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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL. XLVIII. NO. 28. VICTORIA, B.C., TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 1907. FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR

PROVINCIAL SUBSIDIES RESOLUTION AT OTTAWA

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Proposed Notice to Home Government

PITTANCE TO BRITISH COLUMBIA

Premier McBride Promises to Fight the Matter Out to the Bitter End

Ottawa, March 14.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier tonight gave notice of an address to His Majesty for an amendment to the British North America Act to amend the scale of payments to be made by Canada to the several provinces of the Dominion for the support of their governments and legislatures. The proposed amendments are as follows:

(a) Instead of the amounts now paid, the sums hereafter payable yearly by Canada to the several provinces for the support of their governments and legislatures to be according to population, and as follows:

1. Where the population of the province is under 150,000, $100,000.

2. Where the population of the province is 150,000 but does not exceed 200,000, $150,000.

3. Where the population of the province is 200,000 but does not exceed 400,000, $180,000.

4. Where the population of the province is 400,000 but does not exceed 800,000, $190,000.

5. Where the population of the province is 800,000 but does not exceed 1,500,000, $220,000.

6. Where the population of the province exceeds 1,500,000, $220,000.

B. Instead of an annual grant per head of population, now allowed, the annual payment hereafter to be at the same rate of 80 cents per head, but on the population of each province as ascertained from time to time by the last decennial census, until such population exceeds 2,500,000, and at the rate of 60 cents per head for so much of said population as may exceed 2,500,000.

C. An additional allowance to the extent of $100,000 annually for ten years to the province of British Columbia.

The resolution proceeds: "We pray that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased to cause a measure to be laid before the imperial parliament at its present session repealing the provisions of Section 118 of the British North America Act, 1867, aforesaid, and substituting therefore the scale of payments above set forth, which shall be a final and unalterable settlement of the amounts paid yearly to the several provinces of the Dominion for their local purposes and the support of their governments and legislatures. Such grants shall be paid half-yearly, in advance, to each province, but the government of Canada shall deduct from such grants as against any province all sums chargeable as interests on the public debt of that province in excess of the several amounts stipulated in the said act.

"All of which we humbly pray Your Majesty to take into your most favorable and gracious consideration."

"We shall certainly decline to accept the allowance of $100,000 annually for a term of ten years in recognition of our claim for better terms," said Premier McBride last evening in discussing the above proposed amendments to the British North America Act. He went on to say that the stand which he took at the recent interprovincial conference would be maintained. The case of the province would be pressed "to the bitter end." Resolutions would be submitted at Monday's session of the legislature defining the attitude of the province in regard to the question and clearly enunciating its claims. These would be forwarded to Ottawa and if necessary would be taken before the imperial government.

The Premier stated that the notice given by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the Dominion House was simply a reiteration of the proposal which had been made by the conference of premiers for meeting British Columbia's special claims. As the representative of the province he had refused to accept such an absurd compromise, and he was still of the same mind. On the occasion to which he referred it had been acknowledged that, owing to British Columbia's peculiar physical formation and other exceptional conditions, it was entitled to special consideration. And yet, the Premier added it was proposed that this special consideration should end at the termination of ten years. Such a proposal could not—and, moreover, would not—be entertained. The government's position would be outlined in the resolutions to be submitted to the members of the House. In a word, it was the intention to leave no stone unturned in the endeavor to obtain justice for British Columbia upon the "better terms" question.

TOULON DISASTER

Toulon, France, March 15.—Only fifty-eight bodies have been identified in the 107 found in or about the hull of the battleship Jena. The state funeral will be attended tomorrow by President Fallieres. All the dead have been posthumously promoted, so that their survivors will receive higher pensions.

LORD CURZON ELECTED

Defeated Lord Rosebery for Oxford Chancellorship

London, March 14.—Lord Curzon of Kedleston, ex-Viceroy of India, was elected chancellor of Oxford university today by 1,111 against 430 cast for Lord Rosebery. Hitherto in the history of the university chancellors had always been chosen without a contest. Although much influential pressure was exerted to persuade Lord Rosebery to accept the nomination, there will be some adverse criticisms of his acceptance in the face of the almost certain election of Lord Curzon, who is a Conservative, on the ground that it gave the contest a political aspect, Lord Rosebery being a Liberal. The polling was held in the Sheldonian theatre this afternoon, and a constant succession of trains brought eminent voters from all parts of the country, peers and members of the house of commons, archbishops and bishops, and other men who had attained prominence in all the professions. The contest excited great interest.

FEARS CAR MEN'S STRIKE.

Mayor Schmitz Takes Action With Possibility in View.

San Francisco, March 15.—In a letter accepting the resignation of Police Commissioner Creswell, Mayor Schmitz says he does so because he has received information that on May 1st there will be another strike of the street car men unless he can avert it. "If a strike does take place, and from all accounts it seems almost unavoidable," says the mayor to Mr. Creswell, who is an attorney for the United Railways, "your position naturally calls you to be inconsistent as a member of the police commission." Thornwall Mullay, assistant to the president of the United Railways, and Hiram Johnson, president for the car men's union, both declare that they do not believe that a strike is impending.

ROUGH ON BOOKMAKERS.

Toronto, March 15.—The decision of the Supreme Court yesterday at Ottawa, wiping out betting at race tracks, is a serious blow to the Ontario Jockey Club. Bookmakers have been charged $100 a day each at the Woodbine, and with some thirty, more or less, in attendance the revenue was considerable. This will necessarily be diminished or cut off entirely and the continuation of racing in Canada under such conditions will be pretty nearly out of the question.

COUNSEL FIGHT HARD IN THAW MURDER CASE

Attorney Jerome Succeeds in Getting Lawyer Hummel's Story on Record

New York, March 15.—With Attorney Delmas fighting him every inch of the way, District Attorney Jerome today secured from Abraham Hummel his complete story as to the affidavit which it is alleged Evelyn Thaw made in the district attorney's office. It was Hummel who is alleged to have coached Mrs. Thaw when she told him the statement that Stanford White had drugged and ruined her was not true. The Hummel testimony came during the afternoon session of the trial today, and Mr. Delmas, after first objecting broadly to all of Hummel's testimony, offered a specific objection to each question put by the prosecutor. Justice Fitzgerald overruled every objection, and Mr. Delmas had his objections to the rulings noted on the records.

Evelyn Nesbit Thaw herself was called to the stand in the effort of the defence to keep Hummel silent. She declared she had called upon Hummel in his professional capacity and to seek his advice as a lawyer. Stanford White had taken her to the lawyer's office with that end in view. Justice Fitzgerald declared that, admitting the proposition of counsel and cited the case of Mrs. Thaw herself had waived the professional privilege by taking the stand early in the case and giving her version of what transpired at Hummel's office, the bond of secrecy once removed could not be re-established. Unsuccessful in blocking Hummel's testimony, Attorney Delmas in cross-examination of the witness, brought from his own lips the fact that he had been convicted in December in the very courtroom in which Thaw is being tried, on a charge of conspiracy. He further admitted that two indictments for subornation of perjury are pending against him, and that one of these indictments charges him with having caused a false affidavit to be made.

Mr. Jerome protested against the witness "being dragged through the humiliating details" of his trial, but Justice Fitzgerald declined to interfere. Then Mr. Delmas asked Hummel if he had not heard the speech made by District Attorney Jerome when sentence was about to be imposed, when Jerome urged the court to pass the longest and hardest sentence within his power on Hummel, "who has been a menace to the community for twenty years."

Justice Fitzgerald sustained an objection to this, and Hummel was not compelled to. Hummel had had any more recent business transaction with the district attorney, Hummel had had anw more recent business transaction with the district attorney, and asked if Mr. Jerome was pressing the charges against him. "He certainly is," said the witness with spirit. Hummel's testimony in brief was to the effect that Evelyn Nesbit told him among other things that Thaw had beaten her when she had refused to sign papers he had prepared, charging Stanford White with her betrayal, that he had dictated a statement to a stenographer in the presence of Miss Nesbit and Stanford White, that he gave the affidavit to two of his clerks to take to Miss Nesbit in the Madison Square Garden tower, and one day the paper was returned to him with Evelyn Nesbit's signature attached. He kept the affidavit until Miss Nesbit called and demanded it. He refused to give it to her, and turned it over to Stanford White, advising him to have a photographic copy made. Hummel first said he had himself arranged for photographing the affidavit, and that the photographer came to his office. A few moments later, however, he contradicted himself on this point, saying he did not make arrangements; that the photographer did not come to his office; and that he had not so testified. After Stanford White had the copy made, he returned the original of the affidavit, the photographic negatives and the prints made from the negatives to Hummel, who swore today that he subsequently delivered the original affidavit to Miss Nesbit, and has not seen it since.

GRAND FORKS EXPECTATIONS

Grand Forks, March 14.—Following the report that there is every likelihood of the Great Northern railway making Grand Forks its divisional point comes the word that there is every reason to believe that the C. P. R. will move its roundhouses from Eholt to Grand Forks at once. Some local C. P. R. officials, being interviewed on the subject, said that they were not in a position to deny the report. With two divisional points located at Grand Forks and a big union depot situated right in the centre of the city, as a matter of course, the distributing point for the Boundary district would be here. It is generally believed that these most important railway changes will be completed within the next sixty days.

ONTARIO FATALITIES

Port Arthur, March 14.—A man named Palmer, of Rossport, was killed last night at that place.

Kingston, March 14.—Ezra Palmater of Harlowe, was killed by being crushed by fractious colts. At Halleford, James Babcock was killed by a falling tree.

WORK OF LEGISLATORS FOR COMING WEEK

Various Matters of Importance Likely to Come Before House

RESOLUTIONS ON BETTER TERMS

Question of Southeast Kootenay Leases—Speculation as to Probable Length of Session

This week promises to be a busy one with the members of the provincial legislature. There are several important matters on the tapis, among them being the question of better terms for British Columbia, the situation in respect to the coal and oil leases of Southeast Kootenay, the claim of the local government for the exercise of its rights over the Indian reserve lands of the province, and other public issues. It is expected that at least the majority of those enumerated will be brought before the House between Monday and Friday (inclusive), although it is not probable that all business in connection with them will have been completed until well on in the session.

The announcement was made the other day that the government intended bringing down certain resolutions upon the better terms question tomorrow. This statement was made in connection with the news of the action of the federal authorities in passing a number of additional subsidies to the various provinces, among which was one of $100,000 per year for ten years for British Columbia. At the time the despatch was published Premier McBride made the assertion that his attitude in regard to this matter was the same now as it had been during his attendance at the recent interprovincial conference. He said he would not accept a pittance of the kind as a "final and unalterable" settlement of the claims of British Columbia for special consideration. In view of the fact that the premiers of the other provinces had acknowledged that the West was entitled to an increased allowance, because of its peculiar circumstances, he thought that the amount offered was nothing more or less than ridiculous. Therefore the government proposed introducing resolutions for the consideration of the House, now its session is on, strongly setting forth the position of the province and the action contemplated in order that the necessity of granting British Colubia's just rights in this respect should be properly brought before the Ottawa authorities. As stated, it was expected that this question would be introduced tomorrow. Premier McBride, however, announced last evening that it was doubtful whether the government would be prepared to take up the matter by that time. He promised, however, that the resolutions referred to would be submitted for the consideration of the members early in the week.

Apart from that of better terms, the question which will be debated during the next few days, the measure which is considered of the most importance is that relating to the South East Kootenay coal and oil leases. This is a matter which has been explained before, but for the benefit of those who have not followed the proceedings in the local legislature closely it may be well to outline the situation. Briefly, it appears that in the issuance of these leases there was some confusion owing to the rush for the filings, and the validity of the majority has been called in question. Subsequently an order-in-council was passed pronouncing certificates of ownership issued within a certain period valid. Litigation ensued, and the order-in-council was declared illegal by the courts. The government now proposes to give the latter the power of law, thus allowing those holding leases the privilege of justifying their claims when they are called in question in the usual way. In the address delivered by the Premier during the debate upon the reply to the speech from the throne this was explained very clearly. He stated then that, while it was unfortunate that such confusion should have arisen, it was the object of the government that all claimants should be placed in a position for obtaining a "square deal."

Another measure, mention of which was made in the speech from the throne, and which is awaited with considerable interest by those who keep in touch with public affairs, is that relating to the irrigation scheme for bringing the dry belt under cultivation. It is not likely that this will come before the House this week. The Premier states that it will come up later on.

The length of the session continues to cause considerable conjecture. It is apparent, now that the government programme has shaped itself to some extent, that the legislators will not be called upon to remain in the Capital longer than two months, the usual term. Premier McBride does not expect that the business to be transacted will keep the House together for more than that period. He believes that it is possible that prorogation will take place in six weeks from the first day of the session—Thursday, the 7th instant.

RESTRAINT OF TRADE

Winnipeg, March 14.—The grand jury yesterday afternoon returned a true bill against John Love, J. G. McHugh and J. C. Gage, members of the Grain Exchange, charged with conspiring in restraint of trade. The accused will elect to be tried before a judge.

QUEBEC LEGISLATURE

Quebec, March 14.—The house prorogued this afternoon with the usual ceremonies.

CHARGED WITH FORGERY.

Montreal Business Man Prosecuted by Bank.

Montreal, March 15.—Jos. O. Motard, senior member of the firm of Motard, Fils and Senechal, importers of wines and liquors, is under arrest charged with forgery of notes on the Molsons Bank for an amount between $35,000 and $40,000. The police declare the money for the most part was spent in advertising the business of accused. The forgeries were discovered a week ago. He was given a chance to settle the accounts, but failed to satisfy the bank, and his arrest followed. The firm of Motard, Fils and Senechal assigned today.

HOCKEY PLAYER'S DEATH

Masson's Preliminary Trial on Charge of Murder

Cornwall, Ont., March 15.—Charles E. Masson, of the Victoria Hockey Club of Ottawa, was taken before Police Magistrate Davis this morning, charged with the murder of Owen McCourt in the hockey match here on March 6. Witnesses for the crown were not subpoenaed until this morning. At the request of the defence, the crown's witnesses were excluded from the courtroom.

George Airey of Cornwall was the first witness and told the same story as at the inquest, which was to the effect that he saw Masson strike the blow which felled McCourt. He said that McCourt had not been rough up to the time of the fatal mix-up, except for tripping.

Runnells, a junior who played for the Cornwall team, told his story of the game. He had struck Masson after the latter had struck down McCourt, and he also said that McCourt and the Ottawa player had dropped their sticks to fight with fists, when Masson struck McCourt.

ARMAMENT QUESTION ENGAGING ATTENTION

German and Austrian Ambassadors Have Audience With Czar

St. Petersburg, March 16.—The German and Austrian ambassadors had audiences with the Emperor on the question of limiting armaments. Diplomatic silence is preserved at both embassies and the foreign office regarding the result of these audiences, but it is understood that both Germany and Austria recognized that the introduction of the question of armaments at the peace conference is unavoidable. They are now concerned with the form in which the subject will be presented to the conference and the best way of meeting the issue. They are working in unison. The action of the two ambassadors in demanding special audiences of the Emperor, thus passing over the officials of the foreign office, is a diplomatic procedure rarely adopted, and shows the importance attached to the subject.

Cologne, March 16.—The Cologne Gazette publishes a special despatch from Berlin, which evidently gives the position of the government regarding the proposal made by Great Britain to discuss the question of the limitation of armaments at the forthcoming peace conference at The Hague. "In the cause of the sincerely peaceful sentiments that prevail in Germany," the despatch says, "the proposal to disarm contains for Germany much that is enticing. The closer one examines it, however, the stronger become the objections to the proposal itself and its treatment by international agreement." The despatch concludes by endorsing the utterances of the Paris Temps, which said: "Let The Hague conference create international law that is humane and good, but let no more be expected, for further-reaching promises cannot be fulfilled."

COMMITTED FOR TRIAL

London, Ont., March 16.—Dan MacPherson, the young man accused of killing his father some days ago, was up before the police magistrate this morning, and after being given a hearing was committed for trial at the next assize court. Bail was refused.

WINNIPEG WANTS MONEY

Mayor Ashdown Will Seek To Borrow From Banks

Winnipeg, March 16.—Mayor Ashdown left tonight for the east, where he will visit Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa. His most important mission is to endeavor to arrange with the Canadian Bank of Commerce or the other financial institutions for a $500,000 loan for the city of Winnipeg. This will necessitate his visit to Montreal and Toronto. At Ottawa the mayor will discuss with the government several matters of interest to the city of Winnipeg. In the first place, he will urge that $125,000 be granted to Winnipeg for bridges over the Red river.

AGAINST STANDARD OIL

Suit Brought To Oust It From Tennessee

Nashville, Tenn., March 16.—A bill seeking to prohibt the Standard Oil company from doing business in Tennessee, and to oust that corporation from the state, was filed today in the chancery court of Sumner county, at Gallatin. Attorney General Gates brings the suit on behalf of the state under the provisions of the anti-trust act of the legislature of 1903. It summarizes the alleged offences of the defendant corporation as unlawful agreements entered into between the company and its agents with a view of lessening competition in the sale of oil at Gallatin and advancing the price of oil in Gallatin and in Sumner county.

OHIO CITIES SUFFERING FROM SUDDEN FLOOD

Many People of Marietta in Distress For Want of Provisions

CINCINNATI EXPECTING TROUBLE

Streets of Wheeling, W. Va., Blocked With Wreckage—Manufacturing Plants Paralyzed

Cincinnati, March 16.—The flood situation in southern Ohio is still serious tonight, with the Ohio river rising. The crest of the flood will probably reach Cincinnati on Monday at 63 feet. Up the river the situation is even more serious. This is especially true at Marietta and Portsmouth, where the crest of the flood is passing. At Marietta two-thirds of the city is flooded, and there is considerable suffering among the inhabitants. The people are in dire distress, as nearly all of the grocers in the town have been flooded. Flour is delivered to the people on the hill, who are baking bread for those who have been driven from their homes. At Portsmouth two levees broke, letting the water encroach on territory not heretofore flooded. Two other levees have been weakened by the water sweeping through, and may also break. Only one is considered safe, that in the east end of the city. The breaking of these levees has compelled hundreds of the people to vacate their homes and has paralyzed manufacturing concerns.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 16.—After three days of business stagnation, caused by a remarkable rapid rise in the Monongahela, Allegheny and Ohio rivers, which inundated over ten square miles of this city, conditions have about assumed their normal trend, and by Monday at least a complete resumption will be possible. The water is receding more quickly even than it rose. Except in the lands below the city, the water has subsided to its natural course. Several mills and manufacturing establishments began operation tonight, and an endeavor will be made to make up the lost time. Within two or three days it is thought all the mills will have resumed. The loss in the Pittsburg district is estimated at $10,000,000. Reports from up-river points increase the damage done by the flood in western Pennsylvania by at least $5,000,000.

Clara Smith, the wife of Frank Carr, who was murdered on March 6 in his home in Allegheny, for which crime they are searching for "Pegleg" Murphy, a professional beggar, was found dead in her home today after the water had subsided. She committed suicide some time during the last three days, while her husband was surrounded by water. It is believed she killed herself while temporarily insane from fear.

Wheeling, W. Va., March 16.—The waters of the highest flood of this section of the Ohio valley has seen for twenty years are receding tonight, leaving Wheeling covered with wreckage. The debris is so great that it will be impossible for the city to be dry after the water goes down before the streets can be used. The flood was higher than anticipated, and as a result much damage was done. It is estimated that the damage done to local industrial plants is so great that it will be days before they will be able to resume operations. There is a great deal of suffering, and prompt steps have been taken to alleviate this. At a meeting of the board of trade today arrangements were made to obtain subscriptions, and there has been a ready response. It has been found necessary to close some of the saloons and swear in a large number of extra police.

MARCH OF PROGRESS AT ROSSLAND MINES

New Hoist Will Soon Increase Capacity of Consolidated Properties

Rossland, March 16.—Two of eight carloads of hoist machinery for the Centre Star and its allied mines have arrived here and are being unloaded at the shaft house. The other six cars are close at hand, and are expected within a day or two. The new hoist will be the largest on any lode mine in Canada. It will be able to hoist ten tons from a depth of 2,000 feet at the rate of 2,000 feet a minute. The hoist will be installed in about a month, and then it is expected the output of the Centre Star and allied mines will be largely increased. Men working on the surface at the mines have hitherto been working ten hours a day. The employees asked for a cut down of one hour, and the request was acceded to.

Shipments for the week were: Centre Star, 1,509; Le Roi, 2,350; Le Roi Two, 455; White Bear (milled), 350. Total for week, 5,104; and for year to date, 49,942 tons.

Nelson, March 16.—The following are the ore shipments and smelter receipts in Southeastern British Columbia districts for the past week and year to date in tons: Shipments—East of Columbia river, week, 2,508; year, 23,828. Rossland, week, 4,143; year, 48,458. Boundary, week, 22,617; year, 169,104. Total, week, 29,268; year 241,390. Smelter receipts — Grand Forks, week, 11,504, year 92,285. Greenwood, week, 412, year 38,936.

Boundary Falls, week, 5,167, year, 30,892. Nelson, week, 376, year, 3,831. Northport, week, 730, year, 14,116. Marysville, week, 600, year, 6,600. Trail, week, 5,823, year, 45,156. Total week, 28,329, year, 231,846.

BASEBALL MEN SAFE

New York, March 15.—Inquiry by the Associated Press concerning the report that members of the New York National League Baseball Club were killed by a train wreck in California shows that the report is untrue. There was no wreck, and the members of the club are in their hotel in Los Angeles.

A NANAIMO PIONEER

Death of Mrs. Randle, Whose Residence Dates from 1858

Nanaimo, March 16.—One of the staunchest pioneers and one who has contributed much to the upbuilding of the city and who had played an important part in the making of Nanaimo's history, passed away this morning in the person of Mrs. Mary Ann Randle. Coming to Nanaimo in 1858, few women have been more closely associated with the progress of the city than Mrs. Randle. She was the mother of a large family. Her husband died in 1900, but she is survived by five sons and six daughters. Mrs. Randle was known all over the province. She was a native of Coventry, Warwickshire, and had attained the age of 77 years.

Miss Fuller, who has been matron of the Nanaimo hospital since the introduction of the training school, and Miss Milne, road nurse, have resigned. The cause of their resignation has not yet been given out. It is understood that Miss Miller, who recently graduated from the hospital with high honors, will receive the appointment of matron.

LEAPED INTO WATER TO ESCAPE FROM FIRE

Eighteen Lives Lost in Inundated District of Wheeling, W. Va.

Wheeling, W. Va., March 16.—Eighteen persons are known to have lost their lives in the early fire that occurred today at the plant of the Warwick Pottery Company, which is located in the flooded district. Because of the water surrounding the burned district it was impossible for the fire apparatus to reach the scene. The firemen pressed into service all the boats that could be secured, and carried the lines of hose to the burning building by this means. They did heroic work and not only fought the fire but assisted in rescuing many persons.

All the police that could be spared were rushed to the scene to assist in the work of rescuing. The crew of a boat that was moored across the river from the building manned a yawl and rescued about 100 persons. The men were offered all kinds of rewards for the work that they had done, but they refused to accept them.

During the fire the screams for help of those in the buildings could be heard as far as the steel bridge, a mile north, where thousands of persons, unable to lend any assistance, watched the blaze. The work of recovering the bodies of those who were drowned has been going on all day. The current is very swift, and the impression is that more bodies will be recovered when the flood subsides.

Had the drowned persons remained in their homes, none of them would have met death. The buildings occupied by the unfortunate victims were not touched by the flames.

The explosion that started the fire is what terrified the people living in the vicinity. No sooner had the report of the explosion occurred than people commenced leaping from the windows into the water.

Not all of those who met death were drowned by jumping into the water. Five of them were drowned by the upsetting of a boat that was carrying them to a place of safety.

The majority of the persons living in the vicinity of the wholesale drowning are Syrians, and after the fire they refused to return to their homes. They are being taken care of in the city hall and county jail. There is scarcely a family that did not lose a member, and the survivors are frantic.

ASSAUT PROVED FATAL.

Montreal, March 16.—John Griffin, who was brutally assaulted at the iron foundry of Warden Ring & Co. on Thursday by a Russian named Bouliskis, is dead. The assailant, charged with murder, is at large.

KILLED IN COLLISION

Hamilton, Ont., March 16.—In a rear-end collision on the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo railway this morning, Ross Asplien, of Hess street, a railway employee, was so seriously injured that he died shortly after being admitted to the city hospital, with both his legs and both his shoulders broken.

BUCKINGHAM RIOT CASE

Ottawa, March 16.—The trial of six Thiel detectives for manslaughter in connection with the Buckingham affray of last October terminated today, with the acquittal of all the accused. Magistrate St. Julian said the point was as to whether the detectives or strikers fired the first shots. The magistrate severely commented some of the witnesses for the prosecution. Several had sworn that the crowd of 150 or 200 men had gone from their meeting place to parley quietly with the McLarens, and yet at the same time the evidence showed that on the day of the fight and the previous day they had been traveling around to get guns. Reviewing all the circumstances, he gave the benefit of the doubt to the accused and discharged them.

COAL MINE ACCIDENTS CLAIM HOSTS OF VICTIMS

Eighty Miners Have Met Death Through Explosion in German Colliery

TWENTY-TWO BY FALL OF CAGE

French Government Sends Message of Sympathy—Disastrous Explosion in Virginia Mine

Rorbach, Germany, March 16.—An explosion of fire-damp in the coal mine at Kleinrosseln, near here, last night, caused the death of 65 miners and injury of 12 others.

As the work of rescue progressed it was found that the disaster was more serious than at first indicated. Up to a late hour tonight 37 dead and 12 seriously injured men had been brought to the surface, while 40 men were still missing. All the missing have been given up as dead. They were undoubtedly buried under falling rock. Of the wounded, two have already died, and the doctors think that only one of the remaining ten will recover.

The Gwendel brothers have given $25,000 to relieve the immediate necessities of the afflicted families.

Saaelouis, Rhenish Prussia, March 16.—Twenty-two miners were killed this morning at the Gerhardt coal mines. They were descending one of the shafts in a cage when the cable broke near the top, and the miners plunged down several hundred feet. They all met instant death. The mine belongs to the Prussian government, which has already begun an official inquiry into the accident.

Paris, March 16.—President Fallieres has telegraphed to Emperor William his sympathy in the mining disaster at Kleinrosseln, and Foreign Minister Pinchon called at the German embassy this afternoon to offer the condolences of the French government.

Norton, Va., March 16.—An explosion occurred in the mines at Greenburg this morning, after several miners had entered for work. This mine is on the Norfolk & Western Railway, seven miles east of Norton. As far as can be learned, ten miners have been killed, eight saved, two dead have been taken from the mine and four are known to be in the mine and supposed to be dead. The cause of the explosion is unknown. Rescuing parties are on the scene, assisting the operators and miners. Physicians are there, and everything is being done for immediate relief. This is the first explosion that has occurred in the Wise County coal field.

IMMIGRATION FROM BRITAIN

Winnipeg, March 16.—Many British immigrants arrived in Winnipeg this morning and are quartered at the immigration hall.

FOWLER LAND SUITS

Toronto, March 16.—The master in chambers here has, by consent of all parties, dismissed the action in the suit brought by A. A. Lefurgy, W. H. Bennett and A. G. Peuchen against the Great Western Land company. G. W. Fowler, M.P., and Rufus Pope. The action by the same plaintiffs against the G. P. R., Fowler and Pope has also been dismissed.

NEW JERSEY CORPORATIONS

Trenton, N. J., March 15.—Governor Stokes issued a proclamation today revoking the charters of more than 1600 corporations who have failed to pay the state annual franchise tax. A large percentge of the companies have dissolved anh have never been actually engaged in business.

MINER OF ROSSLAND KILLED AT HIS WORK

A. J. Bible Carried Down Le Roi Dump by Mass of Frozen Rocks

Rossland, March 16.—A. J. Bible, was superintending the removal of ore from the dump of the Le Roi this morning with four men under his charge when he met with a fatal accident. A mass of small rocks on the surface was frozen so that it overhung for a considerable distance the place where the men were shoveling. Mr. Bible, after telling the men to stand out of danger, took a pick and tried to pry the frozen mass loose. More was loosened than he expected, and it struck him, carrying him down the declivity. His neck was broken and a leg fractured. Without recovering consciousness Mr. Bible died in two minutes. He was 30 years old, a native of Wisconsin, and was prominent in the Knights of Pythias. He leaves a widow and two children.

A FATAL FALL

Goderich, Ont., March 16.—Police Magistrate C. A. Humber died this morning as the result of a fall down stairs. He was moving a bathtub down a flight of stairs when the edge of the stairs he was standing on gave way, precipitating him to the ground. His skull was broken by the fall. Mr. Humber was one of Goderich's best known citizens and a prominent Mason.