

VICTORIA LEADS IN BANK CLEARINGS

NEARLY 100 PER CENT BETTER THAN LAST WEEK

Vancouver Drops to Second Place in Record for the Dominion

Taking bank clearings as the criterion, Victoria is making phenomenal strides. The record for the transactions one week ago showed that this city was only second in the whole of Canada in percentage of increase, and this week it leads the Dominion, the increase being over 30 per cent, greater than that of the next city on the list, Vancouver.

Bradstreets, the New York financial agency, issued the following statement Friday: "Bank clearings at thirteen Canadian cities for the week terminating with February 3rd, aggregated \$106,000,000, 5 per cent below last week, but an increase of 21.4 per cent over the corresponding week last year.

Table showing bank clearings for various cities including Victoria, Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Halifax, St. John, London, Edmonton, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Quebec, Hamilton, and Calgary.

DIES FROM WOUND

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 5.—Bleeding from a gunshot wound in the arm, Edward Kallinski, a young farmer of Woodbridge, Manitoba, was brought into the city yesterday morning.

LIEUTENANT FOUND NAVIGATION DIFFICULT

Algierne Officer Well Satisfied With Sea After Experience on Land

Picture to yourself a squad of marines mounted on a squad of raw-boned, stubborn mules. Then picture this same squad riding, or trying to ride through a rough country in a direction which the mules did not approve, and you get a slight to gladden tired eyes.

Lieut. Benson, R.N., navigating officer of the sloop Algierne, which arrived from the South on Saturday, is a clever man. He understands his business as well as any man who has visited this coast.

The Algierne was at Talara under orders to complete some survey work which had been commenced the year before by Commander Edwards of that vessel. It became necessary to erect flags at certain outlying points many miles from the bay.

FOUR BURNED TO DEATH

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 5.—Trapped in the attic of their home between Camden and Wyoming, four grandchildren of Ezekiel Hackett, a farmer, were burned to death.

BRITISH PROTEST DISREGARDED

REBEL GUNBOAT BOMBARDS GREYTOWN

Rival Forces in Nicaragua Are Preparing for a Decisive Battle

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Feb. 5.—(By wire to Colon.)—The bombardment of Greytown by the provisional government's gunboat Omotepa may result in official action on the part of the British government.

When it was apparent yesterday that the rebels' boat was preparing to shell the city, the commander of the British cruiser Seylla protested. His communication was disregarded.

Both the government troops and the pursuing rebel army now are in open country, where guerrilla fighting is impossible. Should the crucial battle be fought in that section, actual force and superiority of numbers and equipment will be the main factors in the results.

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SUES GIRL FOR ALLEGED BREACH OF PROMISE

An Architect Claims \$25,000 When Engagement is Broken Off

Foughkeapele, N. Y., Feb. 5.—Miss Elizabeth Kelly, a prominent society girl of this city, is defendant today in a breach of promise suit instituted by Lester M. Pond, an architect of Spokane, Wn. Pond asks \$25,000 damages.

In his complaint Pond alleges that Miss Kelly was engaged to marry him. He says her promise was given in June, 1908, and that the wedding was set for June 22nd, 1909.

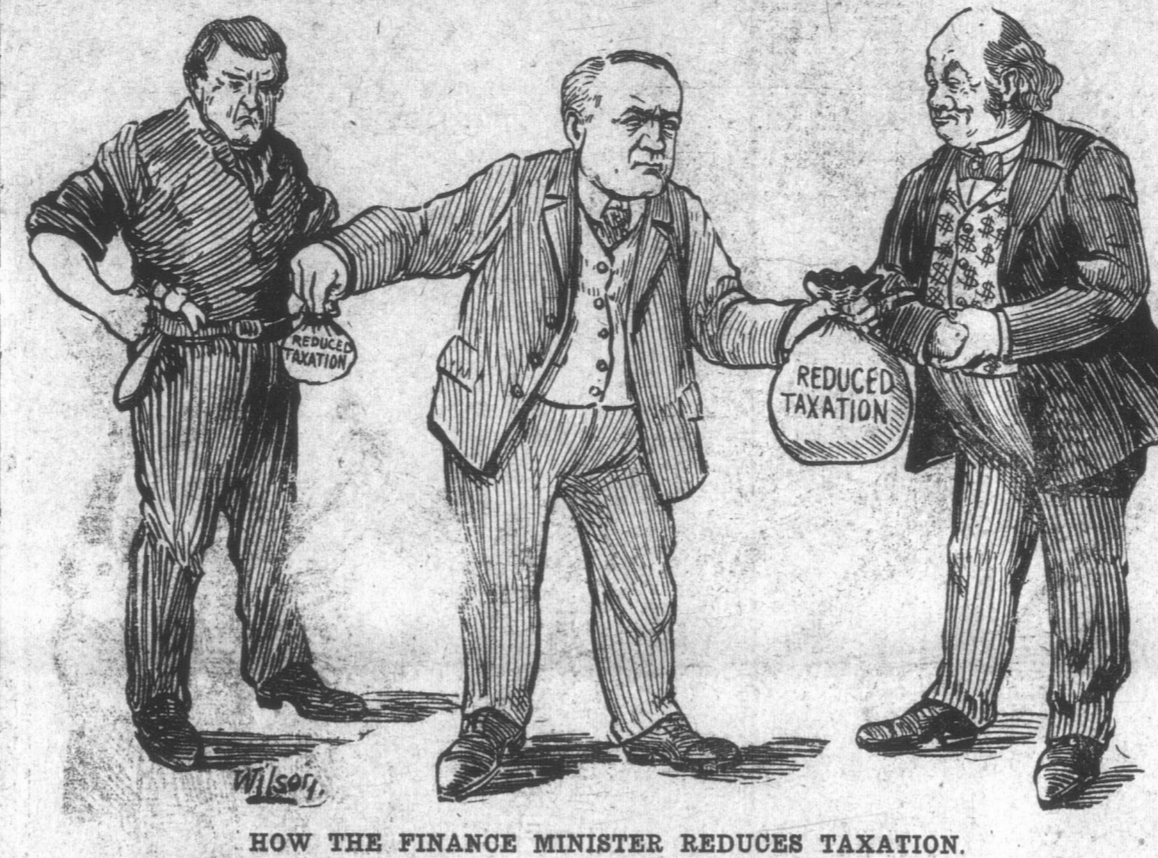
FARMER SLAYS FAMILY AND ENDS OWN LIFE

Tragedy Believed to Have Resulted From Religious Frenzy

Fergus Falls, Minn., Feb. 5.—Wm. Buckheim, a farmer of Parkers Prairie, his wife and their four children, are murdered mania, which resulted from a religious frenzy.

GETS FIFTEEN YEARS

Regina, Sask., Feb. 5.—For shooting Andrew Harris at Qu'Appelle last August, Harry Roper, a 19-year-old English boy, was sentenced to the Edmonton penitentiary for a term of 15 years. He was charged with murder, but the prosecution showed that he had been trouble between the two men and that Roper had fired as a result of the row.



HOW THE FINANCE MINISTER REDUCES TAXATION.

WILL REMEDY A GRIEVANCE

ARE TO REPAIR FAULTY CEMENT SIDEWALKS

Mayor Morley in Favor of City Council Superintending the School Board Finances

What will prove a very welcome announcement to pedestrians in Victoria was made at Friday's meeting of the city council.

MURDER MYSTERY IN WASHINGTON TOWN

Police of Aberdeen Continue Inquiry—Gohl Accused of Arson

Aberdeen, Wash., Feb. 5.—Aberdeen is today throbbing with interest over the most sensational murder case it has ever had.

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CAUSE OF RAILWAY WRECK NOT KNOWN

Jury Which Investigated Spanish River Disaster Return Verdict

Sudbury, Ont., Feb. 5.—The coroner's jury which has been investigating the recent wreck at Spanish River last night brought in a verdict that the accident was the result of the derailment of the forward trucks of the first engine coach, the cause of which they could not determine.

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UNIONISTS GIVEN MAJORITY OF VOTES

ANALYSIS OF RETURNS OF GENERAL ELECTION

London, Feb. 5.—The following analysis of the figures polled in the general election does not include those polled where contests occurred between rival Nationalists or between Unionists and Nationalists.

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FARRALON IS FAST ON REEF

REPORTED ASHORE BY STEAMER VICTORIA

Six Men Who Left Vessel in an Open Boat May Have Perished

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 5.—A steamer wireless message from the United States, which reached Seward this afternoon, says:

The missing steamer Farralon is on Black reef, five miles from Llamama, the same spot where the Saratoga was lost several years ago.

Four weeks ago the Farralon sailed from Port Graham, Alaska, for ports to the westward.

Seward, Alaska, Feb. 5.—According to Wada, the Japanese long distance runner, who "mushed" over the trail from Seward, the new leditarod diggings will not prove as rich as has heretofore been reported.

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ABOLISH TAX ON IMPROVEMENTS

MAYOR IS TO TAKE ACTION ON MONDAY

Will Present Resolution to City Council—Higher Rate on Land

At Monday evening's meeting of the City Council, Mayor Morley will present what is perhaps the most important resolution considered by any body in the recent history of Victoria.

Spending to the Times this morning regarding his intention of submitting this resolution at Monday night's meeting, Mayor Morley said:

"I have felt for a long time that we should exempt improvements. In 1909 and again in 1907 I submitted a similar resolution to the council, but the aldermen thought the time was not ripe for the change in the system of taxation, and the recommendation was not adopted.

"I consider the policy of taxing improvements is tantamount to penalizing progress and also penalizes the man who improves his property by, say, a fine business block, notwithstanding the fact that his act benefits the community by enhancing the value of the latter.

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CHURCH SITE SUIT SETTLED

JUDGE LAMPMAN HANDS DOWN JUDGMENT

Middleton Not Entitled to Mission From Winst Cameron

(From Friday's Daily Judge Lampman, of the court, handed down a judgment in the case of Middleton vs. Cameron, in which he expressed little sympathy with church people who hope to profit in a pecuniary way by their transactions on behalf of a church.

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