

FURNESS LINE WRECKED; TWENTY-TWO MEN DROWNED

Steamer Florence, from Halifax to Liverpool, Dashed to Pieces on Newfoundland Coast

Captain Barr and His Men Reached Shore After Vessel Struck, but Lofty, Inaccessible Cliffs Prevented Escape — Only Five Saved.

Special to The Standard. Halifax, Dec. 22.—Word comes from Newfoundland that the steamer Florence, of the Furness Line, which sailed from Halifax for Liverpool last Wednesday morning, has been dashed to pieces near Cape Freela and that 22 of her officers and crew are drowned, five managing to escape death. Among the dead is Capt. Barr, who was in command of the steamer. No news is available here beyond the fact that the Florence is a total loss, and that only five of those on board were saved. The Florence was a freighter and her cargo consisted mainly of apples and lumber. She was to call at St. John's, Nfld., on her way to Liverpool. The rock-bound shores where the Florence met her fate, have proved almost as disastrous to mariners as the quicksands of Sable Island. "The graveyard of the Atlantic" and the hulks of many wrecked steamers lie sunken off the cliffs.

About twenty years ago two steamships, the George Cromwell and the George Washington disappeared within two weeks, while bound from Halifax to St. John's, and no trace was found of either until several years later when submerged wreckage from the craft was discovered near Cape St. Mary. It is thought the lost collier Marlen struck the dreaded keys or shoals of submerged rock off the cape and foundered, rolling off the ledge into the deeper water.

(By Canadian Press.) St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 22.—Twenty-two of the twenty-seven members of the crew of the Furness line steamer Florence, from Halifax, N. S., for St. John's, lost their lives in the wreck of the vessel on the ledges west of St. Shotts during a northwest gale last Friday. Five exhausted survivors who reached land in a boat brought the news to Trepassay tonight. The steamer carried no passengers. Captain Barr, of the steamer and all his men reached shore after the vessel struck, but the lofty, inaccessible cliffs of St. Shotts prevented their escape. The big tide backed up by the southwest gale made it impossible to remain there, and they were obliged to put back to the ship, which was pounding heavily.

HICKEY FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER IN SECOND DEGREE

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 21.—After twenty-six hours' deliberation the jury in the case of J. Frank Hickey, on trial for the murder of seven year old Joseph Joseph of Lackawanna, Oct. 12, 1911, today brought in a verdict of murder in the second degree. Thirteen ballots were taken to decide Hickey's fate. Twelve resulted according to the jurors nine for conviction and three for not guilty on the insanity plea. The thirteenth and last ballot was taken at 3.30 this afternoon, after the jury had reported to the court in the morning that they could not agree. Justice Brown at that time declined to discharge them and directed them to return to the juryroom in a further effort to arrive at a verdict. Public indignation at the outcome of the case is intense and in legal circles the possibility of having Hickey tried for the murder of the Kruck boy is being discussed.

TO TOP ISSUE OF DIME NOVELS.

Berlin, Dec. 21.—The proposed law against dime novels and sensational literature has been received with favor by the majority of the federated states of Germany. It will probably be submitted to the federal council during the present session of parliament. The measure will provide a heavy penalty for the display and sale of this kind of literature.

AN OUTBREAK OF BUBONIC PLAGUE

St. Petersburg, Dec. 20.—Bubonic plague has broken out near Popovka in the government of Samara. Twelve persons have died of the disease and slight persons are under treatment. A cordon of troops has been stationed to carry an effective quarantine.

ANOTHER GREEK SUCCESS.

Athens, Dec. 21.—It is semi-officially announced that the Greek troops have occupied Corfou, after forcing the fortified passes of Tesougi and the difficult Morova Passes.

C. P. R. ANNUAL BANQUET WAS BIG SUCCESS

Second Annual Dinner of Officials and Employes Proves Brilliant Function — Many Notable Men Present.

Montreal, Dec. 22.—Last year 10,000,000 meals were served on our ocean and lake steamers, railway dining cars, and hotels, an average of considerably over 30,000 meals a day. The cost of the meals was about \$4,000,000. Equipment and supplies cost \$85,000,000 and the pay rolls amount to \$5,000,000 a month. We had a regular staff of 90,000 men to pay and at times there were 20,000 more men employed. Fortunately our credit is excellent, so we can secure the capital required with ease. Ordinary working expenses are more than covered by revenue.

In these words, Sir Thomas Shaughnessy gave an idea of the magnitude of the C. P. R. Company's operations while replying to the toast, "The company," at the second annual banquet of the C. P. R. officials and employes held at the Place Viger Hotel on Saturday night.

LOCAL LEGISLATURE WILL PROBABLY OPEN EARLY IN FEBRUARY

Provincial House Expected to Commence Next Session on Thursday, February 13th—News from the Capital.

TURKS DENY REPORT OF ADMIRAL'S DEATH

London, Dec. 21.—The Turkish embassy here has received a telegram from Constantinople denying the reports from Athens regarding the death of Vice Admiral Hail Pasha and serious damage to the Turkish flag ship Kheyir Ed Din Barbarossa.

ROGER WON'T BE AN ACTOR

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 21.—"I'm not an actor, and I refuse to be a fool," was Roger Bresnahan's retort today to a local theatrical man's recent offer of \$1000 a week to appear in vaudeville in a skit entitled "Petitcot Rule."

BRAZIL'S IMPERIAL FAMILY TO GO TO ROME.

Rio Janeiro, Dec. 21.—The chamber of deputies has thrown out a bill revoking the decree of banishment of the imperial family. When the empire was overthrown in 1889, the imperial family, of which Dom Pedro II. was the head, was compelled to leave Brazil.

SLIGHT EARTHQUAKE; NO DAMAGE.

Fort De France, Martinique, Dec. 21.—There was a slight earthquake here at 6.40 o'clock this morning. No damage has been reported.

A THEATRE HORROR.

Brussels, Dec. 22.—A film caught fire during a cinematograph performance tonight at Paraga near Menin. The flames spread with great rapidity, causing a dreadful panic. Many persons were killed or injured. Ten bodies have been recovered.

TROUBLE IN MEXICO

Rebels Mobilizing in Preparation For Fighting.

American Colony is Attacked by the Desperadoes.

Rack and Ruin Follows Trail of Federal Troops.

Mexico City, Dec. 22.—A colony of American negroes located 20 miles west of Durango, is reported to have been attacked by a band of rebels. Two of the defenders, according to the report, were wounded and a number of women mistreated. The rebels sacked the place. Mobilization of rebels in the state of Morelos continues, and according to arrivals here, the centre of greatest activity on the part of the revolutionaries is today along the Morelos state line. Lt. Col. Riveroll, the federal commander, is conducting a campaign of extermination in the district, in which no prisoners are taken, and all wounded are shot to death on the field. Riveroll's force is razing towns and isolated houses along the railway, where it is suspected that rebels have obtained either food or shelter, and the federal commander has adopted the plan of razing the houses nearest the point where the railroad or telegraph lines have been found out.

The railroad stations at Pastor, Atencingo and Cuautitlan near the Pueblo Morelos state line have been burned by the rebels. Three hundred and seventy-five Indians captured in the hills of Oaxaca together with 35 Zapatistas, have been sent north to join the federal ranks. The government officials and the Mexican press generally are minimizing the importance of the prospective note.

DEATH SENTENCE IS NOT CHANGED

Law Will Take Its Course in Matter of Kenneth Lea's Murderers—Supreme Court Divides.

Special to The Standard. Halifax, Dec. 21.—The full bench of the Supreme Court met today when six judges were present. Chief Justice Townshend and Justices Meagher and Drysdale, gave decisions in favor of dismissing the appeal and affirming the conviction of the three men for the murder of Kenneth Lea. Justices Graham, Russell and Ritchie gave decisions favoring the answering of the crown cases submitted in favor of the prisoners. The court being equally divided the conviction and sentence of death stands.

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TROUBLE TODAY. MARKS CRISIS OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE

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H. G. Marr of St. John Heaviest Sufferer in Disastrous Blaze — Total Loss is Nearly \$12,000.

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London, Dec. 22.—The crisis of the peace conference will be reached at the session tomorrow. If the Turks decide to waive their demand for the revictualing of Adrianople the allies will present their terms for peace. The conference can then proceed to the discussion of its real business. The Turkish cabinet met today and telegraphed instructions to the Ottoman delegation. All the delegations held conferences at their hotels and despatched long cipher telegrams to their governments. The allies oppose the Turkish request for the provisioning of Adrianople, not only for the reason that this would give the enemy a great advantage in the event of the resumption of fighting, which would not have been earned by arms but on technical grounds, but because the delegates have not the power to reopen military questions which the Tchetajals consider, who signed the armistice, dead with.

The opening of another chapter of warfare is a step which the allies do not invite, but for which they profess to be fully prepared. While suspicion exists that the Turks have been sparing to gain time since the conference assembled ten days ago, the consensus of opinion is that the Turkish government will recognize the situation and conclude peace and that the political situation in Constantinople dictates that course. Advice which the principal powers have been giving to Turkey is in the direction of peace.

Want to Resume War. The Bulgarians declare that if the Turks are not ready to come to terms and if none of the powers offer acceptable mediation, the allies are ready to resume the war immediately with fresh ardor, greater vigor and a deeper feeling that they will achieve ultimate victory, because, as they themselves express it, they "are fighting not only for the independence of the Balkans but for western civilization against the traditional eastern enemy."

The allies claim that their military position has been greatly strengthened and if they must reopen the war they can muster between Adrianople and Tchetajia 250,000 men, including 100,000 Bulgarians, who are veterans of the November battles, 150,000 fresh and well drilled Bulgarians anxious to emulate their brothers in arms, 60,000 Serbians and 40,000 Greeks, who can be landed at Dedeagatch and Enos at a moment's notice.

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Both the Turkish and Bulgarian armies are supposed to have constructed new works at Tchetajia, since they gained much information regarding the respective positions in the recent fighting. The Greek community in London gave a banquet tonight in honor of the Greek delegates. The Greek minister, J. Gennas Iliou, presided. Premier Venizelos was given a great ovation when he arose to speak and there were cheers for Crete. The premier said that a victorious war would not only spread the geographical boundaries of the nation, but strengthen the nation's soul. The Bulgarian minister gave a lunch in honor of the Bulgarian delegation.

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BIG PRICE FOR TROTTER.

Lexington, Ky., Dec. 21.—It was announced today that Kilpatrick, 2.16, a trotter, has been purchased from his owner, W. E. D. Stokes by Dr. A. Moroff, of St. Petersburg. Kilpatrick is by Peter the Great, and will be shipped to Russia for racing purposes immediately. The price is said to have been \$12,000.

HOCKEY RESULTS SATURDAY.

Cleveland, Dec. 21.—Cleveland A. C., 4; St. Jacques of Montreal, 1. Boston, Mass., Dec. 21.—Boston Athletic Association hockey team found little difficulty in defeating the Irish A. C. team of New York tonight. The score was 3 to 0.

SERVIA APOLOGIZES TO THE AUSTRIANS

Vienna, Dec. 21.—A despatch from Belgrade says that the Serbian Premier, M. Pachitch, this afternoon visited the Austrian minister on his own initiative and expressed the sincere regret of the Serbian government at the blunders made by individuals or military officers in the affair at Pristina, in which consul Borcheska figured. This announcement may be regarded as a satisfactorily closing the incident.

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