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BRIGHT

LIGHT

REVEALS

FOOT

FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD

ROBBERY AND MURDER

Silverware Under House Op-

posite Which Mike Powers

Was Sandbagged

(From Friday's Daily.)

Silverware to the value of several

hundred dollars, stolen fifteen

years ago from the residence of Mrs. J. D.

Pemberton, St. Charles street, under

mysterious circumstances, never un-

ravelled, came into the hands of the

detective police yesterday afternoon,

owing to a bright glint which attracted

the eye of a plumber engaged in re-

pairing water pipes at 813 Port street.

Investigation by the police, on the

plumber's report, disclosed at the far-

end of the castle beneath the floor of

the house a silver tea and coffee ser-

vice, a handsome silver and gold cup

won by one of Mrs. Pemberton's sons

at a race meet at the Oak Bay track,

themselves driving, about sixteen

years ago, and three cases of silver

works, knives and fish knives. The

clean which had attracted the plum-

ber's eye came from the tea and coffee

service which is at present in the hands

of the detective office, removed from its

long hiding, is little the worse for wear,

except for discoloration marks. The

handles of the knives and forks are

polished, but otherwise the recovered

goods are in splendid order. The tea

and coffee service is beautifully en-

grailed and carries the head of King

George IV.

The discovery recalls from police

men the fact that it was in front of

the same house, about thirteen or

fourteen years ago, that Mike Powers,

formerly licensee of the Brown Jug

saloon, was murdered. The police this

morning are searching records to ob-

tain the name of the tenant of 813 Port

street at the time of the silverware

robbery, as by this means it is believed

that police headquarters possible that the

thieves who looted the Pemberton resi-

dence, and the murderers who sandbagged

the late Mike Powers, may be

brought to book through the discovery

made yesterday afternoon.

Defective plumbing caused the oc-

cupant of the Fort Street house to em-

ploy the services of a plumber, who

yesterday afternoon went to execute re-

pairs beneath the floor of the house.

His eye was attracted by a bright

glint some feet away and out of reach,

and a second examination led him to

believe the discovery of sufficient im-

portance for report to the police.

When recovered the silverware was

found disclosed in a box in which it

had been stored beneath the floor. The

wood had rotted and crumbled away

during its fifteen years' concealment. The

protection for many years in the box

is believed to be responsible for the ex-

cellent condition of the silverware to-

day.

It was removed to the detective of-

fice and its history told to the chief

of Pemberton & Son yesterday. Mrs.

J. D. Pemberton is at present in Cal-

ifornia, but J. Pemberton went to the

police station and at once identified the

silverware which he had won in a horse

race at Oak Bay over fifteen years ago, and the

remainder of the valuables as those hav-

ing been stolen from the house of his

mother on St. Charles street.

It was about a year or two years

ago that the robbery took place at the

gate of the Fort Street house. Powers

was at his home at the time, late at

night, and was sandbagged in the

street. He was found lying close to the

gate of the house, and died two days

later from the effects of the wound.

Although the police recall that en-

quiries were made at the time at the

residence of the late Mike Powers, no

special significance seems to have been

attached to the house where the loot was

yesterday discovered; but where the police

believe a den of murderers and

thieves existed. In an effort to trace

the history of the house fifteen years

ago the chief of police will assign

members of the detective force to en-

quire who the tenants were, and if suc-

cessful make an endeavor to trace the

persons who resided there then.

A MIRAL CURZON-HOWE DEAD.

Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth Dies

Suddenly.

Portsmouth, Eng., March 3.—Admiral Sir

Asheton Gore Curzon-Howe, commander-

in-chief at Portsmouth, is dead from

paralysis.

Admiral Curzon-Howe succeeded

Admiral Sir Arthur Fanshawe as

commander-in-chief at Portsmouth in March

1910. He had served in the navy forty-

seven years.

He was commodore in charge of New

Zealand fisheries in 1893-96. He was sec-

ond in command of the Channel fleet,

1903-05; command, China, 1905-07; Chan-

nel fleet, 1907-09; Atlantic fleet, 1909-10;

commander Mediterranean fleet, 1908-10.

ONTARIO LOAN.

Toronto, March 3.—Col. Matheson, pro-

vincial treasurer, announced yesterday in

the House that a provincial loan of \$5,000,

to be floated, of \$2,500,000 for

hydro-electric transmission lines, two

lines of it to carry the line to Windsor,

and the other to be spent on the T. & N. O.

railway, \$5,000,000 to carry the line to

Burlington, \$5,000,000 to carry the line to

the Grand Trunk at Calder.

GOING TO BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Montreal, March 3.—Ernest DeB-

streth has resigned his position in the

Montreal stock exchange clearing house

to go into fruit farming at Salmon

Arm, B. C. He leaves the commission that

Mr. Bohrisz, formerly of the Bank of

Montreal, has been appointed in his

place.

PLAN TO BLOCK

BILLS IN U. S. SENATE

Smoot Declares Tariff Com-

mission Measure Was to

Be Sacrificed

Washington, D. C., March 3.—Con-

fession that a senatorial agreement ex-

isted whereby President Taft's tariff

commission bill is believed to be doomed

to defeat at this session of con-

gress was made yesterday by Smoot

of Utah, in the debate on the measure.

Smoot had declared that a compact

had been made whereby the bill is to

be left as the "unfinished business"

even if the appropriation bills are

thereby blocked of passage.

When debate on the measure opened

Smith of South Carolina took the floor

and explained why he was opposed to

the tariff board. He predicted that

the board, if organized, would divide

and return majority and minority re-

ports. He urged that the only reason-

able plan was to unite on framing a

tariff law for revenue only.

Shively, of Indiana, who followed,

depressed haste at this time. "Why

should the Republicans be in a hurry

now?" he asked. "They had twelve

years in which to create a tariff board

and did not do so. Can it be that their

haste now is because the next congress

will be Democratic?"

Shively denounced the policy of pre-

venting action on the appropriation

bills and thus forcing an extra ses-

sion.

"The plan is," he said, "to appoint

a committee of archangels to determine

tariff questions. Thus, they could not

be mistaken in their conclusions. The

same president who declared the 1897

tariff bill the best ever enacted will

make the appointments to this board.

The Payne bill has been approved and

enrolled by him. This bill now before

the senate is an admission that pre-

vious enactments have been arranged on

an entirely different basis than the re-

lative cost of production here and

abroad."

After the Smoot admission, Senator

Rankin, of Alabama, assailed the

Republicans.

HEAVY SHIPMENTS OF

FLOUR TO ORIENT

Northwest Grainmen Believe

Japan is Preparing for

Trouble

Portland, Ore., March 3.—A num-

ber of grain and flour men of the

Northwest to-day profess to see pre-

parations for war in the Orient in the

heavy shipments of flour to China and

Japan. The business of the last few

weeks has been a volume almost

equalling that, preceding the Russo-

Japanese war and this taken in con-

junction with the known fact that

Japan has been shipping in unusually

large quantities of rice from the Phil-

ippines and India, some grainmen say

means that Japan is anticipating trou-

ble. Other grain men ascribe the in-

crease of flour shipments to Japan

to the short crops in North

China and Manchuria while the Jap-

anese wheat and flour buyers assert

that a short crop and the fact that the

new higher tariff on imported wheat

goes into effect in June is responsible

for the large shipments into Japan.

It is said that all the space in the

regular Portland liners for China has

been contracted for to July 1, while

reservations on Puget Sound steamers

have likewise been made far ahead.

Flour shipments to Japan and China

during February from North Pacific

ports were 313,424 barrels and the

March shipments will be heavier.