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THE WESTERN VOTE.

Notwithstanding the defeat of the Laurier government on the reciprocity issue, the electors of the Prairie provinces seem disinclined to drop their agitation for a reduction in the tariff, and the tabulation of the vote in the three middle provinces gives some idea of the strength of the movement which for years has tended toward a reduction in the duties seriously affecting the farmers of the Northwest. We think it must be admitted that in the middle provinces more than in any others the vote of the electors was intelligently cast on the single issue of reduced tariffs and freer trade. Though the reciprocity measure did not concede all that they asked, they recognized that it was a step in the direction and they voted on the theory that half a loaf would be better than no bread. They did not allow the issue to be beclouded by the flag-wavers; it was a straight business vote with them.

An analysis of the vote shows that it was overwhelmingly in favor of freer trade.

The figures of the voting in Saskatchewan last month show that no less than 89,035 ballots were cast, as compared with 59,868 in the election three years ago, an increase of 30,000. The Liberal majority in the province is 18,212 as compared with a Liberal majority of 8,336 three years ago. The majority for reciprocity is 19,631.

Of the ten constituencies in Saskatchewan, Laurier and his policy of larger markets was endorsed in nine, and overwhelmingly endorsed.

Had Saskatchewan been accorded its rightful representation of fifteen, which the census shows it is entitled to, the enormous majorities indicated above are sufficient warrant for the statement that the representation in parliament would be 14 Liberals to one Conservative.

As yet absolutely complete returns for all Alberta constituencies have not been obtained, but, insofar as official and unofficial figures are available, they tell much the same story as do the Saskatchewan figures. Laurier and reciprocity were triumphantly endorsed in six out of the seven ridings.

Commenting on the significance of this vote the Regina Leader says:

"In Alberta, as in Saskatchewan, had the province received its just representation, the standing would assuredly be, Liberals 11, Conservatives 1.

"Such a record of enormous majorities throughout the length and breadth not of one province alone, but of two adjacent provinces, is one of the most significant features of the late contest. They reveal the strength of the low tariff sentiment of the West, a sentiment which shows no signs of abatement; a sentiment that, so far from being weakened, has been strengthened and intensified by the rejection of reciprocity by Ontario.

"Prior to the polling last month, the Leader said if the Big Interests were successful in their effort to deprive the West of its natural market, they would live to regret their folly. We pointed out that the reciprocity pact did not endanger their interests and legitimate profits, that it dealt primarily with natural products, but that if those Big Interests were so short-sighted as to oppose such a measure designed to benefit the farmers, and were successful in their opposition, a much more dangerous agitation, that is, dangerous to the protected interests, would arise,—an agitation not for free trade in natural products, but for lower tariffs all along the line. Time will demonstrate the truth of that prediction, and the majorities rolled up on the prairies last month for freer trade and larger markets are an evidence of the force which will be behind that agitation and which will ultimately, and before long, too, triumphantly carry the low tariff party to victory."

It is useless to deny that when these provinces secure their proper representation in parliament—as they must do soon after a redistribution bill is passed in the House—the majority of the high tariff government will undergo a serious reduction. Nothing can change the mind of the Middle West on the tariff question. It is immovably determined to have open markets and lower duties on agricultural implements. Both Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. R. L. Borden found this out on their visits to the west. The demand grows with every passing year, and it must continue to grow as the intelligence of the people is developed on tariff matters.

Nor can it be supposed that—since the question of fiscal independence has been settled — other parts of Canada will be inclined to suffer on supinely under the imposition of the present restrictions. The opening of the neighboring markets would have stayed their thirst for the blood of tariffs for a time, but only for a time. The closing of the avenues of trade and the increased restriction under which they are now handicapped will but whet their desire for the life of their quarry.

The people of Canada have given their answer to the charge of disloyalty and have allayed their fears of disintegration of the Empire, but that has not touched the question of their tariff disabilities. That question is still to be settled, and the strength of the Middle West is what will have to be reckoned with by Mr. Borden within the next two years.

The admitted influence of the "Interests" over the Borden administration and their avowed intention to secure a revision of the tariff as they may be advised by a tariff commission of their own creation will hasten the day when the Interests will have to face the solid impact of the Western vote. There can be no international complications arising out of a reduction of the tariff when Canada makes the reduction of her own volition; nor will the question of loyalty to the Empire be brought into account. It may take Canada a couple of years to find her feet again, but it will not take longer. The election after redistribution will tell the tale.

BALFOUR'S RESIGNATION.

The resignation of Hon. Arthur J. Balfour from the leadership of the Unionist party in the United Kingdom, news of which came at a late hour today, will be received with mingled feelings of surprise and regret by many persons in Canada who have closely followed the trend of political events in the Mother Country. Though the Unionist party has been divided on several important matters of policy it was scarcely anticipated that the differences between the factions were so strongly defined as to lead to the leader's resignation. The "Die Hards," as they are known in Great Britain, have evidently made it impossible for Mr. Balfour to consolidate his party and he steps down. What with the altered views of the people of Britain on the question of Home Rule for Ireland and Mr. Balfour's lack of entire sympathy with the unequivocal opposition of the Unionists it was perhaps easier to step out than go on. It is an inopportune time for the Unionist party to change leaders. The Tariff Reformers have achieved their first party triumph.

THE POLITICAL CENSUS.

On the day following the recent Dominion elections a remark was heard on a prominent business corner of the city which was accepted by the three or four others present as a correct summing up of the elements entering into the campaign. The remark was as nearly as can be quoted from memory of it as follows: "When the political census of Canada is announced and the total vote cast is analyzed it will be found that the number of votes cast for Liberal candidates will be exactly equal to the number of electors who voted intelligently on the reciprocity issue." We noted the remark and awaited results. They are much more encouraging than we had been led to fear.

The total number of good ballots cast throughout Canada was 1,101,566, not including a few scattering small districts not yet accounted for. Of this number 569,670 voted Conservative and 531,896 voted Liberal. This leaves the total Tory vote in excess over the then government vote by only 37,774, and this total, nearly all obtained in Toronto constituencies, will probably be reduced when the whole vote in Saskatchewan is counted.

The figures show that had a referendum on reciprocity been taken it would have carried with an overwhelming majority. The elements conspiring to defeat the Laurier government could not have marshalled nearly so large a following had not a large number, opposed to that government on political principles alone, voted against it on these principles while believing reciprocity to be in the best interests of Canada as a whole.

More than this, if membership in parliament could have been secured on a general plebiscite instead of a vote by constituencies the results would show that, on the basis of the present representation, Hon. R. L. Borden would have in parliament a majority of exactly half of one man.

When these figures are put in the crucible and their last residuum discovered we fancy there is little after all on which the new government can flatter itself. The forces combining to defeat reciprocity and the side issues raised together with the blare of Imperialistic trumpets and the waving of the flag along with that patriotism that "is the last refuge of a scoundrel," the results bode ill for the protectionist party.

In another election when reduced tariffs are the straight issue—as they will be—all who voted Liberal may be depended upon to do so again with an equal number of those who voted for an illusory and sentimental reason which, on calm reflection, cannot obtain again.

Let Mr. Borden's followers make hay while the sun shines. The storms and hurricanes will come soon enough.

Also Montreal City Council has its graft problems. But with this difference, they are finding out things there.

ELECTION PROTESTS.

The action of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in filing objection to the protest against his election in the riding of Soulanges will, we think, receive the commendation of the electorate of Canada, more particularly that section which desires to see elections freed from corrupting influences or practices. There are no specific counts in the protest against Sir Wilfrid's election, the charges being so general that action has been taken to compel specification. The filing of the protest was too gleefully heralded by the government press as having the effect of preventing Sir Wilfrid from resigning the seat until the charges were disposed of, and doubtless this was the sole object of the charges of corruption. Failing action of the kind Sir Wilfrid has taken, the protest might have been kept suspended in the courts for an indefinite period and the constituency deprived of representation. Sir Wilfrid has now said that his traducers must make good their charge or the case be dismissed.

Should the example thus set by Sir Wilfrid be generally followed throughout Canada, we think there would be less corruption during election campaigns and fewer protests filed afterward. During the period since the recent election the campaign managers of both parties have been busy sawing off and compromising protests, each side yielding to drop individual charges rather than fight the matter out in the courts. The practice is quite as corrupt as the corruption which protests are supposed to contest. Where majorities are narrow it has been the custom to file objections on general grounds, and after the smoke of battle is over the party managers get together and saw these off, leaving only the odd cases where personal malice or some other equally reprehensible motive is behind the charge to be dealt with by the courts.

Doubtless the election laws are technically unobservable, but it must be obvious that the temptations and opportunities surrounding campaigners and party adherents in a heated contest make some statutory limitation of their influences necessary. While there are many things that can be done—and are legitimately done—in an election campaign, the letter of the law must necessarily be strict in order to obviate evasions. We have been authentically informed of a community case in point in this province, a case, too, not covered by any specification in the present law.

We are not among those who advocate a modification of the election laws, but we are strongly of the opinion that when charges of corruption are made there should be no such arrangement possible as a saw-off or compromise. We hold the view that all such cases should be haled into court and the charges sifted to the bottom. Should the protestors fail to establish corruption—by corruption we do not mean overt acts which may have been inadvertently committed without corrupt intention—then these who lodge the protest should be mulcted in the costs of the court. If it were understood that such a course would be followed we may feel confident that only such charges would be laid as contained strong prima facie evidence of wrongdoing and where corruption were proven the heaviest penalties of the law should be visited upon the offenders.

If the new government will adopt such measures it will find no more staunch supporter—in this respect—than the Times. We are not affected by possible consequences to individuals in our own political party and would fain see the law enforced in every case. We know, too, that such stringency in the proper enforcement of the present law is too much to expect from the Borden government.

VICTORIAN WEDDED.

Mr. Darrell Kent of This City, Married Yesterday.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

A marriage socially important in both Victoria and Vancouver, was solemnized at Christ church, Vancouver, yesterday at high noon, the parties being Miss J. Irene Mathe, neice of Mrs. W. R. Angus, 748 Bute street, and Mr. Darrell H. Kent, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Kent of this city. The ceremony was performed by Rev. C. C. Owen, in the company of the immediate faimly and friends. The bride was given in marriage by Mr. W. R. Angus, and looked very charming in her travelling costume of brown cloth, with which she wore a large white hat surmounted by a willow plume of pink, and an exquisite set of white fox, her bridal bouquet was of white roses. Her only attendant was her cousin, Miss Muriel Angus, pleasing in a costume of cream silk with which she wore a picture hat of white, her flowers being pink carnations. Mr. A. N. Daykin was best man. The couple were the recipents of many beautiful and costly gifts. They will spend their honeymoon in Harrison, after which they will be at home to their friends at 560 Granville street.

Mr. and Mrs. Kent went over to Vancoucer on Tuesday to attend the wedding of their son, Mr. Darrell Kent, and Miss J. Irene Mathe, which took place yesterday.

Canada's fire losses during September is $1,128,500, compared with $320,000 for August, and $884,155 for September, 1910.

JOSEPH PEIRSON DIES SUDDENLY

A FAMILIAR FIGURE DEPARTS FROM SCENE

Was a Prominent Member of the Navy League and Yorkshire Society

(From Thursday's Daily.)

A great shock was caused in business circles this morning when the news spread of the death of Joseph Peirson, for many years past a familiar figure in Victoria. The shock was all the greater as Mr. Peirson had been about on Tuesday afternoon and was then in his usual health, so far as any of his friends or acquaintances could discern.

It was evidently at least twenty-four hours after death before the body was discovered. Mr. Peirson had offices in the Reynold's building, corner of Yates and Douglas streets, and there his body was found at 5.45 yesterday afternoon propped up against the inside of the door of one of the rooms and preventing it being opened. The discovery was brought about by a search instituted when Mr. Peirson had not returned to his home the previous evening.

Dr. K. J. O'Neill, whose office is in the same building, had been attending him for heart trouble and asthma for some time past and on Tuesday had been chatting with him. At that time he was in apparent good health. Twice yesterday Dr. O'Neill went to the room in which Mr. Peirson's body was found, but on both occasions he found the door held from opening by some heavy weight. He paid no particular attention to this, however, until a couple of friends of the deceased gentlemen made inquiry for him late yesterday afternoon as to whether he had seen Mr. Peirson during the day. Remembering his unsuccessful efforts to get into the office and also into the other room, Dr. O'Neill went back there and, exerting all his strength, he forced the door open sufficiently to gain admittance, when he was horrified to find that his patient's body was what had kept the door fast.

It was plain from the fact that rigor mortis had set in that death must have occurred some time the previous afternoon and there was no doubt in the doctor's mind that failure of the heart's action was the immediate cause. The body was removed to the B. C. Undertaking parlors, from where the funeral will take place at a time to be announced later. Coroner Hart was notified but decided that an inquest was unnecessary.

Mr. Peirson had been greatly upset by the death of Mrs. Isabella Barlow at Clinton, on the Cariboo road, a few days ago, especially in view of the circumstances surrounding it, and on Tuesday morning he came into the Times office to give some information which had reached him as to the case. He was a close friend of the family and felt their bereavement almost as a personal one. He complained to friends who met him during the early afternoon of a tightness across his chest and of spells of faintness but neither he nor they anticipated anything serious from these symptoms. He had evidently gone back to his office and while in one of the rooms had been seized with one of these spells and had fallen backwards against the door, death being instantaneous.

Mr. Peirson was born in Yorkshire seventy-four years ago and early took up the profession of expert auditor and accountant. He was for many years accountant for the National Provincial Bank at Darlington, and was afterwards for some time at one of the northern branches at Jarrow. He left England for Sotth Africa and was a contractor for the government during the Zulu war. After spending several years in that part of the Empire he went to Australia and lived in that Dominion for some time. He came to Victoria about nineteen years ago and was employed by the provincial government as accountant at Kamloops. He also served as police magistrate at Steveston and was very successful in his enforcement of the law among the many nationalities in that fishing section.

A widower for many years, Mr. Peirson leaves one son in Johannesburg and another in Australia.

Mr. Peirson was widely known not only here but throughout the province by his connection with the Navy League. He was a most enthusiastic member of that organization and was one of the founders of the branch here, of which he was secretary, besides giving his services freely in the work of organizing and building up branches in other parts of the province. He kept all the naval anniversaries before the public by notices or letters in the press, and was always a prominent figure on all patriotic and national occasions. Mr. Peirson was also a leading member of the Yorkshire Society and always took active part in all the celebrations held by the society.

As an auditor Mr. Peirson was considered one of the best in the city and his services were constantly in request by companies and municipalities. He was an exceedingly painstaking and conscientious worker and gave the same or even greater attention to the business of his clients as he would if it were his own. He did considerable work in this line at one time for the local government, and several municipalities in the province engaged him to audit their books. In addition he had acted as secretary for business concerns and at the time of his death he was secretary of the Bulman Lumber Co., Ltd. He was a great stickler for punctuality in appointments and he himself was never known to miss one or to miss the hour he had set for it.

Personally he was a most estimable man, upright, straightforward, courteous and kindly, and at all times ready to assist in advancing any worthy cause.

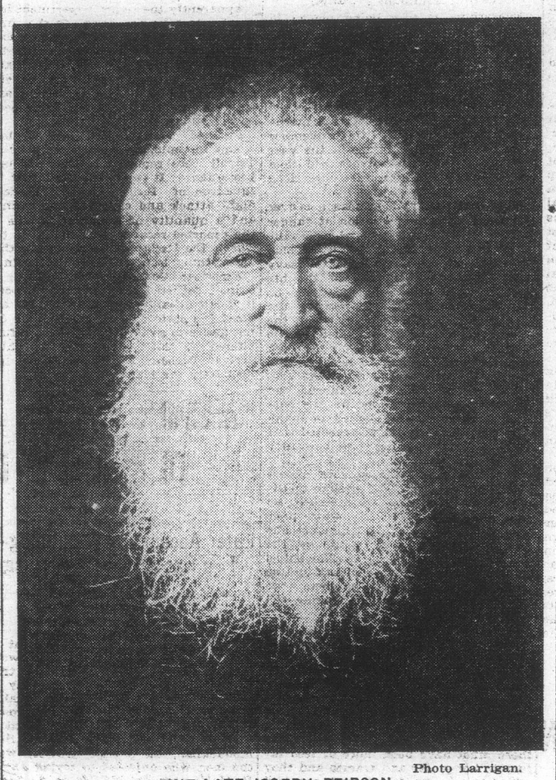

Photo Larrigan.

THE LATE JOSEPH PEIRSON

ACTION WAS DISMISSED.

Vancouver, Nov. 8.—That a person appointed to act as purchasing agent does not possess the right to collect commission from the vendor in the transaction is the opinion of his honor Judge McInnes in a judgment handed down in an action in which F. E. Elliott, a South Vancouver broker, sought to recover the sum of $85 from J. Richardson, a former secretary of the South Vancouver school board as commission on two lots which he claimed had been sold to the board through him.

Evidence was submitted by the defence in an endeavor to show that the board had promised to pay Elliott commission on all the lots he purchased and that he, the plaintiff, had agreed that he could not claim commission from both vendor and purchaser.

At the conclusion of the hearing Judge McInnes reserved his decision stating that there was a question in his mind as to whether a person appointed as a purchasing agent had the right to collect commission from a vendor.

His honor later handed down judgment dismissing the action.

MRS. VERMILYA ILL.

Chicago, Nov. 8.—Mrs. Vermilya, accused of poisoning Policeman Bisonnette, is seriously ill in jail to-day. She was stricken with a severe nausea and it was feared that in spite of numerous guards she again had attempted to end her life by poisoning.

THE CITY MARKET

The prices for produce in the city hold firm, and there are few changes in quotations on last week's figures, though it is anticipated that the cold snap will accelerate an advance in several important articles. The principal articles in which a higher figure is announced include butter, both Cowichan and Victoria, which advanced five cents a pound, while Salt Spring remains stationary. Island eggs also show an upward tendency, and are now selling at 70 cents a dozen.

The prices of meat and flour show no appreciable difference, and there is little prospect of retail figures for meat affording a decline before spring owing to the shortage of butcher's stock. Retail fruits and vegetables retain the prices which have ruled for some days, but wholesale figures show a slight change in minor articles, with an advance in apples and cucumbers.

Oils.	
Pratt's Coal Oil	1.60
Eocene	1.75
Meats.	
Hams (B. C.), per lb.	.20@ .25
Bacon (B. C.), per lb.	.25@ .28
Hams (American), per lb.	.25
Bacon (American), per lb.	.35
Bacon (long clear), per lb.	.22
Beef, per lb.	.10@ .25
Pork, per lb.	.12½@ .25
Mutton, per lb.	.15@ .30
Lamb, hindquarter	2.50@ 3.00
Lamb, forequarter	1.75@ 2.00
Veal, per lb.	.10@ .30
Suet, per lb.	.15
Farm Produce.	
Fresh Island Eggs	.70
Butter, Cowichan	.60
Butter, Victoria	.55
Butter, Victoria	.55
Butter, Salt Spring	.50
Butter, Eastern Townships	.35
Lard, per lb.	.20
Western Canada Flour Mills.	
Purity, per sack	1.90
Purity, per bbl.	7.25
Hungarian Flour.	
Ogilvie's Royal Household, per sack	1.90
Ogilvie's Royal Household, per bbl.	7.25
Robin Hood, per sack	1.90
Robin Hood, per bbl.	7.25
Vancouver Milling Co., Hungarian, per sack	1.85
Vancouver Milling Co., Hungarian, per bbl.	7.10
Lake of Woods, per sack	1.90
Lake of Woods, per bbl.	7.25
Calgary Hungarian, per sack	1.85
Calgary Hungarian, per bbl.	7.25
Enderby, per sack	1.80
Enderby, per bbl.	7.10
Pastry Flours.	
Olive, Bell	1.65
Snowflake, per sack	1.75
Snowflake, per bbl.	7.00
Vancouver Milling Co., Wild Rose	1.75
Drifted Snow per sack	1.75
Grain.	
Wheat, chicken feed, per ton	35.00@45.00
Wheat, per lb.	.02¾
Whole Corn	40.00
Cracked Corn	42.00
Oats	35.00
Crushed Oats	37.00
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 7-lb. sk.	.35
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 20-lb. sk.	.90
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 40-lb. sk.	1.90
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 80-lb. sk.	3.50
Oatmeal, 10-lb. sack	.50
Oatmeal, 50-lb. sack	2.25
Rolled Wheat, 10 lbs.	.65
Cracked Wheat, 10 lbs.	.55
Wheat Flakes, per packet	.12½@ .35
Whole Wheat Flour, 10 lbs.	.45
Graham Flour, 10 lbs.	.50
Graham Flour, 50 lbs.	1.75
Feed.	
Hay (baled), per ton	20.00@22.00
Straw, per ton	16.50
Middlings, per ton	33.00
Bran, per ton	32.00
Ground Feed, per ton	33.00
Shorts	33.00
Poultry.	
Dressed Fowl, per lb.	.25@ .35
Ducks, per lb.	.25@ .30
Geese (Island), per lb	.20@ .25
Fruit.	
Bananas, doz.	.35
Grapefruit each, 10c., or 3 for	.25
Lemons, doz.	.30@ .35
Oranges, doz.	.30@ .50
Canteloupes, each	.10@ .15
Peaches, lb.	.08
Plums, lb.	.08
Watermelons, lb.	.02½
Apples, lb.	.05@ .08
Grapes, lb.	.10@ .15
Vegetables.	
Beets, lb.	.03
Cabbage, lb.	.03
Onions, lb.	.04
Turnips, lb.	.03
Green Corn, doz.	.30
Carrots, lb.	.03
Green Peas, lb.	.06
Beans, lb.	.08
Potatoes (B. C.)	1.75
Potatoes (Island)	2.00
Fish.	
Salmon, Red Spring, lb.	.15
Salmon, White Spring, lb.	.10
Halibut (local), lb.	.15
Halibut (Vancouver), lb.	.12½
Cod, lb.	.10
Herring, lb.	.10
Finnan Haddie, lb.	.15
Bloaters, lb.	.12½
Shrimps (alive), lb.	.35
Shrimps (imported), lb.	.25
Crabs (local), lb.	.12½
Crabs (imported), lb.	.15
Bollchans (salted), lb.	.15
Salmon Bellies, lb.	.15
Flounders, lb.	.10
Soles, lb.	.15
Kippers	.12½
WHOLESALE MARKET.	
Almonds, per lb	.20
Apples (local)	1.50@ 2.00
Apples, Jonathan	2.50
Bacon	.19
Bananas	.05½
Beets, per sack	2.00
Cabbage, per lb.	.01½@ .02
Cheese	.17½@ .18½
Chestnuts	.12½
Creamery Butter	.33
Cucumbers (hot-house), per doz.	1.50
Cauliflower, per doz.	1.50
Eggs (local)	.60
Eggs (California fresh))	.48
Eggs (Eastern)	.32@ .35
Filberts, per lb.	.07
Green Onions	.40
Grapes (Malaga)	2.00
Grapes (Black)	1.75
Grapes (Tokay)	1.50
Grapefruit, per box	5.50
Hams	.19
Haddies, per lb.	.10
Huckleberries	.10
Lard	.14½
Lemons	5.50@ 6.75
Lettuce, per crate	1.50
Onions (California)	.02½
Parsley	.40
Peanuts, roasted	.10
Pomegranates	2.00
Potatoes (local)	30.00
Sweet Potatoes	.03½
Turnips, per sack	1.25
Walnuts, per lb.	.16@ .21
Oranges (Valencia)	5.00@ 5.50

Hurry and Cunning are the two apprentices of Dispatch and of Skill; but neither of them ever learns their master's trade. —Lacon.

WOUNDED WHILE TRYING TO ESCAPE

Suspect, Shot at Ashcroft, Dies in Hospital—Verdict of Coroner's Jury

Ashcroft, Nov. 8.—J. Millar was shot by a constable while attempting to escape and later died from his wound.

Information was laid with Police Constable Burr and sworn before the magistrate regarding the theft of a pair of shoes. Constables Palmer of the 150-Mile House and Smith of Spence's Bridge were sent out to apprehend two men suspected of having committed the theft. The men were found down town with their blankets and the stolen shoes wrapped up in a parcel. The men were arrested and the procession started for the lockup.

While coming up the back lane the constables stopped to arrest a drunk and one of the men, J. Millar, made to get away. Constable Smith called to him three times to stop, but the man kept right on running, and the constable, to give him a scare, pointed his revolver at the man's feet and fired. At the same time Millar tripped over a plank and received the bullet in the lower portion of the back.

The man was taken to the doctor, who dressed the wound, and was later ried to Kamloops by a freight and taken to the hospital where the bullet might be extracted. Millar died Thursday. Rex, the second man, is in the lockup awaiting trial.

Kamloops, Nov. 8.—The inquest on the death of Millar was held in the court house. The witnesses examined were Constable Burr, Constable Smith and Dr. Burris.

The facts as brought out by the stables' testimony are that when Constable Smith and another officer had two prisoners in charge besides Millar, whom they had just arrested after finding stolen property in his possession, Millar made a dash for liberty. The constable started in pursuit, calling upon Millar three times to halt, which deceased replied, "Nothing doing," and kept on running. The constable then fired at his legs, but missed as he did so and the bullet lodged in Millar's back. The jury found that deceased came to his death by a bullet wound inflicted by Constable Smith in the performance of his duty when trying to prevent the escape of a prisoner from lawful custody.

TWO WOMEN PERISH

Lose Their Lives in a Fire at Nelson.

Nelson, Nov. 7.—Fire that broke out at the home of Agnes West today resulted in the death of two women, Jessie LaShe and Pauline Dryer, and serious injury to two others. The fire began in the kitchen and in a few minutes had completely gutted the house.

Most of the occupants were asleep at the time and those who escaped were forced to make their exit from windows, some springing on to the roof of the adjoining bungalow and others dropping to the sidewalk at the risk of their lives. The neighbors were first aroused by the piercing screams of terror.

The firemen arrived at the scene a few moments after the alarm had been sent in and put two streams into the building, but the conflagration had already made headway and took an hour before they could bring it under control. In the excitement it was believed that all the occupants had escaped and not until the fire was extinguished was it known that two had perished. One of the victims was found on the floor with her head toward the door, evidently being overcome by the smoke while trying to get out. The other victim had tried to escape by a window. She was sitting with her head on the sill, while a wire screen showed that she had attempted to force it out as she suffocated by the smoke. There is insurance. An inquest is being held.

FOUND DEAD.

Greenwood, Nov. 8.—A rancher by the name of Thomas Kurmeen was found dead in his bed last Saturday at his home near Eholt, B. C., with a bullet wound in his head. An examination of the cabin in which the deceased had slept showed the bed clothes saturated with blood, while on a nearby table was a 22-calibre rifle. The body was taken to Greenwood, where a coroner's inquest will be held. It is surmised that the deceased, who had been drinking heavily of late, had committed suicide.

Wife—What a darling you are to think that you are in the wrong. Hubby—No, my mother taught me that it was cheaper in the long run to give in to a woman than to argue.

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