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The Chatham Daily Planet.

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THE SCOUT EXPLOSION

Premier Replies to But Does Not Answer Three Questions.

Members of the Commons Must Wait For Information Until the Minister of Railways Takes His Place in the House — Mr. Jackson, of Selkirk, Man., Gets Badly Thrown By the Premier.

Ottawa, April 26.—Before the orders of the day were called in the House yesterday, F. D. Monk asked the Premier, in the absence of Mr. Prefontaine, whether it was the intention to include on the commission to investigate the Scout disaster an expert on carbide matters. He had been asked by several important firms interested in the manufacture of carbide to take this step, as unless the true cause of the explosion was ascertained, the industry would receive a setback. He understood the pressure on the buoy at Kingston was 180 pounds at the time of the explosion, whereas 30 pounds was considered dangerous. Sir Wilfrid said that, in the absence of the Minister of Marine, a reply would have to be deferred.

George Taylor saw in the presence near Gananoque of two large storage tanks of acetylene gas a distinct danger to the town. Canada would wake up one day and find the town and its inhabitants wiped from the map, if the apparently freakish element is not removed. The Premier's reply was of the same nature as that accorded Mr. Monk.

Mr. Broder, of Dundas, asked whether it was the intention to do anything for the families of the men killed. Sir Wilfrid suggested that consideration might be well deferred until the report came in.

That Boundary Settlement.

Mr. Jackson, of Selkirk, got badly thrown down in the House this afternoon by the Premier for his recent utterance regarding the boundary question. R. L. Borden brought the matter up, reading a despatch from a morning paper, and asking whether it was to be taken as a Government announcement. In that event, it was a most unusual course for the intended policy of the Government to be announced by a private member, especially when Parliament was in session.

Sir Wilfrid said that Mr. Jackson was not speaking for the Government, although the Premier understood that the members interested had met in conference and agreed as to the boundaries. Mr. Jackson's statement, however, was not to be taken as an official one.

The Autonomy Debate.

There were five speeches yesterday on the autonomy bills, and to all appearances a division on the second reading will be reached in a few days. The speakers were Mr. Broder of Dundas, Mr. Bureau of Three Rivers, Mr. Herron of Alberta, Mr. Parmalee of Shefford, and Mr. Taylor of Leeds. They averaged an hour each, and Mr. Kemp of Toronto moved the adjournment of the debate.

The House rose at 10 o'clock.

Budget After Debate.

In answer to a question put by Mr. Borden, the Minister of Finance last night stated in the House that it was not the intention of the Government at present to bring down the budget speech before the present matter was disposed of. A statement, however, might be forthcoming on the subject in a day or two.

LIBRARIES NEED MORE MONEY.

Provincial Grant Cut in Two—Deputation to See Premier.

Toronto, April 26.—At the closing meeting of the Ontario Library Association yesterday, it was decided to send a deputation to interview the Ontario Government, in order to persuade it to increase the library grant. Last year the grant was cut in two, and the librarians who are attending the conference predicted disaster to small libraries, unless some additional grant be speedily made.

Ottawa invited the association to meet next year in that city.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, W. J. Robertson, B. A., LL.B., St. Catharines public library; first vice-president, N. Gurd, B. C. L., Sarnia public library; second vice-president, A. Sheldrick, Chatham public library; secretary, E. A. Hardy, B. A., 65 Czar street, Toronto; treasurer, A. B. Macallum, M. A., Ph.D., Toronto Canadian Institute; Councillors, James Bain, D. C. L., Toronto public library; J. P. Hoag, B. A., Brantford public library; Rev. W. A. Bradley, B. A., Berlin public library; A. W. Cameron, B. A., Streetsville public library; W. K. T. Smellie, B. A., Deseronto public library; W. Tytler, B. A., Guelph, ex-president public library.

HON. FRANK OLIVER.

New Minister of the Interior Elected by Acclamation.

Edmonton, N. W. T., April 26.—Hon. Frank Oliver, the new Minister of the Interior, was yesterday elected by acclamation.

DON'T SQUANDER YOUR MONEY.

On worthless cures for catarrh. There is only one remedy that's successful—"Catarrhozone" — it cures when the doctor says your case is hopeless. No drugs to take, no atomizer to bother with, you simply inhale the fragrant vapor of this unfailing cure and get well quickly. Relief is instant, cure is guaranteed, so you run no risk with Catarrhozone. Don't experiment, don't put off, get Catarrhozone from your druggist today.

PURSUED BY JAP FLEET

Admiral Rojestvensky Is Off For Hainan, China.

No News Confirming Report of Sunday Night's Battle Has Reached Saigon—Squadron of 20 of Togo's Fighting Ships Passed Kamranh Sunday Night—Chinese Fear Trouble in Maintaining Neutrality at Hainan.

Hue, French Cochin-China, April 26.—The Dutch ship Aruba, in Monday night, from Triton Island, brings the first definite news of the departure of the fleet on Saturday from Kamranh Bay. Twenty-three ships in all were sighted northeast of Triton Island at 10 o'clock Monday morning, holding a northerly course, which would bring the fleet by noon yesterday to the Chinese Island of Hainan, which has several harbors and cable connection with the mainland through the French settlement of Kwanchanwan. The Aruba passed six and a half miles south of the Russian ships and from the report of the captain it is clear that Rojestvensky must have divided his fleet or that the remainder of the squadron is far in advance.

Only two battleships and three big cruisers were in the division seen by the Aruba and this suggests that Admiral Volkersam may have taken his division of the squadron on another course after the departure from Kamranh on Saturday.

When seven hours out from Manila the Aruba, bound west, sighted a Japanese war fleet headed southwest 14 miles east of the Macclefields banks. This undoubtedly is the Japanese flying squadron, which has been reported from several places in the China Sea in the last week. The captain of the Aruba estimates the warships at 16, but several of them were hull down, and, owing to nightfall, could not be further made out. Their direction would have brought them toward the Cochin-China coast.

Firing Heard at Sea.

Saigon, French Cochin-China, April 26.—No news came last night confirming the report that a battle has been fought northeast of this point between the rival fleets, but the fishermen in yesterday afternoon from Phuyen Island say that there is no doubt the ships were using their heaviest guns on Saturday evening about 25 miles off the coast. The cannonading was distinctly heard from 7 until 11 o'clock, and it is now confidently believed that a division of Japanese torpedo boats attacked some of the ships of Rojestvensky's squadron.

The French torpedo boat destroyer Victorieuse, from Touron Bay, brings news that the gunfire was plainly heard there between 8 and 10 o'clock in the evening.

A small Russian cruiser, five colliers and three supply ships still remain in Kamranh harbor.

Twenty of Togo's Fighters.

Saigon, April 26.—Advices just received from Kamranh Bay say that twenty Japanese warships passed the bay between 8 and 9 o'clock in the evening of April 23.

Two ships loaded with rice, from Saigon, and bound for Japan, have been captured by ships belonging to the Russian squadron.

Expect to Wait.

St. Petersburg, April 26.—Admiralty circles are coming to accept the view that there will be no great or general action between the fleets of Russia and Japan for some time.

Alas, Poor China.

London, April 26.—The correspondent at Tokio of The Daily Telegraph sends the following:

"Japan is vigorously protesting against the preparations for flight from Shanghai of the Russian protected cruiser Askold. It is feared that more difficulties will arise on account of China's inability to enforce her neutrality with respect to the report that the Russian Pacific squadron is coaling off Hainan."

To Investigate.

Chicago, Ill., April 26.—A special to The Daily News from Hong Kong says. "Great excitement prevails in Chinese circles here over a report that the Russion fleet has seized the Island of Hainan. The Viceroy of Tawangtung has despatched officials to investigate the matter."

Nebogatoff's Progress.

Paris, April 26.—A despatch from Saigon to The Petit Journal states that nine warships, suppose to be Vice-Admiral Nebogatoff's detachment of the second Pacific squadron, doubled Cape Bake the night of April 25. Cape Bake is about 50 miles northeast of Saigon.

Won't Allow It.

St. Petersburg, April 26.—The Government has reiterated its notice to the Zemstvoists that the proposed conference will not be allowed either in St. Petersburg or Moscow.

Railway Running Again.

Fusan, Corea, April 26.—The first railroad train from Liaoyang since the retreat of the Russians from that place last year, reached Mukden station Monday, crossing the Hun River on the temporary bridge which has just been completed. Regular trains will be run between Port Dalny and Mukden in a few days.

How Czar May Mark Easter.

St. Petersburg, April 26.—A rumor is circulated here to the effect that Emperor Nicholas will mark Easter by the proclamation of general amnesty for political and religious prisoners now confined in the fortresses or prisons of European Russia, or who are in exile.

Says Witte Hasn't Resigned.

St. Petersburg, April 26.—The Russ formally denies that M. Witte has resigned the presidency of the committee of ministers, though worn out with work and in urgent need of rest.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH

Grace Durfy of Blenheim Taken From Under Engine of Pere Marquette Train

Prompt Action of Engineer Burwell in Reversing his Engine Saves the Life of the Little Girl.

"It was the most miraculous escape from death that I ever saw, or ever heard of, in railroad life," was Conductor Sam Pierce's comment on the incident that happened on the Pere Marquette last evening about 5.55 o'clock.

Conductor Pierce's train was bound south from Chatham to Blenheim, with Engineer Dave Burwell at the throttle. When past Fargo and about three miles from Blenheim, Engineer Burwell saw a little girl walking along the track. He blew the whistle and shortly afterwards the child appeared to throw herself down between the rails. By this time the train was almost upon her and going at the regular full speed. Engineer Burwell, when he saw the child fall, acted promptly, reversing his engine and putting on full brakes.

The train was brought to a quick stop, but not before the pilot and forepart of the engine had passed over the child. It was a trying moment for Mr. Burwell, who jumped down from his cab expecting to find the mangled remains of the child under his engine. It was a relieving surprise, however, to find that the little girl lying under the engine, between the rails, right up against the fire box, and apparently uninjured.

The child was taken from her precarious position, and it was found that she was uninjured with the exception of a bruise on her heel, where it is supposed the flange of the wheel struck her.

The child was taken on to Blenheim, where medical aid was summoned and the little girl to-day is perfectly sound with the exception of the bruise on the heel. No bones were broken.

The child's name is Grace Durfy and is 13 years of age. She is the adopted daughter of Dyer Durfy, a blacksmith of Blenheim. She gave as an excuse for being on the track that some little boys had chased her out of Blenheim, but she gave no reason why she threw herself down on the track. It is supposed that her mind is affected.

Engineer Burwell deserves great credit for his presence of mind in promptly reversing his engine, for if the train had gone ten feet farther the child would have been instantly killed and her body maugled beyond recognition.

R. & O. SERVICE, 1905.

The Hamilton-Montreal Line will commence running May 2nd. Steamers leaving Toronto at 7.30 p. m. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, for the Bay of Quinte, Montreal and intermediate ports.

LOW RATES TO THE PACIFIC COAST.

The Chicago and North Western Railway will sell from Chicago one way second class settler's tickets at very low rates to points in California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, daily until May 15. Special round trip first class tickets at very low rates will be on sale during May and June to above named territory. Write for full particulars and folders to B. H. Bennett, General Agent, 2 East King street, Toronto.

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