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# London Advertiser

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## TRICK BALLOT BOX SENSATION

### Lott Tells How He Laid Trap for His Brother.

### SAYS HE WAS OFFERED BRIBE

**Somebody Told Him the Ontario Government Had Given $50,000 for the Bogus Boxes.**

Belleville, Ont., Nov. 18.—The ballot box case went on again this morning and Mr. E. Gus Porter, M. P., testified that Mr. H. Corby and himself had received five bogus ballot boxes from N. A. Lott, brother of B. O. Lott, the Liberal candidate, the boxes having been obtained by the former through a letter of introduction given by the latter. The letters incriminate Mr. Shibley, Liberal candidate for Frontenac, and a man named Reilly, of Kingston. It was, P. A. Lott said, the intention of B. O. Lott to use the boxes in West Hastings, but the former's conscience troubled him and he told the story of Messrs. Corby and Porter, the latter of whom took action and secured the boxes. His story in relation to them was characterized as false, hence the present action.

When on the stand Lott stated that he had been told that the Ontario Governmen had bought the patent for the boxes for $50,000. He had, he said, been promised no reward for giving the matter away, but was on Tuesday night last, called on by a man, who offered him enough to make him independent for life if he would leave the country. He scorned the offer.

***Plotted to Trap Brother.***

In cross-examination, Lott admitted that as far back as March 4 he had been watching and plotting to obtain evidence against his brother. In graphic language he told how he had made up his mind, when his brother first broached the subject to him, to expose the plot, and how he had relentlessly pursued his purpose until the time when he was able to place in the hands of his brother's political opponents proofs of the conspiracy, up to the last carefully cloaking his motives and hiding from his brother the deception he practiced.

Basing his allegations upon statements which he swore his brother had made to him, he revealed an alleged plot for wholesale electoral frauds in the next provincial election by substituting for genuine ballots for Conservative candidates ballots previously marked and placed in the box for supporters of the Ontario Government.

He denied having personally requested deputies to use the fraudulent boxes or that he had offered them money to do so, and related how he had a few nights ago been offered by an unknown man enough to make him comfortable for life to get out of the country. The nefarious practices were to be confined in the Dominion election to three ridings—West Hastings, Frontenac and Durham, according to Lott's story. Such were the main features of a narrative, the parallel of which has fortunately never been recorded in a Canadian court of justice.

***Statement by Mr. Stratton.***

The Hon. Mr. Stratton, having been seen by a reporter, says: "I have read the statement which, it has been said, has been made by Mr. Philip Lott to Mr. Porter in connection with the alleged bogus ballot boxes, and the statement is so absolutely false and malignant in its character that one can hardly find words sufficiently strong in denial or condemnation. I never heard anything about these ballot boxes, directly or indirectly, until it was circulated in Peterboro on election day by wire from Belleville, and I subsequently read it in the press, and the statement, so far as I am concerned, is an infamous falsehood in every respect.

"Mr. Philip Lott was convicted on Aug. 16, 1904, for selling liquor without a license, in the township of Seymour, and was fined $50 and costs. He made application to this department, supported by a resolution of the council of the township of Seymour, asking that the fine be remitted. Notwithstanding the resolution I did not consider for one moment the remission of the fine, and this action may account in some measure for his having so maliciously connected my name with something that I know nothing whatever about. So far as I am concerned the story is utterly false, and without a particle of justification.

"Words cannot too strongly condemn and no punishment is too severe for anyone who would be guilty of taking into any constituency ballot boxes to be used for the purposes suggested."

"The whole matter only needs to be probed to the bottom to prove how utterly untrue the statement is. I am anxious that the fullest investigation shall be made, and any assistance that I can render will be cheerfully given."

***Mr. Vance's Statement.***

Mr. James Vance said last night: "Any suggestion that I know anything about the alleged bogus ballot boxes is ridiculously absurd and absolutely false. I don't think I am yet a subject for the asylum. It has been known for several days that a desperate attempt was going to be made to throw mud at the Liberal organization in connection with this matter, but, like all such previous attempts, it will utterly fail. Philip A. Lott, whom I never saw in my life, has been, I am informed, hand in glove with Mr. Porter for some time. Men of the associations of Mr. Porter and Mr. Lott should not be believed when they make such charges until at any rate those they are endeavoring to traduce are heard.

"That is all I have to say just now. I shall have something more to say on the subject a little later."

## THE BIG CONVENTION

**Interest of Liberals Centered in the Gathering at Toronto.**

The interest of Liberals generally throughout the Province is centered in the big convention to be held in Toronto on Wednesday next. The gathering will be one of the largest ever seen under the auspices of the party, and the prospect is that it will be a historic one.

Every riding in the Province will have its representation of stalwart workers, and London will not be behind in this regard. The majority of the local delegates will go to Toronto on Tuesday evening. All Liberals who desire to attend the convention should get their credentials from Mr. George M. Reid. This will entitle them to a half-fare rate on the railways.

## PRAIRIE FIRES RAGING

**Flames Cross From Montana Into the N. W. Territory.**

Moosejaw, N. W. T., Nov. 18.—A destructive prairie fire is burning in Wood Mountain and Willow Bunch district. The fire started somewhere in Montana, passing within 60 rods of the Northwest Mounted Police barracks at Wood Mountain. Sweeping on through the country, it passed into the Willow Bunch district, and is still burning. It has covered an area of about 60 miles east and west and 50 miles north and south. Everything in its path was consumed. Not many buildings were in the path of the flames. Hay that had been gathered for winter in stacks was consumed. Some stock must have perished. Both of the Paul brothers lost their stables and stacks, and Desaults and Beauchamp their haystacks. The loss will be heavy to all Willow Bunch ranchers.

Lethbridge, N. W. T., Nov. 18. — Destructive prairie fires are raging northeast of here. Following losses were reported this morning: James Ashcroft's house and ranch buildings; Leadbeater's barn and haystacks, and Samuel Young's ranch and buildings. The fire is now in the vicinity of Tabor.

## CAN FIGHT ON IF PROVISIONED

**Russia Tell Agents to Use Every Means to Get Into Port Arthur.**

London, Nov. 19.—The Daily Mail's St. Peterburg correspondent says that Lieut.-General Stoessel's latest report expresses a firm conviction that he will be able to hold out at Port Arthur until the second Pacific squadron arrives in March on the condition that he is supplied with munitions and stores. The Government, the correspondent adds, has instructed its agents aboard to supply Lieut.-General Stoessel's requirements at any cost.

***Wholesale Desertion.***

New York, Nov. 19. — A London dispatch to the Times quotes the London Times' Russian correspondent as saying that riots and desertions in connection with the mobilization of reservists continue, especially in Poland. Hundreds of reservists cross into Germany and Austria every week. One district which was to furnish 300 men could only muster eight. In another an officer was to appear with 40, and found that not one had turned up. He was so upset by this desertion that he shot himself. Riots in some cases have been provoked by the paltry arrangements made by the military authorities. One detachment refused to start because the cars were not provided with stoves. The men had not forgotten accounts of soldiers frozen to death in railway carriages.

LATER.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 19. — It is reported that a battle between the two armies below Mukden is now in full swing. The war office does not confirm the rumor, though it admits that the activity all along the line indicates that both armies are ready. The Russians, according to Gen. Kuropatkin's report, are pressing the Japanese left, while a very significant movement of the Japanese is reported at Sintsintin, 45 miles east of Mukden.

A special correspondent telegraphing under last night's date says the battle has begun and that the thunder of the guns is unceasing.

## DETECTIVE WILL INVESTIGATE IT

**Report Regarding Man Who Is Wanted in Connection With the Parkhill Outrage.**

Immediately after the announcement that there is a body in the dissecting-room of the Medical School which answers somewhat to the description of the man who assaulted Miss Davidson, of Parkhill, information comes from another part of the country which will be investigated before the county authorities convince themselves that the perpetrator of the crime is beyond the reach of the law.

County Detective Northgreaves has received a letter from a reputable source, in which the writer says that a man answering exactly to the description given of the criminal was seen by him in a certain neighborhood at the beginning of the week. The name of the writer and of the place where the man was seen are withheld for the present, because their publication would place obstacles in the way of the search, which will be at once undertaken by the detective. The whole countryside is aroused to anger over the brutal attack upon the young lady, and everyone has been on the watch for a trace of the criminal. While there is a possibility of his being alive, no effort will be spared to locate him and bring him to justice.

As is well known, a penalty of death may be imposed upon the perpetrator of such a crime.

## THEIR ANNUAL SHOOT

**Members of "B" Squadron, Firs Hussars, at the Ranges.**

The Thanksgiving shoot of B Squadron of the First Hussars attracted a large percentage of the members to the cove ranges on Thursday. The shooting was good, all things considered, no competitor making less than 75 per cent of the possible at the 200 and 500 yards ranges.

In the first event the prizes were won by Corp. Clare and Sergt. Hay. In the second event Corp. Clare and Sergt.-Major Penwarden were the winners.

After the shooting the members of the squadron proceeded to the Reid House, where supper was served, and a programme of speeches and songs was introduced. Patriotic and other toasts were also responded to. Mr. Sandy Drennan, comedian, assisted in making the evening a merry one.

## FOURTEEN DIE IN MINE EXPLOSION

**Disaster in Coal Pit Near Fernie, British Columbia — The Bodies Recovered.**

St. Paul, Nov. 19. — A Fernie, B. C., dispatch to the Pioneer Press says fourteen miners were killed at the Carbonado mines yesterday afternoon as a result of a terrific explosion of coal gas. The disaster occurred in No. 1 mine, ten miles west of Fernie. The work of rescue was kept up all afternoon and all the bodies have been recovered.

The dead:

Mr. Jenkins, Louis Carter, Peter Kenny, Albert Johnson, Patrick Boyle, William Platt, Michael Gustick, Anton Prebenick, Venesia Venecka, Martin Tomzacky, Anton and John Hroudso, two brothers; Jos. Suchey, and James Greenman.

## THE NOMINATIONS FOR QUEBEC HOUSE

**Several Conservative Candidates in the Field Despite Mr. Flynn's Announcement.**

Montreal, Que., Nov. 18. — This was nomination day throughout the Province of Quebec, and owing to the peculiar set of conditions which prevail through the determination of the Opposition to abstain as a general thing from taking part in the contest, a great deal of uncertainty concerning the nominations prevailed, which in many cases was not cleared before the legal hour passed for the acceptance of nominations. Following are the nominations:

St. Sauveur—Mayor Parent, Liberal, elected by acclamation.

Missisquoi — G. J. B. Gosselin, notary (Liberal), and L. A. Beriau, of Farnham (Liberal).

Lotbiniere — N. Lemay, M. P. (Liberal), Kidal Corriveau Hoglois, advocate (Liberal), and Francceur Nazaire Demers (Liberal).

Chambly — Maurice Perrault (Liberal), and Eli E. Ste Marie (Liberal).

Hochelaga — A. J. Decairie (Liberal), Alph Verville (Labor).

Montreal, St. Antoine—Cartier (Ind.), F. Savageau (Liberal), and Ed Cusack (Labor).

Montreal, St. Ames — Hon. J. J. Guerin (Liberal), and Walsh (Ind.-Lib.)

Montreal, St. Louis — Rainville, G. Langlois (Liberal), A. Latreille (Labor).

Montreal, St. Mary's — Dr. Lacombe and J. T. Marchand (Liberals).

Montreal, St. Lawrence—Jas. Cochrane (Liberal), and Lanctot (Ind.)

Montreal, St. James — Lomer Gouin (Liberal), acclamation.

Two Mountains — Champagne (Liberal), acclamation.

Beauharnois—Achille Bergevin (Liberal), Arthur Plante (Conservative).

Chateauguay—F. X. Dupuis (Conservative) acclamation.

Laprairie — C. H. Cherries (Liberal), acclamation.

Huntingdon—W. H. Walker (Liberal), acclamation.

St. Maurice—Dr. Fiset and Michael Bourassa (Liberals).

Wolfe—A. C. Miqueton and Peter Tanguay (Liberals).

Vercheres—A. Geoffrion and E. B. Blanchard (Liberals).

Napierville—C. Doris and D. Monet (Liberals).

Quebec County — Delage (Liberal), acclamation.

Laval—P. E. Leblanc (Conservative), acclamation.

Maskinonge—A. Galipeau and Victor Milot (Liberals), George Lafantaine (Conservative).

Lake St. John—George Tanguay, J. B. Carbonneau (Liberals).

Bonaventure—W. H. Clapperton and J. H. Kelly (Liberals).

Three Rivers—J. A. Tessier (Liberals), acclamation.

Bagot—Dr. P. H. Daigneault (Liberal), acclamation.

Stanstead—P. A. Bissonnette (Liberal), Geo. H. St. Pierre (Conservative).

Joliette—Dr. G. Desrosiers (Liberal), J. M. Tellior (Conservative).

Arthabaska—Paul Tourgny (Liberal), acclamation.

Wright—F. A. Gendron (Liberal), V. O. Falardeau (Conservative).

Pontiac—David Gillies (Liberal), Michael Hayes (Conservative).

Yamaska—Jules Allard (Liberal), acclamation.

Drummond—Jos. Laferte and P. H. Paquin (Liberals).

Charlevoix — Jos. Morin (Liberal), has withdrawn.

Soulanges—O. Mousseau (Liberal), Moise Leroux (Ind.), O. S. Bissonnette (Conservative).

**Car Company Loses.**

Toronto, Nov. 19. — Justice Street this morning refused to alter the minutes of his judgment in the Hamilton Street Railway case in order to make the judgment read that children are not entitled to purchase the workingmen's tickets that are sold on the cars. The application of the company to this effect was dismissed.

**Holmstead Retires.**

Toronto, Nov. 19. — George Holmestead, accountant of the supreme court of judiciary at Osgoode Hall since 1881, has retired. E. W. Murray, now assistant accountant, has been appointed to succeed him, and Lawrence Boyd has been made assistant accountant. Mr. George M. Lee has been appointed junior registrar of the high court.

**A Southern Butchery.**

Memphis, Tenn., Nov. 19. — The dead bodies of John Henly, a fisherman, and his wife, have been found in their cabin at Horn Lake Pass, a desolate region 20 miles south of Memphis. Gunshots and other wounds on the body and two bloody axes near by attested to the violence of their deaths. A young baby was discovered barely alive, though uninjured, under a pile of bed-clothing. The cabin had been ransacked for valuables which Henly was reputed to have stored away.

## ALL READY FOR THE SIGNATURES

**Anglo-Russo Convention Over the North Sea Case Is Completed.**

St. Petersburg, Nov. 19.—The negotiations on the subject of the Anglo-Russo convention are practically concluded. Only one small minor point remains to be settled and that is of such slight importance that Foreign Minister Lamsdorff and Ambassador Hardinge this afternoon will discuss the question as to how and where the signatures are to be exchanged. In substance the change in the language regarding the determination of responsibility by the international commission will make the convention provide for the location of any blame which is found to exist upon any persons of Russian, British or foreign nationality.

## CROSS SEAS IN MIDST OF PERILS

**Men of a Norwegian Lifeboat Have Thrilling Voyage of 100 Days.**

St. Johns, Nfld., Nov. 19. — The curious, egg-shaped lifeboat Uradd, which arrived here Thursday, after a passage of 100 days across the Atlantic, had a thrilling trip. Four days after leaving Aalund, Norway, she was chased by a Norwegian whaler, which supposed she was a leviathan, and was about to fire an explosive bomb harpoon at her, when her crew signaled and prevented what might have been a dire disaster.

The Uradd voyaged by the Shetlands, Faroes, Iceland, Greenland and Labrador, and met prolonged periods of stormy weather, which tested her seaworthy qualities to the utmost. In one storm off Iceland it seemed impossible she could survive, so fierce was the blow, and the waves threatened to engulf her. Many ordinary vessels would have succumbed, but she rode the heavy seas like a duck.

Crossing south of Greenland she narrowly escaped being sunk by an ice floe with which she became enmeshed during the night. Escaping this danger through the activity of her crew, who fended her off the ice and got her into safe waters, she met another storm which lasted two days, during which the four men were battened down nearly the whole period, emerging at rare intervals to get a breath of fresh air.

Her small, sloping decks made it impossible to retain a firm footing thereon. Five weeks ago she met tremendous hurricanes 700 miles out, which dismasted her. She carries one large mast with a lateen sail fixed in the middle of her rounded hull. The crew was forced to cut the sail and spar away, fearing the latter would stave a hole in her side.

Since then she has drifted with small sail and through the aid of the currents toward land. In this condition, partially helpless, she narrowly escaped being run down ten days later off Belle Isle Strait by an Atlantic liner plying between Liverpool and Montreal. The ship was racing down on her at rapid speed when warning signals caused her to sheer off.

The Uradd was almost driven ashore in adverse weather off this point on Tuesday, Captain Brude not knowing his whereabouts, having been three weeks without securing an observation. Thick snow squalls obscured the land, and the tide was sweeping the craft on the rocks, when by great good fortune a fishing boat sighted her and towed her safely to port.

**Welcomed Rossa.**

Queenstown, Ireland, Nov. 19. — A numerous deputation accompanied by a band went out on a tender to meet O'Donovan Rossa, who arrived here today from New York. The deputation escorted Mr. Rossa ashore. His entry into Cork Sunday will be the occasion of a great demonstration, and his stay in Ireland is expected to be marked by considerable political activity.

**Broke His Neck.**

Gladstone, Man., Nov. 19. — Matt Loan, a farmer who lived near here, fell off the stack at the threshing operations last evening and broke his neck. Mr. Loan was 28 years of age, and leaves a widow and four children.

## THE WEATHER.

**Tomorrow—Showers.**

London, Saturday, Nov. 19.
Sun rises..7:17 a.m. Moon rises..3:18 p.m.
Sun sets...4:49 p.m. Moon sets...3:31 a.m.
Toronto, Nov. 18—8 p.m.

Light falls of sleet and rain have occurred in the Maritime Provinces. Elsewhere the weather has been generally fair, and continued very mild in the Northwest.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 34–46; Calgary, 28–34; Qu'Appelle, 32–46; Winnipeg, 36–54; Port Arthur, 30–44; Parry Sound, 24–36; Toronto, 30–43; Ottawa, 14–28; Montreal, 12–30; Quebec, 16–24; St. John, 24–32; Halifax, 28–38.

FORECASTS.

Saturday, Nov. 19—8 a.m.

Winds, increasing to strong breezes and moderate gales, southerly to westerly; fair and mild today; showers during the night and the first part of Sunday.

TEMPERATURES.

| Stations. | 8 a.m. | Min. | Weather. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Calgary | 10 | 8 | Fair |
| Winnipeg | 28 | 28 | Clear |
| Parry Sound | 30 | 28 | Fair |
| Toronto | 34 | 30 | Cloudy |
| Ottawa | 20 | 20 | Fair |
| Montreal | 22 | 20 | Fair |
| Quebec | 22 | 20 | Cloudy |
| Father Point | 28 | 24 | Cloudy |

WEATHER NOTES.

A depression now approaching from the westward is likely to cause strong breezes and moderate gales over the lakes, together with some showers. Other depressions are situated on our Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Friday were: Highest, 51.5°; lowest, 27.5°.

## *Mr. Lott Contradicted In Bogus Box Story*

Belleville, Ont., Nov. 19. — The criminal libel case of Porter vs. Carman was continued this morning for two hours, when an adjournment was made until Friday morning. James Gay and Forbes Sheriff, two of Mr. Porter's scrutineers in Rawdon Township, swore that the deputy returning officer at poll No. 2 had spoken to them about bogus ballot boxes being in the Province, and laughingly denied having one of them. Riley, of Kingston, was called as a witness, but did not respond. James Harst, of Belleville, swore that Phil Lott had told him about the bogus boxes coming into West Hastings. Harst said he arranged the meetings between Phil Lott and Messrs. Corby and Porter, and contradicted Lott's story so far as what had passed between them was concerned. Detective Chamber told of getting the bogus boxes at Phil Lott's residence and he gave an exhibition of how the boxes were worked.

## NOW IT'S PORTUGAL

**Treaty of Arbitration With Great Britain Has Been Issued.**

London, Nov. 19.—The Anglo-Portuguese treaty of arbitration, the signing of which was announced by King Edward at the state banquet at Windsor Castle on Nov. 16, was issued tonight. It contains only three articles. The first article provides that differences of a legal nature or relating to the interpretation of existing treaties which cannot be settled diplomatically shall be referred to the permanent court of arbitration at The Hague, provided it "does not affect the vital interests, independence or honor of the two contracting states and does not concern the interests of third parties. The second article provides the mode of procedure prior to appealing to the court and the third article provides that the agreement shall be concluded for a term of five years.

## GHOST AGAIN STALKS

**Many See the Shadowy Figure Near Cemetery.**

New York, Nov. 19. — The Tower Hill ghost again has invaded the Martense section of Brooklyn. The apparition has been seen near Greenwood Cemetery. Strangers who walk along the narrow path skirting the cemetery fence are warned by the police not to linger near the toll bridge which crosses the Thirty-ninth street railroad cut at Tenth avenue, where the ghost was first seen by Mrs. Ardt.

Mrs. Ardt told her neighbors of meeting the shade, which she described as resembling the outline of a human form, coming from the Tenth avenue entrance to the cemetery. Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Maguire, who have lived on the border of the cemetery for many years, declared they, too, had seen the figure, but had not waited long enough to make positive its identification.

Policemen who have seen the apparition say it usually leaves the cemetery inclosure between 11 and 12 o'clock at night and wanders to the toll bridge, where it turns towards Kensington, disappearing near the site of the burned tower. Motormen of the Bath Beach and Coney Island lines also have seen the shadowy figure.

## CONVICTS MAKE DARING ESCAPE

**Four Break From Their Guards at Kingston, But Are Later Recaptured.**

Kingston, Ont., Nov. 19.—This morning convicts held up the penitentiary guards, got weapons and escaped, but within an hour were recaptured.

The guards who were held up were Doyle and Caughert. The former was guarding a gang of twelve on Union street, who were working under Guard Caughert. Elmer Biddle and Matty Duggan, Percy Jones and Wm. Barridole made the assault and took rifles and revolvers from the guards. Then the assailants fled. They were later overtaken, overpowered, disarmed and are now in the prison dungeon to await further punishment.

## LOVE VERSUS KNOWLEDGE

**Bride Protests Against Intrusion of Education on Honeymoon.**

Chicago, Nov. 19. — Should a pretty bride's honeymoon be transferred into the task of memorizing dictionaries, reading reams of poetry and polishing up pronunciation, or with all her faults should he love her still?

Mrs. William Palmer Armstrong, in a separate maintenance suit, says she married for love, but instead she was given dictionaries, poetry, books and dull history. She is but 19 years old, and was married less than a year ago. Her husband began to "cultivate" her, as she says, for "the higher life." She asserts the mental strain imposed upon her in committing to memory long poems and whole pages from the dictionary brought on nervous prostration.

When Mrs. Armstrong failed to spell, pronounce and define the words put to her to the satisfaction of her husband, it is alleged, she was loudly, violently and abusively berated.

## SHOT OFFICER DEAD

**A Battalion of Infantry, Led by a Lieutenant, Mutinies at Bahia.**

Rio Janeiro, Nov. 19. — A battalion of infantry stationed at Bahia mutinied yesterday at the instigation of a sub-lieutenant, according to a telegram received here. The commanding officer attempted to address the men, but was shot dead by the ringleader with a revolver. Other troops then charged the mutineers and order was restored.

The sub-lieutenant who instigated the mutiny was fatally wounded and has since died.

## MRS. POTTER'S LATEST

**To Put On a Drama by Her Parson Friend Phillips.**

London, Nov. 18.—As soon as Mrs. James Brown Potter announced her determination to cling to the Savoy Theater, notwithstanding her fiasco in "The Golden Light," she received a visit from her old friend, the Rev. Forbes Phillips, vicar of Gorleston, who saw his chance to put his play, "For Church and Stage," on the boards of a London theater.

It was at the vicar's church that Mrs. Potter first recited in the middle of a service, with the result that the "theatrical clergyman" was denounced throughout the country by certain sects. But Mrs. Potter and the vicar persevered and filled the church to the doors.

Then Forbes Phillips wrote his famous play and administered another shock to the susceptible. It has always been his ambition to put this play on in London, and this ambition is about to be realized. Whether it be an artistic failure or not it is certainly not likely to be a financial "frost," for it is sure to create an outery sufficient to fill the little Savoy Theater until the end of Mrs. Potter's lease.

## NO CHANCES TAKEN WITH RUSS FLEET

**Danish Ships With One Section, While the British Are Watching Another.**

Fakkeberg, Denmark, Nov. 19. — After coaling, the second division of the Baltic squadron sailed northward this morning.

A Danish gunboat and a torpedo boat are accompanling the fleet in Danish waters.

Simonstown, Cape Colony, Nov. 19.—The British cruiser Barrosa sailed from here today. It is believed her destination is Walfish Bay (on the west coast of German Southwest Africa), and that her object is to watch the approaching division of the Russian second Pacific squadron.

New York, Nov. 19.—A Port Said dispatch to the Herald says that for the extra security of the Russian fleet which is daily expected, preparations have been made to shut off part of the port by means of booms thus insuring isolation.

## MYSTERIOUS DEATH

**Sudden Death of Zorra Man Who Had Been Threatened.**

Woodstock, Nov. 18. — Herbert Bowerman, aged 27 years, died under mysterious circumstances in West Zorra on Wednesday afternoon, and the authorities are investigating. He was out plowing, and while engaged in a conversation with a neighbor suddenly dropped to the ground. In a short time he was dead. The stomach of the deceased has been forwarded to Dr. Ellis, of Toronto, for examination. It is said that certain parties threatened some time ago to poison the members of the Bowerman household.

## *Britain Ranges Ships To Watch German Fleet*

**Home Squadron To Be Strengthened and Admiral Wilson to Command.**

New York, Nov. 19. — A London dispatch to the Times says: There is no doubt whatever that the British admiralty has its eye on Emperor William's fleet of warships, and counts it a quantity to be reckoned with in its naval dispositions. This accounts for the recent additions to the strength of the home fleet, and also for the determination to retain Admiral Wilson in command of that fleet, instead of transferring him to the Mediterranean to succeed Admiral Domville.

In the judgment of the admiralty Sir Arthur Wilson's post has become the most important sea assignment in the entire British navy, and all because of Germany's naval strength, which the British naval authorities consider to possess an unfriendly potentiality. They do not expect to have to fight the German fleet, but it is part of British naval policy to be ready to meet any and every possible danger.

## RED LETTER DAY FOR RUSSIANS

### Zemstvos to Discuss Constitutional Government.

### BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA

**Delegates of People Will Ask Czar for a Part in Government of the Nation.**

St. Petersburg, Nov. 19.—Today may mark a red-letter day in the Russian calendar. About a hundred representatives of provincial Zemstvos assembled privately at 2 o'clock this afternoon with the purpose of presenting to Emperor Nicholas through Interior Minister Sviatopolk-Mirsky a truthful picture of the internal conditions of Russia, coupled with recommendations pointing out in plain terms the necessity for calling a legally empowered constituent assembly to have a direct voice in the Government. The word "Constitution," however, will be carefully avoided. The Liberals have been greatly excited by the developments of the last few days.

The meeting was to be held at the duma, or city hall, but at the last moment, under official auspices, permission was refused, the Emperor withdrawing his consent. Many of the Zemstvos representatives attribute the Emperor's attitude primarily to the influence of Grand Duke Sergius, M. Pobedonostseff, the procurer-general of the holy synod, and M. Sussonoff, a member of the council of the empire, and indirectly to the late Interior Minister Von Plehve's assistants, who were promoted to the council of the empire. When Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky dispensed with their services the specter of a constitution was successfully raised, according to their view.

The radicals and some student organizations had planned sympatactic demonstrations in front of the duma in favor of ending the war and calling a national assembly, but as the place of the meeting of the Zemstvos representatives is a secret, the demonstrations will probably not occur.

Moscow, Nov. 19.—Popular demonstrations occurred here today owing to the refusal of the authorities to authorize an official meeting of the Zemstvos representatives at St. Petersburg. Crowds in the streets in front of the palace of Grand Duke Sergius, Governor-General of Muscow, shouted "Down with the Moscow Gazette," the only newspaper in Russia which is fiercely opposed to the Zemstvos. Later the crowds voluntarily dispersed.

The Zemstvos supporters here telegraphed to M. Shipoff, president of the Moscow Zemstvo, to make a final effort to induce the Government to allow the meeting to be held under official auspices.

## FOUR KILLED; A SCORE HURT

**Series of Gas Explosions Wreck a Plant, the Victims Being Buried in Debris.**

Chicago, Nov. 18.—Four persons were killed and a score of others were injured by a series of gas explosions that completely destroyed the plant of the Pyle Electric Headlight Company in South Chicago today. The shocks of the explosions were so severe that all the buildings near the demolished plant were badly damaged, windows were shattered for blocks, and persons walking in the streets were thrown from their feet. Over-pressure on tanks containing gas is believed to have caused the accident.

The dead:

Ralph Wells, superintendent for the Pyle National Electric Headlight Company.

Amos Watkins, assistant superintendent for the same company.

George Muehl, draftsman, employed by the People's Gaslight and Coke Company.

Thomas Jennings, employed by the Pyle National Electric Headlight Company.

The fatally injured:

William M. Maloney, blown from third floor of building; body crushed.

Alfred Cox, internally injured.

Many persons who were walking in the street near the plant were hurt by flying pieces of debris and were taken to their homes in carriages before their names could be learned.

## EQUIPMENT OBSOLETE

**Woodstock Collegiate Board Has a Surprise Sprung Upon It.**

Woodstock, Ont., Nov. 18. — At the meeting of the Woodstock Collegiate Institute board this evening the members experienced a surprise as a result of the report of Inspector Seath. It condemned absolutely the present accommodation afforded at the institute, and stated that an additional teacher was necessary that the pupils might receive proper attention. Much of the equipment was declared to be obsolete and many improvements were needed around the building. The staff was congratulated on its efficiency, but it was too small for the attendance; not enough time was devoted for physical training. The Government grant would not be given this branch. The inspector asserted that the time had come when a new institute building was necessary. The board will take up this question at once.

An enthusiastic meeting of Conservatives of the city was held tonight, when much organization work was completed for the expected provincial contests.

Much interest is being displayed in the investigation into the death of Herbert Bowerman, in West Zorra, Wednesday. The authorities have as yet made no arrests, but one may be expected any moment. At the inquest a witness swore that threats had been made against the life of the deceased.

Over thirty employes of the Thomas and Hay factories were entertained at the Y. M. C. A. this evening. The event was a decided success.