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GOVERNMENT ACTION ABOUT NEWFOUNDLAND GENERALLY ENDORSED.

It is Thought That the People of the Island Will Favor Joining the Dominion, as One of Their Political Parties is Committed to the Scheme—Hon. George E. Foster Commends the Proposal.

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—(Special)—There will be a general endorsement of the government's action in taking up the question of bringing Newfoundland into confederation, and of annexing Greenland. In regard to Newfoundland, the regret is now expressed that the negotiations of 1855 were not successful. There was not then a very serious difference of opinion between the representatives of Newfoundland and the Canadian government. Newfoundland was anxious, but the Canadian government of that time was lukewarm. Today the Canadian government is in earnest and with one of the political parties in Newfoundland championing union with Canada there ought to be no serious difficulties in the way. It may take some time to accomplish it, but present indications are that union will be brought about. The past history of this question shows that the failure for standing off Canada lay largely with the Canadian government. In 1850 Newfoundland offered to come into confederation, and the terms were such that they were favorably reported upon in Canada, but nothing came of the proposal. Again in 1862, a conference was held in Halifax. The question was discussed, but the matter was not seriously dealt with and again the subject was dropped. Not until 1895 did the matter come up again, when, as already said, the proposals were once more rejected. Since then Canada's vision has been enlarged, and there would be no difficulties in the way now if Newfoundland is willing. In respect to Greenland the Canadian government has had no definite reply as to whether Denmark would or would not be willing to part with that island. If

Denmark will sell, Canada will purchase, providing that the terms are at all reasonable. Foster favors bringing Newfoundland into confederation. Hon. Geo. E. Foster spoke before the Canadian Club tonight. His speech was to have been on the question of imperial preferential trade, but instead of dealing with the subject he gave what was regarded as a political harangue directed against the present administration. As the club is non-political, there was some dissatisfaction over this. Incidentally he endorsed the taking in of Newfoundland, but made no reference to the failure of negotiations in 1855, when he was finance minister. He blamed Britain for not purchasing Alaska, and then said that Britain stood by Canada every time. He asked his audience not to forget Panama. If there was an argument for the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific it was to build up Canada's national resources by taking traffic of the west to Canadian sea ports. Mr. Foster said that Sir Richard Cartwright tried to make the Canadian preference a casus belli to draw the United States into a trade alliance with Britain. He (Foster) characterized reciprocity with the States as a dangerous thing for Canada. He criticized John Charlton rather severely for endeavoring to bring about reciprocity. For twenty years after Canada had lost its reciprocity with the United States, Canada dwelt along scarcely feeling her way, until such time as her face was turned towards Britain. Referring to imperial preferential trade, he said that it was forced upon Britain when Canada granted the mother country a preference, but he also added that this preference had the support of both political parties. He blamed the government for not rushing to the aid of Chamberlain. He spoke of protection as against free trade, rather than dealing with imperial preferential trade.

CHAMBERLAIN'S SCHEME DISCUSSED AT SUSSEX.

Former Oxford College Man Lectured Strongly Against It.

All the Other Speakers Took Occasion to Commend Ex-Colonial Secretary's New Fiscal Policy—Ward's Creek Bridge Completed.

Sussex, N. B., Dec. 21.—(Special)—E. W. Watt delivered a lecture this evening at the Presbyterian hall on the New Fiscal Policy of the Hon. Joseph Chamberlain. G. W. Fowler, M. P., occupied the chair. The lecturer, who is a former Oxford student, in a thorough and scholarly manner brought vividly before his audience the salient features of the great campaign now in progress in Great Britain. Speaking from the standpoint of the English poorer classes, Mr. Watt opposed the new movement. He was followed by A. B. Maggs who, in moving the vote of thanks to the principal speaker, enlarged somewhat on the subject, and in a logical discourse gave it as his opinion that the adoption of the Chamberlain policy would be for the bettering of all classes within the empire. R. B. Rowbrough, in seconding the vote of thanks, also spoke convincingly along the same lines. W. W. H. and others discussed the subject at some length, all of whom appeared to think that the Chamberlain policy would work all right, especially for Canadians, by giving them an enlarged market for their produce. Mr. Fowler, after putting the vote to the meeting, which was carried unanimously.

CHICAGO STRIKERS MUST STOP PICKETING HOMES THAT HAVE DEAD TO BURY.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—Picketing of houses from which funerals are to start, whether peaceful or violent, by union livvy drivers, who went on strike four days ago, is to be prevented by the police under direct orders issued tonight by Chief of Police O'Neil. J. H. Wadsworth, secretary, and Charles Stevens, business agents of the Livvy-men's Union, were summoned before Chief O'Neil tonight, and told in plain language that any difference the union might have would have to be settled away from houses of mourning. This picketing of the homes from which funerals are held is beyond the toleration of a civilized community, said the chief. "Your zeal has carried you beyond the pale of endurance, and such an un-

GAYNOR REIMBURSES HIS BONDSMAN.

Former Mayor of Syracuse, Who Had to Pay \$40,000 Forfeited Bail, Will Get Money Back.

New York, Dec. 21.—A despatch to the Tribune from Syracuse (N. Y.), says:—Former Mayor William B. Kirk has finally induced Col. John F. Gaynor, a fugitive from justice at Quebec, in connection with the Carré frauds against the United States government, to pay him the \$40,000 which he lost by being on Gaynor's bond when he left the United States. The bond was eschewed and Kirk had to stand the amount.

PRINCESS IN GOOD HEALTH.

Reported Illness of Kaiser's Sister Was a Canard.

Berlin, Dec. 21.—The report, published by the Journal of Paris, that the Princess Charlotte of Sax-Meiningen, sister of Emperor William, is suffering from cancer, and that the verdict of the physicians has created consternation in the German court, is officially defined as "non-sense." The princess is not even ill.

DOMINION COAL CO. DECLARES HALF YEARLY DIVIDEND OF 3 PER CENT.

Montreal, Dec. 21.—(Special)—Directors of the Dominion Coal Company this afternoon declared a half yearly dividend of three per cent, on common stock payable Jan. 1st. The final legal arrangements for the separation of the coal and steel companies are completed.

CHAMBERLAIN TO HEAD TARIFF COMMITTEE.

London, Dec. 21.—The first meeting of Joseph Chamberlain's commission of tariff experts, which is to inquire into the condition of British trade and to report with the object of drawing up a tariff reform bill, will be held Jan. 15. Mr. Chamberlain has accepted the honorable presidency of the commission.

IN PRIESTHOOD QUARTER CENTURY.

Father Meahan of Moncton Celebrated Anniversary Monday.

I. C. R. TRACKMEN WAGES.

General Manager Pottinger Submits New Schedule to the Association and it is Thought Will Be Acceptable to the Men—Moncton Blacksmith in Trouble.

Moncton, Dec. 21.—(Special)—Father Meahan, the esteemed pastor of St. Bernard's R. C. church, today celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary of ordination. The morning high mass of thanksgiving was celebrated and in the evening benediction of the blessed sacrament was observed. Both services were largely attended by members of the congregation. Edmund King, blacksmith, was before the police court today charged by Moses Mitton with procuring money under false pretences. King, it is alleged, traded with Mitton a rig that was held by Lounsbury Company on a lien note. The case was adjourned till tomorrow. D. Pottinger, general I. C. R. manager, has sent to George W. Murray, Truro, chairman of the Trackmen's Association, a schedule of the new rates of pay as conducted by Hon. Mr. Fielding, acting minister of railways. It is understood that the trackmen's committee will convene in Moncton tonight, when the schedule will be considered and it is very probable will be accepted.

CUT IN COAL MINERS' WAGES LOOKED FOR.

Altoona, Pa., Dec. 21.—The Buffalo-Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal & Coke Company announced today that the wage reduction at Helvetia operations, amounting to ten per cent, will go into effect Jan. 1. While the Helvetia miners are a comparatively insignificant part of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh company's workings, the reduction is considered prophetic of a more sweeping move by the company shortly, which will cut the wages of no less than 10,000 men. The reduction is said to be a violation of the Altoona scale agreement, and it is feared other competing companies in the field may follow suit with a far-reaching result to the miners of the central field.

SUCCESSFUL OPERATION FOR BROKEN NECK.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 21.—An operation having no parallel in the surgical world, was performed at St. Joseph's Hospital today by Dr. William Jenson, professor of surgery at Iowa State University, John Morston, of Danbury (Conn.), fell from a load of hay, striking on his head and breaking his neck. He has been almost paralysed for weeks. Doctor Jenson removed a portion of the third cervical vertebrae, cleaned out the false growth of tissue, and replaced the bone. The patient is doing well, and has every prospect of recovery. No other case is known in which cervical vertebrae situated so near medulla oblongata has been removed and replaced.

THREE MONTHS OVERDUE VESSEL TURNS UP.

Los Angeles, Dec. 21.—With her foretopgallant mast carried away the bark LaBruyere, which practically had been given up as lost, has arrived at port Los Angeles with a cargo of 1,700 tons of iron from Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, three months overdue. The Bruyere sailed from the English port the tenth of last May. The cause of her long voyage is attributed to storms, but the stories told are said to be rather contradictory.

NO CHANGE IN GRAND TRUNK STRIKE.

Company Have Filled About All the Places of Striking Switchmen.

Portland, Me., Dec. 21.—None of the striking Grand Trunk switchmen have gone back to work and the situation is unchanged. The company has the places of nearly all the strikers filled, but work is proceeding rather slowly, owing to many of the men being unaccustomed to the work. No arrangements were made for a conference today.

MASSEY HARRIS CO. CUTS WAGES OF 1500 EMPLOYEES.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—(Special)—Some 1,500 employees of the Massey-Harris Company were notified today that reduction of ten per cent, in wages would be made commencing the present week. The management in explanation state it is usual to make some alterations in wages for piecework during the winter months and with wages in other countries declining it is necessary for this company also to consider their expenditure most carefully. Individual cases will be examined and conditions also be considered.

TO COAL FIELDS OF QUEENS COUNTY.

A Party of Miners Placed Through Local Government Effort.

SEE BRIGHT FUTURE.

Railway Branch Lines Run Through to all Mines, Insuring Shipping Facilities All Year Round—Men From Norway Lumber Woods to Locate in New Brunswick.

Twenty-one experienced coal miners will go to Queens county coal fields today to work in the Gibbons and King mines. The majority are Brazilian miners, some are Englishmen, all came here on the steamer Lake Manitoba. They are young men, experienced miners, and make a fine looking party. They are secured for the Queens county work through the efforts of the local government, and will settle in the province. In addition to these miners, there are also in the que several Norwegians, used to working in the Norway lumber woods. They will become settlers in New Brunswick and will be placed by the local government in a few days.

FIRST MARCONIGRAM RECEIVED AT HALIFAX.

Parisian in Port Signals Tunisian Forty Miles Off.

Madame Murphy, Former Well Known Halifax School Teacher and a Nun for Past Few Years, Dies at Convent of Sacred Heart.

ST. JOHN HAS THE FINEST QUARTERS FOR IMMIGRANTS AT ANY PORT IN AMERICA.

When the work on the new immigration quarters at Sand Point is completed, St. John will have the best equipped establishment of its kind in America. That is the verdict, at all events, of two medical men who have to do with quarantine matters, and who have inspected the immigration quarters at Ellis Island, New York.

STORM DOES GREAT DAMAGE AT ST. ANDREWS.

St. Andrews, N. B., Dec. 21.—The heaviest gale for many years prevailed here last night. Gardiner & Doon's new smokehouse, containing 500 boxes of bladders, was swept away, and the contents scattered on the beach. Loss, \$10,000.

ONTARIO LUMBER CUT THIS SEASON WILL BE 100,000,000 FEET LESS THAN ESTIMATE.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—(Special)—Inspectors just returned from Northern Ontario logging camps, report a shortage of more than 100,000,000 feet of the previous estimate of the Ontario lumber cut for this season. They state the yield of the Georgian Bay Lumber Company alone will be reduced to 60,000,000 feet, as compared with 80,000,000 last year, with other large companies falling off even worse. The shortage is stated to be mainly due to the scarcity of choppers, although they receive \$2.50 a day and board; also some dissatisfaction among the men as to the methods of payment and treatment received from unreliable companies, who made pledges inducing men to go into the woods, which they afterwards failed to carry out.

MANY LIVES LOST IN TRAIN WRECK.

Eight Killed and More Than Thirty Injured in Kansas Smash-up.

OPEN SWITCH THE CAUSE.

The Express Was Running at Full Speed When It Ran Off and Every Car Left the Track But the Sleeper—Most of the Victims Were in the Smoker.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 21.—In a wreck today at Godfrey, (Kan.), of the "Metropolitan," St. Louis to San Francisco east train from the south, eight persons were killed and thirty-two injured. Of the injured five probably will die, while fourteen were severely hurt. The dead, who are all residents of Kansas or Oklahoma, include the engineer, fireman and conductor. The injured are residents of the west. The freight brakeman, whose falling to flag the passenger train caused the wreck, has not been found. The wrecked train was one of the fastest and fastest in the service. It was made up of two baggage and one mail car, a smoker, two and a sleeper. When the train reached Godfrey it was running at full speed to make up time. The crew of a freight train that had preceded the Metrop. was at the switch open and the passenger train jumped the track and rolled down a small embankment. The smoker turned over, and so fast was the train running that the engine and the forward baggage car landed nearly sixty feet off the roadbed. The sleeper remained upright and none of the passengers in this car were injured. The baggage cars were wrecked and the smoker badly damaged. Five of those killed were in the forward end of the smoker and four of them were killed instantly. A news agent died on the relief train that carried the dead and injured to St. Louis. Englewood, (Port Scott); Conductor Roy, of Topeka, and Fireman Bialard, of Port Scott, were instantly killed. Express Messenger John Bell, of Kansas City, was seriously injured. Others of the crew and almost every passenger on the train, except those in the sleeper, who escaped with a severe shaking up, were injured, some of them seriously.

JOHN WARK JUMPS OUT C. P. R. CAR WINDOW; THEN CUTS HIS THROAT.

His Body Now in Ottawa Morgue—He Had a Ticket from Moosejaw to St. John, and Letter from His Brother, Daniel Wark of Petersville, Queens County, N. B., Was Found on His Person.

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—(Special)—John Wark, Arcola, Assinibois, lies at Rogers morgue here tonight with his throat cut and his body considerably bruised. Wark was a passenger on the afternoon train from the Pacific Coast, bound to Montreal. He had a ticket from Moosejaw to St. John (N.B.), and was supposed to be on his way to Welsford, Petersville, Parish of Queens county, New Brunswick. When the train was between Bell's Corners and Britannia, about nine miles from Ottawa, Wark jumped through a car window head first. There were only three passengers in this car. One was on his way to Montreal, and the others to St. Albans (Vt.). One of the passengers saw Wark's feet disappear through the window, the others did not see anything. The train was running down grade at the time. The matter was reported to the conductor, who, upon reaching Ottawa, sent an engine back to find out what happened the missing passenger. Wark was found some twenty yards distant from where he fell from the train. He managed to cross the fence and was found in a pool of blood from his throat, which he had cut with his knife. The body was brought here and placed in the morgue. The deceased was apparently between 30 and 40 years of age. A letter was found on him from Daniel Wark, who is evidently a brother, and who resides at Welsford, Petersville, Queens county, New Brunswick. There was also a baggage check on the body. Coroner Baptie will hold an inquest. The evidence to be had is very meagre.

FIRE CHIEF KILLED IN \$250,000 FIRE IN NEW YORK.

New York, Dec. 21.—The famous "Two nines" fire alarm, summoning more fire apparatus than any other alarm, provided for by New York's fire department, was sounded tonight for a terrific fire which destroyed the six-story factory building of the Harrmann Furniture & Plumbing Cabinet Works, at 188-192 Mott street, and the four-story varnish factory of the firm, run under the name of the H. Herrmann Lumber Company. A quarter of a million dollars damage was done. Battalion Chief Martin Coleman is believed to have perished in the fall of the two great walls of the factory. There was a frightful panic among the Italian inmates of the swarming front and rear tenements opposite and in the rear of the burning buildings, and the firemen and police reserves from three precincts had the utmost difficulty in getting the people out of the street. The fire started on the third floor, and when the firemen arrived the first, second and third floors were in a blaze. Third, fourth and fifth alarms were sent in its rapid succession, and about an hour after the fire started Chief Kruger sent in the "two nines" alarm. Battalion Chief Coleman had entered the building with a number of men, including Lieutenant Jones and Father Smith, the fire department chaplain. They were about twenty-five feet inside when fire came through the walls and the building shook. The firemen saw the danger and dashed for the outside, the chaplain escaped, but a beam fell and hit Coleman and Jones, pinning them to the floor. Father Smith, with three firemen, turned back to the rescue and dragged out Jones, who had managed to stagger to his feet. Jones, in pulling himself out, fell for Coleman. He found him so pinned he could not rescue him, but got his helmet, which he put on and escaped. Within a minute the rear and side walls fell. After the building had been totally destroyed the body of Chief Coleman was found wedged under fallen debris in such a position that the firemen were unable to reach it. Coleman was made a battalion chief last August. He won the Bennett medal for bravery eight years ago for rescuing two women from a boarding house fire in East Tenth street.

STRIKERS HOLD UP FUNERAL PARTY PASSING THROUGH CHICAGO.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—A funeral party of over a dozen persons from the northwest arrived in Chicago today and after the body of the deceased had been taken from the Union Depot in a "dead wagon" pickets stopped a bus in which the mourners were being transferred to the Dearborn station. It was explained to the pickets that the body was being taken south and that train connections had to be made, but they refused to allow the bus to proceed until a labor union business agent arrived. He heard the details and then declared that the mourners should proceed in the bus without interference.

MURDERER ON TRIAL MAKES STARTLING CONFESSION TO COURT.

Ship's Cook, Who Killed His Captain in New York, Pleads Guilty, and Also Says He Killed Three Other Men.

New York, Dec. 21.—When Frank Henry Bunn, a ship's cook, was placed on trial in Brooklyn today for the murder of Captain George B. Townsend, the skipper of the lumber schooner Chas. Buckler, on Nov. 10, the prisoner admitted his guilt. In a written confession which he submitted, he declared he had shot the captain deliberately and with premeditation, because the latter owed him money, and that he desired to facilitate the trial because he preferred to be executed rather than remain in prison. The confession further stated that the prisoner had previously killed three men. The trial was continued.

CHINESE POURING INTO CANADA.

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—Chinese laborers are rushing into Canada by the hundreds to evade the head tax of \$500 on every Canadian that enters Canada after Jan. 1. They are now required to pay but \$50.

NEW YORK SHIPYARD STARTS UP.

New York, Dec. 21.—Five hundred more men were put to work at the Townsend and Doney shipyard on Shooter's island today. It was said that probably a full force would soon be employed.

1,000 MEN THROWN OUT OF WORK.

Joliet, Ill., Dec. 21.—The suspension of work at the Illinois Steel Co.'s plant here will be practically complete by the end of the week. The converter and blast furnaces employing 1,000 men closed down today.

BYRAN VISITS THE CZAR.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 21.—William Jennings Bryan was received in audience of Czar Nicholas at noon today. The audience lasted for 15 minutes.