roundly scored, and it is all put up to Wappenstein. The report recommends that Wappenstein be immediately dismissed, but the Mayor yesterday declared he had nothing to say.

PREMIER BRIAND ASSAULTED.

Paris, Nov. 23.—Imposing national ceremonies in the Tuilleries Garden, in connection with the dedication of a statue erected to the memory of Jules Ferry, the French statesman, were marred by an assault upon Premier Briand, who, while walking with President Fallieres was struck twice in the face by a royalist. The premier was not seriously hurt. The crowd which had gathered in the garden set upon the premier's assailant and determined intervention by the Republican guards saved him from death by beating.

WOMEN SEEK SUFFRAGE.

Portland, Ore., Nov. 23.—Although woman suffrage was defeated at the recent election by a big majority, it was learned to-day that the Oregon Equal Suffrage Association has started another petition for votes for women which will be presented to the state legislature when it meets in January. It is said that the suffragettes will maintain a strong lobby at the capitol during the session of the legislature, and if the body refuses to give them a right to vote that another equal suffrage amendment will be presented at the next general election in 1912.

VANCOUVER ISLAND SEES RUSH FOR LAND

Settlers Flocking in, in Search for Rich Acres They Hear Of

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

Never before did the future of Vancouver Island loom up more brilliantly than at the present, and evidence of a new epoch in the history of this island is shown on every hand. The pace which is being set is well in keeping with that of the rest of the Dominion. Probably the most inspiring proof of the island's prosperity is that of the number of incoming settlers, who are taking up pre-emptions wherever these can be obtained.

The once sparsely settled northern section is now being opened up in a remarkable manner. Settlers are flocking to the San Josef valley and other points in the north to pre-empt sections, and the prediction is made by men well versed in present conditions that before two years have elapsed there will not be any land on the island for pre-emption.

This rush to the north follows closely the demand made for land in the Banfield district, which proves that this island is in the eye of the people of at least the northern half of the globe. Englishmen especially are seeking acreage here as well as residents in the northwest who do not like the cold winters there. The land still left in the Clayoquot and Ucluelet districts is being rapidly taken up by prospective settlers, but as there is little left in the south and middle of the island the newcomers have had to go north for their homesteads.

For many years the San Josef valley was little thought of, but when several of the settlers came back from there, with reports that the land was second to none on the island, it was a signal for the advancing of a small army to that section. In this newly-opened district mixed farming is being carried on to great advantage, and it is expected that if the farmers there specialize in any branch it will be in dairying, as the pasturage for cattle is excellent.

A settler who pre-empted the north quarter of section 20, township 37, and who is spending a few days here, states that while there is considerable land still open for pre-emption it will not be long before it has all been taken up, as each steamer brings many settlers to that part who are seeking a farm on this island. He also states that a trunk road is being built from Holberg through to the head of the San Josef bay, and that this will make the valley more accessible than under present conditions. As one who knows he corroborates all statements that have been made regarding the quality of the soil there, saying that it consists of a loam suitable for the growing of any kind of farm products.

If the predictions made regarding the taking up of all land within two years comes true the provincial government will be confronted with a serious problem, how to provide for the requirements of newcomers. It is asserted that many of the timber speculators have secured land on which there is not the minimum of 8,000 feet of timber, specified in the act. These men have taken portions of land to square their limits and in this manner have obtained land not yielding 8,000 feet to the acre. If the time comes, and it seems almost inevitable, when the people are unable to secure any more pre-emptions then it will be up to the government, it is argued, to have the timber limits resurveyed, and thereby some of the land regained.

Among organizations established here doing great work towards developing this island is the Vancouver Island Development League. The numerous branches situated at different points are devoting time and energy to the cause. At the local office the inquiries received daily are various and sundry, but the majority are from persons who desire to settle here.

THOUSANDS MOURN TOLSTOI'S DEATH

Nobles and Peasants Attend Funeral of Famous Russian Writer

St. Petersburg, Nov. 23. — Without ceremony and with no requiem the body of Leo Tolstoi was consigned to the grave at the count's estate near here yesterday. Thousands of peasants and many nobles attended the funeral. Heading the cortege, which numbered more than 1,000, was a banner inscribed, "Leo Nicholavitch, the memory of your goodness will never fade from the minds of us, your orphaned peasants."

Choirs composed of students chanted a funeral dirge.

Countess Tolstoi and other members of the family followed the coffin to the grave on foot.

The grave is beneath Poverty Oak, where the peasants on Tolstoi's estate were accustomed to worship.

Thousands of weeping peasants and nobles assembled when the body arrived from Astopova. As the flower strewn coffin was borne past the sorrowing multitude, heads were barred and noble and peasant alike bowed in reverence until the cortege had passed.

The action of the Greek church in refusing to perform the funeral rites after Tolstoi had declined a reconciliation was the cause of much unfavorable comment, and it was predicted that the affair would result in thousands deserting the church. Officials and members of the cabinet concurred in this belief.

TWO TRAINMEN KILLED

Chico, Cal., Nov. 23.—Conductor Ralph Crum and Brakeman A. B. Strong were instantly killed eighteen miles from Stirling City, when the axle of a logging car broke, wrecking seven heavily-laden cars. Brakeman Strong was buried beneath a mass of lumber, and workmen were occupied several hours in extricating the body, not exceeding twenty per cent., but from this will be deducted dividends paid by the company.

SUFFRAGETTES ACTIVE.

London, Nov. 23.—Their movements hidden by the thick fog, suffragettes executed a flank movement on Premier Asquith early to-day and broke every window of the house with iron bolts, stones, etc. The attack lasted several minutes. Finally police were summoned and the party dispersed. Several were caught and taken to jail.

G. E. FOSTER LEFT OUT IN THE COLD

Judge Doherty Takes Position as R. L. Borden's First Lieutenant

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Nov. 23.—The opposition held the first caucus of the session yesterday and ratified R. L. Borden's reorganization scheme for the party's domestic economy. G. H. Perley officially assumed the position of chief whip and George Taylor was solaced with the title of honorary chief whip. C. A. Magrath was chosen permanent chairman of the caucus. Dr. Roche was made assistant to Mr. Perley. Other whips were chosen from younger men of the party, namely, Messrs. Middleboro, Sharpe, MacDonald, Goodeve and Stanfield.

C. J. Doherty takes the leading position as Mr. Borden's first lieutenant in the House, and G. E. Foster is left off the party's recognized list of leaders.

TROOPS QUELL RIOTS

Disorder in Connection with Welsh Strike Becoming Serious

Cardiff, Wales, Nov. 23.—The disorders in connection with the strike of Welsh colliers in the Goudda valley are becoming serious.

The rioters have attacked the houses of the mine officials, held up and searched trains, storming the signal boxes and keeping the signalmen prisoners while the riots were going on, and have threatened other outrages.

A sharp conflict to-night between rioters and the police at Tony-y-Pandy was not quelled until the troops were summoned.

AMENITIES OF DEBATE.

Ottawa, Nov. 22.—At the opening of the Commons this afternoon Speaker Marcil called attention to the Hansard report of last night's debate, in which Mr. Gauvreau declared Mr. Monk was a liar when he told the House one of Sir Wilfrid's supporters in Drummond and Arthabaska declared the Canadian navy would enable us to pound England ... she deserved it.

Mr. Marcil said Mr. Gauvreau should withdraw the remark. The latter formally withdrew it.

But Mr. Monk declared he was not satisfied with Mr. Gauvrau's form of apology and dramatically invited him to meet him out in the corridors and repeat the statement.

Mr. Monk then walked out to the corridors, but Mr. Gauvrau remained in his seat, and thus a prospective lively row in the corridors was averted.

Mr. Guthrie then resumed the debate on the address.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH.

Prince Rupert, Nov. 21.—That Joseph B. Trembley came to his death by accident while in the performance of his duty as a conductor on the Portland Canal Short Line Railway," was the brief finding of the coroner's jury at the inquest at Stewart by J. H. McMullin.

The particulars of the accident as brought out at the inquest showed that as the dusk was gathering Mr. Trembley slipped on the icy roadbed and in an instant his life was crushed out by the wheels of a freight car. By the time that the witnesses of the terrible scene reached his body ...e was extinct. The deceased leaves a wife and baby child.

TOPOGRAPHIC ISLAND SURVEY

WORK DONE THIS YEAR BY CHAPMAN PARTY

Mapping Out Southern Portion of Vancouver Island Being Proceeded With

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

R. H. Chapman, who is in charge of the topographic work of the Geological Survey on Vancouver Island, is about to leave for Ottawa. When asked by a Times man regarding the work accomplished, Mr. Chapman said:

"The work of the Geological Survey during the field season just passing has been much delayed by the heavy smoke and laterly by the early rains. It is now nearing completion and the parties will soon be en route to Ottawa for the office work.

"The work planned and begun in May included a topographic map of an area extending from Albert Head along the west coast to a north-south line west of Point-no-Point, and northerly to an east-west line through Ladysmith. This area includes, with other items, all of the watershed of Leech and Sooke rivers, Goldstream and Sooke and Shawnigan lakes, the headwaters of the Jordan and San Juan rivers, the Cowichan valley to within three miles of Cowichan lake, the drainage basin of the Koksilah, not quite all of the Chemainus drainage, and all the mountains between these waters. It shows, for the first time, the correct relation, one to the other and to outside points, of the various well known places, such as the Jordan Meadows and the old silver mine on the Koksilah river.

"Many trails have actually been mapped for the first time. This map embraces all the east coast line of Vancouver Island, from the head of Finlayson Arm to Oyster Harbor, and the adjacent flatter portions to which the mountainous areas contrast sharply. The towns are all mapped and many lakes and ponds not heretofore shown on any map are correctly placed and the height above sea shown. Several islands of the gulf are included wholly or in part, the western portion of Salt Spring Island, part of Galiano, the whole of Kuper, Thetis, and many small islands between.

"This map, prepared at a field scale of 1:96,000, for publication at two miles to an inch and the topographic relief shown by contours at an interval of 100 feet, is now complete. In addition, a topographic field sheet, on a larger scale, has been prepared, of the vicinity of Nanaimo. It joins the previously described work along the east-west line through Ladysmith and extends northward, including all of the island to a point on the shore about ten miles northwest of Nanaimo. It takes in the lower portions of Haslam creek, Nanaimo river and the smaller streams, and includes South Wellington, Extension and Northfield. Various islands are also within the map. More than half the western portion of Gabriola island and all of the small islands lying off the coast about Nanaimo.

"The field scale of this map is 1:48,000, and it is to be published at about one inch to one mile. The topographic features are shown in great detail by contours, at an interval of 20 feet. This map is upon the same scale as that done at Victoria and Saanich in 1909. This sheet is not quite completed but will be finished in a few days.

"The triangulation necessary to the control of the area described was done during the season of 1909. This feature of the work is an important one, and must be done in advance of the actual mapping. In anticipation of future map work, a triangulation scheme has been extended northwestward up the island. Several stations have been established and observations made. Included are Mt. Arrowsmith, Mt. Grey, Big Interior Peak and Mt. Albert Edward. The triangulation party is the pioneer in topographic work and in some instances had interesting experiences and 'near' hardships. In June last the party returned to the station established the previous year, and, on reaching the mountain top, had difficulty in finding the signal, a tripod of timber about eighteen feet high covered with cloth; at last the top of it was discovered sticking out of the winter months.

"Mt. Arrowsmith was one of the interesting peaks ascended. Near the summit the mountain is quite steep, and there are several huge towers of rock, which add greatly to the scenery. The southern peak of the group, which is the highest, was selected for a station and was ascended without difficulty from a gap just to the north.

"An easy route from Alberni to the summit was found, by which a good climber might, during the long summer days, make the return trip in a day by going 'light,' without a pack.

"A trail could easily be marked, with practically no expense, and horses could readily be taken to within a thousand feet of the summit.

"In addition to the triangulation control, level lines have been run, connecting the work about Victoria, 1909, and that around Nanaimo and Ladysmith, 1909, and so giving the correct relation between the two datums, which had of necessity been used.

"The work of computing the triangulation, adjustment of levels, and the inking and finishing of the maps will require the winter office season, when the maps will be delivered for engraving, and in the spring the men prepared to again take the field to extend the mapping over such areas as are approved by the officers of the department."

The ilustrations reproduced in this issue are from photographs taken by Mr. Chapman during the summer.

The motor of an automobile built to carry electric lamps about London is supplied with two large flywheels to make it steady running.

DR. H. H. CRIPPEN EXECUTED TO-DAY

PAYS PENALTY FOR MURDER OF WIFE

Ethel Le Neve Sails for America on Board the Liner Majestic

(Times Leased Wire.)

London, Nov. 23.—Among unmarked graves in Centonville prison to-day lies the body of Dr. H. H. Crippen, while Ethel Claire Le Neve is aboard the liner Majestic, sailing for America.

Crippen was hanged at 9 o'clock this morning. Shortly before death he embraced the Catholic faith, and was accompaneid to the gallows by Father Carey.

The Evening Times to-day reiterates that Crippen confessed his crime, though Crippen went to the gallows without confessing.

The doomed man's last night was a wakeful one. He called frequently to the death watch and asked for the time.

Father Carey of the Church of the Sacred Heart called at dawn and administered the last rites of the church. Crippen engaged in an earnest conference with the priest and apparently did not brood over his approaching end. Breakfast was served at seven o'clock but Crippen did not eat. At 8.30 the governor of the prison notified him to prepare for the death march. Jailers pinioned his arms and bared his neck and the procession, consisting of the priest, prisoner and two warders, left the condemned cell to the gallows, where Executioner Ellis waited. Crippen did not falter when he stood under the noose.

A few minutes later the morbid crowd outside saw a black flag hoisted. Some hissed, few cheered, and many groaned as the signal appeared.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

Members of Commission Hear Witnesses at Fernie.

Fernie, B. C., Nov. 22.—Dr. Bryce, of the royal commission on technical and industrial training, accompanied by Mr. Forsyth of the Berlin Technical school, who is also a member of the commission, arrived in town yesterday, and at once held a session of the commission in the city council chamber. Dr. Robinson and other members of the commission, excepting G. M. Murray, B. A., who is attending the congress of technical schools, now in session in Boston, went to Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. This division of the commission has been found necessary in order to cover the territory mapped out for the itinerary within the time specified.

On the return of the train the commission was reconvened by Dr. Bryce, who gave those assembled a concise statement of the object and scope of the work laid down for the commission in the interest of a thorough and practical educational system. After a very brief address of welcome to the board by Mayor Herchmer, the real business of the session was inaugurated by the swearing of the mayor, who gave evidence as to the size, valuation, amount of school tax levied and terms attached of a general character affecting the subject of investigation directly or otherwise.

After the mayor came a delegate from the Michel miners' union, Principal Bruce of the city schools, Miss Hogan of his staff, Mrs. F. C. Laun, of the Ladies' Benevolent Society; Chairman Stanley, of the school board, and many others, including Rev. Father Michel of the Roman Catholic church.

The results of these examinations was to bring out very distinctly the fact that all these witnesses deem the project of a technical and industrial training school, with the addition of domestic economy, a most desirable one, and that night schools in connection therewith would be of great benefit to the community.

The fact that the 100 children are still out of school entirely and the twelve rooms now being used were not adequate to the demands made upon them was brought out. The daily attendance now averages over five hundred.

Principal Bruce stated that there were no technical or domestic economy schools in the province outside of the coast cities. He emphasized the statement made by other witnesses that a school of domestic economy would be of the most immediate benefit in the district; in fact this may be said to be the prominent feature brought out by the inquiry here, though the technical and industrial training projects were unanimously endorsed.

At the evening session J. R. Lawry, president of the board of trade; J. W. Bennett, editor of the Ledger; Rev. H. E. Grant and others were sworn, and examined along the lines following at the meeting.

Under the guidance of Dr. Bryce, these examinations are an education in themselves and are creating a lasting impression upon the people of the towns visited. Dr. Bryce and Mr. Forsyth leave in the morning for Nelson and thence to Vernon, and will meet the remainder of the members at Vancouver and Victoria, where the full commission will sit before leaving for the States, where they will visit the leading schools of technical training before departing for Europe to investigate the system in use there before making their final reports.

MERRITT ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

Merritt, Nov. 21.—Merritt will have electric lights before the end of the year. The orders are being filed for a modern steam plant to develop energy and the plan is to make provision for at least 1,000 lights at once. The directors of the Light and Power Co. are confident that the plant will be ready for operation by December 31. The cost of the plant has not yet been definitely fixed, but it will likely be in the neighborhood of $10,000.

BIG CUT IN CABLE RATES PROBABL

NEGOTIATIONS AS TO DEFERRED MESSAGE

John Milward, Manager Paci Cable, Speaks of Present Situation

In an interview granted to a Tim reporter on Saturday afternoon Jo Milward, president of the Pacific C ble Board, announced the probable auguration of a fifty per cent. cut cable rates to Australasia on wh will be known as deferred messag Negotiations which have been in p gress for some time past between Pacific Cable Board and connecti companies have now assumed a m favorable aspect, and Mr. Milwa stated that a rate of one shilling a sixpence a word on messages to be d livered within forty-eight hours filing was contemplated. The prese rate is three shillings a word and me sages are usually delivered within t hours.

"I expect that the establishment this rate on deferred delivery messag will prove a step forward in cable se vice," said Mr. Milward, "as it show prove a great boon to the people of countries served by our cable. It w enable people having messages of important but not very urgent nat to benefit by the use of the cab which is the only means of commu cation outside of the postal servi At present the time taken by a let between Australasia and London approximately 35 days and the posta on half-an-ounce is two pence. T existing cable rate is three shilling word and the time occupied is gener ly about two hours. Our idea in p viding the proposed system of deferred delivery message is to allow business which is too urgent for p and not of a nature demanding i mediate communication to be se over the cable in its slack moments, a rate which should prove popular s is commensurate with the condition deferred delivery."

Mr. Milward left on the steam Tees last night for Banfield Creek ble station, accompanied by E. Heu ley, an English inventor who has p duced apparatus which is expected revolutionize cable communicati Explaining the invention Mr. Milwa said:

"Mr. Heurtley has invented a rece ing apparatus which is much m sensitive than any yet produced. is designed to overcome what is kno as retardation on the cable. As far the mechanical efficiency of our se ing and receiving intrumensts is co cerned there is little difference tween them and those employed land wires, but a message sent over cable takes an appreciable time travel the long distance and this retardation results in it being receiv much slower than on a land wire. Heurtley's apparatus is expected enable the weakest pulsations in cable to be distinctly detected, and is expected that the receiving capac of the stations will be increased fifty per cent."

Answering a query from the Tim reporter, Mr. Milward said that present rate at which messages w received was about twenty words minute. The invention was expec to increase this to thirty words, an s erage speed for most land wires.

Mr. Milward was shown a newspa clipping in which it was stated that success of the new apparatus would followed by a reduction in cable ra and stated that this was purely infere on the part of the writer.

"So far the reduction of rates has been considered in connection with Heurtley's apparatus. I notice that clipping refers to reduced press rates, in this particular I would like to poin that the Pacific cable board is now ca ing press messages to Australia f British Columbia for 6¾ cents a w which I consider is the bed-rock r Out of this 2 cents a word is paid to Australian government for transmit the messages over the land wires, the board, for carrying the matter miles, gets 4¼ cents. The ordinary c mercial rate from this province to A tralia is 54 cents."

Speaking of the proposed establishm of a state-owned Atlantic cable, w would make the service between Austr and Britain via Canada truly "all r Mr. Milward said that while he had thing of a definite nature to make pu the matter was receiving the consid tion of those concerned.

"The Pacific cable, as you probe know," he said, "is in itself a really fed enterprise. It was laid at a req of commercial bodies for two main cons, to provide an alternative cable r to the United Kingdom in case of br down or other contingency on the o routes, and to break down the high r of th eprivate companies which held monopoly. The cable was laid at a cos $10,000,000 as a joint enterprise on the of Great Britain, Canada and Austra and runs from Banfield, on the west c of this Island, through Fanning Isl Suva, the Fijis and Norfolk Island. now control a leased wire across the minion. The Atlantic cable is the link in the chain which is not 'all and there is, in consequence, an agita to provide a state-controlled route ac that ocean. The Pacific cable bo which operates the Pacific cable, is c posed of representatives from the ov governments and, in the matter of ra is to some extent dependent upon the a of private companies controlling the lantic cables."

Mr. Milward, who has been in Can since July and has visited the East rec ly, will return to Australia on the ste ship leaving here December 30th.

CONGRATULATES SIR WILF

(Special to The Times.)

Ottawa, Nov. 21.—King George cabled Sir Wilfrid Laurier as follo

"Please accept my sincere congra lations on your seventieth birth May you be blessed with many m years of health and prosperity."